



# **Ayr Photographic Society**

## **Competition Rules**

### **2025 - 2026**

**Competition Secretary**

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Rules and information for:

Monthly League Competitions, Annual Competitions, League Scoring,  
Trophies and Awards

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## **1: GENERAL INFORMATION**

Each season, Ayr Photographic Society runs five Monthly League competitions, a stand-alone Scottish Landscapes competition and two Annual competitions.

- There are 5 Monthly League competitions, three of these are 'open' competitions (any subject or style of image) and two are 'themed' (where a fixed theme is set).
- The Dr Garry Smith Scottish Landscapes competition is in honour of a former president and is 'themed'. It must portray a Scottish landscape (or seascape). It is for Digital Projected Images (DPIs) only. It does not count for the leagues.
- The Annual competitions are 'open', one for DPIs and one for prints. You may enter both competitions whether you entered into the DPI or print leagues or indeed did not enter into the leagues at all.
- Sections - For each Monthly League competition there is both a Print section and DPI section. Members can enter both prints and DPIs up to a maximum of three entries per competition. The scores achieved for prints and DPIs will be totalled separately for each section. It is suggested that beginners enter DPIs.
- Divisions - There are two divisions, Intermediate and Advanced, to allow for the varied expertise amongst our membership. The divisions apply to the Monthly League competitions and Annual competitions only.
- Competition ID numbers will be allocated by the competition secretary, and retained by the author (photographer) for all future competition entries.
- Members entering prints must also submit accurate DPI copies of their print submissions. These should comply with the same size, colour profile and identification requirements as for a DPI competition entry.

## **MONTHLY LEAGUE COMPETITIONS**

- You may enter a maximum of 3 images in each Monthly League Competition.
- Both colour and monochrome images are eligible in each section. (with the exception of any specific themed competition criteria that would limit you to either monochrome or colour).
- Eligible images are those not previously entered in any previous Ayr PS Monthly League Competition. Images which have been used in a monthly competition can be reused in the annual competition.
- Monochrome and colour versions of the same image are both eligible for submission, but not in the same Monthly League competition.
- For each of the 5 Monthly League competitions, the judge will award points out of 20 to all entries. The judge can award one 20, two 19s, three 18s and scores of 16 and 17 which reflect "commended" and "highly commended". No score will be less than 15, i.e. a score

of 15 is not representative of a scaled value, merely a, "Thank you for entering." The judge will of course give constructive comments on all images.

- The Judge will be asked for an overall winner from all entries (i.e. both intermediate and advanced together) which will win the designated trophy.
- All of each competing individual's scores for each monthly league competition will count towards their final score for that league.
- The winner for each league is the individual with the highest total score.
- In the event of a tie for any of the winner positions in any individual league, then the member with the most scores of 20, failing which of 19 and so on, will apply and be declared winner.

### **SCOTTISH LANDSCAPES COMPETITION**

- You may enter a maximum of 3 images in the Scottish Landscapes competition and they can only be Digital Projected Images - either colour or monochrome.
- Eligible images are those not previously entered in any previous Ayr PS competition. As with monthly competition entries, Scottish Landscape entries can be reused in the Annual competitions but they may not be re-used in league competitions in later years.
- Monochrome and colour versions of the same image are both eligible for submission, but not in the same Scottish Landscapes competition.
- For the Dr Garry Smith Scottish Landscapes competition, the judges will select 1 winning image, the rest may be awarded commended or highly commended. The awards made in this competition do not count towards the Monthly League competition results.

### **ANNUAL COMPETITIONS**

- You may enter a maximum of 3 prints, and additionally, a maximum of 3 DPIs
- Eligible images are those not previously entered in the same section in any previous Annual Competition.
- An image may only be entered into the Annual competition once, in one format in any one year. You may not enter a monochrome and colour version of the same image. You may not enter a print and digital projected image version of the same image.
- An image can only win one trophy in an Annual competition.
- For the Annual competitions, the judges will select 8 winning images in line with the 8 categories listed in the ANNUAL EXHIBITION TROPHIES AND AWARDS section. (See below).
- The judges will subsequently award, from the remaining entries, a further 6 trophies: Millennium Crystal Trophies, (3 for prints and 3 for DPIs) where the judge feels that

particular recognition is due in any particular genre - portrait, architectural etc. Images may be awarded a Highly Commended or Commended as appropriate, in both the Advanced and Intermediate sections.

- In addition to the above awards. There is also a Curator's Prize selected by a representative from the Gallery.

## **2. GENERAL RULES**

- All images entered must be entirely the work of the photographer. Composite images are permitted provided that all component images meet this requirement. By entering, members affirm that they have complied with any legislation affecting photographing protected species, using drones and accessing land or buildings.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) in photography. The club follows the rules set out by the SPF on AI technology in photography competitions. See: <https://www.scottish-photographicfederation.org/competitions-guidance>
- Competition Entries can only be made on-line prior to the deadline published on the website.
- Images are ranked 1 to 3 by the order they are uploaded by author. Images ranked “3” may be dropped if there are too many entries for the judge to manage. (This has not happened yet. In the event, all the 3rd ranked entries will be withdrawn.) If entries are removed they may be entered in further competitions.
- Members can compete in only one competition division per season, either Advanced or Intermediate.
- It is left to the discretion of each member to decide which class to compete in for each season. For new members, unsure which section to compete in, can submit 3-6 images and one of our own external judges will assess and suggest section which they should compete.

### **3. SIZING, FORMAT and IDENTIFYING**

- DPIs (including those accompanying prints) must be sized as follows:
  - for landscape format, the horizontal dimension should be 1600 pixels and the height not exceeding 1200 pixels.
  - for a portrait image, the vertical dimension should be 1200 pixels (and to not exceed 1200 pixels on the horizontal dimension).
  - for a square format image, both sides should be 1200 pixels.
  - All DPI images must be under 2Mb in file size.
  - DPIs must be submitted as a jpg file & converted to sRGB colour profile.
  - For further help sizing your DPIs, look here - <https://www.ayrphotographicsociety.co.uk/Web-Pages/Members-Info>
- Prints must be sized and formatted as follows:
  - Prints must be mounted, with a maximum size of 50cm × 40cm, including the mount. There is no minimum size.
  - Prints must clearly display the Image Title, Author's Competition ID Number, The Competition name and Competing Division on the reverse of the print mount, in the top left-hand corner.

#### **4. TROPHIES AND AWARDS**

The following table lists the trophies and awards for each competition. All awards are presented at the Prizegiving & Social Evening.

<b>LEAGUE WINNERS</b>		
STANTON SHIELD		ADVANCED PRINTS
PEPPER TROPHY		INTERMEDIATE PRINTS
SWAN TROPHY		ADVANCED DPIS
ANDERSON SALVER		INTERMEDIATE DPIS
BEGINNER TROPHY		BEGINNER DPI
<b>ANNUAL EXHIBITION TROPHIES</b>		
PROVOST SHIELD		BEST PRINT OVERALL
ARGUS TROPHY		BEST MONOCHROME PRINT
MARTIN TROPHY		BEST ADVANCED PRINT
CUTT SHIELD		BEST INTERMEDIATE PRINT
HALE TROPHY		BEST PEOPLE PRINT
MASON TROPHY		BEST NATURE PRINT
SATURN SAILS TROPHY		BEST LANDSCAPE PRINT
CLAPPERTON / SWAN TROPHY		BEST DPI OVERALL
McCALLUM TROPHY		BEST ADVANCED DPI
COOPER TROPHY		BEST INTERMEDIATE DPI
MARGARET BECK SHIELD		BEST NATURAL HISTORY DPI
CALLAN TROPHY		BEST LANDSCAPE DPI
BLAIR TROPHY		BEXT MONOCHROME DPI
SYMINGTON TROPHY		BEST ORIGINAL DPI
<b>INDIVIDUAL AWARDS</b>		
ENTERPRISE TROPHY		MCLAURIN GALLERY CURATORS CHOICE
STEVE WEIDEGGER SHIELD		PRESIDENTS AWARD
ENDEAVOUR TROPHY		COMPETITION SECRETARY AWARD
<b>INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION TROPHIES</b>		
KNOCKOUT TROPHY		KNOCKOUT COMPETITION
COLAB TROPHY		COLAB WINNER
WRIGHT TROPHY		THEME 1 WINNER
TAYLOR TROPHY		MONOCHROME WINNER
TELFORD TROPHY		THEME 2 WINNER
JESSOPS TROPHY		JESSOPS WINNER
DR. GARRY SMITH TROPHY		SCOTTISH LANDSCAPES WINNER