



RAILWAY PHILATELIC GROUP

COMPETITION RULES



The RPG will run Competitions annually on the following topics, subject to there being sufficient entries:

Subject Specific Competitions (sixteen A4 pages or equivalent)

Railway Postal History: including TPOs, RSOs, Station marks etc.

Railway Stamps: Parcel, Newspaper, Letter (old-style & modern)

Railway Thematics

Doncaster Cup

Turner Jackson Cup

Malin Cup

Open Postal Competition (nine A4 pages or equivalent)

Any railway philatelic subject

Ewen Trophy

The Darlington Trophy may also be awarded by the President to any member who has served Railway Philately in an exemplary manner, either within the RPG or in a wider public context.

Rules - Competitions

1. All RPG Competitions are open to all members of the RPG only.
2. There is currently no Entry Fee for competitions, but the Executive Committee reserve the right to raise of such a fee should it be felt necessary.
3. Competitions will normally be held at the Annual Convention (unless otherwise advised by the Committee).
4. **Subject Specific Competitions:** entries will be mounted on **sixteen A4 sheets** (or similar), preferably enclosed in a protective cover. The first of these sheets must be an Introductory Sheet (see *Guidelines for Preparing Competition Entries*). **Actual railway philatelic items** should be used in the display, and photocopies are only allowed in a limited number of illustrations. Some latitude will be exercised in regards to oversize items (i.e. larger than an A4 sheet) - contact the Competition Organiser for guidance. All the material used in the entry must be the bone fide property of the competitor. Entrants must notify the Competition Organiser of their entry at least one week in advance of the Convention.
5. **Open Postal Competition:** The Postal Competition is intended to be more informal, relaxed, and easier to prepare. An entry should tell a railway philatelic story. Each entry must be mounted on **nine A4 sheets**, preferably enclosed in a protective cover. The first of these sheets must be an Introductory Sheet (see *Guidelines for Preparing Competition Entries*). **Photocopies or scans** should be used instead of actual railway philatelic material. Entrants must post their entries to the Competition Organiser at least one week in advance of the Convention.
6. RPG members may submit as many entries as they wish, but the same entry may not be entered in more than one competition.

7. The preparation of a competition entry must be the work of the competitor.
8. The name of the Competitor **shall not appear** on the Exhibit, **nor be made obvious** from the material in the entry. The Competitor's identity will not be made known until after the judging has been completed.
9. A previous Competition winner will not be eligible to submit the same entry in a later RPG competition without substantial alteration or additional material added to the display which substantially alters its presentation.
10. Entries should be sent or handed to the Competition Organiser. Entrants are advised to send entries which contain original railway philatelic items by Recorded Delivery or Registered Post, or to deliver them by hand on the day of the Competition. Entrants who wish for their exhibits to be returned by post shall pay the Recorded Delivery or Registration Fee and first class postage.

For further information about RPG Competitions please contact the 2019 Competition Organiser:

Mr Terry Davies, 69 Bruce Road, Kidderminster, DY10 2TY

11. Whilst all reasonable steps will be taken by the organisers of the RPG Competitions to protect the property of exhibitors, it is the sole responsibility of the entrant to insure such property against loss or damage - in transit to the Competition, during the Competition, or on return from the Competition, wherever it is held.

Rules - Trophies

12. Trophies listed above will be awarded to the winner of the appropriate Competition. The cost of suitable engraving of trophies will be met by the RPG.
13. The President (or other Officer) shall present the trophies to the owners of the winning entries at the venue where the Competitions are held.
14. Trophies will be held for one year by the winner. Holders will be responsible for the safety and safe return of trophies. Trophies must be returned to the Competition Organiser by suitably safe means **before** the next Competition.
15. Because of the risks associated with sending trophies by post, trophies will not be posted to a winner who is not present at the Competitions.

Rules - Judging

16. Judges will be appointed by the Executive Committee and will ensure that the Rules and Criteria are strictly observed. See *Judging Criteria for Competition Entries*.
17. The Judge's decision shall be **final**.
18. If there is only one entry for a Competition, the appropriate trophy will be awarded (or not) at the discretion of the President and the Judges.

End of Competition Rules