



Document Revised 8 February 2021

Notes to Judges – Print and Digital Open Competitions

Thank you very much for agreeing to judge our photographs. Your time and expertise are much appreciated. I hope you find these notes helpful.

1) Location

Physical

We are located at Holcombe Village Hall, between Teignmouth and Dawlish, just off the A379, Postcode EX7 0LF, opposite the Castle Inn in Holcombe. Be warned that Sat Nav is likely to guide you via country lanes and you may wish to stick to the A379 until the (unmarked) turning to Fordens Lane. There is a bit of a steep ramp into the entrance of the car park.

Access - Access to our meeting room is through the front door of the hall.

Parking – A parking space is reserved for visitors right in front of the Hall's front door. Please arrive at the hall by 7.15p.m. to ensure any set-up you require is all in order for you. The hall will be open from 7.00p.m.

On line Meetings

*You will be sent the zoom link to the meeting by the morning of the talk at the latest
On the evening of your talk, please log in by 7.20pm so we can welcome you and test all
is well before the 7.30pm start.*

Talks should last on average no longer than an hour and 15 minutes.

2) Timings

The evening starts at 19:30. There is a break after about an hour for tea/coffee for 15/20 minutes. We make any domestic announcements before we have refreshments. We aim to finish by 21:30. It's likely that there will be more images in some sections than others, so these timings are flexible-ish!

3) Operation on the night

Physical Meetings

We project digital versions of prints so that members can better see the image, but this should not distract you.

On-line meetings

Please answer these questions **before** the talk so that we are clear before the meeting starts:

- *Do you allow us to record the talk for our members who prefer to watch in the days following our meeting? If we do record the session, we can set a time limit before the recording is deleted.*
- *Do you need a short break half way through your evening?*

- *Do you have any preferences for members asking questions and muting themselves/ turning their video cameras off during your talk?*

4) **Approach to judging**

Introduction

The intention of our members for entering their images for assessment is many fold. A large proportion are looking to identify areas of their photography that can be considered strong and also weak, such that throughout the season, they may be able to judge their progress (if it is indeed their want), or indeed be used to study ways to improve. Your knowledge and feedback is important to us for this purpose.

Judging Considerations

Also important are the considerations and weightings for different aspects of the images. Our members strive to have a level of consistency across a judging event, (and indeed across different genres of images) and to be aware of the considerations of the judge when viewing their images. We ask that during your deliberations that you reflect on the following aspects (though you do not need to mention each one individually on the evening):

- **Visual Factor**
- **Composition**
- **Intent**
- **Creativity**
- **Technical**

Other considerations

Let us know in advance any additional considerations so we can let our members know. Image submissions generally take place 4 weeks prior to a judging event.

5) **Commenting**

Feel free to comment on the quality of mounting/presentation but please do not allow the presentation to influence the placing of an entry.

6) **Award Sections**

Categories:

Entries for **Awards** and entries for **Appraisal** (a category introduced some years ago, so we are still monitoring how well it works). We suggest the '**Appraisal**' section be judged for the purpose of encouragement.

Image type:

Print competitions are further divided into Mono and Colour. **Monochrome Definition** - *Monochrome means traditional "Black and White", as well as meaning a single colour, such as Sepia. If there is a slight hint of an additional colour, the image is not regarded as being monochrome. eg: a "Black and White" image with a single traffic light displaying green.*

7) Awards

Categories

We ask that you award **Gold, Silver, Bronze and Highly Commended (HC)** standards, in any combination, based solely according to the judging criteria described above.

Numbers of Awards

You can make up to 25% awards from the entries in each competition section – e.g. if there are 20 mono prints entered, you can make up to 5 awards. Do not feel that you have to make the maximum number of awards; the quality of images must dictate how many awards you make. Please also use your discretion where the number of entries does not make an exact 25%.

Unpublished Awards

Judges may also award one point to any image, if they feel the author has used their **IMAGINATION** in the production of the image. '**Imagination**' points are disclosed to the **Competition Secretary** only, not to members, as a separate trophy is awarded at the end of season for this category.