



## Knowle Camera Club

### Competition Guidelines for the 2025-26 season

Issued on 6 May 2025

#### *General guidelines and definitions*

This document should be read in conjunction with the latest “Competition Rules” document, which gives general rules on eligibility and advises you how to prepare and enter your images for Club competitions.

This document gives rules and guidelines for the specific competitions being held in the 2025-26 season.

Prior to each competition, the Competition Secretary will remind the judge of the criteria for the competition and any other guidelines provided below.

#### *Number of entries*

For all competitions, up to four images may be submitted, either prints or PDIs or a mixture of both, unless otherwise stated. If this needs to be changed during the season, for example if we need to run the competition via Zoom, this will be advised to members well in advance of the competition date.

#### *Types of competition*

There are two types of competition, either

- a) a set **subject or theme** which you must adhere to, or
- b) an **Open** competition.

For an **Open** competition, you may enter images on any subject. However, there may be other restrictions imposed.

## *The Shoot Out (25-06)*

For the Shoot Out competition, images must have been taken within a defined area, and on either a set date or within a set range of dates.

This year's defined area is **the whole of the United Kingdom**.

The set date range is **from the day after the 2025 AGM until the closing date for entry to the competition**. Images taken on any other date do not qualify for entry.

For this competition you may enter up to **three** images in total; these must be PDIs only. There are **four** subjects, and you may enter **a maximum of one** from each subject, hence you must omit at least one subject.

The four subjects are:

1. Smartphone

An image taken on a smartphone, tablet or other similar mobile device which is not a dedicated camera.

Post-processing is allowed.

2. In The Garden

An image taken in any tended garden, including public gardens such as botanical gardens or National Trust properties.

Wild areas or parkland do not qualify. The garden, or a typical garden element such as a flower or insect, should be prominent in the image.

3. "Contre-Jour"

An image taken "against the day", meaning into the light.

This creative technique often involves a subject backlit by the sun, but it can refer to any strong light source positioned behind the subject. A simple explanation with examples can be found here:

<https://djrphoto.co.uk/shooting-contre-jour/>

4. Red

An image in which red is the dominant or stand-out colour.

The colour(s) in the image can be enhanced in post-processing, but the colour of an object that is not originally red must not be changed to make it red.

The judging will proceed as for other competitions but without declaring an overall winning image. The overall winner will be the member with the highest Poynton Cup score (7 for Gold, 5 for Silver, etc) from their three entries added together.

## *The John Hope Trophy (25-07)*

This is an Open competition.

## *The Bill Ruddock Trophy (25-08)*

This year, the subject is “**Straight Out Of The Camera**” and is for PDIs only.

The aim is for the image to be that produced directly by the camera.

Smartphone photos are not eligible, due to the significant processing some modern phones carry out to improve the image.

If the camera is producing a JPG file, the camera settings should be neutral. Any settings available in the camera such as “picture style” should be the most standard option available: other options such as “Shade”, “Portrait” etc should not be selected.

“Monochrome” can be selected so that the camera produces a black and white image.

No post-processing may be carried out other than as follows:

- The image will need to be resized to fit the normal competition requirements ie 1600 x 1200 pixels maximum. When resizing, cropping is not allowed.
- A RAW image produced by the camera may be imported into editing software and then converted to JPG, as long as no additional processing is carried out. The aim should be to match as closely as possible a JPG produced by the camera as set out above. The colour profile used by the software must be neutral, ie the standard colour or monochrome profile for images from the model of camera used.
- A border or keyline may be added around the image.

When importing the image into editing software, lens corrections, noise reduction, sharpening etc should all be switched off.

Two or more images may not be stitched together or merged, whether to increase dynamic range, focus stack, make a panorama or for any other reason.

## *The Jack Grundy Trophy (26-01)*

This year, the subject is “**Still Life**”.

Still Life means an image capturing inanimate objects from the natural or man-made world, arranged as the subject of a composition. The aim is to highlight the textures, shapes, colours, and forms of the objects, creating a visually appealing image.

## *The Tony Albutt Plate (26-02)*

This year, the subject is “**Water**”.

Entries can feature water in any form: examples include waterfalls and rivers, rainfall, the sea, watery reflections or water droplets. Simply ensure that your image has water as the main subject or a significant element.

## *The Elizabeth Wise Trophy (26-03)*

This is an Open competition, for **prints only**.

## *The Braithwaite Trophy (26-04)*

This is an Open Competition, for Triptych images.

For the purposes of this competition, a Triptych is a single image presenting a group of three pictures. For this competition you may enter up to **three** triptychs in total.

The three pictures making up a triptych should have a common theme. This could be a story, similar compositional elements, colours, similar subject matter – anything that draws the pictures together as a group.

The three pictures should be from three distinct images, whether or not they have the same subject, not from one image split into three parts.

You may find these articles useful background to this subject:

<https://ayearwithmycamera.com/blog/how-to-shoot-a-photography-triptych>

<https://www.imaginated.com/photography/composition/techniques/triptych/>

Each triptych should be entered into the competition as a single image, whether as a print or a PDI. The three individual pictures combined into the triptych are not required to be entered separately.

## *The Rose Bowl Trophy (26-05)*

This is an Open competition.

For this competition only, you may enter any image which was previously entered in a competition earlier in the same season, as set out in the Competition Rules.

## *The Poynton Cup*

The Poynton Cup will be awarded to the Club member who amasses the most points from all eight competitions during the season.

The points awarded to each member for each competition will be the single highest points score earned by their entries in that competition (across both prints and PDIs).

The points earned for an image achieving an award are as follows:

- Gold 7 points
- Silver 5 points
- Bronze 3 points
- Highly Commended 2 points

**One extra point will be awarded for the image chosen as the winner of the competition.**

The theoretical maximum number of points achievable in the Poynton Cup is therefore 64 (assuming the member wins every competition).

In the event of a tie, the winner of the Poynton Cup will be determined based on the number of competitions won (ie those for which 8 points were awarded), or if that is equal, the number of competitions in which at least one Gold was achieved (ie those for which 7 points were awarded). If this is also equal, the Cup will be shared.

## *The David Grant Trophy*

This trophy will be awarded to the member whose competition results have improved the most between last season and this season. This will be determined as follows:

- To be eligible, a member must have submitted images to at least three competitions in both last season and this season.
- Their three best Poynton Cup competition scores in each season will be summed, using the points system in force for that season, and the increase or decrease in this sum from last season to this season calculated. The trophy will be awarded to the member with the largest such increase.