THE CHILTERNS ASSOCIATION OF CAMERA CLUBS

www.thecacc.org.uk

Digital Projection Sample Image Set

Arising from a discussion at the CACC AGM in March 2014, the Committee decided to create a Sample Image Set to be made available to Clubs for the purpose of reviewing digital projection systems.

Clubs own a variety of projectors, and CACC has issued advice about the setup of digital projection systems. Part of that advice is that Club members should view a range of typical images before signing off a system for their use. However, that does not ensure that all projection systems at all Clubs will perform identically.

Club members, most likely the Competitions Secretary and a few others, may become aware that their system and that at another Club perform slightly differently when they visit for an inter-Club event. The assumption by a visiting Club may be that their host's system is not set up correctly and that, as visitors, they are disadvantaged: that cannot be true.

- A difference in performance between two systems is not proof that one (or indeed either) is correct.
- If members at Club 'X' have been tuning their images for their own projector, then that alone implies that the projection system at Club 'X' needs attention.
- Whatever the setup of a digital projection system, the host and guest Clubs' images will be managed identically at an inter-Club event.

The people most widely experienced at seeing different projection systems at work are visiting judges. An experienced judge should notice any significant issue with a projection system, should evaluate the images as if the issue was not present and should not discriminate between images because of a projection issue. As an example. If all the images during a runthrough show blown highlights, then that may be a projection issue. But, if only some of the images show blown highlights, then that is an issue with those images. Whether the judge later comments privately to the host Club is a matter of discretion.

To assist judges and Club members, CACC has collated a Sample Image Set which can be used widely by Clubs. Judges should then be able to see the same images on many systems, and have a better idea of local projection setup. The images have been chosen as a collection to challenge features of projection systems, such as highlights, contrast and colour. While there may be subjective opinions on such issues, the test is whether all these images appear entirely 'plausible' on projection.

The CACC Sample Image Set is not usable to calibrate/profile a projection system. Nor would it be enough images for a Club to show its members before signing off the setup. The purpose of the Sample Image Set is to be a small selection of images which can be viewed repeatedly and across many systems, particularly as a reference point for judges.

Clubs can incorporate these images for easy display within their competition software (depending on facilities). Eg, Dicentra: create a dummy competition; ICPro: replace the images in the Demo set.

CACC is grateful to the authors who have allowed their images to be used for this purpose. All the images are credited, and the authors retain copyright although the images may be freely distributed for the purpose stated here, and are likely to be shown many times.

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