

SPEYSIDE PHOTOGRAPHY GROUP

COMPETITION RULES

SEASON 2024 - 2025

The purpose of our competitions is to encourage you to take photographs and to show them to the Speyside Photography Group where they will be judged and constructive feedback will be given. Competition adds a great deal to the overall enjoyment and the judges' comments can be constructive, give an insight into how others perceive your images and frustrating at times. We encourage all group members to get involved and submit their images in the group competitions.

1. General Competition Rules

A. Competition Image Entries

1. An image whether complete, part of or digitally manipulated cannot ever be entered in the same competition more than once.
2. An image cannot be entered in more than one club competition in the same season.
3. All images submitted into competitions must be the author's own work.
4. Details of the competitions and entry dates are listed in the programme and on the group website.
5. All competition entries must be submitted online via the SPG PhotoEntry website by the closing date of the competition which will always be on a group meeting night.
Website URL: <https://speysidephotographygroup.co.uk/spg-competition-entry/>
6. Competition entries will be submitted to the judge as soon as possible after the closing date of the competition.
7. Judges will be advised of the competition rules and asked to make constructive comments on the images entered.
8. Competition entries will be awarded a score out of 20, minimum being 12, and the judge will select entries for 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

9. Digital Images or Prints entered in Group Competitions may be entered in external or Inter-club competitions, displayed on the Group Website, Facebook page or in Printed Group publications unless the author of the image has requested otherwise.

10. Projected Digital Images and scanned or digital images of Prints entered in competitions will be displayed on the projector on the evening competition results are presented.

11. Any image that does not comply with the competition rules will be disqualified from entry. The online SPG PhotoEntry site will check images as they are uploaded and advise of any errors in the image format. (If in doubt ask a member of the committee for advice).

12. Images taken during SPG training events are not eligible for group competitions.

2. Group League Competitions

A. The league will run over five individual rounds throughout the season.

1. There will be three Projected Digital Image rounds and two Print rounds.

2. For each competition there is a maximum of two entries per round. Each round will have a different theme and they will be listed in the 2024 - 2025 Syllabus.

3. For the Print round there are set themes and they will be listed in the 2024 –2025 Syllabus.

4. Scores will be accumulated for the Projected Digital Images League and the Prints League. A cup will be awarded for the winner of each league.

5. In the event of a tie for the highest total points, placing in the individual rounds will be calculated to determine the winner. Points will be awarded as follows: - Round Winner - 3 points, Runner Up -2 points and Third Place – 1 point.

3. Projected Digital Image Competition

A. All projected digital images must be submitted in the following format;

1. File Type – jpeg

2. Colour Space – sRGB
3. Colour Depth – 8 bits/channel
4. Maximum File Size – 1600 pixels x 1200 pixels, 2Mb.
5. For landscape images the longest side (horizontal side) should be a maximum of 1600 pixels.
6. For portrait images the longest site (vertical side) should be a maximum of 1200 pixels

B. Projected Digital Image Submission

1. Digital Images must be submitted online via the SPG PhotoEntry website before 9pm on the closing date of the competition as listed in the group programme for the season.
2. If a group member has any problems with uploading the images via the SPG Photo Entry website they should get in touch with the competition secretary by email to competitions@speysidephotographygroup.co.uk a minimum of 5 days before the closing date of the competition so that assistance can be provided.
3. Filename – Images must be given a title when uploading to the SPG PhotoEntry website.
4. Images must not display the authors name, watermark, logo or membership number.

4. Printed Image Competition

A. All printed images must be submitted in the following format

1. Prints must be presented on card mounts that are no larger than 400mm x 500mm and the print can be any size within the mount. However, it is suggested that the longest edge of the print be no less than 250mm.
2. Prints can be flat mounted with or without borders by sticking to mounting card, or window mounted.

B. Print Submission

1. Prints must be submitted to the competition secretary before 9pm on the closing date of the competition as listed in the programme.
2. Digital copies of the images must be submitted online via the SPG Photo Entry website and must replicate the print.
3. If a group member has any problems with uploading the images via the SPG Photo Entry website they should get in touch with the competition secretary by email to competitions@speysidephotographygroup.co.uk a minimum of 5 days before the closing date of the competition so that assistance can be provided.
4. Prints must be labelled on the back of the image in the following format, membership number image title.jpg, e.g., 130_Elgin Cathedral.
5. The prints must not display the authors name or any watermarks or logos.

5. Development League Competition

A. The Development League Competition is aimed at beginners and will be held over two rounds during the season. Any previous winners of the Small Print Competition, or any previous 1st , 2nd or 3rd places of the Group League Competitions may not enter. New members who have rated themselves as beginners will be allowed to enter. However if the standard of an individuals entries indicates that they are above a beginner, then the committee reserves the right to review if that person is allowed to participate in the development league.

The Development league will be judged by one or more experienced members of the club.

B. All projected digital images must be submitted in the following format;

1. File Type – jpeg
2. Colour Space – sRGB
3. Colour Depth – 8 bits/channel
4. Maximum File Size – 1600 pixels x 1200 pixels, 2Mb.
5. For landscape images the longest side (horizontal side) should be a maximum of 1600 pixels.

6. For portrait images the longest side (vertical side) should be a maximum of 1200 pixels.

C. Projected Digital Image Submission

1. Digital Images must be submitted online via the SPG PhotoEntry website before 9pm on the closing date of the competition as listed in the group programme for the season.

2. If a group member has any problems with uploading the images via the SPG Photo Entry website they should get in touch with the competition secretary by email tocompetitions@speysidephotographygroup.co.uk a minimum of 5 days before the closing date of the competition so that assistance can be provided.

3. Filename – Images must be given a title when uploading to the SPG PhotoEntry website.

4. Images must not display the authors name, watermark, logo or membership number.

5. In the event of a tie for the highest total points, placing in the individual rounds will be calculated to determine the winner. Points will be awarded as follows: - Round Winner - 3 points, Runner Up - 2 points and Third Place – 1 point.

6. Studio 8 Competition

A. This is a digital image only competition which is sponsored by Lenny Smith - Grand Master, FSWPP and the SPG President. For the Studio 8 Photography competition this year Lenny has decided to make it a still life theme.

Still life generally refers to a still photo of objects seen and used in everyday life.

B. The projected digital images must be submitted in the following format;

1. File Type – jpeg

2. Colour Space – sRGB
3. Colour Depth – 8 bits/channel
4. Maximum File Size – 1600 pixels x 1200 pixels, 2Mb.
5. For landscape images the longest side (horizontal side) should be a maximum of 1600 pixels.
6. For portrait images the longest site (vertical side) should be a maximum of 1200 pixels.

D. Projected Digital Image Submission

1. Digital Images must be submitted online via the SPG PhotoEntry website before 9pm on the closing date of the competition as listed in the group programme for the season.
2. If a group member has any problems with uploading the images via the SPG Photo Entry website they should get in touch with the competition secretary by email to competitions@speysidephotographygroup.co.uk a minimum of 5 days before the closing date of the competition so that assistance can be provided.
3. Filename – Images must be given a title when uploading to the SPG PhotoEntry website.
4. Images must not display the authors name, watermark, logo or membership number.

7. Photographer of The Year Competition

A. The winner will be awarded to the photographer who has accumulated the most points scored over both digital and print group league competitions in the season (This excludes points awarded in the Development League and studio 8 Competitions). Where there is a tie then the number of first, second and third places will be taken into account and points will be awarded as follows, 1st – 3 points, 2nd – 2 points and 3rd -1 point.

8. SPG AI Guidelines

Speyside Photography Group remains committed to the principle that photographs should be the original work of the creator(s), so entirely generative images, or images with material elements entirely generated by AI will not be permitted for exhibitions and competitions. What constitutes material in this context is a grey area, and something Speyside Photography Group will continue to explore with its creative community.

1. Speyside Photography Group will accept the use of algorithmic processing in-camera or in post-processing software, which supports digital photography for exhibitions and competitions, on the condition that photographers are clear and open where such tools have been used. Speyside Photography Group will trust in the integrity of its members but in certain circumstances may request further evidence in the form of RAW files or EXIF data, accepting that such evidence may itself not be definitive.
2. These principles and guidelines are effective for the 2024/25 season only and do not constitute a final, fixed position; they will evolve as AI capabilities change and understating increases.