

Presenting prints at club level (& beyond) ref HPC1 8/11/21

I have prepared these notes based on my experience at Horley Photographic Club, Chris.

Competitions

Rules: Note them – *especially* min and max size of the mount. (make up paper templates to check) – it is so disappointing if entries are rejected because of this rule.

Printing options (local shops see end)

Home: Very good results are with the inks and paper of the printer manufacturer.

When choosing a printer consider what thickness of paper you intend to use & range of inks.

(I have a Canon MG7750 6 inks A4 max. Papers I use: A4 Fotospeed 270-285 gsm thick

Print papers to try at the start...

Colour prints	Glossy.
Mono prints - Black & White	Lustre
Sepia	Matt(e) or lustre.

Tip: Run test / print-head maintenance regularly – especially if printer idle for weeks.

Internet: Club favourite is DS Colour Labs Ltd (DSCL - see Suppliers p2) for colour, mono etc. Note the postage costs - economically best to send many off together – organised members send away during the summer.

Materials

Mounts: – Firm Card / pre-cut frames / polystyrene (up for debate! -not SPA)

1. Mount board card thickness to be self-supporting as they are presented vertically on racks.

2. Mount board colour is first governed by the print. White – often ice white – board is a good starting point. If the edge of the print has a lot of white, be careful there is a distinction between the print and the mount. Cream is probably the next popular (great for sepia prints) then (rarely) black & others. A non-white colour may clash with colour in the print.

Tools: Cutting block, craft knife, cutting mat, steel ruler, tape (double-sided sticky/masking), spray glue.

Equipment: Buy a folder/case big enough for the largest mount you'd use (see border below)- for most comps to take a mountboard 505x400. larger mounts allowed for the panel.

Print display

Border: It's relative to the size of the print. Don't make it too small – a general rule is to leave at least a 2.5cm border all round: some have about 6cm for a A4 print and 9cm at the bottom (so 450 x 335 overall mount). A “postbox” display may suit a landscape print that is long and thin on board orientated as portrait – make the top and the side borders all equal. ctd

Print display ctd

Fixing: I use double-sided (ds) tape and masking tape. ds tape for mounting a print to front of the card; masking for mounting a print from the back to a frame with a pre-cut opening. Tapes are least likely to stick to something else (eg me), and one can re-use a lot more. However, I am aware that sometimes I can see the profile of the double-sided tape.

Next is the stickier option – spray glue to fix the print to the front. An (almost) non-reusable method ideal for archiving and probably for presenting at higher levels (Spa/SWPP comps). Tip: I use an old ice-cream stick to spread the glue evenly around. **Make sure it's dry.**

Labelling

Club rules: on reverse, top left, clearly print the title, author's name and, if required, level eg Preliminary) so our club secretary/scorers & displayer can read it (often in the half-light). To use the mount again one can use a secure self-adhesive label but **not a "post-it"**- they fall off.

Printing at local shops:

Boots and Tesco offer printing in-store either eg memory stick etc or online to that shop.

Boots have CEWE Photostations at Horley, Redhill Belfry & Crawley County Mall

Tesco, Three Bridges has "Max Spielman" photoshop in-house

Others AD Photolab, 50 Station Road (where Jessops was) Redhill

Framed" Redhill Belfry upstairs adjacent to M&S (do large panoramas & frames)

Park Cameras Burgess Hill

Printing online: (take note of postage costs)

DS Colour labs DSCL www.dscolourlabs.co.uk

Tools suppliers locally: A4 paper cutter – Rymans & Wilko, Redhill Wilko

Mount suppliers:

Local A0 thick card (single-sided) at Hobbycraft (County Oak)

Internet www.firstcall-photographic.co.uk sell a wide range. A popular choice is to buy 20"x16" (505 x 400) white one side/cream the other. Sold in packs of 10.

Print paper

Internet www.fotospeed.com are hard to beat price-wise & quick delivery

Printing inks Internet www.premier-ink.co.uk are hard to beat price-wise & delivery.

General local suppliers Hobbycraft (County Oak), PCW, Rymans (Redhill), "The Works" (Redhill & Crawley), South of Cowfold

Please let me know if any information becomes outdated, thanks.