

Here are the Photo Judging Criteria in full:-

-Technical Excellence-

The technical aspect of any photo for such a competition has to be of a very high standard.

• Composition

How clear is the core subject or message of the picture?

Is the photographer mindful of the classical rule of thirds, Lazy 'S', or golden ratio? If not, was this intentional and did it work artistically?

Was there a deliberate breaking of the rules for artistic effect?

Is it free of extraneous detail?

Has it been properly framed/cropped?

• Position

Did the photographer make best use of their position?

Absence of anachronistic detail. It is all too easy in LARP photography to accidentally include or even not notice the car park in the background of a shot that is obviously meant to be of the Dark Ages etc.

Did the subjects have their backs to the camera that would have otherwise produced a better shot if it was in a different position.

Was the camera so positioned for a deliberate artistic effect? If so did it work?

Use of unusual perspective?

• Lighting

Was the photo taken with lighting in mind.

Was it simply a case of shooting someone in great kit in bright sunlight or would contre-jour have worked better?

Was the photographer mindful and creative with what light was available?

Was the shot taken in extremely difficult lighting or an action shot taken in low light?

• Timing

Was the timing of the shot the best, or would it have been better if the second curtain had closed a bit earlier, or later?

Could it have been improved by having been taken at a different time of day such as dawn or dusk?

• Exposure and Focus

Is the photo in focus where it needs to be?

If the focus is on a blade of grass, with the character blurred in the background that is fine as long as this was the artistic intention. If the point of focus is in the hairline and NOT the dominant eye of a portrait then possibly NOT?

Is there over or under exposure and does it work to help achieve the desired effect?

Is the photo free of clipping?

-Overall impression-

Looking at the overall visual impact of the picture

• Tells a story

How well does the picture communicate the scene?

How much is left to the imagination?

Has the photographer captured an iconic moment or focused on an otherwise overlooked detail?

• Creativity

Is it presenting something unique?

Is there something out of place? Was the inclusion deliberate? If so, did this work artistically?

Has the photographer found an unusual perspective or used an interesting juxtaposition of subjects?

• Captures emotion

Does the photo stimulate any emotional response from you the viewer?

Does this empower or contradict what was trying to be achieved.

• Difficulty

Was it a challenging shot (e.g. heavy rain, low light, fast moving subject)?

Kudos to the photographer if they pull off a great shot in demanding, or challenging circumstances! Although subsidiary to artistic result, the challenge or difficulty of the shot would be a deciding factor in the event of two shots that were otherwise the same but at different times/conditions.

Each category has a potential 10 points, making a total of 90.

The highest scoring photograph is the winner. In the event of a tie, the head judge has the casting vote.