



AMERSHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Regulations for Internal Competitions

Each year members have the opportunity to enter images into monthly internal competition leagues; five print competitions and five projected digital image (PDI) competitions. In addition, at the end of the year, there is a 'Finals' competition for both print and PDI. Please note that only fully paid up and honorary members of Amersham Photographic Society may take part.

Classification of members for competitions

There are three classes for competitions: General, Intermediate and Advanced.

- The General Class - the usual entry class for new members of the Society.
- The Intermediate Class - by promotion on merit from the General class. Promotion is on recommendation from the Print, PDI and External Competitions secretaries to the committee based on results in the previous year. This is also the entry class for members holding the LRPS, CPAGB, or equivalent qualification or who can demonstrate the appropriate level of photographic skill and achievement.
- The Advanced Class - by promotion on merit from the Intermediate class. Promotion is on recommendation from the Print, PDI and External Competitions secretaries to the committee based on results in the previous year. This is also the entry class for members holding the ARPS, DPAGB, equivalent or higher qualification or who can demonstrate the appropriate level of photographic skill and achievement.
- The winners of the Print or PDI league tables in the General and Intermediate Classes will automatically qualify for promotion to the next class.

Annual Print Competition Rules

There is a print competition each year, comprising five rounds. A maximum of nine prints can be entered by a member into the print competition. The marks from the eight highest scoring images will be used to determine the winner, second and third in each class.

The first print competition of the season will be ONE print per member from all three classes. In subsequent competitions members can enter ONE or TWO prints. Print competitions will run on the following basis (see APS website calendar for specific dates):

- Comp 1: General / Intermediate / Advanced (break tbd)
- Comp 2: Intermediate / break / Advanced

Comp 3: General / break / Intermediate
Comp 4: General / break / Advanced
Comp 5: Intermediate / break / Advanced
Comp 6: General / break / Intermediate
Comp 7: General / break / Advanced

Print tile, author's name and print number should be sent, preferably by email, to the Print Secretary by midnight on the Friday preceding each Monday competition night (printsec@amershamphotosoc.com). All prints must have a unique identifying corner, available from the Print Secretary at the start of each season. Corners from previous years may not be used.

There is also a Print Final competition each year in which each author may submit two images that have been in a Print competition during the season. Entries should be unchanged from those previously used. The judge will pick the best image from each class and the Print of the Year.

Prints must be on a stiff mount, not less than 224cm² and of a maximum size of 40x50cm. The print title and author's name must be on the back in black ink and block capitals. It is often difficult to read titles in the dark and so a label printed in font size 18 points or above is ideal. If the orientation is questionable "Top" should also be written on the back.

For further guidance about preparing your prints see the Competitions page on the APS website.

Annual PDI Competition Rules

There is a PDI competition each year, comprising five rounds. A member may enter one or two images into each round of a competition. Thus a maximum of 10 images can be entered by a member into the PDI competition. The marks from the eight highest scoring images will be used to determine the winner, second and third in each class.

There is also a PDI Final competition each year in which each author may submit two images that have been in a PDI competition during the season. Entries should be unchanged from those previously used. The judge will pick the best image from each class and the PDI of the Year.

Entries must be submitted no later than the Friday before the competition, preferably by e-mail attachment but also on CD, DVD or flash memory stick delivered to the competition secretary. E-mailed images should be sent to: pdientry@amershamphotosoc.com where software will check conformance with the entry rules.

Images for projection must be in JPEG format (maximum quality), with maximum dimensions 1600 pixels wide x 1200 pixels high. Note that if a square format is used, the maximum size will therefore be 1200 x 1200 pixels. For predictable colours from our projector it is necessary for the image to be in the sRGB colour space. Filenames must be in the following format: IMAGE TITLE by Your Name.jpg. (The use of the image name in upper case and the 'by' in lower case letters is essential because the competition software uses this to automatically recognise the title and author's name).

For further guidance about preparing your images see the Competitions page on the APS website.

Reuse of Images

As a guiding principle members are encouraged to further their photographic skill and ability, and to produce new images for competitions. Thus:

- No image may be used more than once in an internal APS competition unless it is being entered into the Print of the Year/PDI of the Year and then only in the season it was originally entered into competition.
- The decision of the print or PDI secretary is final when deciding if an image is similar to a previous entry from an author.

Judges

Judges will be asked to mark competition entries in the range 12 to 20 inclusive. They will be asked to select a first, second and third placed entry together with any number of entries Highly Commended. There is no limit on the number of images awarded any score, although guidance is given to provide a distribution of scores.

Trophies

In each of the Print and PDI competitions, the following trophies are awarded:

- General class best of league medal
- General class best of year medal (Finals winner)
- Intermediate class best of league medal
- Intermediate class best of year medal (Finals winner)
- Advanced class best of league medal
- Advanced class best of year medal (Finals winner)
- Image of the year medal (Finals all classes)

Changes to these rules

Any changes to internal competition rules will be notified to members in writing at least 28 days prior to introduction. This is to enable any objections to be raised and discussed prior to the changes happening. In practice, changes to competition rules are likely to be at the end of a season.

Document History			
Date	Version	Summary of changes	Author
28 Sept 2015	12	Formally Appendix C of the Constitution. Annual print competition rules updated.	CR
5 Oct 2015	13	Minor corrections to clarify number of print comp rounds (six to four) and PDI images rather than prints. Version numbers (of this regulation) aligned with file name.	CR
12 Oct 2015	14	Following Sept 2015 EGM Additional paragraph "Changes to these rules" added.	CR
17 Aug 2016	15	Adds requirement to notify Print Secretary of name/title/ number of each entry prior to competition night + change in number of prints and competitions from 2016/17.	CR
19 June 2018	16	Combine with "Rules and guidance" section on APS website to avoid duplication and contradiction. Remove "An image may be entered into a competition in the following season in a different medium." and "...in the same season..." from Reuse of Images section. Add for print and PDI finals: "Entries should be unchanged from those previously used". Other minor corrections and clarifications. Content reviewed and approved by committee at June 2018 meeting.	CR
04 Sept 2019	17	Email address for submission of entries changed from pdi@amershamphotosoc.com to pdientry@amershamphotosoc.com	CR
26 Nov 2019	18	Following 2019 AGM and further discussion at Sept committee meeting, the following text added: "The winners of the Print or PDI league tables in the General and Intermediate Classes will automatically qualify for promotion to the next class."	CR