

HORSHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

POINTS TO CONSIDER WHEN PLANNING PANELS FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS

A SUMMARY OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS ON 25.01.2023

1. What is a panel?

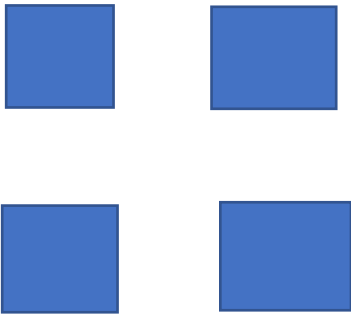
It isn't a random selection of images. The images need to be connected in some way. For example, a subject; a theme; an event; a place; a sequence telling a story. To facilitate awareness of potential panels consider archiving images by subject, theme etc

2. Layout

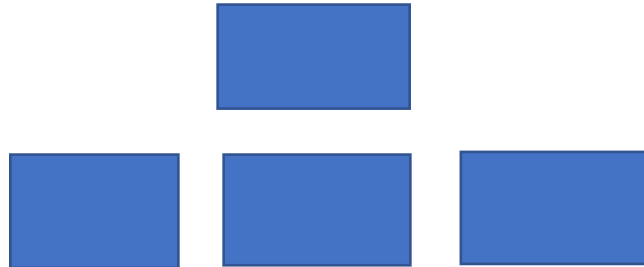
With a panel of 4 there are possibilities other than a straight row of four. Here are two examples.

Images in a panel don't have to be 4 separate mounts. You can place all images on one mountboard and this works particularly well with four prints.

(1)



(2)



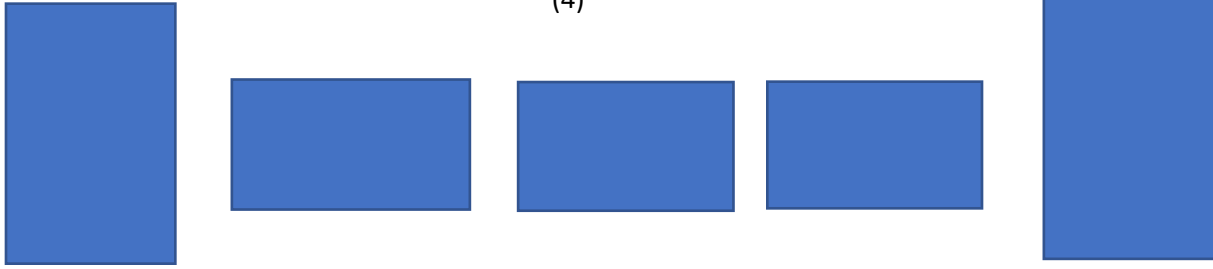
3. Panels are about cohesion & balance. Make sure your layout is balanced. With a panel of 4 avoid layouts like (3) below. There's nothing to stop you presenting a panel like this but often a judge will criticise it as unbalanced. The general advice is that however many images you have in a panel try to avoid have an imbalance of orientation. In a panel of four you could have 2 portraits & 2 landscapes. In a panel of five you could have one portrait in the middle with two landscapes either side, Alternatively, a portrait at each end with 3 landscapes in the middle, and so on! The layout of (4) shows an example.

You can mix black & white images with colour but again, balance them and avoid one odd one out if possible

(3)



(4)



4. Sometimes your subject provides enough cohesion. However often something in addition will help cohesion. Consideration of colour palette is an example. Look at this across your panel. If the colours don't complement each other or one stands out as very different, think again. Panel (5) below demonstrates complimentary colours.

5. If a panel is black & white ensure balanced contrast and check tonality in skies.

6. Avoid having one image which in any way , not just colour, makes it stand out from the others.

7. End or corner images should be like bookends. If the image /subject is upright it can be placed anywhere. If it is directional in any way then left hand images should point inwards towards the right and vice versa. Subjects should not point out of the image. It's acceptable to reverse/flip an image to achieve this aspect of balance but beware if your image is a subject that observers will recognise and know that in reality it's the other way round (!) or includes text. The panel below (5) is an example: if the end images were swapped it wouldn't work.

(5)

