

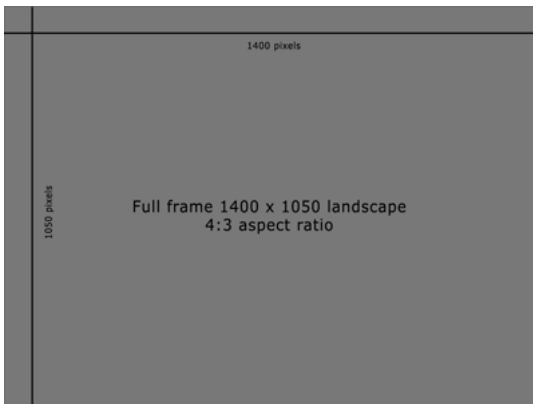
## Technical Guidance for Photographers

This competition requires that photographers supply a high-quality jpeg image, saved in the sRGB colour space, at a size not exceeding 1400 x 1050 pixels (or as specified for that year's competition).

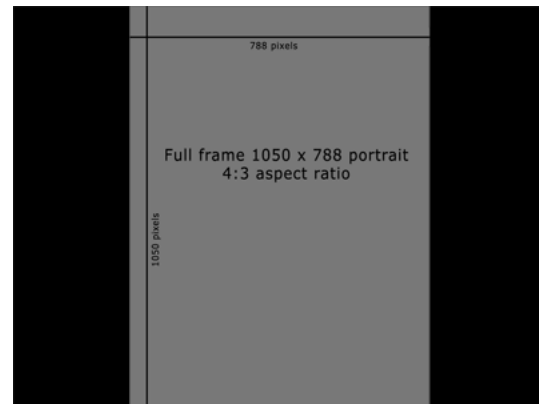
This Guidance Note will help you to ensure that you are able to resize your images in the optimum way.

### *Image Dimensions*

Firstly what does 1400 x 1050 mean?



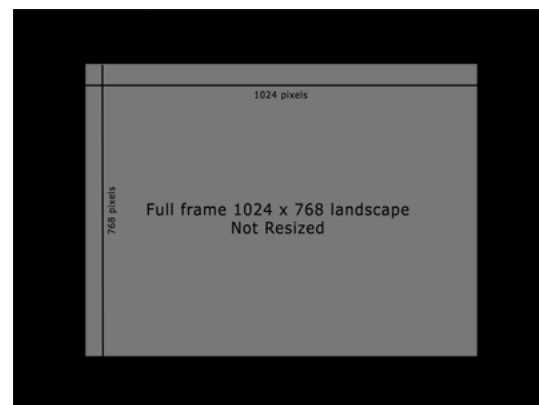
**1) 1400 x 1050 4:3 landscape**



**2) 768 x 1050 portrait**



**3) 1400 x 937 3:2 landscape**



**4) 1024 x 768 landscape**

These diagrams show four variations of image size and how they will appear when projected at 1400 x 1050.

In diagram 1, a 'landscape' image must be 1400 pixels wide max X 1050 high max. If your camera shoots in a 4:3 aspect ratio, then your full-frame image will resize to 1400 x 1050 with proportions unchanged.

## SxPF Projected Digital Image (PDI) Competitions

In diagram 2, a 'portrait' image must be 1050 pixels high max X less than 1400 wide. A full-frame 4:3 image will resize to 788 wide X 1050 high. By the same token a square format image would need to be 1050 max on all sides.

In diagram 3, a 3:2 'landscape' image, which is native to some cameras and 35mm scans, should be 1400 pixels wide X 937 high. Other crops, panorama and letterboxes should be 1400 wide max by less than 1050 high.

In diagram 4, a 1024 by 768 is shown as it will appear.

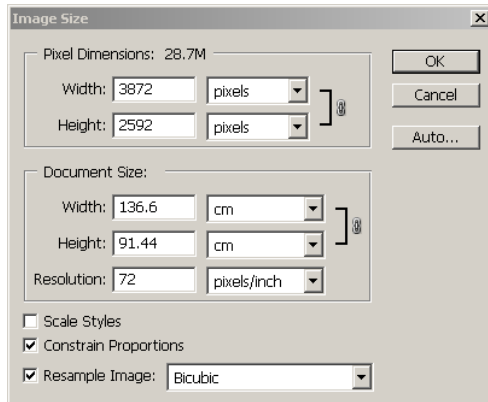
### ***Resizing – First Principles***

- 1) You should always ensure that you maintain a full-sized version of your finished image in your files, whether that be in uncompressed form (Tiff or PSD) or jpeg.
- 2) When you save a jpeg image, you should save it at a low-compression or high-quality of 10 or greater, unless you are saving a small version for display on the web or email, in which case between 6 and 8 will suffice.
- 3) Every time you open, alter and save a jpeg, further compression takes place leading eventually to a degraded image. Therefore, you should make a separate copy from your original for every purpose. This means saving multiple versions at different sizes for club competitions, prints, web display etc.
- 4) If you have an image that you have projected before in club competition with smaller dimensions, e.g. 1024 x 768, DO NOT attempt to increase the dimensions. Your photo editing software will allow you to upsize an original image. However, upsizing a jpeg that is already small will result in a significant loss of quality.

## ***Saving your Image for Competition - Steps***

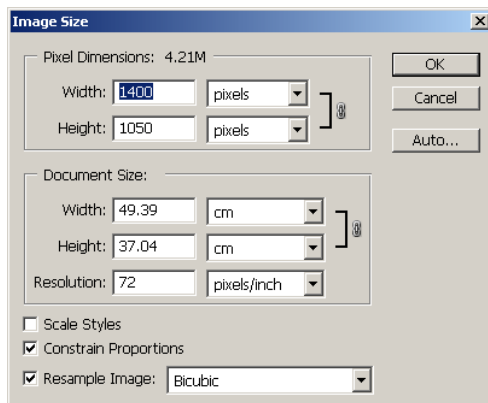
Note that these steps show the dialogs in Adobe Photoshop CS2. Your editing software will be the same in principle and similar in operation.

1. Open your original image
2. Choose Image | Image Size from the menu bar. You will see this dialog



Make sure that Constrain Proportions is initially checked and Resample Image is set to Bicubic.

3. If you are working with a 'landscape' image – any image where the width is greater than the height - select and change the Pixel Dimensions: Width to 1400.



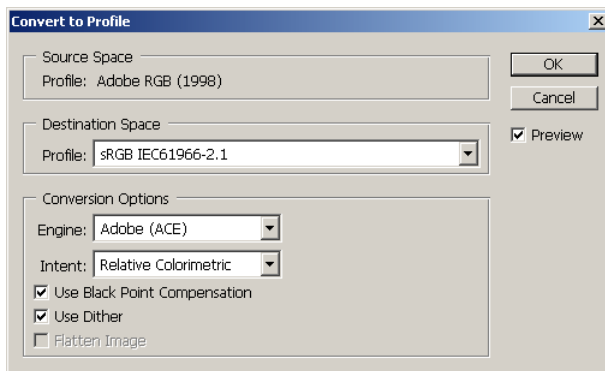
With Constrain Proportions checked, you will see that the Pixel Dimensions: Height follows automatically and proportionally, in this case to 1050.

Note: Resolution is relevant only to print, not to projection, and most display devices will not display more than 72 pixels/inch.

## SxPF Projected Digital Image (PDI) Competitions

4. If after step 3 the Pixel Dimensions: Height is greater than 1050, cancel the operation and repeat step 3, this time setting the Pixel Dimensions: Height to 1050 and let the width follow proportionally.
5. If you are working with a 'portrait' image – any image where the height is greater than the width, or a square format image, follow step 3 but select and change the Pixel Dimensions: Height to 1050. With Constrain Proportions checked, you will see that the Pixel Dimensions: Width follows automatically and proportionally.
6. Click the OK button to complete the resize process.
7. It is generally recommended that the Adobe RGB colour space is used in camera and throughout your workflow to print. However, display on the web and in other display devices often gives better results with the sRGB colour space.

To check, select Edit | Convert to Profile ... from the menu bar and you will see this dialog:



If the Source Space reads sRGB ... you may hit the Cancel button. If it reads anything other than sRGB ... then select the dropdown menu in the Destination Space box, choose sRGB and hit OK. In either case then proceed to step 8.

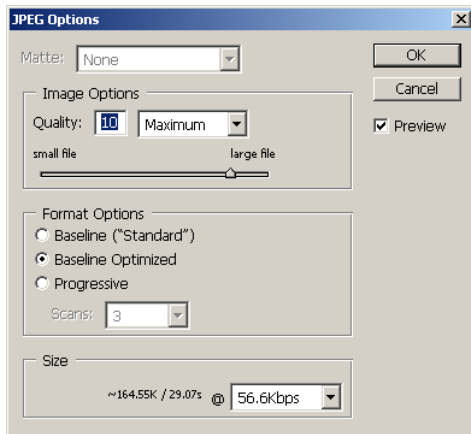
8. Now select File | Save As ... from the menu bar. You will be asked where to save the image and to give it a new file name.

It is recommended to follow a naming convention, but everyone will have their own preference for this. Simply ensure that you are consistent, and that you can recognise that this new copy derives from your original.

My example would be to add the size as a suffix to my catalogue number: 2009\_203075-1400.

## SxPF Projected Digital Image (PDI) Competitions

9. Click OK and you will see this dialog:



In Image Options, choose Quality 10 or higher. And in Format Options, choose 'Baseline Optimized', though there is little difference between the two Baseline methods.

### ***Other Important Principles***

**Colour:** to get the best out of your digital images for projection, indeed for any display, you are advised to use a monitor that has been correctly calibrated for colour, brightness and contrast. Clubs are also advised to use a calibrated display, either a monitor or projector, when selecting images.

**Contrast:** check carefully for contrast, especially in blacks and highlights. Contrast problems in an image, especially in whites, are usually heightened by projection, however well calibrated the projector is.

**Sharpening:** Again, over sharpening will be amplified by projection and is one of the most common faults in digital imaging. Take care not to over-sharpen.