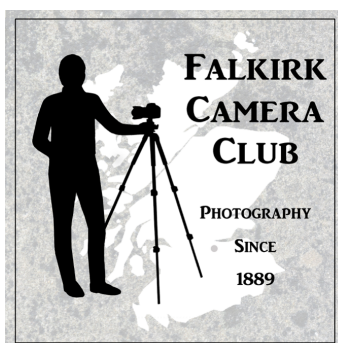


Falkirk Camera Club

Competition Rules



FALKIRK CAMERA CLUB

Competition Rules

Competition Rule Revisions		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Revised by</u>	<u>Reason</u>
19 th April 2014	Bob Black	Review of Rules to reduce duplication of statements.
19 th Dec 2016	Steve Somerville	Image/Pixel size increased to SPF standard
29 th Aug 2018	Bob Black	Rule 2b added
29 th Nov 2018	Bob Black	Donald Polson – Rule 2 changed to reflect that it is PDI's only.
15 th Aug 2019	Bob Black	Rules changed to reflect the introduction of the PhotoEntry system
12th Sept 2019	Bob Black	Addition of Themed competition and prints from film
18th Sept 2019	Bob Black	"the image ranked highest by the author" will automatically be entered into the appropriate excellence and advancement competition
2023-09-12	Bob Black	Rules amended to suit one section for competitions
2025-04-16	Bob Black	Rules amended to suit new competition format & remote photography



Falkirk Camera Club's photographic competitions aim to assist members in growing creatively and technically in their photography. These are, to name a few:-

- Skills Development - Competitions encourage members to improve their technical abilities, like composition, lighting, and post-processing, through regular practice and feedback.
- Creative Expression - They provide a platform for photographers to express themselves artistically and explore different genres and styles of photography.
- Constructive Feedback - Judges and peers often provide critiques, helping participants understand what works well and where there's room for improvement.

Competition General Rules: -

1. Only members who have paid their subscription fees and returned a membership form for the current season may enter competitions.
2. All competitions will be assessed, preferably by an invited, external competition judge. Images and prints will be judged and reviewed using a points system.
 - i. ***The member's highest marked entry will be considered ineligible for further entry in that category but*** may be entered into the Print & Projected Digital Image of the Year Competition.
 - ii. The same image or similar, whether Mono, Colour or Digital Image, may not be entered into more than one category in the same year.
3. Entries not deemed ineligible by Rule 2 may be submitted for Monthly Competitions a maximum of TWO times.
4. Members entering competitions will submit their digital entries online through the PhotoEntry system and hand in their prints by the dates stated in the syllabus.
5. When uploading their images into PhotoEntry, the author must rank them in each category according to their order of preference. If the total number of entries for a category is too high, the higher number(s) will be excluded from the competition. The image ranked number 1 will automatically be entered into the excellence competitions.
6. All Prints, including their corresponding matching digital file and Digital images entered for competitions, must have a title of a maximum of 30 characters, including spaces.
7. For all competitions, authors shall remain anonymous. Authors must remove any identifiable writing detailing their name from prints.
8. The Competition Secretaries reserve the right to decline any entry that doesn't meet the Print & Digital Image Technical Specifications, violates FCC rules, or is considered inappropriate. We understand that new members are still finding their footing, so a bit of flexibility may be offered initially. However, persistent non-compliance could lead to a 'three strikes and you're out' policy, at the discretion of the Internal Competition Secretary.
9. For External Competitions, a selection panel comprising both committee and non-committee members will be constituted, as required, to select entries.
10. To ensure fairness, all submitted images must be original photographs personally captured by the photographer, who must have had full control over both the camera and the scene. The submitting member must hold the copyright and bear full responsibility for every element of the image, guaranteeing that the work is entirely their own. Only photographs taken directly by the member are eligible for submission. The use of remote photography, stock images, third-party content, or any other non-personal sources is strictly prohibited. All submissions must result from the member's direct involvement in capturing the image.
11. Images submitted for club competitions may be used, but not limited to, by the club for publication, promotional work on their website, and any of the club's social media platforms.
12. The Club's Officers will handle all submitted entries with the utmost care, no matter the purpose. However, neither they nor the Club can be held responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. By submitting an image for a competition or any other event, you are acknowledging and accepting this condition.



Competition Submission Specifications and Rules

PRINTS – Technical Specification

- All prints must have an overall length of 17.5 cm minimum along one edge and be mounted on a board of up to 40 cm x 50 cm maximum size.
- The Authors should use the supplied FCC Print Title Label. The Labels should detail the author's membership number, Print Title (maximum 30 characters – including spaces), and Category (Colour or Monochrome)
- All submitted prints must be accompanied by the corresponding, matching, and ranked digital file from which the print was produced. This image may be the original processed digital file or a substitute that also details the final print, which must be submitted using the PhotoEntry system and conform to the Digital Image Technical Specification.
- Only the FCC Print Title Label should be visible on the back of the print.
- If the back of the mount has any label other than a Falkirk Camera Club label, it must be concealed with a temporary cover to avoid influencing the judge.

DIGITAL IMAGES - Technical Specification

Digital image files must be submitted in the following format:

- **Mode:** RGB Colour, 8 bits only or Greyscale, 8 bits. (*as images may be selected for External events this is to comply with Inter Club / National & International Salon of Photography and International Exhibition rules*)
- **You must** submit your files in **sRGB** mode. (*as images may be selected for External events this is to comply with Inter Club / National & International Salon of Photography and International Exhibition rules*)
- **File Format:** JPEG files only.
- **Image Size:** - 1600 pixels maximum width and 1200 pixels maximum height.
- Digital Image Titles should have a maximum of 30 Characters, including spaces, and must not display the title or author name.
- Digital Images must be submitted using the PhotoEntry system.
- **AV Productions:** Submitted in MP4 format with your name on the disk or memory stick and the duration/run time for each AV production.

Notes:

1. **You must ensure that no virus is present within your media.** All media will be checked when submitted; any found with a virus will not be accepted.

FCC Monthly Competitions – Prints & Projected Digital Images (PDIs).

1. For all Monthly Competition categories, there will only one grade.
2. All entries must be created by the member, (see General Rule 10) but prints may be home or commercially processed.
3. For each Monthly Competition category, a maximum of three images may be entered.
4. Prints & Digital Images will be judged as normal with the judge having no knowledge of which prints or digital images have been entered for these competitions.
5. The judge's marks for the selected prints or Digital Images will be used as the basis of scoring in the Excellence in Colour Prints, George Riddell, or Jim Stewart Competition.
6. An award will be made for the highest aggregate score obtained during the season in each section, for all 3 competitions

Prints – Monthly Competitions

1. There will be two categories of competition
 - i. Monochrome Prints
 - ii. Colour Prints
2. Each Print to be titled as specified in the "Prints – Technical Specification"

Digital Images – Monthly Projected Digital Image

1. Entries must be submitted as per the Digital Image Technical Specification.

Projected Digital Images (PDI) Knock-Out Competition.

1. The competition is open to all members
2. Where applicable the general rules for monthly competitions and technical specifications will apply.
3. Only Digital images which have not been previously submitted for the knock-out competition are eligible for entry.
4. A maximum of FOUR images per member may be submitted
5. The winner from each pairing will be advanced to the next round.
6. Images, which come from a preliminary round, should not meet each other in the next round if judged on the same night.
7. The person arranging the images can enter the competition.
8. The eventual winner will receive a trophy.



Annual Competitions.

Best of the Best - Print and Projected Digital Image (PDI) of the Year Competition

1. There will be three categories of competition:
 - i) Monochrome Print of the Year.
 - ii) Colour Print of the Year.
 - iii) PDI of the Year.
2. All categories are open to all members
3. Entries are invited from the images which have only been entered in competitions this current season
4. A maximum of **THREE** images may be entered in each category .
5. Entries may be submitted for the 'Print & PDI of the Year' Competition **ONCE** only.
6. The appropriate Monthly Competition rules and technical specifications apply.
7. A trophy will be given to the first-placed entry in each category.

Excellence Monthly Competitions.

Falkirk Camera Club organises the following Excellence competitions for their members.

1. **GEORGE RIDDELL COMPETITION** - The aim of the competition is to promote the advancement of Monochrome Print photography within the Club.
2. **EXCELLENCE IN COLOUR PRINTS COMPETITION** - The aim of the competition is to promote the advancement of Colour Print photography within the Club.
3. **THE JIM STEWART COMPETITION** The aim of the competition is to promote the advancement of Projected Digital Image photography within the Club.

Common Rules for Excellence Competitions.

1. The above competitions are open to all members and wherever applicable normal club competition rules will apply.
2. The Image ranked highest by the author will automatically be entered into the appropriate excellence and advancement competition
3. The nominated Print or Digital Image will not then be eligible for any future Excellence in Colour Prints, George Riddell, (Mono Prints) or Jim Stewart (PDI) Competition
4. The trophy will be awarded to the author who accumulates the highest aggregate over three Monthly Competitions. In the event of a tie, the award will be shared.

Specific Rules for Annual Excellence Competitions.

DONALD POLSON "WILDLIFE" OPEN COMPETITION, - The competition aims to promote the advancement of Wildlife photography within the Club. The following conditions will be applied to ensure a continuing variety of quality entries.

1. The competition is open to all members, irrespective of grading.
2. The format will be a Projected Digital Image competition
 - i) The appropriate Monthly Competition rules and Digital Image technical specifications apply.
3. All entries will be on the subject of 'Wildlife' and must bear a title.
4. The entered Digital Image(s) will not then be eligible for any future Donald Polson Trophy.
5. Judging will be by an external judge, and the trophy will be awarded to the first-placed entry in the competition.

Themed Competition

1. The objective is to set F.C.C. photographers a new challenge so areas of speciality should be avoided.
2. A minimum of two Themes will be set for each season, the club may provide some simple guidance for each theme but will aim not to constrain members to a very narrow content.
3. The competition Judge will ensure adherence to the chosen Theme in their adjudication

SMARTPHONE Competition - The purpose of a smartphone photography competition is generally to inspire participants to tap into their creativity, improve their photography skills, and showcase the capabilities of smartphone cameras. The competition is open to all members, irrespective of grading.

- The format will be a Projected Digital Image competition, with a limit of three entries per member.
 - The appropriate Monthly Competition rules and Digital Image technical specifications apply.
- All entries must bear a title.
- The entered Digital Image(s) will not then be eligible for any future Smartphone Trophy.
- Judging will be by an external judge, and the trophy will be awarded to the first-placed entry in the competition.



AV's Not competed for at present

DON McDOUGALL MEMORIAL COMPETITION - The aim of the competition is to promote the advancement of Audio Visual (AV) Production within the Club. The following conditions will be applied to ensure a continuing variety of quality entries.

1. The competition is open to all members.
2. An AV Production should predominantly consist of a sequence of still photographic images, the majority of such images being the original work of the entrant, together with a synchronised soundtrack. The use of third-party images, animated graphics, video clips or other visual material, whilst not excluded, should be limited and appropriate to the production.
3. A sequence must not exceed five minutes in duration.
4. All entries must be stand-alone digital productions (*.exe) without the need for the software that produced it.
5. The AV must not include the author's name in any projected image or on the soundtrack.
6. The names of all instrumental groups, bands, orchestras, choruses, solo artists and/or performers shall NOT be identified in subtitles or credits.
7. Only AV's not previously accepted for entry shall be eligible.
8. COPYRIGHT: Any component (Images, Graphics, Video or Music) included within the AV, which is not the members own work may be subject to copyright law. Should the AV contain any such affected component, then it is the member's responsibility to obtain all necessary performance licenses and/or copyright waivers.
9. The competition will be for entries produced as digital image sequences for projection and submitted on the appropriate digital media and titled as specified in the 'Projected Digital Images - Technical Specification' above.
10. A maximum of THREE sequences may be submitted and titled & numbered by the author 1, 2, & 3 indicating their order of preference, and the higher number will be excluded from the competition if the total entry is too high.
11. Judging will be by an external judge, and the trophy awarded to the first placed entry in the competition.