

Schedule of Classes for Photographic Competition

1. A view of an area (landscape or habitat) showing orchids in their natural environment, print size up to 7x5 inches.
2. A group of orchids containing at least three flower spikes. These can be all the same species/hybrid or a mixed group, print size up to 7x5 inches (see Rule 10).
3. A single orchid spike, print size up to 7x5 inches (see Rule 11).
4. A close-up of an orchid, showing one or more entire inflorescence(s), print size up to 7x5 inches.
5. A close-up of an orchid showing part of an inflorescence, print size up to 7x5 inches.
6. A view of an area (landscape or habitat) showing orchids in their natural environment, print size up to A4.
7. A group of orchids containing at least three flower spikes. These can be all the same species/hybrid or a mixed group, print size up to A4 (see Rule 10).
8. A single orchid spike, print size up to A4 (see Rule 11).
9. A close-up of an orchid, showing one or more entire inflorescence(s), print size up to A4
10. A close-up of an orchid showing part of an inflorescence, print size up to A4.
11. A view of an area (landscape or habitat) showing orchids in their natural environment, in jpeg form.
12. A group of orchids containing at least three flower spikes. These can be all the same species/hybrid or a mixed group, in jpeg form (see Rule 10).
13. A single orchid spike, in jpeg form (see Rule 11).
14. A close-up of an orchid, showing one or more entire inflorescence(s), in jpeg form.
15. A close-up of an orchid showing part of an inflorescence, in jpeg form.
16. Novice class, any hardy orchid print, size up to A4 (see Rule 12).
17. Novice class, any hardy orchid in JPEG form (see Rule 12).
18. A hardy orchid subject that has been manipulated creatively using any advanced software technique to create an artistic image, print size up to A4.
19. A hardy orchid subject that has been manipulated creatively using any advanced software technique to create an artistic image, in JPEG form.

Members entering any print classes must send jpegs of their prints to the Photographic Competition Organiser. Members will receive details of the arrangements for this in the email acknowledging notification of their entries.

Photographic Competition Rules

It is important that orchids and orchid sites are not damaged by HOS members. Please take extra care when photographing orchids and other plants. Heavy fines may be imposed if plants are damaged.

1. Judging is based on the quality of the pictures, not on the rarity of the plants.
2. Plants may be wild or cultivated, but only 'hardy' plants are acceptable.
3. Members must inform the Photographic Competition Organiser, in advance, which print classes they are entering. Contact details of the Organiser, and deadline dates for entry, will be notified well in advance in the Journal and on the website.
4. Each member may enter one picture only in each Class.
5. Pictures entered previously in HOS competitions are not permitted.
6. All entries for any class must be photographed within the current or preceding calendar year.
7. The name of the member entering a print must appear on the back only.
8. Each print must be accompanied by a small title note naming the plant and providing any information of interest to members. The print must be unmounted and placed in a plastic sleeve; it is the responsibility of the member entering the photograph to supply the plastic sleeve. The title note must either be in the sleeve with the print or stuck firmly on the outside of the plastic sleeve so that it is clearly visible when the print is displayed. The sleeve is essential for protection while on display and to ensure that the title and the photograph are not separated – entries without it will not be accepted. This applies to prints brought to the Show and those posted to the Organiser in advance. Sleeves will not be supplied by the Organiser for postal entries or at the show.
9. For entrants who cannot attend the meeting, the Organiser will accept postal entries (prints) by the deadline date. Prints cannot be returned by post unless an sae is provided. Members can collect their prints at the end of the meeting or arrange for someone else to do this for them. The Organiser will bring all uncollected prints to subsequent meetings up to and including the meeting when the next year's Photographic Competition is held. Members may collect them from the Organiser at any of these meetings.
10. When a class states 'a group of orchids', the picture must include the point where the stem or leaves is/are first visible above the ground, or surrounding vegetation, to the top of the plant.
11. When a class states 'a single orchid spike', the picture must include the point where the stem or leaves is/are first visible above the ground, or surrounding vegetation, to the top of the plant.
12. For Classes 16 and 17, a Novice is defined as an HOS Member who has never been placed First in any class in any HOS Photographic Competition.
13. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the story of the picture, are permitted including HDR, focus stacking, dodging/burning, and **limited** manipulation to remove distracting items. Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise, and film scratches, are allowed. All allowed adjustments must appear natural. Stitched images are not permitted. Colour images can be converted to greyscale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct-captures or derivations, are not allowed.
14. For Classes 11 to 15, 17 and 19 jpeg images should be emailed to the Organiser with your name and contact details. Name each image with your name and the class in which it is entered, Orchid name and location. For large images use a file transfer service ([Contact the organiser if you need details on how to do this](#)). Contact details of the Organiser and deadline dates for entry will be notified well in advance in the Journal and on the website.