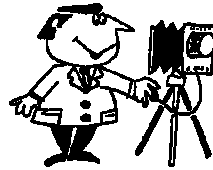


# Hutt Camera Club Incorporated

## Competition Rules – March 2010



### Revision History

01 18 Jun 2006 WW	Changes for projected images and general restructure of document
02 09 Dec 2006 WW	Removed restrictions on print image sizes
03 09 Apr 2007 WW	Added section on 'Ownership and Use of Images' Added revision history
04 05 Sep 2007 WW	Removed references to slides. Added Mini Competitions and Assignments
05 13 Oct 2007 WW	Final edits after feedback from Committee
06 04 Jun 2008 WW	Tidied up Mini Competition rules
07 08 Oct 2008 WW	Projected images now 1024 x 768 maximum
08 16 Nov 2009 WW	Removed references to projected images in portfolio competition rules
09 15 Mar 2010 WW	Amended first paragraph of section 3.1 Clarified section 3.1 item 5 Amendment to Section 4 heading

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## 1. Introduction

The Hutt Camera Club runs a number of competitions each year

- a ladder competition
- a series of mini competitions
- end of year portfolio competition.

This document lays out the rules for these competitions.

## 2. Ownership and Use Of Images

You as author will always retain ownership of images submitted for club competitions and other club use such as exhibitions, newsletters, website, advertising and interclub competitions.

Submitting images to Hutt Camera Club competitions DOES NOT constitute permission for the club to use your images in any other way.

Hutt Camera Club will never use your competition images in any other way without your specific permission.

**That section 4 be amended or removed:**

. as the calendar doesn't show any mini competitions for this year ...

### 3. Ladder Competition

There are two separate ladder competitions ... one for prints and one for projected images. Each ladder competition consists of four rounds which are held in March, May, July and October.

There are different grades depending on members' experience.

In each grade there is a section for printed images and a section for digital projected images. Members can enter either or both sections.

Entrants are awarded points by the judge in each round and at the end of the year those members with the most points in each grade section are the winners of the ladder trophies.

#### 3.1. General

- entrants must be financial members
- images may be commercially processed but must have been exposed by the entrant
- images can be digitally enhanced but a purely computer-generated image is not acceptable. The final image must have been based on a photograph taken by the author
- entrants may submit up to 3 prints and/or 3 projected images (6 images in total) in each round
- both colour and monochrome work may be submitted in the same entry
- the same image may not be submitted in both prints and projected images sections
- the "year" refers to the calendar year

#### 3.2. Grading

Beginner (B)	New members with less than two years photographic experience would usually start in this grade. Members move to the Intermediate grade if one or more of the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they are in the top two on the Beginners ladder at the end of the year</li> <li>• they achieve four or more 'Honours' throughout the year</li> <li>• they decide to self promote themselves up to the Intermediate grade</li> <li>• they receive their LPSNZ letters</li> <li>• the Committee decides they need to be moved up a grade</li> </ul>
Intermediate (I)	Members move to the Advanced grade if one or more of the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• they win the Intermediate grade ladder competition for the year</li> <li>• they achieve more than five 'Honours' throughout the year</li> <li>• they decide to self promote themselves up to the Advanced grade</li> <li>• they receive their APSNZ letters</li> <li>• the Committee decides they need to be moved up a grade</li> </ul>
Advanced (A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone else</li> <li>• work is evaluated at a level acceptable for outside competitions</li> </ul>

Entrants must choose which grade to enter at the beginning of the competition year and may work in one grade for prints and another for projected images.

Once you have competed in a grade you cannot go back to a lower grade without the approval of the Committee.

Members unsure about which grade to enter should seek the advice of the Competition Secretary.

### 3.3. **Entries**

- Each competition has two subject categories:
  - "Set Subject" which is nominated by the club and
  - "Open" in which images of any topic are acceptable
- entries **must** be accompanied by a completed entry form, this can be down-loaded from the club web site ([www.huttcameraclub.org.nz](http://www.huttcameraclub.org.nz)) or obtained from the Competition Secretary
- it is the entrant's responsibility to get entries to the Competition Secretary by closing date (no later than 10 days prior to the competition date)
- all entries are to be labelled with authors name, grade, subject category and title (optional)
- unlabelled entries or those deemed by the judge not to comply with the set subject will be placed in the open subject category
- entries may be submitted in either subject category or spread between the two up to the maximum number allowed
- while every care is taken, the club will not accept liability for damage to entries
- failure to comply with these instructions will invalidate the entry and exclude it from the competition

### 3.4. **Special conditions applicable to prints**

B Grade	Prints should be mounted or fixed on backing material firm enough to hold the print upright. Please contact the Competition Secretary for assistance.
I Grade	All prints should be mounted
A Grade	All prints should be mounted

- mounted prints, inclusive of image, may not exceed 41 cm x 51 cm (16" x 20")
- framed or glass covered prints are not acceptable
- members name, grade, subject category and title (optional) must appear on the reverse of the print

### 3.5. **Special conditions applicable to projected images**

- images must be in jpg format
- maximum of 1024 pixels on the horizontal side and 768 pixels on the vertical side
- files are to be named as follows  
g\_s\_name\_mmmmyy\_title

where

g = grade i.e. one of B, I or A

s = subject category i.e. one of S (Set) or O (Open)

name = entrants name, initial followed by surname e.g. JBloggs

mmm= month of competition e.g. one of Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov or Dec

yy = year of competition e.g. 06 for 2006

title = image title (optional). If no image title is provided then please use a number instead to make the file name unique.

Example file names are

B\_S\_AMember\_Apr06\_RustyGate.jpg

A\_O\_JBloggs\_Feb06\_1.jpg

- images are to be submitted by e-mail attachment to competition secretary ([competitions@huttcameraclub.org.nz](mailto:competitions@huttcameraclub.org.nz)) who will confirm receipt
- when sending digital images please ensure you send a copy only and retain the master file yourself. Hutt Camera Club is not responsible for loss of images due to corruption during file transfer or any other accidental deletion and or corruption of images.

### 3.6. Judging

A strong image should display some or all of the following elements:

- technical excellence
- a knowledge of the importance of choice of subject
- good lighting
- dramatic composition
- handling depth of field effectively
- eliciting emotional impact
- exhibiting freshness and creativity

The Judge will give each image one of the following ratings

- Honours
- Merit
- Commended
- Accepted
- Not Accepted

#### **Honours:**

An image that scores a Honours is an exceptionally strong image; i.e. true photographic excellence. It need not be a perfect image, just a very, very strong image. Such an image is technically correct and much, much more. The elements of the image must work together to form a whole that is far greater than the sum of the parts. There should not be any obvious flaws. Images that score a Honours may break the "rules". When the rules are broken, they are broken for impact. Technical excellence is expected. Difficult exposures, effective use of selective focusing and depth of field, as well as other advanced photographic techniques are very common in such an image.

While the score of a Honours should not be given out without very good reason since it implies true photographic excellence, if a judge feels that an image has the "Wow" factor and immediately falls in love with it they should give it Honours with no apologies to anyone. Authors of photographic images should not be made to feel that Honours is impossible to achieve.

#### **Merit:**

An image that scores a Merit is a very strong image. Such an image is technically correct and much more. The elements of the image must work together. If there are flaws, they are minor and hard to find. Obvious flaws must be compensated by other elements in the image. Images that score Merit may break the "rules". When the rules are broken, they are broken for impact. Technical excellence is expected. Difficult exposures, effective use of selective focusing and depth of field, as well as other advanced photographic techniques are commonly found in such an image.

**Commended:**

This is a good solid image, an image towards which every member should be striving as a minimum. Such an image is technically correct and a bit more. It exhibits AT LEAST ONE of these elements:

- showing a knowledge of the importance of choice of subject,
- of good lighting
- of dramatic composition
- of handling depth of field effectively
- of eliciting emotional impact
- of exhibiting freshness and creativity.

The elements of the image work together. There may be minor flaws but they are compensated for by other elements in the image. For the most part, images that score a Commended do not break the "rules". If a rule is broken, it is broken with intention and works to enhance the image. A Commended is the first step above a technically correct but otherwise uninspiring image. It is the start on the path towards the high impact image.

**Accepted:**

An Accepted would be awarded to an image that may have either some technical flaws, or has no significant strengths. Such an image is sometimes referred to as a record shot. It is acceptable, but does not generate any special interest or stir emotions. It is the quality of image that we would expect that most hobbyists should be able to take as a minimum standard. It has the technical proficiency that modern auto-exposure, auto-focus cameras allow. The author has made a correct exposure in a non-difficult lighting situation and the subject of the image is sharp. However the image lacks those elements towards which image-makers who are working at polishing their craft should be striving.

An Accepted could also be awarded to an image that did have one of the strengths just mentioned (which might have earned it a Commended) but that strength has been neutralized by a significant flaw.

**Not Accepted:**

An image is not accepted if the judge feels that the image is not of sufficient quality to earn Accepted. An image which is not accepted may be re-submitted in one further competition, during the year it was first entered.

**Other judging notes**

- the Judge will give constructive comments aimed at helping the author to improve the quality of their work
- on completion of the judging for each set or photograph, the author should be identified, with the exception of non-accepted entries
- all communication with the Judge will be made through the Competition Secretary
- Entries gaining acceptance or better cannot be re-entered in further ladder or mini competitions

### 3.7. Points

Points are awarded in each grade as follows based on the rating given by the Judge:

<b>Judges Rating</b>	<b>Set Subject</b>	<b>Open</b>
Honours	14	10
Merit	9	6
Commended	5	3
Accepted	2	1
Not accepted	0	0

### 4. Mini Competitions (*These may not be held every year*)

These competitions are a bit of fun and a chance to show off your photos and maybe win a prize.

- These competitions are for digitally projected images only.
- There will be set subject only and they will be held on the last club night of February, March, May, June, August and September.
- Each member can submit up to two images.
- Images will be judged by a senior club member (a different one for each competition which the Judge cannot enter)
- A total of up to four prizes will be awarded for each competition and these will go to
  - the image judged best in the Beginners grade
  - the image judged best in the Intermediate grade
  - the image judged best in the Advanced grade
  - the image judged best image of the night by the audience
- These competitions are separate to the ladder competition and will earn no points towards the ladder competition.
- Entries winning a prize on the night cannot be re-entered in further mini competitions. They can however be entered in future ladder competitions.

## 5. Assignments

- Optional set subject assignments will take place twice a year, in May and September.
- The assignment is to make an audio-visual display to the length of one piece of music not exceeding four minutes in length. The club encourages use of royalty free music and will not accept any liability for copyright breaches by members.
- No prizes or points will be awarded, but displays will be shown to the club and discussion / comments offered.

## 6. End of Year Portfolio Competitions

At the end of the year, immediately following the AGM, we have a Portfolio competition. There are two trophies at stake

- The Cliff Perry Trophy
- Dorothy Comley Memorial Trophy

The rules are as follows

- Bring your entries along on the night
- An entrant may enter only one of the competitions, not both
- The criteria for both competitions: members are invited to submit a portfolio of SIX prints
- mounted prints, inclusive of image, may not exceed 41 cm x 51 cm (16" x 20")
- Prints may have been entered into previous club ladder or interclub competitions
- Prints which have been entered in previous Cliff Perry or Dorothy Comley competitions are ineligible for entry

### ***The Cliff Perry Memorial Trophy is for members who:***

- Have less than three years membership
- Do not have photographic honours (eg. LPSNZ or higher)
- Are not employed in the business of photography
- Have not previously won the Cliff Perry Trophy
- Have not previously won the Beginner Grade ladder competition

### ***The Dorothy Comley Memorial Trophy Competition is for all other members.***