



ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

SCOTLAND

## ■ RPS Scotland Monthly Competition Rules (2025–2026)

The following rules have been updated to ensure that the monthly competitions are fair, transparent, and enjoyable for everyone. These rules are not intended to put anyone off entering — they are simply in place to provide clarity and safeguard both participants and organisers. We warmly encourage all members to take part, share their creativity, and enjoy the spirit of friendly competition.

### Eligibility

- This competition is open to current RPS Scotland members only.
- All votes will be checked against the RPS Scotland membership list. Any votes from non-members will be deleted.
- Entrants must be 18 years or older. Entrants under 18 must have the consent of a parent or guardian.

### Annual Prize

- The annual competition period runs from 1 August 2025 at 00:01 until 31 July 2026 at 23:59.
- At the end of this period, the member who has accrued the most points for their images will be declared the winner and will receive a £100 Amazon Gift Card.
- The winner will be notified by email within 72 hours. Please ensure your email address is up to date on your RPS profile and that you have opted in to receive emails from us.
- If we are unable to contact the winner after three attempts, the prize may be forfeited.
- The prize is non-transferable and there is no cash alternative.

### How to Enter

- Entry is free.
- One image per member per month. Entries must be submitted by the named member only and cannot be transferred.
- The monthly competition subject is set by the RPS Scotland Web Officer and the Events & Engagement Officer.
- Email your entry to [scotlandweb@rps.org](mailto:scotlandweb@rps.org). You will receive an acknowledgment email.
- Images must be:

- 1000px wide (height can vary) – resize to 1000px x [your proportional height] (NOT [height] x 1000px).
- JPEG format only.
- Named as: Image Title.jpg (do not use camera filenames).
- Maximum file size: 5MB.
- Entries must not contain watermarks, borders, or identifying marks.
- An image may not be entered in more than one monthly competition.

## Content Standards

- Entries must be suitable for a general audience and must not contain NSFW (Not Safe For Work) content, including but not limited to nudity, sexually explicit material, graphic violence, or offensive/derogatory imagery.
- AI-generated images (fully or partially created using Artificial Intelligence tools such as MidJourney, DALL-E, etc.) are not permitted. All entries must be the original work of the submitting photographer.
- Plagiarism and copyright infringement are strictly prohibited. Entrants must hold the copyright for all elements of their submitted image(s). Use of third-party images, stock photography, or work copied from another photographer will result in disqualification.
- Model release: Unless otherwise notified, it is assumed that all identifiable models featured in submitted images have signed an appropriate model release form permitting the image to be used for the competition and for RPS Scotland publicity (website, Facebook, newsletter). Responsibility for obtaining releases rests with the entrant.
- Image editing: Standard adjustments (cropping, exposure, colour balance, sharpening, dust spot removal) are allowed.
- Composites and major adjustments are permitted within reason, including the removal of people or objects, or blending multiple exposures.
- However, edits must respect the spirit of photography. Entries that rely on excessive digital creation, such as full AI generation, fabricated scenes, or heavy manipulation that no longer represents a photograph, are not permitted.
- Any image deemed inappropriate or in breach of these rules by the RPS Scotland committee will be disqualified.
- Any breach of these rules will result in immediate disqualification and removal of points awarded.
- The committee's decision on suitability is final.

## Copyright & Usage Rights

- Entrants retain full copyright over their images.
- By entering, members grant RPS Scotland a non-exclusive licence to use their submitted images for the purposes of administering and promoting the competition (website, social media, newsletter, exhibition).
- By entering, members consent to their personal details being used for competition administration in line with RPS GDPR policies.
- Competition entry data will be retained only for the duration of the competition year and then deleted.

## Competition Timeline (each month)

- Entries: Open from 00:01 on the 1st of each month. Entries must be received in the [scotlandweb@rps.org](mailto:scotlandweb@rps.org) inbox by 23:59 on the 23rd of the month. Late entries WILL NOT be accepted.

- Voting: Opens on the 24th of each month via the RPS Scotland Facebook page.
- ■ Please note: as all member mailings must now be issued via RPS HQ, there may be a short delay in the voting email being sent if the 24th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a bank holiday in England.
- Results published: Shortly after voting closes, results will be posted on the RPS Scotland Facebook group and website.
- All dates and times stated are for the United Kingdom (GMT).

## **Voting Process**

- An email with the voting link will be sent to members (via RPS HQ) around the 24th of each month.
- The same link will also be posted in the RPS Scotland Facebook group.
- Only votes from verified RPS Scotland members will be counted.
- In the event of a tie, the Scotland Web Officer will cast the deciding vote.

## **Showcasing Winners**

- Monthly winners and runners-up 1st place up to and including 3rd place will have their images showcased on the RPS Scotland Facebook group and website.

## **Liability**

- RPS Scotland accepts no responsibility for entries not received due to technical issues (e.g., email errors, internet outages, file corruption).
- Proof of sending does not constitute proof of receipt.
- Entrants are solely responsible for ensuring their entries comply with these rules.

## **Conduct & Final Authority**

- Entrants must participate in the competition in the spirit of fair play. Any entrant whose conduct is deemed to bring the competition into disrepute may be disqualified.
- The RPS Scotland committee reserves the right not to award a prize if no suitable entry is received.
- The RPS Scotland committee reserves the right to amend these rules if necessary to ensure fairness or compliance with law.
- The RPS Scotland committee reserves the right to make the final decision in all matters relating to the competition.
- No correspondence will be entered into regarding results or judging.

## **Where to Enter / More Information**

- Full details and entry link are available on the RPS Scotland website:
- <https://rps.org/regions/scotland/scotland-monthly-competition>