



Lincolnshire Photographic Association

Print Battles

Rules

General Rules:

1. The competition consists of three preliminary rounds and a county final. The rounds are determined when the competition is drawn
2. Each preliminary round will typically consist of three clubs. Typically, this will include a club hosting the round and then travelling to two other clubs
3. The three rounds are held as follows:
 - a. 1st Round in May
 - b. 2nd Round in June
 - c. 3rd Round in July

The competition organiser will allow rounds outside their respective months in exceptional circumstances.

4. Where there are insufficient clubs in the competition to have three clubs in each home round, the competition organiser will either:
 - a. Add no more than one extra club to another home round, making a maximum of four clubs [preferred] or;
 - b. Will request that the clubs involved agree between themselves which club will host a home round for a second time
5. Each club entry shall consist of 16 prints, 15 for the competition and one tie-breaker. The tie-breaker is only needed at the county final. A tie is permitted during the preliminary rounds.
6. Each author is limited to 4 prints; the tie-breaker does not count toward this limit (updated for 2026)
7. Each print is marked out of a maximum of 20 points, and there is no limit to the number of 20-point prints per club per round
8. Clubs marks are added together to form an overall score that will determine if the club is invited to the final, e.g.
 - i. Home Round 1 = 264
 - ii. Home Round 2 = 215
 - iii. Home Round 3 = 245
 - iv. Total Home Round Score = 724
9. Where a club fails to attend an event through unforeseen circumstances, they will be awarded 0 points for that round
10. The final held in October will consist of the six clubs gaining the highest points from all three home rounds. In the event of a tie, the organiser, after consultation with the officers, will present to the LPA Delegates Committee in August one or more proposals for them to vote upon
11. The organiser will book the judge for the final, who will always be from outside Lincolnshire. No judge is permitted to judge the final without a 4-year clear gap from a previous Battles final.

LINCOLNSHIRE PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION: **BATTLES COMPETITION RULES**

Rules for Authors:

1. Images must be solely of the author's work and must not include any work from external sources (downloadable or AI-generated elements, etc). Where an image is in question, the onus shall fall upon the author to prove its authenticity
2. If authors are members of more than one club, they can only represent one club in this competition in a given year
3. No images previously entered into an LPA Print Battles or LPA Interclub PDI competition may be entered. Where authors have changed clubs, this point continues to apply
4. There are no restrictions on subject category, and an author's combined entry is limited to a maximum of 3 images (colour or mono), four where an author's image is to be used as the tie-breaker image
5. All images are required to:
 - a. Be printed with a maximum paper size of A3 (420 mm x 297 mm); there is no minimum size
 - b. Be mounted in a 500 x 400mm mount
 - c. Be backed by a mount card, to a similar size to that of the mount (with a minimum length of 450 x 330 mm), regardless of paper size. This is to prevent damage to other images when they are stacked during the preliminary rounds and the final (e.g. the mount making contact with the image beneath and causing damage to others' work)
 - d. No loose tape or rough edges again to prevent damage to other entries
 - e. Masking tape and parcel tape are not permitted
 - f. Surface mounting is not permitted
 - g. To have a label on the back, detailing clearly:
 - i. Competition Name
 - ii. Club Name
 - iii. Author
 - iv. Print Title
 - h. The label is to be placed at the top of the image to aid the presenter during the competition to know which way you wish your image to be displayed
 - i. No information is permitted on the front of the mount or image
6. Failure to abide by these rules will lead to the disqualification of the offending entries

LINCOLNSHIRE PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION: **BATTLES COMPETITION RULES**

Rules for Clubs:

1. The host club is responsible for arranging the date and venue for their respective home rounds as detailed during the competition draw. It is recommended that the host club consider other clubs' "club nights" when setting their date.
2. The host club is responsible for sourcing a judge for their home round event as soon as possible after the draw:
 - a. Judges are only permitted to judge more than one home round, providing that the competition organiser has granted permission.
 - b. Please check all home rounds to ensure the judge does not judge the same print twice, i.e. does not judge the same club twice.
 - c. LPA Judges whose club is competing in the overall competition are permitted to judge home rounds, provided that they are not judging their club or a club that their club is directly competing against in a home round at any point in the draw.
3. The host club must notify the competition organiser of the date and judge of their home round as soon as possible after the draw so that the LPA Website can be updated to alert other clubs to the judges being used
4. The host club must complete the entry form and submit it to the competition organiser no later than 23:59 on 30th April. The date and time will be determined by the timestamp on the email, not the date entered on the entry form

However, should any entry form be received:

- a. On the 1st of May, a 30-point deduction will be made from that club's final score
 - b. On the 2nd of May, a 60-point deduction will be made to that club's final score
 - c. On the 3rd of May, a 90-point deduction will be made to that club's final score
 - d. Beyond this date, the club will be removed from the competition
5. Entries may not be amended after the 30th April without the approval of the LPA President in conjunction with the competition organiser
6. If a host club is no longer able to participate in the competition after the draw is made, they should notify the competition organisers with immediate effect, who will then consult with the LPA committee to amend the draw to ensure the remaining clubs can continue with as little disruption as possible
7. The host club should advise visiting clubs of:
 - a. The date & time of the competition
 - b. The judge involved
 - c. The location of the competition
 - d. Any special requirements
8. The host club is required during their home round to:
 - a. Ensure that all the 'rules for the authors' have been complied with
 - b. Ensure that the whole title is read out when the print is displayed; it is appreciated that it is not always possible to put the full title on the score sheet due to size limitations
 - c. The judge must not view any prints until all entries have been accepted and sorted into the running order. An official is present when the judge has a preview of the prints to ensure that the judge does not view the rear of the print. If a judge requires the title during the preview, this can then be given by the host club verbally
9. Once the home round has been held, the host club needs to email the competition organisers the results within seven days

Rules effective from: August 2024 (updated November 2025)