

SOUTHLAND PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY Inc

COMPETITION RULES

1 GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL CLUB COMPETITIONS

- 1 Competitions are open to financial members only.
- 2 All parts of an image entered into any competition must have been exposed by the member. Apart from processing restrictions applying to Natural History and Photojournalism, unlimited use of software for creative purposes is permitted. Unless otherwise stated, any print may be trade or home processed. Note that an image may not be entered into both print and projected image in the same competition (ie 'Open', 'Natural History', etc).
- 3 All images can be colour or monochrome unless otherwise stated in rules.
- 4 There shall be no restriction as to subject nor when the photograph was taken, unless otherwise stated in the rules.
- 5 All images for competition entry must be submitted via the SPS website (www.southlandphotographicsociety.com), using the form on the competition entry page. This applies to projected images as well as the digital files of print entries. Fill in all the relevant sections on the form (including entering the title of your image in the relevant space) and upload your images before submitting your entry. Please check that the name you enter in the form is exactly the same as the image file name. To ensure your entry has been received, please allow time for the information on the form to upload before leaving the page.

Entries must be submitted on the appropriate form via the club website prior to 10pm on the date designated in the programme as the 'close off' for the competition. Prints are to be handed to the print secretary at the meeting on the 'close off' date.

- 6 Prints should be labelled with the following sequence of information:

- Firstly the section:

Natural History – NH
Open – OP
Photojournalism – PJ
Landscape – LS
Portrait – PT

There will be some Championship codes – Unicolour – UN, Audio-Visual – AV etc

- Secondly the number of the competition (ie. 1 – 4)
- Thirdly the grade (A, B, or C)
- And finally, the image title

- 7 Each piece of information should be separated by a hyphen. So, for example, a natural history print, to be entered in the second round of competition, by somebody in 'B' grade, and with a title of 'Spotted Shag', would end up being correctly labelled on the back of the print as 'NH-2-B-Spotted Shag'.

- 8 The photographer's name is NOT to be included on a print image or mat, or on the digital image or in the file name, or a projected image file.
- 9 Print competitions: Prints must be either matted and mounted, or flush mounted on card, foam core board or core flute. The base size must be a minimum of 230mm x 180mm and a maximum of 510 x 410mm, with a maximum thickness of 10mm. Prints need to be labelled as in section 1, paragraph 6.
- 10 Projected image competitions are for digital images. Digital images should be saved as a jpg file, with a maximum width of 1920 pixels, and a maximum height of 1080 pixels. (NOTE: It does not matter what orientation the image is, landscape or portrait, the horizontal must be 1920 pixels or less, and the vertical 1080 pixels or less. This means these limits are NOT interchangeable). Images should be entered using the process detailed in paragraph 5.
- 11 Audio-Visuals: The entry must be a stand-alone digital production, presented in MP4 format. The entry is to be submitted on a DVD or USB stick with the title printed or marked in permanent pen showing the title of the AV and the exact running time. This information can be attached to a USB with a (securely attached) tag. The authors name must not appear on any media submitted.
- 12 Most images may be improved by a judicious amount of processing. The following processing only is permissible for Natural History and Photojournalism images. Basic processing allows cropping and moderate use of:
 - Colour correction
 - Saturation adjustments
 - Dodging / Burning
 - Contrast adjustments
 - Sharpening
 - Removal of scratches or dust spots
- 13 Entries awarded an Acceptance, Merit, or Honours in A, B, or C grade competitions or trophy competitions, may not be re-entered in that competition section. 'Not Accepted' images may be re-entered in the same section. Images that receive Acceptance, Merit, or Honours in a lower grade may be entered in a higher grade.
- 14 Competition secretaries may exclude images which do not comply with the rules for entries.
- 15 All judges shall be appointed annually by the Committee. A and B grade and trophy competition judges shall be chosen from outside the Society. C grade judges may be chosen from A grade members within the Society.
- 16 Any member can enter an ungraded competition but in competitions with grades (A, B, or C) members may only enter in their respective grade.
- 17 Competition Secretaries shall be required to maintain records showing the grading and aggregate points of all A, B, and C grade members. Secretaries shall also maintain a list of current trophy winners.
- 18 Trophies are held for 12 months and the winners shall be responsible for their safe custody and return to the competition secretaries before the end of September.
- 19 Set subject competitions may be staged on meeting nights and the subject published in advance in the annual programme or by group email.
- 20 For end of year competitions, an 'Entry' is a defined number of images (currently three) judged together as a group, that do not need to have any theme or relationship with each other.
- 21 It is entirely the responsibility of the photographer to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act and to gain permission (if necessary or appropriate) from any identifiable person in their competition entries.
- 22 As far as possible no judge will know the name of the author of any image in any competition until after all images are evaluated and/or judged. To this end, members should consider whether they will post to social media any images they may later wish to enter into a club or national competition

- 23 Any matter not provided for in these Rules shall be decided by the committee, who may alter these rules at their discretion.

2 GUIDE TO IMAGE SELECTION FOR EACH SECTION

- 1 The final image is what counts the most and the following definitions and quotes are to be used by both photographers and judges as guidance.
- 2 **OPEN (OP)** A graded competition with A, B, and C grades. There are no limits to subject matter in the Open section. The emphasis is on visual interest, impact, composition, and technical excellence. Images are not confined to any particular subject, type, or style of photography and may include scenery, close-ups, buildings, portraits, and still-life. Special techniques are also allowed, and include unlimited digital or darkroom manipulation. Composites are permitted, but they must not include copies of images, or parts of images, taken by another photographer.
- 3 **NATURAL HISTORY (NH)** A graded competition with A, B, and C grades.
Natural History photography depicts living, untamed animals and uncultivated plants in a natural habitat, geology and the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs. The aim of Natural History photography is to educate. Photographs of animals that are domesticated caged or under any form of restraint, as well as photographs of cultivated plants are **ineligible**. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for natural history subjects, such as leg bands for wild birds, buildings with barn owls or storks. Natural History excludes anthropology and archaeology. Artificially produced plants or animals, mounted specimens or obviously set arrangements, will not be eligible. **Only basic processing is allowed as defined in section 1.12 of the General Rules.** After satisfying the above requirements, every effort should be made to ensure the highest level of artistic skill in all Natural History photographs. Correct identification of subjects is strongly recommended. The use of the scientific, Maori, native, or common names must be used, with preference being given to the scientific name where possible. **Cute, humorous or other such titles will not be accepted.**
- 4 **PHOTOJOURNALISM (PJ)** An open competition where images are awarded non-acceptance, acceptance, merit or honours. These points accrue towards the aggregate trophy awarded at the end of each year. Photojournalism is about capturing story telling images as they happen. It is a form of documentary photography, and emphasis should be given to life in our world. The theme of people and their environment should be used although people are not essential i.e. a shot the day after a house fire, if well taken, can still tell the essential tale. Images revealing aspects of life not often seen or thought about – images that are likely to be of interest in 100 years' time. An image should be able to stand alone and **tell its story** without a title but if carefully chosen a title can often add to its impact. Photojournalism often consists of human interest and portrays people in everyday situations. Here one tries to record body language, facial expressions, and a range of emotions. Good timing is essential, and one should strive to catch the key moment in any action/activity. In photojournalism, the technique, composition, and lighting (although important) remain secondary to the story. Photojournalism images must represent the truth, so **only basic processing is allowed as defined in section 1.12 of the General Rules**, and events recorded must not be set up by the photographer.
- 5 **PORTRAIT (PT)** An open competition with no grades.
A Portrait is a representation of a person, especially of the face – sometimes refers to a group of people. Ideally it gives some insight to their character. The photograph may be posed or candid, of an individual or group, be full length or close-up. If the person is the most important part of your photograph, then it is deemed to be a portrait.

"There is a brief moment when all there is in a man's mind and soul and spirit is reflected through his eyes, his hands, his attitude. This is the moment to record." Yousuf Karsh
- 6 **LANDSCAPE (LS)** An open competition with no grades.
A landscape is an image of scenery. It can include cityscapes, seascapes, sunsets, single trees, boats in a harbour, people enjoying the outdoors or groups of animals in their outdoor habitat.

Landscape photography is not so much about what is contained in the image, but what it portrays about a

place. While a landscape photograph might be a wide-angle image of a pristine lake or an ocean sunset, it might just as well be a dormant plant in a winter pond. Grand or tiny, a landscape is not so much about the subject itself, but rather about the place in which the subject exists and the feeling the subject and place evokes.

- 7 **UNICOLOUR CUP (UN)** An open competition with no grades.
This cup is to recognise innovation and artistic flair, and is for **print based creations** that are fun and have impact. Work can range from paper tole or montage through to manipulations in either digital or chemical darkrooms. All parts of Images must have been exposed by the entrant-
- 8 **AUDIO VISUAL (AV)** An open competition with no grades.
This competition is for a sequence of projected images with accompanying audio built around a storyline or theme. It should have an introduction, an interesting development of the storyline, and a close. The images must be exposed, processed, and the AV must be created by the entrant. Narrative, text, and graphics may be used as can short video clips which must, in total, be not more than 30 seconds. While quality still images are the foundation of any AV presentation, there is the opportunity to tell a more complex story and add the considerable power of well chosen music. Remember to include any musical or other acknowledgements associated with the production, but your name must not be part of it (see specific rules in Section 6.2.g 'Ruzsa Trophy').

Judging criteria used to select the best AVs.

- 1 What is the quality of each image?
- 2 Does the AV hold the interest of the viewer?
- 3 Have the transitions been well used?
- 4 Does the story or theme have flow, continuity and completeness?
- 5 Is the choice and timing of the music and/or commentary (if used) appropriate?
- 6 Are the titles and other "add-ons" suitable?

3 SOCIETY MEETING COMPETITIONS

Entries are submitted at regular intervals throughout the year as outlined in the annual programme, with results presented back to meetings and printed in the newsletter, and images achieving Merit or Honours are posted on the website.

Two images per competition round.

Members can submit images to be assessed and graded in three sections and two media.

Open	Print, Projected Image,
Natural History	Print, Projected Image
Photojournalism	Print, Projected Image

- 1 **OPEN**
 - a. A, B, and C Grades for prints and projected images.
 - b. Points awarded are by evaluating images as follows:

Not Accepted	0 points
Accepted	1 point
Merit	2 points
Honours	3 points

- 2 **NATURAL HISTORY** A, B, and C grades. Points are awarded for end-of-year aggregate competition by evaluating images as in section 3, paragraph 1(b) above
- 3 **PHOTOJOURNALISM** Competition with no grades and open to all financial members. Number of entries two. Points as in section 3, paragraph 1(b) above.

- 4 Members commencing graded (ie Open, N/H), print and projected image competitions shall enter at C grade. After attaining **15 points** advance to B grade and after attaining an additional **30 points** advance to A grade. At the discretion of the committee, members transferring from other PSNZ clubs may be permitted to enter competitions at a grade equal to or less than the grade they held at the previous club.

4 AGGREGATE COMPETITION TROPHIES

- 1 Points gained in the Open, Photojournalism, and Natural History Sections throughout the calendar year are recorded by the competition secretaries and tallied up after the last competition in each year. Trophies are awarded to the member with the highest points tally.
 - a. **AGGREGATE TROPHY IN NATURAL HISTORY COMPETITION**
ALEXANDER MEMORIAL TROPHY
NH has A, B, and C grades, in prints and projected images, but only one aggregate trophy. This is awarded to the person with the highest points tally in any one medium, regardless of their grade.
 - b. **AGGREGATE TROPHIES IN OPEN PRINT COMPETITION**
RUSSELL CUP "A" Grade
JUMBO CUP "B" Grade
SCOTT CUP "C" Grade
 - c. **AGGREGATE TROPHIES IN OPEN PROJECTED IMAGE COMPETITION**
PRESIDENTS TROPHY- A Grade
JUMBO CUP - B Grade
JUBILEE CUP - C Grade
 - d. **AGGREGATE TROPHIES IN PHOTOJOURNALISM COMPETITION**
SOUTHLAND TIMES TROPHY Projected Images
ARTHUR CROSBIE AWARD Prints

5 TYREE BROTHERS PORTRAIT COMPETITION

- 1 This is a portrait competition, in memory of the pioneering photography by William and Fred Tyree in the South Island in the late 1800s.
- 2 Limited to two entries per member in each of the two sections.
- 3 An image can only be entered once, and cannot be entered in both the print and projected image sections in the same year.
- 4 Prints can be in any form including montages, darkroom or digitally manipulated, but of the size noted in General Rules section 1, paragraph 9.
- 5 The judge will select up to ten images in each of the two sections as the best images, presenting Honours, Merit, and Acceptance awards, depending on the quality of entries.
They will award the trophies to the photographer of the Champion Print and Champion Projected Image

The following trophies will be awarded:

TYREE BROTHERS' PRINT PORTRAIT TROPHY - Champion Portrait Print

TYREE BROTHERS' PROJECTED IMAGE PORTRAIT TROPHY - Champion Portrait Projected Image

6 ANNUAL END OF YEAR CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES

- 1 Close off date for entries is in the Annual Programme.
- 2 There are three media available for presenting images:

Prints	Projected Images	Audio-Visual
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a. **OPEN**

SOUTHLAND AMATEUR SPORTS TRUST CUP - Best Entry of three Open/Pictorial Prints.
 RILLSTONE TROPHY - Champion Open Print selected from individual images entered in the Southland Amateur Sports Trust Cup
 SONYA CROOK TROPHY - Open Projected Images - Best Entry of three projected images
 NEIL MCCALLUM TROPHY - Champion Open Projected Image - selected from individual images in the Projected Image Championship Cup

b. **NATURAL HISTORY**

ROY STILES MEMORIAL TROPHY - Best Entry of three Natural History Prints
 GORDON WATSON TROPHY - Champion Natural History Print, selected from individual images in the Roy Stiles Memorial Trophy
 NATURAL HISTORY SHIELD - Best Entry of three Natural History Projected Images
 CHARLES BARWELL MEMORIAL TROPHY - Champion Natural History Projected Image selected from individual images in the Natural History Shield

c. **PHOTOJOURNALISM**

STAN WOODING TROPHY - Champion Photojournalism Print - maximum of three images
 PAT MCGRATH TROPHY - Champion Photojournalism Projected Image - maximum of three images

d. **LANDSCAPE**

DAVIDSON CUP - (Print) Champion Landscape Print - maximum of three images
 RON JAMES TROPHY - (Projected Image) Champion Landscape Projected Image - maximum of three images

e. **MONOCHROME**

MIEZENBEEK MEMORIAL CUP - Champion Monochrome Print - maximum of three images
 A photograph printed in black and white, one colour, or shades of one colour

f. **INNOVATIVE**

UNICOLOUR CUP - This Cup is to recognise innovation and artistic flair, and is for print based creations that are fun and have impact and be 100% the author's own work where possible. - maximum of three images

g. **AUDIO-VISUAL**

RUZSA TROPHY - Champion Audio-Visual Presentation - one entry per member - maximum of 5 minutes' total running time. There is no restriction on subject matter. The images in the presentation must be those of the entrant and the AV must be created by the photographer. Sound may be mono or stereo; inclusion of video clips is acceptable with a duration of no more than 30 seconds; panning and zooming is permissible; and all credits should be declared at the end of the sequence but must not include the AV author's name.