

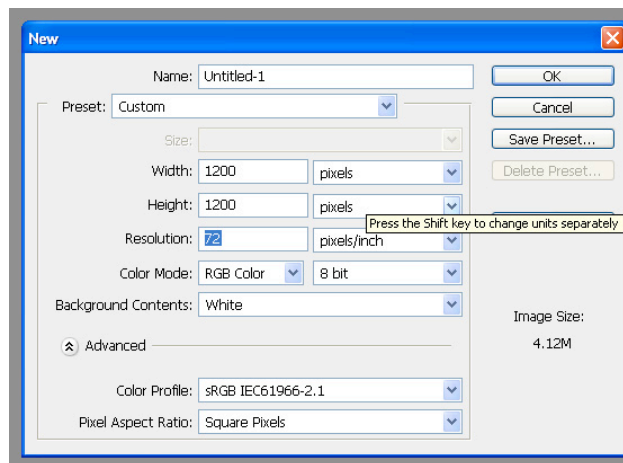
# Guidelines and rules for the Annual competition

The competition will be judged in two stages. The first stage will be judged as a digital entry only. No prints will be accepted at this stage. Anyone shooting on film must submit a scanned digital file. Up to ten images in each category will be chosen by the judges to proceed to the print stage. The judges will then choose three prints in each category to be awarded First, Second or Third and up to seven Merits

## First Stage: Digital entries

The files must be written to CD as individual images and not put into any subfolders. The CD must be labelled Annual Competition 2010 with the photographer's name and membership number of the BIPP or MPA (Bipp membership number if member of both).

All files must be on a 1200 x 1200 pixel canvas at 72dpi in sRGB mode and saved as a Jpeg. See below for how to create the canvas in Photoshop.



The background of the canvas must be either Black, white or grey and the whole image must be in the centre of the canvas and touch at least two sides (ie top and bottom or left and right, not offset on another background). Panoramic images are allowed providing they touch two sides. This will provide the judges with consistent sized images whether landscape or portrait format.



All digital files must be labelled as follows:

Initials of category in which it is entered, entry number (three digits) and the last four digits of the author's membership number of the BIPP or MPA.

Each detail must be separated by an underscore. Please use lower case throughout. The membership number is to provide a degree of anonymity from the judges without the need to strip out names from the files.

Eg cw\_001\_4567 (this identifies the image has been taken by member 4567 entered into the Creative Wedding category and is their first entry in that category). ***The photographer's details must not be included in the metadata.***

## Competition categories

(Codes for labelling images in bold)

Classical Wedding ( <b>tw</b> )	Traditional, more formal in nature ( <i>please note the code is <b>tw</b> and not <b>cw</b> which is used for Creative Wedding</i> ).
Reportage Wedding ( <b>rw</b> )	Capturing the moment, wedding photojournalism and informal documentary images.
Creative Wedding ( <b>cw</b> )	Artistic, avant garde images. Creative imagery pushing the boundaries of professional wedding photography.
Wedding Album	Albums will be judged on the night of the print hand in. A digital version of the album is required so the entries can be displayed on the website along with all other categories. Albums will not be accepted without a digital entry.
Environmental Portrait ( <b>ep</b> )	Images placing the subject in their environment.
Studio Portrait ( <b>sp</b> )	Portraits taken in a photographic studio or a recreated setting to emulate a typical studio setup.
Under 5s Portrait ( <b>u5</b> )	The child must be under 5 when the photograph was taken. Adults and other children can be included in the picture, however, the under 5 must be the main subject.
Pets Portrait ( <b>pp</b> )	Pets captured (with or without their owners) in a studio or in the environment.
Creative Portrait ( <b>cp</b> )	Artistic, avant garde images. Creative imagery pushing the boundaries of professional portrait photography.
Advertising & Commercial ( <b>ac</b> )	Advertising & general commercial images.
Industrial & Scientific ( <b>is</b> )	Industrial, Scientific & Medical images.
Architectural ( <b>ar</b> )	Architectural images.
Fashion & Beauty ( <b>fb</b> )	Fashion and beauty images
Press & Events ( <b>pe</b> )	Press, Sports, Events & PR images.
Fine Art & Pictorial ( <b>fa</b> )	Landscapes, Illustrative, Pictorial & Fine Art images.

**NB** It is the photographer's responsibility to ensure the labelling is correct as entries cannot be moved to other categories after submission. The judges will be asked to judge the image as per the category in which it was entered.

**PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES**  
**Wednesday 10th February 2010.**

**Second stage: Print entries**

At this stage the judges will be looking at print quality and presentation. They will choose three images in each category to receive either Gold, Silver or Bronze awards. All prints must be mounted on 20" x 16" board and the background or mount may be any colour. The print must be at least 10" on one side and can be positioned anywhere on the mount. All prints must be titled and a completed entry form attached to the back. No other information (previous entry forms for other competitions etc) may appear on the back. The overall thickness of the board and mount must not exceed 5mm. The prints from each category will be displayed at the Gala dinner in April.

**Rules of entry**

- It is the photographer's responsibility to ensure all the appropriate criteria for entry are met, forms filled out correctly and entry fee paid.
- An entrance fee must be paid for every image submitted.
- The same image may be entered in more than one category providing the fee has been paid for each category. It must have the appropriate file title with the appropriate code attached for each section
- All work must have been taken by the photographer named on the file label.
- All entries must have been taken within the last two years.
- No entry is allowed if it has been entered into any previous North West Annual competition.
- All entries in any of the wedding categories must be taken at an actual wedding and not staged before or recreated after the event. The entrant must have been the official photographer or assistant at the wedding.
- There is no maximum number of entries a photographer can submit in any category.
- All prints must be mounted on 20" x 16" board and follow the guidelines above.
- Wedding albums must not display any reference to the photographer or the studio.
- Any entries not complying with the rules will be disqualified and the entry fee will not be returned.

**PLEASE NOTE ALTHOUGH MANY OF THE RULES HAVE REMAINED THE SAME AS PREVIOUS YEARS THERE ARE SOME CHANGES. IT IS EVERY ENTRANT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO READ AND FOLLOW ALL RULES.**