



## **LPS General Competition Rules 2017**

### **Introduction**

The LPS runs a comprehensive series of photographic competitions throughout each year. These competitions form a valuable means of receiving feedback on your images from qualified judges, and also help provide motivation to go out and photograph different subjects.

They also provide great entertainment at the meetings during which our competitions are judged.

When images are judged at our competitions, they are done so anonymously.

Only the top placed images have their authors names read out at the end of the competition. There is no need therefore, to worry that your images 'are not good enough'.

We value the work of all our members and encourage everyone to get involved with an emphasis on taking part and developing our photography, however the quality of the winning images can give less experienced members a goal to strive towards.

Competitions are not just about winning, we look to learn from other peoples opinions, and hopefully improve our photography skills as a result.

### **Overview**

This document gives general information and rules which apply to all LPS competitions.

**Some of the file naming and submission criteria vary for different competitions, so please use these rules in conjunction with the relevant guideline document for the competition you are entering:-**

1. **LPS An Ex Guidelines 2017**- Annual Exhibition Competition (Our most important competition of the year)
2. **LPS R & A Guidelines 2017**- Robinson and Awmack Trophy Competitions (Held at our Annual dinner)
3. **LPS 1 to 6 Guidelines 2017**- LPS competition (Six competitions held throughout the winter)
4. **LPS Inter Club Guidelines 2017**- Inter-club Competition selection evenings

The documents can be found on the LPS website [www.lps1852.org](http://www.lps1852.org), under the menu item :- **Competition Info>> Competition Rules.**

**If you do not know how to prepare your images in this way, please contact a committee member and we will be happy to help and give you guidance.**

## **General Rules (all LPS competitions)**

- The Society will reserve the right not to accept entries that do not comply with the competition rules and relevant submission guidelines
- The guidelines in the above documents will also be considered as rules and images may not be accepted if they do not comply
- All images submitted must be solely the work of the author
- Images must have been captured by Digital camera, or Scanned slides, negatives or prints  
Computer generated images, unless created from original images produced by the Author, as above, will not be accepted
- Competitions are open to all full members of the society
- Associate Members of the Society are not eligible to enter any competition unless stated in the specific rules for that competition
- Hand in dates published in the LPS programme booklet must be adhered to  
**Images received after this time may not be accepted**

## **IMAGE CATEGORIES**

The following five image categories are relevant to our Annual Exhibition and Robinson and Awmack Trophy competitions (And any other competition in which one of these categories is given as a theme). The following definitions will help you decide what category your images might be eligible for.

### **Pictorial**

A Pictorial entry may depict any subject, or be non-representational or abstract. An imaginative title may also be used to give an extra dimension to the image, e.g. "Evening Calm", "Symphony in Blue". This section is very wide, and includes all pictures for which no other section is suitable.

### **Portraiture and People**

Portraiture may be formal or candid. The inclusion of "People" in this section indicates that the picture may feature more than one person. Sometimes elements of the background or the more general scene may be included to suggest an explanatory context.

The title may be specific or imaginative;; e.g. "Paul", "Childhood", "The farmer and his dog".

This category refers to portraits of humans only.

### **Record and Architecture**

A Record photograph is taken in order to give an accurate depiction of a particular object or building, in whole or in part. It therefore follows that extreme contrasts of light and shade should be avoided so that detail is not obliterated. A picture with distorted perspectives, converging verticals, etc, or which does not show the subject strictly accurately, would be more suitable for the pictorial section.

Titling of Record and Architecture shots is extremely important. Titles or captions can be quite detailed if necessary, in order to provide full information about the subject. If the subject is a building, the title should include its name, location, detail or aspect shown, and any other relevant or interesting information about it. Examples of titles might be:

"14th Century font, St Mary's Church, Little Deeping, Oxon" or "North Facade, St Paul's House, Leeds".

This is one section where it is often particularly suitable to include more than one print on a single mount to show varied aspects of the subject.

### **Sport, Action and Photo-Journalism**

An image (or set of related images on one mount), which might be realistically saleable to a magazine or newspaper. Examples of suitable titles: “Lady Mayoress presenting Sportsman of the Year Award”, “Repairs to Heptonstall Church roof in progress”, “Fred Smith passing the post in the downhill slalom”.

### **Nature**

We have recently changed from using a category of 'Natural History', to using 'Nature', as defined by the PAGB and FIAP. This definition is as follows:-

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation. The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality. Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves. Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible.

Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

No techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted.

Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content, or without altering the content of the original scene, are permitted including HDR, focus stacking and dodging/burning.

Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise, and film scratches, are allowed. Stitched images are not permitted. All allowed adjustments must appear natural. Color images can be converted to grey-scale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct-captures or derivations, are not allowed.

Images used in Nature Photography competitions may be divided in two classes: Nature and Wildlife. Images entered in Nature sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above can have landscapes, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.

Images entered in Wildlife sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above are further defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Landscapes, geologic formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible in Wildlife sections.

Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds and insects.

Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species.

**FURTHER INFO**

This document applies to all LPS competitions, but should be read in conjunction with **other specific competition guideline documents**

These can be found on the LPS website [www.lps1852.org](http://www.lps1852.org) , under the menu item **Competition Info>> Competition Rules.**

If you have any queries relating to these competitions please ask the competition secretary, or any society committee member via the Contact Us page on the website [www.lps1852.org](http://www.lps1852.org)