

KPS Monthly Image Assessment Rules

NOTE: The KPS monthly Image Assessment is not a competitive event. Images are submitted by members for critique by internal or external judges and may be awarded merit certificates based on the individual worth of each and every image assessed. There are no 1st, 2nd or 3rd placings. Images may be awarded a Commended or Highly Commended merit, based on the opinion of the judge, with no limit as to how many of these may be awarded in each event. Every deserving image may be recognised with an award. This method of recognition is designed to give the best possible feedback and encouragement to members without the limit of restricting entries to places of 1st, 2nd, 3rd.

Divisions, Categories and Sections

There are two (2) Divisions – Novice and Open

There are two (2) Categories – Print, Electronic Digital Image (EDI).

There are two (2) Sections in each category – Set Subject and Unrestricted Subject.

THUS, there are four (4) potential entry points each for the Novice and Open divisions.

You can enter up to a maximum of **4 IMAGES in total**.

It is your choice which divisions, categories and sections you enter and how many images in each, with the following conditions:

- There is a **THREE IMAGE LIMIT IN EACH CATEGORY of Print and EDI**, (e.g.: 3 prints + 1 EDI, 2 prints + 2 EDI or 1 print and 3 EDI are all eligible combinations).
- There is a **TWO IMAGE LIMIT IN EACH SECTION (Set Subject or Unrestricted)**.

You may choose whether or not to enter images into the Prints and/or EDI categories. You may also choose whether or not to enter images in the set subject and/or unrestricted subject sections.

NOTE: Only Novice workers, *as defined below*, may enter the Novice Divisions, but a Novice may enter the Open Division.

A typical ‘full-box’ entry may look like this....

3 prints – 1 set subject, 2 unrestricted. 1 EDI set subject (or unrestricted).

1 print – unrestricted subject, 3 EDI – 2 set subject, 1 unrestricted subject.

A worker may enter less than the maximum if he/she chooses.

This gives the member photographer lots of options to have their works assessed and appraised.

Look-Alike Images

You **CANNOT** submit the same (duplicate or facsimile/look-alike) image as a print or EDI, in any division or category. Every image submitted must be *obviously* different. Neither can it be ‘tricky’, eg: a mono version of a colour image, a “cross-processed” version of a “straight” image, etc. What *may* be permitted is a **wildly different** version of an original image that renders it as a ‘new’ image. The Competition Steward will reject and remove from assessment, any image deemed to be ineligible.

For such an image to be eligible, a **radical new approach** to the processing (digital or organic) must have been done to essentially create a new image from the original. This allows those especially gifted and creative thinkers, in either the wet or digital darkroom, to continue to amaze us with their vision and talent. But it also inhibits a ‘lazy’ approach to image processing. It requires thinking and strategies ‘outside the box’. The aim here is to encourage and promote workers to achieve greatness, not repetition and mediocrity. Put on your creative caps and go for it.

Eligibility of Entries

Notwithstanding the above, any image (print or EDI) that has gained a merit at any level in ANY previous internal KPS monthly club assessment or competition, is **NO LONGER ELIGIBLE** for entry in ANY future monthly club assessment. This **does not** include merits earned at any interclub competition, whether sponsored by KPS or any other club, national or international competition and does not exclude the works as a KPS entry in any interclub competition.

This rule is designed to encourage new efforts. You may enter that image in any other competition outside KPS and you can submit it for selection for any KPS **interclub** competition or exhibition, (which we encourage you to do vigorously), but you cannot enter it in a regular monthly KPS assessment again.

All images that gain a merit award during the year are entitled to be entered into the annual **Image of the Year** competition, held in December. The Novice Division will be judged separately. This event is a real competition with real winners.

NOTE: Any image that does not gain a merit award may be entered in future assessments in order to get different opinions. It is suggested that after three unsuccessful attempts for merit, the conclusion should be that the image does not cut it at the required level and maybe be relegated to your 'favourites, but not competition worthy' stash.

DEFINITIONS

Open Print Division

Any print, of *any* size, **up to the maximum** stated in the Size Specifics below, is eligible.

Novice Print Division

- A Novice Print can be any size up to a maximum of 10x8 inches with a maximum mount board size of 10x8 inches (see Size Specifics below)
- Whilst there are no restrictions on how the final image and print is produced, Novice prints are essentially the output of images that have received a minimum of editing/enhancement
- This should not prevent a Novice from attempting to create a 'fine art' photograph
- There will be both Set Subject and Unrestricted Subject categories in Novice Prints
- Prints in the Novice Prints division will be judged separately, by the same judge appraising the images in the Open Division
- Only novice workers are eligible to enter the Novice Division
- If a novice worker wishes to enter a panoramic image in the Novice section, prints must be on mount board no larger than 10x8 inches.
- If a novice worker wishes to enter a larger panoramic print, it must be entered into the Open division.

Novice Worker

- A **Novice worker** is essentially one who has yet to achieve a certain level of expertise, as determined by a panel of assessors. This assessment *does not* include years of experience as a consideration.
- One **indicator of progress** will be the number of merits awarded to a Novice worker over a period of time.
- As a Novice worker progresses, the level of expertise achieved will be obvious to learned eyes and will promote an assessment by a panel of experienced and knowledgeable persons.
- This **assessment** panel will convene as often as necessary – See Novice Progression/Advancement below.
- If the panel agrees that the worker has progressed to a level that will allow him/her to compete at an equal level in the Open division, that worker will be '**upgraded**' to the Open division.
- There will be **no discussion** entered into, as the 'promotion' will be based on a consistent display of competency over time. This upgrade should be viewed as a sign of respect for the worker.
- A Novice worker may elect to enter prints into the Open division and compete on 'open ground'.
- A Novice may enter the annual Triptych assessment, but novice triptychs will NOT be judged separately.

Novice Progression/Advancement

A novice worker who consistently achieves merits in any Novice division is not automatically or arbitrarily 'upgraded' to the Open division, but is placed on notice for assessment by a panel of knowledgeable people. The worker will be promoted to the Open division when high levels of competency are judged to have been consistently achieved.

Novices are encouraged to attend all judging presentations of assessments, even those they have not entered, in order to receive the critiques of the judge first-hand. To hear constructive critique from those with more experience and expertise is a valuable club activity and an important learning tool.

Whilst the Novice Print division limits print and mount sizes for novice workers, some experienced workers who must enter in the Open Division, prefer to display their efforts almost exclusively as small prints (smaller than 10x8) and it is acknowledged that some works look their best when displayed as a small print. This notwithstanding, ALL prints entered by non-novice workers, regardless of print/mount size, will automatically be entered into the Open Print division for assessment at that level by the judge.

Electronic Digital Image

The **maximum EDI image size allowed** is limited by the area visible on a typical projection screen or computer monitor (not widescreen or HD format). The maximum area that can acceptably be projected is **1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high**. Please note that these dimensions ARE NOT INTERCHANGABLE. *Regardless of image dimensions and format, an image file size cannot exceed 500 kilobytes.*

EDI's must also be saved in the sRGB colour space, the same standard as used for the World Wide Web.

It is permissible for an image to fill the entire screen in width and height. That is, it utilizes all available/allowable pixels. Be creative, you have an image area that could fill a standard 4:3 projection screen at your disposal. Also consider that while panoramic images can look a bit on the small side when limited by competition *print* sizes, the visual effect and impact can be completely different when *projected* on to a large screen. Not to negate the quality and impact of prints, be aware of the impact of colour and form when viewed as a projected image on a large screen. Some projected images can appear brighter, more saturated and to have more depth. Be careful about over-doing the levels of contrast and colour saturation during your editing. Remember what your last displayed images looked like when projected or printed and work accordingly, with the end result in mind. Using a calibrated monitor helps.

Panoramic Images

Panoramic images by definition have a significantly increased height/width ratio. To qualify as a panoramic, a print or EDI image must adhere to the maximum width dimensions as stipulated below in each division, but have a height of no more than half that of the regular allowed vertical dimension. E.G. EDI - 1024x384 pixels including any borders, print – 50x20 cm (20x8 inches), for Open and 255x100 cm (10x4 inches) for Novice, including mounts.

Prints must adhere to the print and mount conditions as stated in the Entry and Size Specifics section below, i.e. max mount size 16"x20" or 40cm x 50cm. Novices are still limited to the print and mount dimensions as below.

Triptych (pronounced trip tick)

This is an annual assessment, held in April. The object is a photo essay, a story in pictures. A triptych consists of three panels of images with a common theme/subject matter. Prints must be mounted on a common mount board. For prints, the maximum size for the mounting is 16 x 20 inches or 40 x 60 cm. There is no typical size and the choice is yours. Images and mounting can be any size, up to the maximums stated in the Entry and Size Specifics section below. Images may be placed anywhere within the mount frame.

EDI versions must still conform to the maximum sizes for projected images.

Novices may enter, but their works will be judged alongside and at the same level as all other submitted triptych works.

Audio-Visuals

KPS has no AV division in the monthly assessments. This should not discourage anyone from creating an AV as the syllabus allows time at regular meetings for short AV's to be presented, from time to time. AV's are typically kept to a max. of around 10 minutes in length. Longer presentations will need to be scheduled for a specific night.

SUMMARY

Divisions Novice, Open

Sections Print, (note: only small print in Novice), Electronic Digital Projected Image (EDI)

Categories Set Subject, Unrestricted subject

Entry and Size Specifics

Max number of entries per worker is 4 (includes all Prints and EDI entries combined).

Max number of images per category is 2 (set subject & unrestricted subject).

Max size for Novice prints including mount - 200mm x 255mm - (8" x 10") - excluding triptych.

Max size for Open prints including mount - 40cm x 50cm - (16" x 20") - including triptych and panoramic.

Max size for all EDI - 1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high, sRGB - up to 500 kilobytes.

Max size for Open *panoramic prints* is 50 x 20 cm or 20x8 inches, including mount.

Max size for NOVICE *panoramic prints* is 255x100mm - (10" x 8"), including mount.

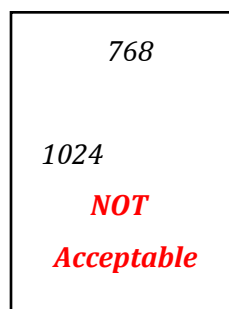
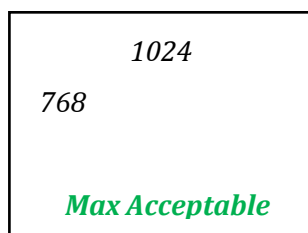
Max size for ALL *panoramic EDI's* is 1024w x 384h pixels and 500 kilobytes, including borders.

Max size for ALL *triptych prints* is 40 x 50 cm (16" x 20"), including mount.

Max size for ALL *triptych EDI's* is 1024w x 768h pixels and 500 kilobytes - same as for regular EDI.

A *digital triptych image* must comprise one complete montage of three separate images, with a 'matte' overlay or other border method to differentiate each image as one of a panel of three, with all three images displayed together as a single screen image.

Note that maximum EDI sizes are 1024 pixels WIDE x 768 pixels HIGH. This cannot be reversed to enter 768 WIDE x 1024 HIGH, or any value in excess of the previously specified maximum limits. However, an EDI can be smaller than the maximum limits if the worker is looking for a particular outcome, eg 1024 x 633 would conform to a Fibonacci-sized landscape format, 768 x 768 would represent a square format.



Note to Print Workers

Print workers must provide a digital copy of their entries, using the same dimensions as described for EDI. This allows us to include images of prints on the website and in the newsletter. These images must be labelled as follows:

KPSID-Image Name-PNSS = Print copy Novice Set Subject
KPSID-Image Name-PNUS = Print copy Novice Unrestricted Subject
KPSID-Image Name-POSS = Print copy Open Set Subject
KPSID-Image Name-POUS = Print copy Open Unrestricted Subject

Labelling

- **Prints must be labelled** on the Back of the print at the **Top Left Corner with an approved label**. This is to ensure the judge orients the picture correctly (it shows them which is up) to the author's preference – see example below.
- **KPS supplied pre-formatted labels** are preferred for consistency, are not mandatory, but self-created/printed labels must conform to the standard specified and you should use the official label as a template.
- **Pre-printed labels** or a **Word doc** soft-copy version can be obtained from the Competition Steward.
- **EDI image file names** must be of the same structure as for prints, see below.

Image Naming Convention

NOTE-Untitled Images

It is not a good idea to leave an image untitled. When multiple untitled images are entered in a competition by the same member or a number of members, stewards and judges may get them confused. This makes awarding merits more complicated than necessary and a judge is entitled to eliminate untitled images to avoid this confusion.

Note: "Untitled #1" is valid, even if a sign of apparent laziness.

- **ALL images MUST** be labelled with author ID, title, division (N for Novice and O for Open) & category (SS for Set Subject or US for Unrestricted Subject)..... **THIS IS MANDATORY**. Incorrectly labelled or untitled images may be rejected.

Naming Examples – Note the use of DASHES not UNDERSCORES.

EDI:

Novice EDI Set Subject files ----- KPSID-Image Title-NSS.jpg (eg C17-Fred at Rest-NSS.jpg)
Novice EDI Unrestricted Subject files ----- KPSID-Image Title-NUS.jpg (eg C17-Fred at Rest-NUS.jpg)
Open EDI Set Subject files ----- KPSID-Image Title-OSS.jpg (eg C17-Fred at Rest-OSS.jpg)
Open EDI Unrestricted Subject files ----- KPSID-Image Title-OUS.jpg (eg C17-Fred at Rest-OUS.jpg)

PRINTS:

Note: The placement of the details on print labels may change, but all details need to be there.

KPS ID: C1

Title: Fred at Rest

Open Print **Novice Print**

Set Subject **Unrestricted**

Comp Month: October 2011

Unrestricted and Set Subjects

Each monthly assessment includes an *unrestricted* or 'open' section. Entries in this section may be of any subject matter or style, including both traditional and creative. Each month KPS also has adds a *set subject* section. The intention of this section is to challenge members to create a photographic image that correctly but creatively interprets the definition of the monthly set subject. **Be aware that 'very loose' interpretations may be rejected.**

CLOSING NOTES

Labels are necessary for the Competition Steward to sort and catalogue images for the judge. The judge also requires correctly labelled images to ensure the correct image is being assessed.

Any print or EDI image not sized or labelled correctly as per these rules and instructions, may be disqualified and rejected from the monthly assessment or competition. Remember that help is available. Call or email the Competition Steward (*see also the note above about untitled images*).

It is not the role of the Competition Steward to determine what the correct ID of an entrant is, what the correct orientation of an image is, or in which division, section, category the entry belongs, but he/she can help if required.

If you do not have a KPS ID number, please contact the Competition Steward, BEFORE submitting entries.

The Competition Steward may reject and remove from assessment any image deemed ineligible. This includes any incorrectly sized EDI entries, oversized prints/mounts or images of 'similar appearance' as per these rules and conditions or images that appear to not represent the set subject.

It is not the intention of these rules to limit or exclude from the monthly assessment, any works by any member, nor to restrain creativity. But it is necessary that members learn and adhere to what is required and to create their images to fit standard conventions as laid out in this document. Many images from KPS monthly assessments go on to other local, national and international competitions and salons, which have similar conditions. It makes sense for members to keep to a 'universal' standard and minimize the need to redo a work to suit the conditions of other competitions or risk possible rejections.

Feedback

If you feel these rules may disadvantage you, or you have suggestions to improve them, please tell us. Write your ideas down and email them to the Competition Steward or Secretary, or hand them to any committee member. We welcome your input.

RIDER

These rules may be changed at any time. Notice will be given before changes are implemented.

Please note the last revision date in the footer below.