

Competition Rules



GENERAL

1. These rules are **current as of January 2020** and replace any previous MPS competition rules.
2. The committee shall resolve any doubt arising as to the meaning and intent of any or all of these competition rules.
3. Only members are eligible to enter and receive awards in the Society's competitions.
4. Members must have paid their membership fees in full by the due date to be eligible to enter any of the Society's competitions.
5. Visitors may be permitted to display images at Society competitions, but are not eligible for consideration for any award in the Society's competitions.
6. There shall be four image categories, namely:
 - (a) Monochrome prints
 - (b) Colour prints
 - (b) Digitally projected images (colour or monochrome).
 - (d) Themed (colour or monochrome). This category may be prints or digitally projected images as determined by the committee when the year's programme is being compiled.
7. A monochrome print is an image in black and white. It may be modified by the addition of a single tone provided the additional tone is applied to the entire image.
8. Unless specifically determined at a previous Society or committee meeting all competitions shall be considered as OPEN.
9.
 - (a) Print entries for competitions must be presented on the night, no later than 10 minutes before the scheduled start of the Society's competition meeting (except prejudged competitions). Late entries may be considered at the discretion of the Competition Secretary.
 - (b) **Images should be submitted by email to the Competition Secretary at competitionmpsinc@gmail.com no later than the Sunday night prior to the monthly competition.**

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10.
 - (a) No two entries submitted by the author may have the same title.
 - (b) Each print image entry must have the title and author's name recorded on its reverse side.
 - (c) All print entries must be mounted and/or overmatted, and if mounted, must be mounted on cardboard or foam core board only. Framed prints, and prints that are not mounted or overmatted, will not be accepted.
 - (d) Digitally projected images shall be saved as a Greyscale JPEG or RGB JPEG file named using the following convention:
Entry number 1 or 2 followed by your name (using capitals for the first letter of each name), underscore then the category to be entered, underscore then the Title (using capitals for each first letter) as per the following examples:
2JoeBlogs_Digital_ScenicView.jpg or
2JoeBlogs_Themed_ScenicView.jpg
11. Image Size:
 - (a) Entries in the monochrome and colour categories:
 - (i) rectangular images must not exceed 41cm x 51cm (16" x 20") including any mount or border.
 - (ii) square images must not exceed 46cm x 46cm (18" x 18") including any mount or border.
 - (b) Digitally projected images shall have:
 - (i) maximum dimensions of 3840 pixels (wide) x 2160 pixels (high) with a suggested resolution of 300 dpi, and
 - (ii) the image (and file name) saved as a Greyscale JPEG or RGB JPEG file with a maximum file size of 4.0 MB.
12. The image must have been taken by the author but may be commercially processed. Any manipulation, digitally or otherwise, must have been made by the author, or under the author's personal direction.

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13. An image cannot be entered in more than one category in the same competition.
14. (a) A former member of the Society may apply within three months of their membership lapsing, for a merit points certificate stating the total merit points awarded to that member in each image category in the Society's monthly competitions.

(b) If a former member re-applies for membership of the Society, the Society will only recognise points and awards previously awarded to that person if he or she presents a merit points certificate.

MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

15. In each monthly competition, each member may enter up to maximum of **five** entries in total, with a maximum of **two** entries per category.
16. Entries which have won a merit award, cannot be re-entered in any subsequent monthly competition in any category, even if the image has been reworked.
17. Judging shall be of a high standard with merits being awarded accordingly. If in the opinion of the judge the standard is not high enough for a merit to be awarded, then none shall be awarded.
18. (a) Judges may award merits to images in each category.

(b) Merits shall comprise of either a **Credit** or a **Distinction**.

(c) Members will receive 3 points for each Credit award and 5 points for each Distinction Award.

(d) Points awarded for the merit awards shall accumulate for determining the award winners in the Annual Points Score Competitions.
19. Awards shall be presented to recipients acquiring a set number of merits in each image category (see Rule 6 above), as follows:

10 merits	- a Certificate
25 merits	- a Bronze Medallion
50 merits	- a Silver Medallion
100 merits	- a Platinum Trophy (Plaque)
Each additional 50 merits	- shield added to the Platinum Troph

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20. Awards will be presented to the recipients as soon as practicable after reaching the required number of merits.

TOP SHOT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

21. Awards will be presented annually for the Top Shot Of The Year competition as follows:
 - (a) the best image in each current category, and
 - (b) the image judged best overall from all categories.
22. To be eligible for the Top Shot Of The year competition, entries must have been photographed after the closing date of the previous year's Top Shot Of The Year competition.
23. A maximum of three entries per current category per member shall be accepted in the Top Shot Of The Year competition.

ANNUAL POINT SCORE

24. An aggregate of the points scored from all merit winners from the previous twelve months shall be kept. The members scoring the highest aggregate in each category shall be the winners of the awards mentioned in the following paragraph.
25. Awards will be presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Annual Point Score in each category.
26. In the event of a tie for any of the above, the Competition Secretary shall conduct a count back to determine the winner from the member(s) gaining the most Distinctions. In the event of the score still being tied, then the members concerned shall be declared joint winners.