

## Helpful Hints

### Judges opinions

I know that some of you do not always agree with judge's decisions and want to discuss your images with that judge. Unfortunately this is usually not possible when the Projected Images are judged Long Distance. On P.I comp. evenings we can have a bit of fun and interject with our comments . Also our members can tell us their thoughts about images which is a wonderful teaching / learning experience.

When the prints are judged on site the judge can be asked by the photographer **WHY?** Most judges are happy to explain their reasons for the way they have assessed your image.

Do not forget that if your image, in one judge's opinion, is not worth an Honour or a Merit, and you believe that it **is** a worthy image, you can enter in another competition and get a second opinion.

If you want to **always** have a discussion with a judge about your images, only enter prints, and then you can get the nitty-gritty from the judge on the night.

Judges are human and have their own *subjective* opinions about photography. It is **very difficult** to remain *objective* which is the reason that big Nationals and Internationals (and many clubs end of year judgments) will have 3 to 5 judges giving their opinions. The totals of their points awarded are added together to give a fair assessment of each image's value.

We are *very lucky* to have good judges available to do on- site and long distance judging. At HBPC we have had many judges who have guided us forward with their comments.

Most judges show respect to each image; it may be a first attempt and not photographed "well". However, in every image there is a positive element and this must be "built upon" with comments which will teach and not offend.

I do distance PI and Print judging and it requires time and much thought. Often there is an excellent image which grabs your eye immediately and requires very little comment, then at the other end of the spectrum, there is an image which needs assistance; a kind and guiding word may help the novice photographer take a better image next time.

All that I am really saying is "it is not as easy as it looks"

**Remember, it is only a game and like football, the umpire, who is not infallible, calls the tune.**

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