

Lancashire and Cheshire Photographic Union



Annual Club Print & Projected Image Competitions

7th & 8th March 2026

St Mary's Parish Centre
Devonshire Road
Chorley PR7 2BY

Rules and Guidelines

Judges:

Peter Gennard	MFIAP, EFIAP/d3
Sue O'Connell	FIPF, MPSA, EFIAP/d3, DPAGB, ABPE
Peter Brisley	EFIAP, DPAGB, BPE2

Online Entry Opens	Saturday 10 January 2026 @ 00:01
Online Entry Closes	Saturday 14 February 2026 @ 23:59
Prints	Delivered to Competition reception on 7 th March 2026, no later than 10 am Collection from Competition reception on Sunday 8 th March 2026 when competition has finished

Overview

This is the L&CPU Annual Club event, where all member clubs are invited to showcase their members' images in two sections:

- PDI: there are two categories in this section – Open (which includes colour and monochrome) and Nature
- Prints: there are three categories in this section - Open Colour, Open Monochrome and Nature

The overall winning club will be named Club of the Year and will be awarded The French Cup.

The top three winning clubs from each section (Print & PDI) will be invited to represent the L&CPU in the PAGB Inter Club Print & PDI Competitions.

Rules

1	This competition is open to all L&CPU Federated Clubs												
2	<p>The categories and sections are as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <th><u>Section</u></th><th><u>Category</u></th></tr> <tr> <td>a) PDI</td><td>Open</td></tr> <tr> <td>b) PDI</td><td>Nature</td></tr> <tr> <td>c) Prints</td><td>Open Colour</td></tr> <tr> <td>d) Prints</td><td>Open Monochrome</td></tr> <tr> <td>e) Prints</td><td>Nature</td></tr> </table>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Category</u>	a) PDI	Open	b) PDI	Nature	c) Prints	Open Colour	d) Prints	Open Monochrome	e) Prints	Nature
<u>Section</u>	<u>Category</u>												
a) PDI	Open												
b) PDI	Nature												
c) Prints	Open Colour												
d) Prints	Open Monochrome												
e) Prints	Nature												
3	Entries												
	<p>a) A club may enter up to eight (8) images in categories (b) (c) (d) & (e), sixteen (16) images in (a) from not less than five (5) photographers in each category</p> <p>b) To qualify for the PDI Club of the Year a club must enter category 2(a) & 2(b)</p> <p>c) To qualify for Print Club of the Year a club must enter category 2(c), 2(d) & 2(e)</p> <p>d) No photographer may enter more than two images in categories (b) (c) (d) (e) and four images in category (a)</p> <p>e) A club may enter as many sections and categories as they wish</p> <p>f) A photographer may have work entered in more than one section and category</p> <p>g) The result is calculated by the total scores of all images entered into each category</p> <p>h) The Club of the Year award will be the result of the grand total from all five (5) categories 2(a) to 2(e)</p> <p>i) An Image, including the front of a print mount, must not display any of the Photographer's name or their Club.</p>												
4	Eligibility												
	a) Club members may only enter images for one club												
	b) Only bona fide members of that club may enter												
	c) Except for the final printing, images entered must be entirely the work of the stated photographer												

	d) An image (or one significantly similar) must not have been entered into any L&CPU Annual Club Competition previously
	e) An image (or one significantly similar) may only be used once, in one category within this competition
	f) Images constructed from or that include royalty/copyright free/AI generated images are not acceptable http://thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/guidance_ai.pdf
	g) Club members must live within the Federation catchment area ie Lancashire (incl Greater Manchester) and Cheshire. Images entered on behalf of or by an individual who does not live within the catchment area are not eligible, unless the club has obtained an approval for that photographer from the PAGB. (See PAGB 'Guidance – Photographer Eligibility') http://thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/guidance_photographereligibility.pdf
5	Nature (this definition is taken from PAGB definition of Nature and has been adopted by the L&CPU)
	<p>a) All Nature images must be entered into the Nature Categories</p> <p>b) Composite images are not accepted in the Nature Categories</p> <p>c) Nature means images where living organisms are the primary subject matter. The story telling value of an Image will normally be weighed more than the pictorial quality.</p> <p>d) Nature includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Images taken with subjects in controlled conditions such as zoos, game parks, botanic gardens, aquariums and enclosures where the subjects are dependent on man for food. Scientific bands, tags or collars are permissible. <p>e) Nature excludes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Images where the subjects are obviously domestic animals or plants. • Images where an obviously artistic treatment has been applied. <p>f) Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is permitted, as is cloning of image defects and minor distractions including overlapping elements.</p> <p>An Image appearing to meet these criteria will be accepted as Nature.</p> <p>The Judges will normally assume that any Image presented to them is eligible.</p> <p>Access to some biological subjects may be restricted. Where that is relevant, then Photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licences.</p>
6	Awards
	<p>a) In addition to the section awards there will be three other awards for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Print Club of the Year ○ Projected Digital Image Club of the Year ○ Club of the Year <p>b) There will be certificates for the second and third placed clubs in each category</p> <p>c) In the event of a draw, those clubs will share the Trophy</p>
7	PDIs
	<p>a) PDI (Projected Digital Images) must be within 1600 px (horizontal) x 1200 px (vertical) in jpeg format, in sRGB colour space (including mono)</p> <p>b) The entry system will not accept a file size of more than 2mb</p>
8	Prints

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Prints can be mounted on card and backed, 50cm x 40cm and no thicker than 4mm.b) Alternatively prints can be mounted on 50cm x 40cm card with a window opening and the print secured on the back with framers tape.c) A digital file of each print must be uploaded to the portald) Print labels generated by the portal must be affixed to the back of your print entries, on the top right-hand corner; these contain a barcode which is used in the administration of the competition. All other labels on the back of the print should be removed or blanked to make them unusablee) A copy of the club entry form must be included within your print box, along with the prints
9	The L&CPU delegates decisions on eligibility to the discretion of each event organiser and their decision is final

Guidelines

1	<p>Submission of Entries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All entries must be made by Club Competition Secretaries via the L&CPU Information Portal online competition entry system at https://lcpu-portal.org/ If you require assistance, please email competitions@lcpu.org.uk
2	<p>Dual Club Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club Competition Secretaries must exercise caution when using images from members who are part of another club within this or another federation. Duplicate submissions may result in disqualification.
3	<p>Print Backing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prints not backed with card may be less robust and more prone to damage during handling.
4	<p>Colour & Monochrome Versions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colour and monochrome versions of the same image are likely to be considered identical unless the artistic treatment differs significantly
5	<p>Same Title, Different Authors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Images with the same title, submitted by different authors, are treated as distinct images
6	<p>Image Manipulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manipulated images are welcome in all sections except Nature, provided the manipulation is carried out by the author
7	<p>Nature vs. Open Section</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature rules apply strictly to images in the Nature section. However, pictorial composites are permitted in the Open section
8	<p>Representation at the PAGB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubs invited to represent the L&CPU at the PAGB are not obliged to accept the invitation
9	<p>AI-Generated Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI generated images, whether partially or entirely created by AI, are not permitted. However AI tools may be used for selection or enhancement of an image
10	<p>L&CPU Publicity Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By entering, authors grant the L&CPU the right to display digital versions of their images in L&CPU publicity materials, including the L&CPU website and Focal Points
11	<p>Author Accreditations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The competition software allows up to 3 accreditations per author. Enter accreditations in the following order: RPS, PAGB, and then any others
12	<p>Trophy Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winning clubs are responsible for returning trophies in good condition and in a timely manner for the following year's competition

Awards

Club of the year	Grand total from all 5 categories In the event of a draw those clubs will share the trophy	The French Cup
PDI Club of the Year	Result is calculated by the total scores of all images entered in each category	Top two highest scoring clubs will be invited to PAGB PDI championship
Print Club of the Year	Result is calculated by the total scores of all images entered in each category	Top two highest scoring clubs will be invited to PAGB Print championship
Category Awards		
PDI – open		The Greenall Rose Bowl
PDI - nature		The Birkenhead Centenary Tray
Print – open colour		The Appleby Cup
Print – open mono		The Tansley Memorial Shield
Print – open nature		The Crowther Cox Cup