

RSPB Fairburn Ings Photographic Competition

2012/13 Rules

1. The title of the RSPB Fairburn Ings Photographic Competition 2012 is “The Nature of Fairburn Ings”.
2. The theme of this competition is open to **individual interpretation** but entries must have the countryside or the natural world at their heart. The RSPB’s decision as to the eligibility of individual photographs will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
3. For the purposes of the competition there will be **two age groups**, up to 16 years of age and over 16. Entrants whose 16th birthday falls before the closing date of (16/02/2013) will be considered as over 16.
4. Photographs entered **must be taken in or of RSPB Fairburn Ings**.
5. Photos must have been taken between 01 Jan 2012 and the competition closing date.
6. Entrants can submit up to **three** photos in total. These can be submitted via our Flickr group page, <http://www.flickr.com/groups/2081516@N25/>
7. Entrants **must** supply the following information with their entries
 1. Their name,
 2. Contact telephone number and/or email address
 3. Date of birth (if to be considered for the under 16 category)
8. This competition closes at **midnight on 16/02/2013**. Entries received after this date will not be considered.
9. The RSPB will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering the scheme and all personal information will be destroyed after the event.
10. Unsuccessful entrants will not be contacted and no feedback on any entry will be provided.
11. Images may be digitally enhanced to remove spots or scratches, but not manipulated. Entrants can enhance the picture to make it brighter, clearer etc, but not manipulate the content. RSPB Fairburn Ings and its judges reserve the right to exclude any image they believe may have been excessively treated so as to alter its authenticity.
12. Entrants must not be professional photographers and, for the purposes of this competition, a professional photographer will be considered to be someone who makes more than half their annual income from the sale of their photographs.
13. All photographs will be judged on the following criteria: **Composition, Technical ability, and Originality**.
14. The photographs will be judged through the following process:

Stage One

A panel of 3 judges will review all the entries and select the 12 best for each age group based on the above criteria.

Stage Two – The Public Vote

All 24 photographs selected during stage one will be displayed in the ‘RSPB Fairburn Ings Photographic Competition Exhibition’ which will be displayed at RSPB Fairburn Ings for one month and open to all visitors entering the reserve. The public will be asked to vote on their favourite image out of all stage two.

The image with the most public votes in each age group will be announced as ‘Best in Competition’.

15. The prizes will be awarded as follows:

Prize	Over 16	Under 16
Best in competition	A half day photography tuition with local wildlife photography expert Paul Miguel	A half day photography tuition with local wildlife photography expert Paul Miguel
First runner up	RSPB Guide to Digital Wildlife Photography book and first runner up certificate	RSPB Guide to Digital Wildlife Photography book and first runner up certificate
Second runner up	RSPB Guide to Digital Wildlife Photography book and second runner up certificate	RSPB Guide to Digital Wildlife Photography book and second runner up certificate

16. In the event of evidence of impropriety with regard to the public vote, the judges shall have the final decision. If the public vote results in a tie, the judges shall have the casting vote. The judges' decisions will be final and no correspondence can be entered into.
17. All entries must be the original work of the entrant and must not infringe the rights of any other party. The entrants must be the sole owner of copyright in all photographs entered and must have obtained permission of any people featured in the entries or their parents/guardians if children under 16 are featured. Further, entrants must not have breached any laws when taking their photographs.
18. Prior to submission, entrants must not have offered any of their entries for sale, been paid for any publication of any of their entries or won or been a runner up in any other photographic competition with any of their entries.
19. Entrants will retain copyright in the photographs that they submit to the RSPB. By entering the competition all entrants grant to the RSPB the right to publish and exhibit their photographs in print, on their respective websites or in any other media. No fees will be payable for any of the above uses. Entrants whose photographs are one of the finalists also agree to take part in post-competition publicity. We will make every effort to credit photographers when using images for these purposes. The RSPB will not make any direct income from competition images or give images to any third party.
20. Employees of the RSPB are not eligible to enter.
21. These rules are governed by the laws of England and Wales. This competition is administered by the RSPB.
22. If the winner is unable to be contacted after reasonable attempts have been made; the RSPB reserves the right to either offer the prize to a runner up, or to re-offer the prize in any future competition.
23. By entering, entrants will be deemed to have agreed to be bound by these rules and the RSPB reserves the right to exclude any entry from the competition at any time and in its absolute discretion if the RSPB has reason to believe that an entrant has breached these rules.