

Master of Photography

Genres / Subjects and Rules

First Session: Nature, Movement, Architecture

Second Session: Landscape, Portrait (Human), Close up & Macro images

1. Nature

Flora and Fauna, in which the flora is uncultivated and the fauna is not domestic or farmed. Man-made items must not be included unless essential to animal behaviour. Images of wildlife in captivity are allowed as long as the environment is natural. Some post processing is allowed: as long as it does not alter the truth of the original scene.

For full guidance please refer to the SPA Nature rules, quoted in the Club Competition Rules.

2. Movement

Images which convey the movement of objects, people or the environment. Examples are the flow of water, movement in sport or human activity, movement of machinery, plants, animals or sky. Techniques include long exposure, first curtain flash, motion blur, panning.

3. Architecture

Refers to buildings, the built environment, building interiors and architectural details. People may be included to convey scale or function but should not dominate the image or the composition.

4. Landscape

Any scene taken outdoors where the main subject is the view or scene. This can be of the countryside, a seascape or an urban landscape. Wide views and close ups of outdoor details are permissible. People and animals can be present in the scene as can man-made features (which is obviously the case in urban landscapes). For a good guide to the scope of what Landscape photography covers see a few Landscape Photographer of the Year books.

5. Portrait (Human)

Defined as an image of a single human being which shows their character, personality and /or emotion. Head and shoulders view is **not** necessary; an image can include whole body, and the person's environment or activity.

In a good portrait photo, the subject along with the background, lighting and emotion can evoke a sense of connection between the viewer and the person in the image.

6. Close up and Macro Images

Any photograph where the final image size is equal or greater than the original subject size when viewed on a typical computer screen or print of, say A4, dimensions. Macro photography may include significant enlargement and can reveal detail in ordinary, often unnoticed things in the everyday world which appear extraordinary and sometimes unworldly when seen through a macro lens.

Stage 1: 15th February. Nature, Movement & Architecture. Judge Tim Morland.

Stage 2: 18th April. Landscape, Human Portrait, Macro/Close-up. Judge Graeme Mansfield.