

# Ellesmere Port Photographic Society

## Nature Competition Entry Form

### There are four sections:-

Nature PDIs Open

Nature PDIs Novice

Nature Prints Open

Nature Prints Novice

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>PDI</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Novice / Open</b>	
Entry No 1: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry No 2: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry No 3: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry No 4: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Print</b> (with accompanying PDIs)	<b>Title</b>	<b>Novice / Open</b>	
Entry No 1: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry No 2: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry No 3: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entry No 4: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Full competition rules may be found on the Society's website:

[www.ellesmereportphotographicsociety.co.uk](http://www.ellesmereportphotographicsociety.co.uk)

Good luck with your entries; if you need help with anything, please ask.

## **Nature Rules**

Only Nature images are allowed in this competition. The Society's definition of Nature is as follows:

*Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.*

*The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality. Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves.*

*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.*

*Images used in Nature Photography Competitions may be divided in two classes: Nature and Wildlife. Images entered in Nature sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above can have landscapes, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.*

*Images entered in Wildlife sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above are further defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Landscapes, geologic formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible in Wildlife sections.*

*Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds and insects. Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species.*

*Wildlife images may be entered in Nature sections of Exhibitions.*

There are normally four separate sections: Novice Prints and Novice PDIs (*for novice workers only*), and Open Prints and Open PDIs (*for all members*). Members can enter any number of prints between one and four, and any number of PDIs between one and four. To run any Novice section, we need to have entries from at least two novice workers. If we only have entries from a single novice worker, their entries will be placed into the Open section instead.

There is no restriction on which section a novice can enter; they may enter images into the Novice or Open sections, or both, but the maximum number of prints entered by each worker must not exceed four, and likewise the maximum number of PDIs from any single worker must not exceed four.

**Special Notes (any entries that fail to meet these specifications cannot be used in the competition):**

The member named must have taken the images submitted, and have the full copyright of **all** the elements of the image at their disposal.

Each print entered must also have an accompanying digital image file which adheres to the Society's rules for PDI competitions, as stated in the previous paragraph. It **must** have the same title as the print itself. Further instructions can be found on page two of this document.

All print entries must be mounted on a sheet of mount-board that is exactly **50 cm x 40 cm** in size and no thicker than **4 mm**. All PDI entries, along with those digital images accompanying the relevant prints must be **1600 pixels wide x 1200 pixels high**, in the sRGB colour space, and saved as a JPEG format image. On the back of mounted prints, in the top left corner, please put **the Society's name** (Ellesmere Port Photographic Society or just EPPS), and **the competition entered** (in this case, Nature Prints November 2017), the Title of the Print, and your Membership Number. **Do not include your name, or we cannot use the print** (this way, the Judge should not know who the author is). Also, if you use any form of watermark or logo on your images, this **must** be removed; any images with watermarks/logos cannot be entered.

**Notes Regarding Digital Image Files**

The Society conforms to rules set by the Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union, to whom we are affiliated. This means that we now have to submit a digital version of each print that we forward to them, and to assist us with this, we need our members to provide a disc (or USB stick) with the images on it, in the same way as with the Projected Digital Image competitions.

As stated on page one, each digital image must be 1600 pixels wide and 1200 pixels high. Any images that exceed these dimensions in either direction will not be accepted.

On a disc (or USB stick):

Create a New Folder and Rename it with your name only. Do not use any other numbers or symbols, for example, 'Joe Member'.

Create two new folders within this one. Rename one 'Prints' and the other 'PDIs'

Into these two folders, place your chosen four (or less) images, again using only the titles of the images – no extra numbers, letters, or symbols please. So, if you have entered four images in the print section and four in the PDI section, your folders might look like this:

Main Folder:	<b>Members Name</b>
Subfolder 1:	<b>Prints</b>
Containing the images:	<b>Walker's Paradise</b> <b>Gateway to Liverpool</b> <b>The Crossover</b> <b>Waiting my turn</b>
Subfolder 2:	<b>PDIs</b>
Containing the images:	<b>Sully's Scary Feet</b> <b>The Circus comes to town</b> <b>Is this really a good deal</b> <b>Were am I going to sot</b>

Please note that you are responsible for your own spelling – in the last PDI listed above, the words **where** and **sit** were mistyped as **were** and **sot** (deliberately), and they will be read from the image title and used exactly as they are! Therefore if you add any extra numbers or symbols, they would form part of the title and may make no sense. Sometimes, of course, we misspell for effect. But it's your decision. Note, too, that you cannot use some characters in filenames, including the question mark.

Also, please keep titles as short as possible, as longer ones may get truncated, and again lose some of their meaning. eg an image as '*The Milky Way looking in the direction of the constellation Scorpius*'. This may be truncated by software to something like '*The Milky Way looking in the direction of o*', which didn't make sense.

This should be changed to '*The Milky Way looking towards Scorpius*', which is less than 40 characters and should be fine.

### **Why 50 x 40 cm and 4 mm maximum thickness for mounted prints ?**

Each year, the L&CPU show some of the best of the images they have received in an exhibition, and they place them into 50 x 40 cm glass-fronted picture frames. If they are thicker than 4 mm, they can (and have in the past) crack the glass, leading to a broken frame and a damaged print. Also, thicker mounts are bulkier / more difficult to carry.