

SxPF Club Championships Rules

1. General Rules

- 1) The Club Championships are open to clubs who are paid up members of the SxPF.
- 2) No photographer may enter images for more than one club in any one competition.
- 3) Each participating photographer shall be a bona-fide member of the club they are representing.
- 4) Entries must be received by SxPF in the correct format by the published closing date.
- 5) Each club is responsible for ensuring that their entry complies fully with these rules.
- 6) If a complete and correct club entry is not available at the closing date, or if any subsequent non-compliance comes to light before, during or after the event, then the club entry as a whole may be deemed ineligible.
- 7) In all matters relating to eligibility, of images or photographers and classes, SxPF will contact the participating club for clarification. The participating club may submit a replacement entry, which must be received by the closing date. In the event of any dispute, SxPF committee shall have the final decision.

2. Classes of Entry

- 1) For 2018-19 there is one Open class
- 2) A Club entry will consist of twelve images from no fewer than ten photographers.
- See Footnote 1
- 3) No photographer may have more than two images entered.

3. Image Eligibility

- 1) An image is not eligible if it has been entered as substantially the same image in any previous SxPF competition as a print or slide or projected digital image (PDI), irrespective of the image title.
- 2) Each image submitted must be entirely the original work of the entrant. Composite images are permitted provided all component images meet this requirement. The use of any other image or part thereof, including royalty-free and public domain images, obtained from any third-party source, is not permitted, even if the entrant has acquired usage rights.
- 3) If any image entered is deemed likely to cause offence, it may be excluded
– See also 1.7
- 4) In matters relating to copyright breaches or plagiarism, SxPF will apply the guidelines offered by PAGB at the time.
- 5) Entering an image gives the SxPF the right to publish in an exhibition catalogue and / or DVD presentation, and a low-resolution copy on its website. In all cases the copyright remains with the photographer and credit will be given. No other copy of any image will be retained after the competition either by the SxPF or partner club.

4. Judging and Marking

- 1) There will be three judges assessing the competition.
- 2) Marks will be given by each judge independently using a marking scale appropriate to the format of the competition.
- 3) Images will be judged as standalone images, not as part of a club 'panel'.
- 4) Judging will take place in a preview session on the morning of the competition. Comments will be given in open session on the afternoon of the competition.
- 5) If and when judges are required to resolve a tie between two clubs or between two images, or to choose an award winner, they will do so by consensus.

5. Trophies

- 1) Club trophies shall be awarded to:
 - a. The overall winning club gaining the highest aggregate marks.
 - b. The most improved club showing the greatest improvement in overall placing compared with the previous year
- 2) In the event of a tie the following methods shall be used to decide the winning clubs:
 - a. Winning club: firstly by the count of maximum marks awarded, then by judges' choice.
 - b. Most Improved: by reference to the lower overall finishing position in the previous year.
- 3) The Overall Championship and any other awards may be won by one club.
- 4) No club may win both the Overall and Most Improved awards. In such an event, the Most Improved will be awarded to the second most improved club, subject to 5.2c.
- 5) Individual awards will be made as follows:
 - a. An individual trophy and Gold Medal shall be awarded to the photographer whose image is adjudged best in competition by highest aggregate marks.
 - b. One Silver Medal and one Bronze medal shall be awarded to the images with the next highest aggregate marks.
 - c. In the event of a tie for in 5.a and 5.b the judges shall decide the awards by consensus.
 - d. Three additional Judges' Medals shall be awarded, decided by each judge individually.
 - e. Merit / Highly Commended certificates may be awarded.
 - f. Additional awards may be offered for specific genres or other classes of photography (e.g. nature, landscape) to be decided year on year.
- 6) Trophy holders are responsible for return of the trophy(ies) at the next Competition for re-presentation. If any additions or repairs to trophies are required, the holding club shall refer to the SxPF Committee for guidance and authorisation before having work done.

6. Image Formats and Media

Prints

- 1) Prints must be presented in card mounts measuring no more than 50cm x 40cm. Mounts must be strengthened with a backing card to protect the print.

Note: It is suggested but not mandated that all print mounts are exactly 50cmx40cm for consistency of display and avoidance of damage in transit.

- 2) The back of the print must display an SxPF label with the Club Name and Image Title.
- 3) The label must not show the name of the photographer. Where the photographer's name appears elsewhere on the back of the print in connection with previous competitions and exhibitions, we rely on the professionalism, integrity and impartiality of our judges to ignore all such information.
- 4) A digital version of each image must be provided for projection – format as for PDI.

Note: Please make sure that this is a competition-quality PDI. It must be as close as possible to the file used in the making of the digital print, or a high-fidelity digital copy of a silver print. Title and crop must be identical.

- 5) Prints must be delivered in a suitable print box. SxPF will take every care of the images supplied but cannot be held responsible for damage, however caused.

PDI

Note: These requirements may change year on year and will always be advised at entry.

- 6) PDI images must be saved in RGB mode, and should be in sRGB colour space.
- 7) The dimensions of all images submitted must not exceed the native resolution of the projector (as advised at entry). Images submitted with lower pixel dimensions will appear smaller when projected and consequently may be at a disadvantage.
- 8) Images must be saved in JPEG format. For maximum quality and colour fidelity, a low JPEG compression (i.e. high quality JPEG10) is recommended.
- 9) Images must be named correctly, using a standard format (as advised at entry).
- 10) Entries should be delivered electronically wherever possible by cloud storage (e.g. Dropbox), by online entry via the SxPF website (if available) or by a large-file transfer service.
- 11) Entries may, by exception and on request, be delivered on suitable electronic media such as a USB drive or camera SD or CF cards. Media will be retained for collection on the day of the competition ONLY if marked with the club name and contact.

Footnotes

1. In exceptional circumstances, clubs having difficulty finding twelve images from ten photographers may, before the closing date, apply in writing to the PDI Secretary for an exemption to Rule 2.2. The application shall state the circumstances and the required exemption. Exemption to Rule 2.3 will not be granted in any circumstances. Acceptance shall be entirely at the discretion of the SxPF Committee.