

Bognor Regis Camera Club - Competition Rules for Season 2023-24

This document specifies the competition rules. Further guidance on entering competitions is given in the following documents available to members on the Club's website:

1. BRCC Competition Subject Categories
2. Preparing and Sizing Digital Image Files for BRCC PDI Competitions
3. Competitions: Digital File Upload
4. BRCC Photo Book Guidelines
5. BRCC Flickr Site User Guide
6. BRCC Programme - for types and dates of the season's competitions.

1. General Rules For All Competitions

- 1.1. These Competition Rules supersede those published previously.
- 1.2. All Competitions are open to all Members of the Club who have paid their subscriptions.
- 1.3. Competition entries must be submitted to the relevant Competition Secretary (Print or Projected Digital Image (PDI)) by the dates shown in the current programme, which will be normally 2 weeks prior to the competition. Late entries will not be accepted. For Flickr Competitions see Section 6.4.
- 1.4. Submission of a competition entry implies acceptance by the member of the Club's Competition Rules.
- 1.5. Whilst the Club will make every effort to safeguard entries it can accept no responsibility for loss or damage, however caused.
- 1.6. All images submitted must be photographic in origin and must be entirely the work of the Member. The copyright of submitted images must rest solely with the Member. In composite images, all component images must meet these requirements. Images must not include clip art or royalty-free and downloaded images from other sources that are not the sole work of the member. BRCC does allow the use of third-party borders or background textures in its internal competitions, although members should be aware that this could restrict the acceptability of such work in some external competitions.
- 1.7. In line with the principle that competition photographs should be the original work of the Member, submitted images *generated* by artificial intelligence (AI) using text-to-image software, are not permitted. This includes images entirely generated by AI or images with material elements generated by AI. BRCC competitions will continue to accept the use of AI processing in-camera or in post-processing software for image manipulation and compilation.
- 1.8. The content of an image submitted must be substantially the work of the member. Where parties other than the photographer have made a significant creative contribution to the image, the Club encourages the member to consider whether their own contribution is sufficient to claim fairly and reasonably that the image is their own work. BRCC recognises the growing concern in photographic competitions generally over 'workshop photography' on the grounds that such images are sometimes not 'wholly the work of the photographer'. Workshop images are those made, and of a type typically made, on tutored workshops and photography events. Given the difficulty with imposing or enforcing a rule about this, the Club encourages its members to follow the principles and recommendations in the Southern

- 1.9. Trade, home and digitally processed work is eligible in all Competitions.
- 1.10. There must be nothing on the image submitted, nor on the front of the mount for prints, which could be used to identify the photographer, including names, logos or watermarks.
- 1.11. There are no age limitations on images submitted for Club competitions, but the Club is keen to encourage members to submit recent and current work.
- 1.12. Work submitted to competitions in previous seasons, whether Club or external, should not be submitted in the current season. The exceptions to this rule are:
 - a) The use of images from the previous season's Panel or Photobook Competitions, and
 - b) The use of an image submitted in a previous season in the current year's Photobook or Panel Competition.
- 1.13. Work submitted to competitions in other clubs must be notified as such to the relevant Competition Secretary (Print or PDI) at time of entry because these images would be ineligible for selection by BRCC for external competitions. The relevant Competition Secretary will inform the External Competition Secretary.
- 1.14. Work submitted to competitions in another club that has received an award in that club's internal or external competitions is not eligible for entry in BRCC Competitions.
- 1.15. Members must not submit exact or similar images into different PDI and Print Competitions. For example, PDIs should not be produced from files originally presented as prints in previous competitions or vice versa. Submissions to Print Of The Year and PDI Of The Year competitions are obviously exempt from this rule. Images from Flickr, Panel and Photobook Competitions can be used in all other competitions. Images from Print and PDI Competitions can form part of a panel competition submission.
- 1.16. Images submitted to competitions with a Set Subject must comply with the current BRCC Competition Set Subject Definitions published by the Club. The Competition Set Subject Definitions, together with explanation and guidance, are listed and available for members to download on the Club website.
- 1.17. If the Competition Secretary feels the image does not fit the Subject as defined for the competition to be judged, the image will not be entered into the competition and the relevant Competition Secretary will make reasonable attempts to let the member change their submission. Judges will be informed by the relevant Competition Secretary that all images entered are considered by the club to fit the Set Subject for the competition being judged.
- 1.18. Images that may be considered offensive may be excluded by the Competition Secretary.

2. Internal Club Competitions

- 2.1. The number, subjects and timing of internal Club competitions will be set by the committee and published in the Club annual programme.

- 2.2. Set Subject competition meetings will be confined to either prints or PDIs at alternate meetings and two different subjects will be judged at one meeting. For the Open Competition meeting there will be two competitions, one for prints and another for PDIs.
- 2.3. For each competition meeting, a member is only allowed a limited number of submissions. This number is usually two PDI submissions or 3 print submissions maximum per meeting in total. A member can choose whether to submit their entries into both Set Subject Competitions to be held that meeting or just one. The number of entries allowed may change from time-to-time depending on the total number of submissions being received for specific competitions, in which case members will be informed using normal channels (for example meeting notices and Snapshots newsletter).
- 2.4. For the Open Competition meeting, with no subject restrictions, members may submit the agreed maximum number of entries as prints, PDIs, or a mixture of both.
- 2.5. Judges will be asked to choose a winner for each competition and allowed to award as many Highly Commended certificates as they wish. At the end of the season the winner of each competition will be awarded a trophy.
- 2.6. Members must accept that by submitting work to an internal Club Print or PDI competition they agree that the work can be submitted by the Club to external competitions.

3. External Competitions

- 3.1. The Club enters images into various external competitions as decided from time-to-time by the committee. Selection of entries for each competition is delegated by the committee to selection committees.
- 3.2. Members may submit for consideration any images they regarded as suitable for the external competitions. The selection of entries for external competitions will be made from these images and from images submitted to any of the Club's competitions or exhibitions during the preceding three full club years.
- 3.3. Members should be aware that external competitions may have different rules and definitions from those used for Club competitions. For example, these may include more restrictive rules about definitions such as 'Wildlife', 'Nature' and 'Natural History' genres and concerning the use of third-party frames. These differences may influence the choice of images by the external competition selection committees.
- 3.4. Reformatting of PDIs by the member may be required to meet external competition requirements.

4. Print Competitions

- 4.1. Entries for Print Competitions must be submitted by placing them in the labelled print box available in the meeting room on or prior to the closing date for competition entries.
- 4.2. A file of the image must also be submitted, using the same image and title formatting and web uploading process as used for Club PDI competitions. The PDI title must be the same as the title of the submitted print. This PDI is not used for judging; it is displayed in the meeting room so that members seated towards the rear can better understand the judge's comments.

- 4.3. Prints for submission to print competitions must have a minimum image area of 35 square inches (226 square centimetres) and be mounted on card with a maximum size of 50 cm x 40 cm.
- 4.4. Prints must not be framed.
- 4.5. Each print must be marked on the back with the competition name, member's name, the image title and, if it is not obvious, an indication of image orientation (marked with Top or Up arrow).
- 4.6. There must be no indication of the member's name or identity on the front of the print or its mount.
- 4.7. Mounted prints must not have elements that might damage other members' prints or be vulnerable to damage whilst they are being handled or in storage boxes. This includes carelessly applied mounting tape and elements such as block prints that stand proud of the mount surface.
- 4.8. Incorrectly presented entries may be rejected by the Print Competition Secretary.

5. Projected Digital Image (PDI) Competitions

- 5.1. Entries for PDI Competitions must be submitted using the on-line form and file uploading page in the members' area of the Club's website.
- 5.2. Image files produced by a digital camera, or a scanner, will typically be much larger than required for digital projection and therefore members must produce a copy of the original file, resampled to the appropriate size, depending on the aspect ratio of the image, converted to sRGB colour space and saved as a jpg.
- 5.3. The filename of each image file must precisely follow the format as described on the website. This is to ensure compatibility with the software used by the Club to create and run PDI competitions.

Full details of the filename format are provided on the Club's website and are the primary source of this information.

In summary the filename format is:

Competition Type[space]-[space]Competition Subject Category;[space]IMAGE TITLE(in Capitals);[space]Entrant's Name.jpg

For example:

Print - Architecture; A HIGH RISE; Fred Smith.jpg, or

PDI - Architecture; THE LONG VIEW; Charles Wilson.jpg.

Note that:

- The 'Competition Type' must be either PDI or Print (including capitalisation),

- The 'Competition Subject' must match the Set Subject name exactly (including capitalisation),
- The 'IMAGE TITLE' must be all upper case,
- The 'Entrant's Name' must match the name shown on the website competition entry screen. This is on the top left just under the page title. The name must be an exact match including capitalisation.
- The file extension must be .jpg - not .jpeg.

When an attempt is made to upload a file, the system will check the format of the title and any incorrectly formatted titles will be rejected with an explanatory message.

- 5.4. Each image file submitted for PDI competitions must fit a 1600 pixels wide x 1200 pixels high canvas. That is, they should be a maximum of either 1600 pixels wide and/or 1200 pixels high including any borders or frames.
- 5.5. All images must be formatted in the sRGB colour space. This is to ensure images are projected exactly as expected in Club competitions. It will also ensure that that image files selected for external competitions will not be rejected by the external competition entry system due to file incompatibility.
- 5.6. Entries with incorrectly formatted filenames or image files will be rejected by the file uploading software. Incorrectly presented entries may be rejected by the PDI Competition Secretary.
- 5.7. NOTE: Please see the document 'Preparing and Sizing Digital Image Files for Club PDI Competitions' for further information and detailed help on how to prepare these files.

6. OTHER COMPETITIONS

6.1. PDI and Print of the Year Competitions

- 6.1.1. All Print entries must have been submitted to one of the Print internal competitions held during the current programme. All PDI entries must have been submitted to one of the PDI internal competitions held during the current programme.
- 6.1.2. Entrants may submit up to two PDIs and/or two prints.
- 6.1.3. Due to the potential for high numbers of entries, members should indicate by marking their entries 1 or 2 where 1 is the most important so that the relevant Competition Secretary can eliminate multiple entries should the need arise.
- 6.1.4. For PDI file names this number should be appended to the TITLE part of the file name preceded by a dash. For example: PDI - Architecture; A GOOD TITLE-1; Fred Smith.jpg.

6.2. Print Panel Competition

- 6.2.1. The subject is open.
- 6.2.2. Submission of entries is as for Print Competitions.

6.2.3. Each panel must consist of three mounted prints, marked on the back to indicate required order of display (left, centre, right).

6.2.4. Each print must follow the rules for Print competitions.

6.2.5. Members may submit up to three panels. Print Panels may include prints submitted in previous Print competitions.

6.3. Photo Book Competition

6.3.1. The subject is open.

6.3.2. Submission of entries is as for Print Competitions.

6.3.3. Members may submit an unlimited number of entries.

6.3.4. Both PDF and print versions of the book must be submitted: The PDF by the competition entry closing date and the print version at the same time, if available, or within three weeks of the competition date to allow for processing and delivery.

6.3.5. All entries must be prepared using the following parameters:

- Size 25 cm x 20 cm landscape
- Soft cover
- Standard paper
- 20 pages maximum.

6.3.6. A 150 to 200-word description is required as a preface on the first page to 'set the scene'.

6.3.7. Further text and titles may be added on the image pages.

6.3.8. There are no rules regarding the number or layout of images.

6.3.9. If a book is submitted with more than 20 pages, then judging will only take the first 20 pages into account.

6.3.10. NOTE: Please see the document 'BRCC Photo Book Guidelines' for further information and detailed help on how to prepare a photo book.

6.4. Flickr Competitions

This monthly competition is judged internally, and certificates are awarded to the winner. It is run under guidelines that are published on the Club's Flickr page. Details of how to join the Flickr group and take part are on the Club's website download page.

An image posted on the Club's Flickr page or entered into the Club's Flickr Competition may be submitted to other Club competitions.

Approved by the Bognor Regis Camera Club committee and released on 9th September 2023