Competition & Event Guidelines

Copyright - Submitted images to club events, competitions or personal awards, may be displayed on the club website, social media, external competitions or other relevant media. Copyright still remains with the photographer.

- Images entered into a club competition should not have been entered into a previous Barnstaple Club competition.
- Images entered into a 'Fun Event' should not have been use in any previous Barnstaple club competition or fun event.
- Images entered into a Members Talk event, can be used in any future Club Competition or Fun Event, provided the submitted image has not been use in a previous Barnstaple competition/fun event.

Notes:

- Images Entered into a Competition or Fun Event will be digital only 'Unless Stated Otherwise'.
- The 'Photographer of the Year' and 'Club Members Battle' events will be scored out of 20 points. All other external judges' competitions events, will be graded into 'Gold', 'Silver', 'Bronze' and a small selection of 'Commended' images. The judge will also have the option of selecting one or two 'Judges Award Images'.
- All competition event images with be critiqued by the judge unless stated otherwise. Members can choose to have their competition images non-graded; with no award being allocated. All images submitted into a 'scoring points' event will be scored by the judge.
- The original image or elements of the image must have been captured by the photographer using any available photographic process. Images must not include elements created by anyone else or generated by AI or any cloud-based systems. Any textures, overlays, or specially created brushes used in the image must have been originally photographed and produced by the photographer.

Competition Submission Requirements

Unless stated otherwise, all competition events must adhere to the following submission requirements:

- **Submit three images:** one of which must be marked as your reserve (see Image Format information below).
- **Submit 3 images:** either all 3 in the 'Open' category and none in the 'Set-Subject' event, or vice versa.
- **Submit 3 images:** either 2 in the 'Open' category and 1 in the 'Set-Subject' event, or vice versa.
- **Submit 2 images:** either both in the 'Open' category, or both in the 'Set-Subject' event, or one in each.
- **Submit 1 image:** this may be entered into either the 'Open' or the 'Set-Subject' event.

'Set-Subjects', with 'Open' for this season are: Animals (non-human), Mono, Scape, Street, and Creative.

Club Fun Events & Members Talks

- Images entered into a 'Fun' event should not have been use in any previous Barnstaple Club Competition or Fun event.
- Images entered into a Fun Event, can be used in any future Barnstaple club competition.
- Images shown in a Members Talk event can be used in any future Fun or Competition, provided the submitted image has not been use in a previous Barnstaple Fun or Club competition.

Submitted image Format.

Digital Projected Image (DPI) Format and Size:

- Landscape Format maximum 1600(w) by 1200(h) pixels.
- Square Format 1200(w) by 1200(h) pixels.
- Portrait format maximum 1200(h). The width should not exceed 1600(w) pixels.
- Colour spec = sRGB. File Format = jpg.
- When saving your image as a jpg, use maximum quality setting.
- You do not need a canvas around your image to make up the above sizes.

Submitting DPI Images - Image File Title Format:

Note: To help the administration process please use the character '**-**' before your membership number ONLY, and nowhere else in the file name.

- **File name format**: - '**Title-Mxx.jpg**' where Mxx is your membership number: e.g. The Tree-M06.jpg.
- **Reserve images:** files titles should be in the format: '**R Title-Mxx.jpg**' e.g. R The Tree-M04.jpg. Reserve images may be dropped if the total number of images per competition exceeds the allocated judge's time. A reserve image, if dropped, can be used in a future club competition.
- **Membership numbers**: - below 10, should include the zeroes, e.g. M01, M02, etc....

Photographer of the Year (POTY)

File name format: changes to **(X) Title-Mxx.jpg**: - where '(X)' is the subject of the image, e.g: (LE) - for Long Exposure, (FF) - Flora or Fona, (L) - Landscape, etc.

Example for a Landscape image: '**(L) The Lone Tree-M02.jpg**'.

If submitting five images, ONE OF THEM MUST BE MARKED as 'NC' (Non-Critique). This ensures the event can stay within the judge's allocated time on the night.

(NC) images will still be projected and scored, but may not receive verbal critique from the judge.

File format for a NC Image: e.g. '**(L) The Tree (NC)-M21.jpg**'

Submitting Prints:

- On the back of the mount board, print the image title e.g. 'The Car Race'. There is no need to include your membership number.
- Each print images submitted must be accompanied by a digital version of the image. Title format of this digital image 'Title-Mxx.jpg'. For example, '**The Car Race-M09.jpg.**' See '**Digital Projected Image (DPI) Format and Size**' above, on submitting DPI Images.

Mounts and Printed Images

- Mounts size - 50 by 40 cm only.
- Print image within the mount can be any size providing of course it fits within the mount!
- Mounts colours – 'judge's preferences' tends towards white, off-white, cream, or black.
- **DO NOT** use masking tape to attached printed image to mount. This type of tape can peel off damaging member's prints and/or mounts within the print box.

- **DO NOT** use 'easily removed' sticky labels on the back of the mount. These can peel off damaging member's prints and/or mounts within the print box.
- Write image title on the back of mount (suggest pencil).
- With **abstract prints, mark which way is up**, with an arrow, on back of mount.

Competition Definitions 2025-26

Animals (non-human) & Open - Digital Only (Same Evening).

Maximum 3 images. If submitting 3 images, one must be marked as a reserve.

Animals: – Includes domestic pets, wild animals, farm animals or birds, but not humans. Subjects within the image may be added or removed, and alternative backgrounds can be used. Images with an obvious artistic treatment is acceptable. Any person included within the images should be incidental to the main Animal subject(s).

Open: - Any subject but must not be an Animal image. If it's a non-human Animals then it should be in the set-subject section!

Mono & Open – Prints Only (Same Evening).

Maximum 3 images. If submitting 3 images, one must be marked as a reserve. All prints must be mounted on mount board 50 by 40 cm.

Open Mono Prints: - any subject but monochrome only. Colour 'popping' not allowed on the image.

Open Prints: - any subject but not mono format. Monochrome colour popping is allowed in an Open Print.

Scape & Open- Prints or Digital or Both (Same Evening).

Maximum 3 images. If submitting 3 images, one must be marked as a reserve. All prints must be mounted on mount board 50 by 40 cm.

Scape: - defined as open vista with Sky, Urban, Sea, or Land as the main subject. Image should not deceive the viewer or misrepresent the reality of the image or what was originally captured by the camera. Removal of minor distractions is allowed in the image. Replacement of sky, sea or urban from a different time is not allowed.

Open: - any subject but must not be a Scape image. If it looks like Scape, it is a Scape image!

Note: Scape Prints and Digital will be judged together- one event. Similar, Open Prints and Digital will be judged together. Awards may be given to both Print and Digital images within the same event. Print and Digital entries will not be treated as separate competitions.

Members Team Battle - Digital Only

This is an 'Open Subject' event, in which your image(s) could be a straight from the camera shot, or manipulated in software, or creative in the camera or with software, or both! Submitted images should not be used in any previous Barnstable Competition. Team members are selected randomly from the hat. The judge will score each image out of 20 points. More information - **Team Battle Guidelines**

Street & Open - Digital Only (Same Evening).

Maximum 3 images. If submitting 3 images, one must be marked as a reserve.

Street Image: - defined as all aspects on Street Photography with People. Street Photography is about capturing candid, spontaneous moments of people (one or more) in everyday life, in public areas.

Open: - any subject but must not be a Street Photography image. If it looks like Street then it is Street!

Creative & Open' – Digital Only (Same Evening).

Maximum 3 images. If submitting 3 images, one must be marked as a reserve.

Creative: – showing an "Artistic Bent" or an "Alternative Reality" in the image.

Note 1: The original image or elements of the image must have been captured by the photographer using any available photographic process. Images must not include elements created by anyone else or generated by AI or any cloud-based systems. Any textures, overlays, or specially created brushes used in the image must have been originally photographed and produced by the photographer.

Members Creative Ideas document available on our web page (Password Protected) **– click here**. This document does not apply when submitting images into the Photographer of the Year event.

Note 2: A High Dynamic Range (HDR) image or/both where a filter has been used, without any further changes within the images is not considered creative.

Open: - any subject apart from those images that meet the above Creative definition.

Buy A Subject & Buy a Location – Digital Only (Same Evening).

£2 buys you 2 Subjects & 1 Location randomly picked from the hat.

Maximum 3 images into this event.

This is a subject and location-themed event where anything goes – from straight-out-of-camera to creatively enhanced images. All components of the image must have been captured by the photographer. **Location images** must have been taken after **April 2025**.

You must use the subject for the title of the image, e.g.: If you pick 'Blue Sky' as your subject, then the image title should start with Blue Sky, or (say) Blue Sky Instow-Mxx.jpg is acceptable. Enter more than one image using your 'Blue Sky' subject then titles become Blue Sky 2 or (say) Blue Sky New York-Mxx.jpg etc is acceptable.

Your Location image title should start with the location, e.g. Appledore -Mxx.jpg or (say) Appledore Quay-Mxx.jpg is acceptable.

Submit 3 images, then 3 from your selected Subject(s) or 3 from your selected Location. Altenatively you can select 2 from your selected Subject(s) and one from your selected Location or vice versa.

Submit 2 images, then 2 into from your selected Subject(s) or 2 from your selected Location or 1 in each.

Submit 1 image, enter this image as one of your selected Subject(s) or for your selected Location.

Note: Subject and Location entries will not be treated as separate competitions. All three images will be judged together.

Photographer of the Year

Summary: This competition is governed by stricter rules than any other club event, where the members must submit **Up To Five Images** from a selection of Ten subject categories. Each submitted image will be scored out of 20 points by the judge. If submitting **five images**, one of them must be marked as 'NC' (Non-Critique).

Please read the following document: **POTY Guidelines** for further details on this competition and subject categories.