



DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES FOR TANDRIDGE PS NATURAL HISTORY COMPETITIONS (September 2008)

A natural history photograph is one which depicts living, untamed animals, uncultivated plants in a natural habitat, geology and the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs.

Photographs of animals which are domesticated, caged or under any form of restraint, as well as photographs of cultivated plants, are ineligible. Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for nature subjects, such as barn owls or storks adapting to an environment modified by humans, or hurricanes or tidal waves, reclaiming it.

The original image must have been taken by the photographer.

Any manipulation or modification to the original image must be limited to minor retouching, and must not alter the content of the original scene.

The final image must have been produced from a single negative, transparency or digital image, and must not be a combination of images.

Entrants are requested to give the full English or Latin scientific name of the species shown. With geological pictures, entrants are requested to describe the type and location of the subject. A descriptive sub-heading can be added if desired.

The club relies on the integrity of entrants to keep within the spirit of the competition as above.

Recent research has blurred the distinction between plants and animals. In most cases plants are sedentary, and animals move, but there are a few exceptions. Fortunately, most of the organisms which do not easily fit into either plant or animal categories are microscopic.

Tandridge PS will have three categories:

PLANTS

All flowering plants, eg duckweed, oak trees, buttercups, grasses.
Conifers et al, eg fir trees, ginkgoes, cycads.
Ferns, clubmosses, mosses, hornworts, liverworts, green algae,
filamentous and seaweeds.

ANIMALS

Chordates - mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, lancelets, sea squirts.

Ambulacarians - starfish, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, acorn worms etc.

Arthropods - insects, arachnids (eg spiders, scorpions, ticks, mites), minipods

(centipedes, millipedes), crustacean (inc woodlice, crabs, lobsters, barnacles (sedentary)).

Molluscs - slugs, snails, bivalves, squid, octopi.

Segmented worms - earthworms, lugworms, etc.

Other worms, eg flatworms, roundworms, etc

Cnidarians - jellyfish, sea anemones, corals, hydra(sedentary). Bryozoans.

Comb jellies, sponges (sedentary)

OTHERS

Geological formations, icebergs plus other natural phenomena.

All microscopic life forms, including rotifers, placozoans, plus aggregates of small forms, viz algal blooms, stromatolites.

This definition prepared by John Nathan & Nick Withers June 2008 and based on the definition extracted from FIAP (Federation International de l'Art Photographique) and PSA (Photographic Society of America) definitions, after consultation with the Nature Group of the Royal Photographic Society.