Galashiels Camera Club - Annual Competition Rules

Members should enter as Standard or Beginner as per their designated class throughout the season. Entries may include images used in previous monthly competitions but not those entered in any previous Annual Competition.

There are four categories: General, Landscape, Nature, and People. A maximum of **three** projected images and **three** prints may be entered in each category. So each member could, theoretically, enter 24 images. All images must be marked with the category in which they are entered.

Digital images should be submitted on CD, DVD, SD card, CF card, or memory stick, marked with the member's name and membership number. With the agreement of the Competition Secretary, they may also be submitted by **email**.

Images must be submitted in JPG format, with maximum pixel dimensions of 1600 horizontally and 1200 vertically. Images should be submitted in sRGB colour space. Images not correctly resized will be resized by the club.

Image file names must be as follows: The category letter eg "L" for landscape, the entrant's membership number (2 digits) followed by a single blank, then the title as on the entry form (e.g. "L 06 Borrowdale Sunrise.jpg"), no longer than 50 characters in total.

Beginners may submit image files straight from the camera (full size as jpg) and the filename format will not be enforced. Image files will be adjusted to suit by the club.

Digitised Colour slides are acceptable, resized to 1600 x 1200 px, as DPI submissions. (If you need help copying slides to Digital format, contact the Competition secretary)

Prints should be marked on the back with a letter in brackets: (G) General, (L) Landscape, (N) Nature, (P) People. Then the Title. E.g. L 06 "Borrowdale Sunset"
Prints must be mounted*, with a maximum mount size of 16" x 20" (40 cm x 50 cm), with the category, author's membership number and image Title on the back of the mount. The minimum size of the print area is 6" x 4" (15 cm x 10 cm).

Home Processed Prints must be marked with an **"H"** on the back. Home processing is a throwback to the old days of darkroom processing, which still applies, however, this now includes using an inkjet printer at home i.e. not printed by a photo lab.

General means any subject not fitting into one of the other three categories.

Landscape may be interpreted as the portrayal of a place, an open vista. It includes land (wild or cultivated), sea, urban, industrial, sky and even the weather.

Nature should conform to the FIAP definition of "living untamed animals and uncultivated plants in their natural habitat, geology and other natural phenomena. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens and aquariums provided that no human elements are visible e.g. enclosure fences, man-made structures, etc.

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. Colour images can be converted to greyscale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct captures or derivations, are not allowed.

People images include both portraits and more general images of people, but not portraits of animals.

Awards will be made in each of the categories and in both classes as follows:

a) **Projected** Image – **1st, 2nd, 3rd, Commended**(s)

b) **Print** - **1st, 2nd, 3rd, Commended**

c) In addition, **Trophies** will be awarded for the following: -
        Best **B&W Print**
        Best **Colour Print** (Home or Trade processed)
        Best **Projected** Image
        Best **General** Image (B&W, Colour Print or Projected Image)
        Best **Landscape** (B&W, Colour Print or Projected Image)
        Best **Nature** (B&W, Colour Print or Projected Image)
        Best **People** (B&W, Colour Print or Projected Image)
        Best **Home Processed** Print (H)
        Best **Overall** (Burns Trophy)
        Best **Beginner** in Annual Competition (Neil McLean Trophy)

Out with the Annual competition: - The following presentations will be made **on the night:**
Best newcomer: for contributions to the club during the current season. This applies to new members only (Committee decision)

Highest total point scorers in the monthly competitions during the season:
        1) Projected Image
        2) Print
        3) Best Beginner (if appropriate)

In the case of dispute, the decision of the Committee will be final.