

# Oldham Photographic Society - Competition Rules

## Definitions

**Medium (pl. media)** - In the context of these rules two **media** are referred to: **projected images** (i.e. slides or electronic images) and **prints**.

**Documentary** - An image of which the primary purpose is to convey factual information. The documentary category therefore includes, but is not restricted to, record photography (e.g. architecture, astronomy), photojournalism, sport.

**Nature** - L&CPU Nature Rules apply, we do not have a wildlife section.

**Portrait** - An image of one or more human beings or other animals which conveys something of their character(s).

**Landscape** - An image of any part of the surface of the earth of significant area. The landscape category therefore includes, but is not restricted to, natural scenery, seascapes, industrial, rural and urban landscapes.

**General** - The General category is for any image that does not belong in any of the other three categories.

## General Rules for all Members' Competitions

1. There *must* be a minimum of two entrants to form a competition.
2. In the event of any doubt as to whether any entry complies with the rules, the decision of the Council will be binding.
3. The original image(s) *must* be made photographically by the entrant.
4. Any editing *must* be done by the entrant.
5. In all categories except **Documentary and Natural History**, any process may be used to produce the final image, the finished work *must not* incorporate images or elements produced by anyone else (this includes the use of generative AI), except where these are incidental, e.g. posters in a street scene.
6. For images that are chosen to represent OPS in external competitions e.g. FIAP, PAGB, L&CPU, the competition organisers may require to see the original exposures. In that case the entrant *must* provide the original exposures when requested.
7. In the **Documentary** category any retouching or processing *must not* alter the truth of the photographic statement depicted in the original image.
8. An image may not be used if substantially similar to one used previously in the same OPS competition in the same medium.
9. Substantially similar images may not be used in different media in the same OPS competition.

## Additional Rules for all Projected Image Competitions

### Slides

By prior approval of the Competition Secretary.

### Electronic Images

1. Each **electronic image** *must* be supplied at the size and format stated for the competition. At the moment image size must fit within 1600 pixels wide by 1200 pixels high or as stated in the competition rules.
2. The file *must* be in jpeg format converted to sRGB colour space with the profile embedded.
3. All images *MUST* be entered via the CompEntry Portal (<https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent/>).

## Additional Rules for all Print Competitions

1. **Prints** must be surface or window mounted on card but not be framed. Any member wishing to use other mounting material *must* first obtain permission from the Competition Secretary.
2. The size of the mount must be 50cm by 40cm, unless stated otherwise.
3. The author's **name** and the **title** of the print *should* be on the back of the mount.
4. All prints *must* be entered via the CompEntry Portal (<https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent/>) with a matching electronic version uploaded to the portal.

## Quarterly Competitions

1. Work will be judged in two media: **projected images** and **prints**.
2. Each member may submit a maximum of six **projected images** and six **prints**.
3. If there are too many images for the judge, then the number of images may be reduced (culled) starting with the sixth image then moving on to the fifth until the number of images presented to the judge is reasonable.
4. In each of the two media, the highest mark (out of twenty) awarded to each member, in each quarterly, will count towards their annual score. Trophies will be awarded annually to the members having the highest total score in each medium. In the event of a tie in any medium the second highest marks will also be taken into account (Should this not produce a clear winner the third highest marks will also be considered and so on).
5. All images are taken to be 'General' and strict Nature or Documentary definitions do not apply.

## Triptych Competition

Images must be presented as a Triptych

### Print Competition

1. This is a competition for a panel of mounted **prints**, monochrome or colour (or mixed) on any subject (or subjects) presented as a Triptych.
2. A Triptych must comprise of exactly three images.
3. A Triptych may be presented as either three separately mounted prints or on a single mount.
4. Each member may enter any number of triptych panels.
5. The trophy will be awarded to the author of the best triptych panel.

### Projected Images Competition

1. This is a competition for a Triptych on any subject presented on a single image
2. Each member may enter any number of Triptych images.
3. The trophy will be awarded to the author of the best Triptych image.

## Audio Visual Competition

1. Entrants must ensure that all equipment required is available.
2. No sequence may be longer than 12 minutes.
3. Entrants should seek to obtain the rights to use any image, sound or music used in the sequence.
4. Members may enter any number of sequences, jointly or individually.
5. The trophy will be awarded to the author(s) of the best sequence.

## Annual Competition

1. Work will be judged in two media: **projected images** and **prints**, and within each medium, five categories: **Documentary, Nature, Portrait and People, Landscape and General**.
2. The category of each image must be clearly indicated on the print and entered in the appropriate category via the CompEntry Portal (<https://compent.photoentry.uk/compent/>)
3. Each member may submit a maximum of 10 **projected images** and 10 **prints** across all the categories. (These numbers may be reduced (culled) at the discretion of the Competition Secretaries in the event of a large entry. The later entries on the portal will be considered as the ones to be removed).
4. Each piece of work may be marked out of twenty and the judge may award Commended, Highly Commended and Very Highly Commended certificates at their discretion in addition to the trophies.

## John Widdall Challenge Trophy

The award is made for a set of four Projected Digital Images (PDIs) chosen from four sections:

1. Stitched Panorama
2. Close up and Table Top
3. Architectural Record
4. Montage

©2006, 2007, 2008, 2016, 2018, 2022, 2023 Oldham Photographic Society

Revised June 2007, April 2008, November 2016 (printed November 2016), Last updated July 2023