

GENERAL

1. These rules are current as of **October 2023** 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 financial MPS 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 are five image categories, namely:
 - (a) Colour prints
 - (b) Monochrome prints
 - (c) Digital colour images
 - (d) Digital monochrome images
 - (e) Photographic Challenge (colour or monochrome). The category will be divided into two subcategories, the Artistic Creative Challenge and the Technical Skill Challenge. This category is digitally displayed. Images must be captured after the date that the list of themes has been supplied to members.
7. A monochrome photo 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. Images that portray or otherwise include inappropriate and/or offensive content, including provocative nudity, violence, human rights or other offensive imagery are not permitted. Images that are deemed offensive to others by the Competition Team and or President will be excluded.
9. Unless specifically determined at a previous Society or committee meeting all colour print, monochrome print, digital colour and digital monochrome competitions shall be considered as OPEN. (OPEN refers to Open Subject matter – subject to point 8 above)
10. Entry procedure:
 - (a) No two entries submitted by the author may have the same title
 - (b) All Digital images shall be saved as a Greyscale JPEG or RGB JPEG.

- (c) **Digital Images for all categories, including digital placeholders for Prints, should be submitted by email to the Competition Secretary at entriesmpsinc@gmail.com no later than Wednesday night prior to the monthly competition (i.e. the first Wednesday of the month).**
- (d) **Entry fees, for both print at \$1 ea and digital at \$2 ea, must be deposited to the MPS bank account by EFT or bank branch deposit no later than the Wednesday night prior to the monthly competition (i.e. the first Wednesday of the Month)**

A copy of the MPS Competition Entry Fee Deposit Advice must also be emailed to the Treasurer, clearly showing the payee, at treasurermpsinc@gmail.com.

11. Submission of **DIGITAL** entries:

(a) File Naming

- (i) Filenames must use the following convention:
Category_ImageTitle_YourName

NB: Underscores are used, image title has each word capitalised with no space between words, your name also has each name capitalised with no spaces.

- (ii) Category Letters used for **Digital entries** are

C for Colour Digital
M for Monochrome, and
P for Photographic Challenge

Examples:

C _PerfectStorm_BenThomas.jpg	- Colour digital entry
M _BuildingArchway_DavidJones.jpg	- Monochrome digital entry
P _TheRedDragon_BettyWhite.jpg	- Photographic Challenge digital entry

(b) Sizing of Digitally Projected Images

- (i) Digital Images **must** be of the dimensions of 3840 pixels wide **or** 2160 pixels high* to fill the horizontal **or** vertical side of the display TV screen with a resolutions of 72 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. Digital images must not be padded by any added borders. Images that are completely black around all edges which may make it difficult to determine where the image ends, may have a 2 pixel white frame included.

* Please see '**Preparing Images for Digital Competitions**' for complete instructions.

12. Submission of PRINT entries

(a) Entering prints

- (i) All entries for the print sections must also have a digital file submitted no later than Wednesday night prior to the monthly competition, saved as a Greyscale JPEG of RGB JPEG.

- (ii) Filenames must use the following convention:
Category_ImageTitle_YourName

NB: Underscores are used, image title has each word capitalised with no space between words, your name also has each name capitalised with no spaces.

Category Letters used for **PRINT entries** are:

K for colour print
O for monochrome print

Examples:

K_WindyDay_FredSmith.jpg - Colour print entry
O_DarkAndGritty_JeffBanks.jpg - Monochrome print entry

- (iii) Print Digital images **must be** of the dimensions of 3840 pixels wide or 2160 pixels high with a resolution of 72 dpi*.

* Please see **Preparing Images for Digital Competitions** for complete instructions

(b) Sizing and preparation of Print entries:

- (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

NB: Prints should be made from a high resolution file of 300 dpi with example only sizes of 3600px x 5400px for a 12" x 18" size or 4200px x 4200px for a 14" x 14" size. These sizes are different to that of the digital file you send to the Competition Secretary.

- (iii) Print entries must be mounted and/or over matted, and if mounted, must be mounted on cardboard or foam core board only. Frames prints, and prints that are not mounted or over matted, will not be accepted.
- (iv) Each print image entry must have the title and author's name recorded on its reverse side (digital filename may be used)

(c) Presenting Print Entries at Competition meetings

Print entries must be presented on the night, no later than 10 minutes before the scheduled start of the Society's competition meeting (except pre-judged competitions). Late entries (before the commencement of the meeting) may be considered at the discretion of the Competition Secretary.

13. The image must have been taken by the author but may be commercially printed. Any postproduction manipulation, digitally or otherwise, must have been made by the author.

All elements added to a base image in a composite picture must have been photographed by the author. This includes not using AI generative software sections of post-production software.

As examples, if you are replacing a sky with a more colourful or dramatic one, you must have taken the second sky image or if you are adding a person sitting under a tree then you must have taken the picture of the person and not used library or internet images.

If disputed, you may be required to provide the RAW images of all the elements.

14. An image cannot be entered in more than one category in the same competition.
15. Former members:
 - (a) A former member of the Society may apply within two 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

16. In each monthly competition, each member may enter up to maximum of **five** entries in total, with a maximum of **two** entries per category.
17. 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.
18. Images that have not received a merit award in a previous competition may be entered in a competition only once more – preferably re-worked taking on board the previous judges' comments.
19. 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.

-
20. Judging awards:
- (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.
21. Awards shall be presented to recipients accumulating a set number of merits (one award either credit or distinction equals one merit) over a span of continual membership years in each image category (see Rule 6 above), as follows:
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10 merits | - a Certificate |
| 25 merits | - a Bronze Medallion |
| 50 merits | - a Silver Medallion |
| 75 merits | - a Gold Medallion |
| 100 merits | - a Platinum Trophy (Plaque) |
| Each additional 50 merits | - shield added to the Platinum Trophy |
- Awards will be presented to the recipients as soon as practicable after reaching the required number of merits.

TOP SHOT OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

22. Awards will be presented annually at the Top Shot of The Year Event as follows:

(a) the best image in each current OPEN category, namely:

- (i) Colour Print of The Year
- (ii) Monochrome Print of The Year
- (iii) Digital Colour Image of The Year
- (iv) Digital Monochrome Image of The Year

While grant fund exist each category winner will receive \$50 prize money.

(b) the image judged best overall from all categories, namely:

- (i) Robert Rosee Top Shot of The Year

While donation funds exist the Robert Rosee Top Shot of the Year winner will receive \$250 prize money.

(c) the yearly overall Image of The Month selected by a blind ballot by members, namely:

- (i) Image of the Month – Annual Members Choice

While grant fund exist the Annual Members Choice winner will receive \$50 prize money.

23. To be eligible for the Top Shot of The Year competition, all entries must have been photographed after the closing date of the previous year's Top Shot of The Year competition.

24. A maximum of three entries per current category per member (i.e. maximum of 12 entries in total) shall be accepted in the Top Shot of The Year competition.

ANNUAL POINT SCORE

25. 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. Awards to be presented at the end of year Top Shot function.
26. Awards will be presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Annual Point Score in each category, namely:
 - (a) Colour Print Annual Point Score
 - (b) Monochrome Print Annual Point Score
 - (c) Digital Colour Annual Point Score
 - (d) Digital Monochrome Annual Point Score
 - (e) Photography Challenge Cup Annual Point Score
 - (i) A 1st award will also be presented to the highest point scorer in both the Artistic Creative Challenge and Technical Skill Challenge subcategories.
27. 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.