Highworth Camera Club

Competition Rules 2026

All Competitions

Unless otherwise stated here, images must only be entered once in one competition.
Entering the same image in several competitions is not allowed. For clarity:

1. Members can enter images as many times as they want into competitions involving other clubs (e.g. print battles), but only once into an internal club competition.
2. Members cannot enter a print in one club competition and a JPEG of the same image in another club competition - prints and JPEGs are considered the same image.
3. Images cannot be re-used for the Ashworth & Mayor's trophies - images for these two competitions must be new.
4. In summary, it should not be possible to win (or contribute to winning) two club competitions with the same image.
5. The exception to this rule is the Barbara Thorpe Challenge, where images used in the regular competitions can be reused in the Barbara Thorpe Challenge.

Other comments:

In all competitions, composite images are permitted on the condition that the member entering the image owns the copyright for all component images used. This also applies to diptychs, triptychs and other image combinations.

Note that all club trophies are the property of Highworth Camera Club and are, effectively, loaned to each winner for the year. Any member who leaves the club during the year must hand back any trophies at the time of their leaving (especially if they are moving away from the area!).

When submitting physical prints, the requirement is always that these pictures should be mounted. Mounts MUST include a backing sheet of some kind to protect the image. Images submitted with just a top mount and no backing sheet will be disqualified.

The back of the print **must** have -
- the competition and month it is entered for,
- the title of the picture (the same as the JPEG submitted),
- your member number,
- an indication of which way is up (if it is not obvious),

or the print is likely to be disqualified.

Entries for all competitions (apart from the Barbara Thorpe Trophy), must have JPG copies uploaded to the relevant competition in Pixoroo before the competition deadline. **Note** The image title in Pixoroo must only contain the title itself. By default Pixoroo will use the filename as title, and other information (e.g. competition, member number etc) must be removed from the title field.

For all images to be uploaded to Pixoroo, ideally you should size your uploaded images should be a maximum width of 1920 pixels and a maximum height of 1080 pixels, so that it fits within a rectangle that is 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels tall, but if you don't know how to do that, then submit your image as is and the Pixoroo software will re-size it for display.

Judges for both Print and Digital competitions will score images out of twenty, and these scores will be totalled over the year to determine the winners of the Print and Digital Trophies. If there is a tie for any position, the places will be determined by the entries with the most 20 points scored, then 19 points scored etc.

The judges' first, second, and third choices from each Print Trophy competition will be put forward to a member's vote for Print Of The Year.

The judges' first, second, and third choices from each Digital Trophy competition will be put forward to a member's vote for Digital Image Of The Year.

Three points is awarded for a first position, two points for a second, and one point for a third. In the event of a points tie in either competition, the Print/Digital Image Of The Year competition voted for by members, positions will be decided on the basis of most first places gained, then most second places gained etc.

In the Print/Digital Image Of The Year competitions members should not vote for their own image.

Nudity is not allowed in any competition entry. Glamour is still an acceptable genre, but a good guideline is - if you are not sure, don't submit the image. If necessary, the Competition Secretary will decide if a particular entry is deemed unsuitable.

Competition queries or info: email the Competition Secretary, at highworthcamclub@gmail.com.

Digital Trophy

One digital image per competition month on any subject.

It is encouraged to have a thin grey border round the edge to delineate the image from the projected background.

Age of image is not important so long as it is not clearly from years ago.

Judged by an external judge on appraisal evenings.

External judge's points (out of twenty) go towards end of year trophies.

Competitions held in January & March (appraised in May), June & August (appraised in October). No competition on appraisal evenings or in November and December.

Print Trophy

One print per print competition month on any subject.

Prints to be brought to monthly meetings. In the event that a member cannot attend a meeting, prints may be left with Peter Osborne –
7 Station Road
Highworth
Swindon
SN6 7DJ
Phone: 01793 762898
Mobile: 07710 477264

In addition, JPEG files for print entries must be uploaded to the relevant Pixoroo competition before the stated deadline.

Any size but fitting in a mount no bigger than 20x16" (this is 50x40cm). (Prints must be mounted). Age of image is not important so long as it is not clearly from years ago

Prints will be judged by an external judge on appraisal evenings. The winning print will go forward to print of the year. External judge points (out of twenty) go towards end of year trophies.

Competitions held in February and April (appraised in May), July and September (appraised in October). No competition on appraisal evenings or in November and December.

Annual Competitions:

10 K Challenge (September meeting).

Any subject that has been obviously taken within a 10 kilometer radius of St Michaels Church. One print entry per member. Please also submit a JPG copy to the relevant Pixoroo competition.

Barbara Thorpe Highworth Challenge (November Meeting).

On an A1 board, a set of prints on a single subject. Minimum seven, maximum ten. A "title" frame must be added. Prints can be any size, the only limiting factor being the requirement to fit at least 7 images on the board.
Each member may submit a maximum of two boards on subjects of the member's own choice.

Projected Digital Image (November Meeting).

Anything goes, bearing in mind nudity guidelines above. Maximum of one image per member. These should be uploaded to the relevant Pixoroo competition two weeks before the November meeting. Judged by an external judge at the November meeting.

Ashworth and Mayor's Trophies (images submitted at November meeting).

Any subject with a maximum print size of A4/12x8". The Mayor's Trophy entry must be in colour, and the Ashworth entry in traditional black and white. The Ashworth prints are judged by the Ashworth family, and the Mayor's Trophy prints are judged by the current Mayor of Highworth. Two prints max per member per Trophy. Prints must be submitted at the November meeting.

Digital copies of these entries for these competitions are not loaded into Pixoroo.

Use of AI in HCC Competitions

As we are a Camera Club, all competition entries must be created in a camera device (i.e. including a mobile phone, camera obscura etc.). In all cases, the original image(s) must have been taken using a photographic process and be the sole copyright of the entrant. All photographic processes and techniques are eligible providing that the photographer owns the copyright to all elements of the picture. Any modification of the original image(s) must be made by the photographer or under their personal direction.

Software tools that replace or remove an image element or extend an image such as content-aware fill, healing, patching or object removal are only permitted where the source for the inserted image data is wholly contained within the base image(s). It is the photographer's responsibility to ensure that the tools they use do not draw image content from outside the photographer's own work.

Regarding use of AI - Generative fill AI is not photographic and is therefore not permitted. Generative AI draws on data from outside the existing image and uses algorithms to create new content. AI-based generative fill, scene extension, patching or object removal is not permitted. Any

adjustments must use tools that draw data only from within the existing image(s). Removal of content using AI is allowed only if the replaced content is drawn from the original image.

Technology that enhances an existing image without drawing on image data from outside that image (e.g., AI De-noise, AI Scaling, AI Sharpening) is acceptable. In general, the output image viewed at full-screen should look nearly identical to the original.

Note that adherence to this rule is the responsibility of the photographer. The Club and its judges will not examine competition entries to ensure that the rule is followed (which would be extremely difficult anyway). If this rule is found to be broken however, then such photographs will of course be disqualified.

If you feel that there is an issue that has not been covered, please bring it to the attention of committee members and the Competitions Secretary.

Revised November 2025.

2026 Competition Schedule

Month	Monthly Competition	Other Competitions (see rules for details)
January	Digital	
February	Print	
March	Digital	
April	Print	
May	No competition – Jan - Apr appraisal	
June	Digital	
July	Print	
August	Digital	
September	Print	10K Challenge
October	No competition – Jun - Sept appraisal	
November	No competition	Projected Digital Image, Barbara Thorpe Trophy Ashworth & Mayor's Trophy prints
December	No competition	