

Briefing sheet for competitions (excluding 'open' competitions)

*To be read in conjunction with MSCC Competition Rules 2023-24*

The club runs four internal club competitions per year (Competitions 1-4); two with a defined theme/ subject and two open competitions with no defined subject. In addition, there are a number of defined competitions as detailed below.

**Themed Competition 2: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023**  
***(Hand-in date: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023)***

Go with the Flow: all things water

This competition asks for water to be the main feature of the image. All genres of photography are welcome.

Water is the theme of the WCPF Knightshayes Trophy next year (and will put members in a great position to enter this prestigious competition in March 2024). For this reason, we have chosen to use their excellent definition for our competition:

“Water can be water in any of its natural states, wet water, drippy water, ice, snow, steam, fog, mist, condensation. It can be in lakes and rivers, on hills and mountains, puddles, fountains, in or on the sea, rain, hail, coming out of your kettle. You can have people, animals, fish, birds, boats, wet events or streets, water sports, walks in the rain, landscapes, splashy creatives done in your kitchen. The list is endless” (WCPF Facebook 2023)

Up to **three** entries may be submitted for this competition of either prints or digital images, or a mixture of each. The competition will be externally judged and there will be places awarded from 1 – 5 with up to 4 Highly Commended images

**Themed Competition 4: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
***(Hand-in date 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024)***

Food for Thought: from field to fork and capture to consumption

This competition seeks to encompass all things food and is wide-ranging in its scope. Basically, anything that features human or animal food!

Genres:

- Still life – fruits, vegetables, confectionary.....
- Wildlife – the capture of prey, birds eating berries....
- Portrait – any person with food incorporated into the portrait
- Street / documentary – markets, ice-creams, rubbish, food-banks, café's.....
- Landscape – crops, harvest, orchards, farming ....
- Creative / Macro – close-up with food, splash images, Intentional Camera Movement, Multiple Exposure, ....
- Product – contemporary food products
- Monochrome - all of the above!

Up to **three** entries may be submitted for this competition of either prints or digital images, or a mixture of each. The competition will be externally judged and there will be places awarded from 1 – 5 with up to 4 Highly Commended images

**The Titchener Competition: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**(Hand-in date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024)**

A Photographic Project/Body of Work

You are asked to produce a panel of **between 3 and 9 images** that constitute a photographic project or body of work.

A photographic project is defined as

‘a group of images arranged together in a cohesive panel whilst maintaining a particular category, style, subject, theme, technique or equipment. It can be anything the photographer wants to work on and should convey some element of a story’.

Working on projects is a great way of creating a unique collection of images that reflect your interests, passions and creativity. The goal is to establish consistency within the series of images.

For example, you might take a number of photographs of one subject in different ways, or perhaps do a study of your local community, choose to do nature/wildlife panel that features the same subject and its different behaviours. Or you might choose the same landscape taken over different seasons or weather conditions. These are just a few examples.

- **One entry** may be submitted for this competition of either prints **or** digital images.
- Your panel should be titled in a descriptive way and EACH IMAGE individually numbered 1 – 9 in the order that you want them to be displayed. You may also title each image if you wish
- You must write a brief ‘statement of intent’. There is accommodation within photoentry for you to do this. A statement of intent is a short statement that lets the viewer know about your intention and purpose when creating your body of work.
- Additionally, you **must** enter a further image with each panel that illustrates how you would like your images displayed. For example, if you are entering 5 images into the **DPI** competition, you will enter a 6<sup>th</sup> image that shows them all together. To do this, you might create a montage or take a screenshot of all of your images together in the order you want them displayed. If you are entering a **print** panel of 5 images, you must provide a 6<sup>th</sup> image - a picture of how the panel should be viewed.

In either case, the ‘extra’ image is not judged and does not need to be technically produced. It is in addition and complementary to the panel of individual images.

- DPI’s should conform to usual club competition requirements.
- For PRINT entries and for this competition only, you can choose the size and the presentation of your print images. They can, but do not need to be, mounted. However, we would ask that you use a backing board and that your prints are a minimum of 10” x 8” (8” x 8” if square) and a maximum of A3 (with a maximum mount size, if using, of 40 x 50 cms).
- Your images should be presented in a logical sequence that tells the story and compliments your images. Fig 1 shows examples of more sophisticated plans.

Judging

The competition will be externally judged and there will be places awarded from 1 – 5 with up to 4 Highly Commended panels. For this competition, the panel will be judged as a whole and the main criterion will be strength of cohesiveness and overall project. Most of the judge’s attention will be on the panel as a whole, not on each individual image. However, the judge will be asked to give merit to any outstanding

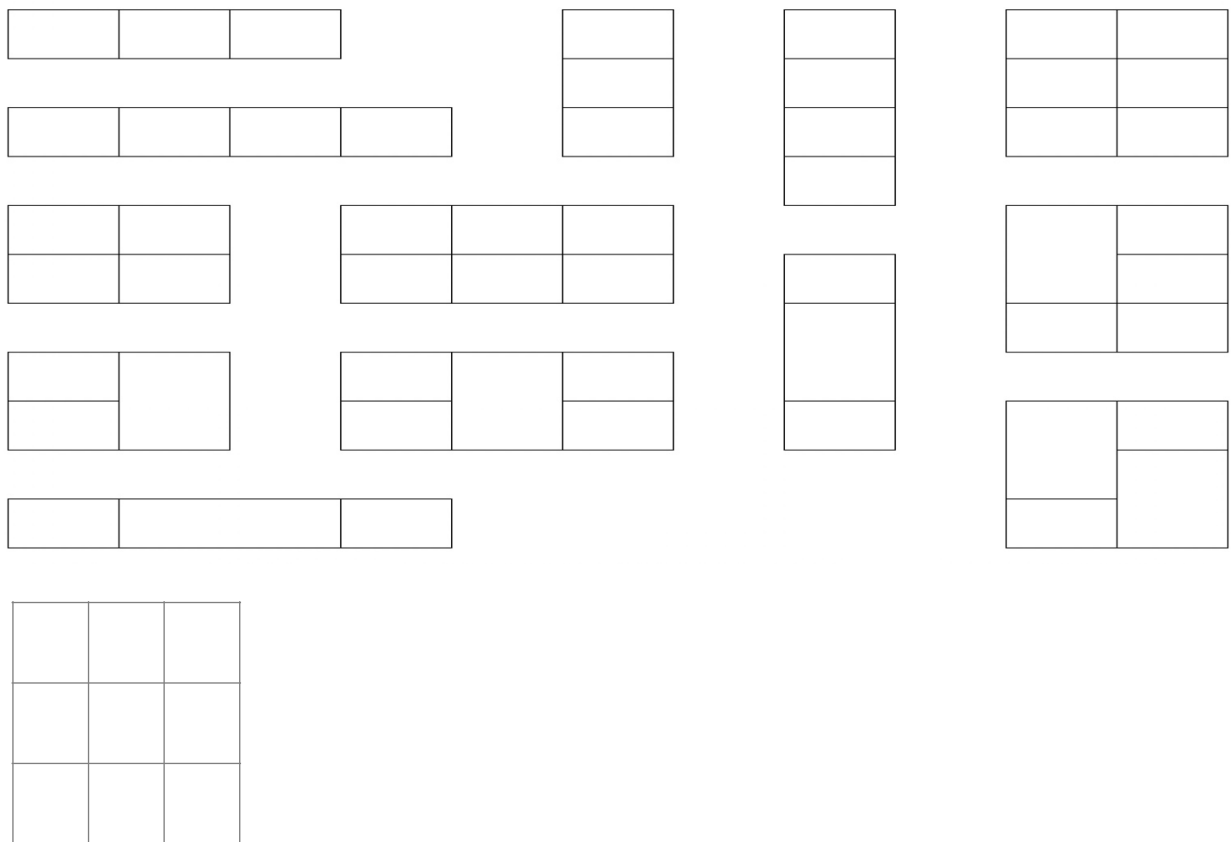
individual images placing them 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>. Those images will qualify for the overall picture of the year (POTY) competition.

Further Guidance

Your panel should be balanced, showing that you have given thought to the layout. For example, you might think about tones and colours and the way that your images work together, or the direction of your subject within the frames, helping the viewer to best see the story and your intention.

You might want to revisit the work of Sam Gregory who gave a talk at the Camera Club on creating collections of images <https://www.samgregory-photography.com>

**Fig 1 Image plan ideas**



**The Dawn Pallant Memorial Trophy: 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024**  
(Hand-in date 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024)

The Battle of the Sexes Team Competition

This is a fun team competition between the ladies and gentlemen of the club to win the Dawn Pallant Memorial Trophy. The winning team will be awarded rosettes which they will keep. The competition will run similarly to the way in which the Battles are run with each image being randomly presented from both teams and given a score out of 20. Teams are ranked based on their total score. The competition will be externally judged. Places will also be awarded from 1 – 5 with up to 4 Highly Commended images. The top 3 images will qualify for entry into the POTY competition

How it will work:

- Each of the teams will have a team captain whose job it will be to co-ordinate entries for the competition
- Each team will enter 30 digital images in total
- There are no restrictions on subject matter
- Images should be in standard Club Competition format
- There is a need to balance inclusion with practicality taking account of the number of lady and gentleman members, and also a sense check against how many of those are active in competitions. We have looked at the average number of entries to competitions for ladies and gentlemen over the past 2 years. Based on this analysis, for the year 2023/24:
  - Ladies Team entries should **contain a maximum of 4 images per author** with at least **8 authors represented**.
  - Gentleman Team entries should contain **a maximum of 3 images per author** with at least **12 authors represented**.
- At least 10 images from the team's selection shall not have been previously entered in a Club competition
- Any image which is eligible for the POTY Competition (i.e., has been placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> in a Club Competition this season) is NOT eligible for selection. HCs awarded this competition year are however acceptable

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