

Using DiCentra for Multi-Judge Competitions



DiCentra Application Note 2

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imaging

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DiCentra Version: 3.5.76 or later

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1. Introduction

New features have been added to *DiCentra* recently to deal with competitions that have between 2 and 5 judges, and where they select images and then mark all those selected. This note describes the *DiCentra* features that support this.

For some time now, *DiCentra* has supported marking of competitions and exhibitions by three judges (Triple Judging) using a judging machine. In that case judges record a mark of 2 to 5 and the total is recorded.

In the new *Multi-Judge* marking scheme, any suitable range of marks can be used by the judges, their marks are recorded, accumulated by *DiCentra* and can be reported in the usual way.

This application note discusses how a multi-judge competition might be run, in particular:

- **Rules:** Choosing rules options is discussed in Section 2.
- **Loading Entries and Making the Competition:** These are the same as for any normal competition, and are not discussed further in this note.
- **Judges' Preview:** It is sometimes necessary to provide a set of images for the judges to preview on their own machine. This is discussed in Section 3.
- **Selecting Shortlists of Images:** If some or all of the judges make their selections from this preview, the selection(s) can be entered before the competition. This is discussed in Section 4. Judges' selections can also be made when the images are shown to the audience. This is also discussed in Section 4.
- **Marking Images:** Adding marks to selected images, correcting them and identifying incomplete marking are described in Section 5.
- **Reports:** These are virtually the same as for other competitions and are not discussed further.

Although the document may appear long it does contain step by step procedures in most cases.

Note: The terms *judge* and *selector* are used interchangeably in this document as the same procedures can be used for a competition or an exhibition/salon.

2. Rules

Multi-judge competitions can be of any type: club, inter-club or all-comers. The only real distinction is in the *Marking Scheme*.

Marking Scheme

The **Mark Scheme** on the Scoring tab must be set to *Multi-judge*. A drop-down labelled **Judges** will then appear and the number of judges between 2 and 5 can be selected. See A in the figure.

Individual judges' marks will later be recorded and accumulated. All marks will be displayed on the screen, but only the total mark will be available for navigation and ranking in reports.

The screenshot shows the 'Rules' dialog box with the following details:

- Comp name: Test MJ
- Comp type: Club competition
- Comp date: 13 October 2008
- Closing date: 13 October 2008
- Images | Folder/Files | Scoring (selected)
- Enter details of the scoring that will be used at the competition.
- RANDOMISE: Every Round
- Mark Scheme: MultiJudge (circled in red with 'A')
- Judges: 3 (circled in red with 'A')
- Min Mark: 1
- Max Mark: 20
- Half Marks?:
- Tie Break: (none)
- Auto Certs: for marks better or equal to (circled in red with 'B')
- Auto Certs dropdown menu (circled in red with 'B') showing values: 60, 59, 58, 57, 56
- Buttons: Save, Cancel

Auto Certificates

With the **Auto Certificates** option selected, images scoring above a certain total mark to be awarded a certificate automatically. For multi-judge competitions, the drop-down selector provides a list of the top 5 possible marks. See B in the figure.

3. Judges' Preview

Once the competition has been made using **Setup > Make Competition** the order of presentation is fixed and it is possible to produce a blank scoresheet and/or to extract a folder of suitably named images for preview by the judges.

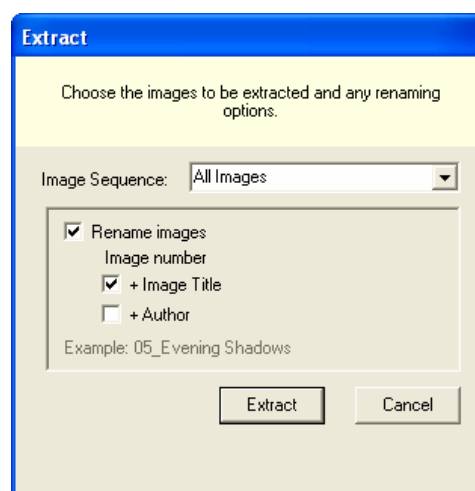
Blank Scoresheet

This is produced in the usual way using **File > Reports > Printable Reports** and selecting **Blank Scoresheet**.

Judges' Preview

To extract a folder of the competition images named with the competition sequence numbers and optionally their titles, proceed as follows:

1. Create an empty folder to contain your images, for example, *For Judges*.
2. Click on **Competition > Extract Images ...**
3. The dialogue shown here will appear
4. Ensure that *All Images* is selected as the sequence.
5. You will need to select **Rename Images** and possibly **+ Image Title**.
6. Clicking on **Extract** will cause *DiCentra* to ask where you would like your folder of images placed. Choose the *For Judges* folder you created earlier.



It will actually create two folders: one called *Images* and the other called *Thumbnails*. The *Images* folder contains JPEG images at the maximum size you specified in the rules. The *Thumbnails* folder contains JPEG images with a maximum size of 160 x 160 pixels.

File Preview: You may wish to write the *Images* folder to CD to send to the judges for preview using *Windows Explorer* or *Adobe Bridge*, etc. If the judges have it, *Bridge* is very convenient, because they can get a colour-managed presentation of the *Images* folder using the slide show feature (**ctrl-L**), as well as being able to flag images of interest using the **1-5 keys**. Setting the rating of the first image to zero (or 1-5) causes its name and rating to be shown. Thereafter, as each image is displayed, its filename and rating will also be shown.

Web Preview: Alternatively, you may want to publish the preview on your web site. Various applications can take a folder of images and produce a web gallery from it. Often they will limit the maximum size of the images to about 500 pixels to provide space for thumbnails and to avoid having to scroll within the browser. Photoshop's **File > Automate > Web Photo Gallery ...** in versions before CS3 was like this. Even though the same command in CS3 now allows larger images, the user may need to scroll either the whole browser window or the gallery's image window if a large size is chosen. This is not particularly good for reviewing competition images!

4. Selecting Shortlists of Images

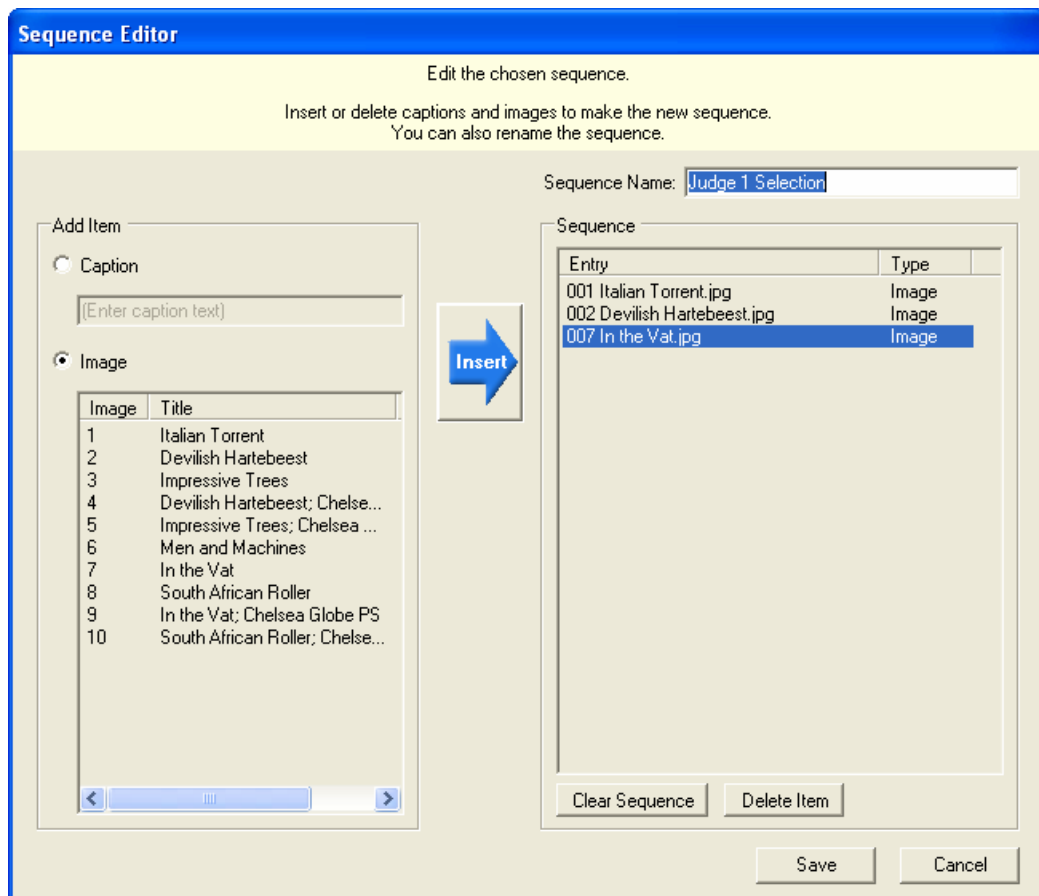
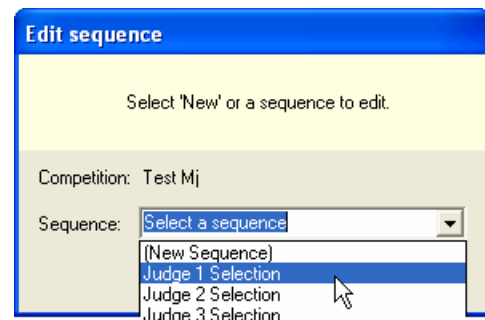
If a number of images are to be selected by each judge to form a shortlist of those to be marked, this can be done prior to display and marking, when the images are projected, or a mixture of the two. *Pre-Selection* below, deals with recording a judge's selection before the images are displayed to the audience. *Selecting While Presenting* deals with selection by one or more of the judges in front of the audience.

When the competition is made, a number of sequences are automatically created corresponding to the selection of each of the judges. Thus a three judge competition would have the sequences: *Judge 1 Selection*, *Judge 2 Selection* and *Judge 3 Selection*. Initially, these have no images selected.

Pre-Selection

To enter the selection for one of the judges before the images are shown, proceed as follows:

1. Click on **Competition > Edit Sequence** to open the dialogue
2. Select the sequence for the relevant judge, for example, *Judge 1 Selection* and click **Edit**
3. You will now be presented with a dialogue showing all the image numbers, titles and authors for the competition, as shown below. Note: It is possible to see the authors' names in this dialogue, so it you might want to enter the selection away from the judges.



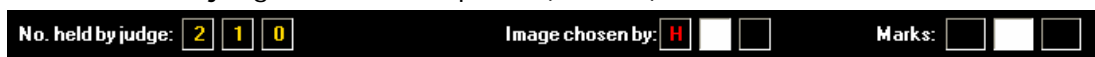
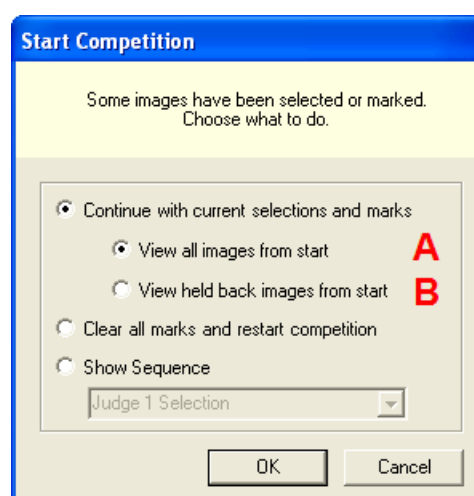
4. To add selected items, **highlight the entry** in the left hand column by clicking it and then click on **Insert**. Several entries can be selected simultaneously by holding down the control key and clicking each before clicking **Insert**. **Double clicking on an entry** in the left-hand table will also cause it to be added to the selected sequence.
5. If you mistakenly add an image to the sequence, just highlight it and click on the **Delete Item** button.
6. Once all selected images have been added to the right hand panel, click **Save**.

If necessary, repeat for any of the other judges by updating their sequence. Note: You do not need to complete all (or any) of the judges' selections at this stage. Further selections or modifications to the selections can be made during the presentation to the audience.

Selecting While Presenting

Judges can make their selection in front of the audience. This is done as follows:

1. Run the competition using **Competition > RUN COMPETITION**.
2. If you have entered any selections as described above, you will be presented with the dialogue shown here.
3. If you wish to present all images or some judges still need to make their selections, select **View All Images from Start** (Option A). (Option B is only relevant if you have already entered all the judges' selection.)
4. If you did not enter any selections as described above a simpler dialogue will be shown. Just select **Start at First Image** and click **OK**.
5. When you come to an image that one of the judges wants to select (or remove from their earlier selection) momentarily press the **Ctrl** key. This will display the multi-judge information panel (*MJ Info*) shown here.



6. Typing **h** or **/** will toggle the first judge's selection, so if it was unselected, it will now be selected and vice versa. The appropriate *Image chosen by* box will change, where Judge 1 is on the left.
7. Hit the **Tab** key to move to the second or later judges. The next box in the two right hand panels (*Image chosen by* and *Marks*) will be highlighted in white. Type **h** or **/** to change their selection. As you do this the left hand panel (*No. held by judge*) will show the number of images that each judge has selected so far.

If any judge has selected an image, depending on the *Held Back Indication in Preferences*, it will either have a coloured border placed around it or have the word Held (or H) in the image information display.

Thumbnails of all selected images (however selected) will appear in the *Held Back area* at the bottom of the screen. To view them you just need to move the cursor to the bottom of the screen and they will pop up.

The Selected Sequence

When producing reports later, it can be useful to have a sequence of all the selected images. To produce such a sequence when the selections have been made:

1. **Right-click** anywhere on the screen to bring up the context menu.
2. Click on **Save Held as 'Selected'**. A new sequence will be created with the name *Selected*.
3. Beware: If you later change any judge's selection, this sequence will be incorrect so you will need to re-create it.

5. Marking Images

Once the judges' selection has been made the images need to be marked. All selected images will be flagged as held back, and unlike other *DiCentra* competitions, this flag does not get removed when the image is marked. (For this reason the terms *Held Back* and *Selected* are used here interchangeably.)

Marking Selected Images

Adding marks to the selected images can be done as follows:

1. Either:
 - a. If the judges have just finished selecting images on screen, you can view only the chosen ones by **right-clicking** anywhere on the screen and choose **View Held Back** from the context menu. A banner page with the competition name will be displayed.
 - b. If you have just used **Competition > RUN COMPETITION**, select **View held back images from start**.
2. Using the **right-arrow**, **mouse wheel** or **Enter key** move to the first/next image.
3. **Type in the mark** from the first judge. It will appear in the *MJ Info* bar and also in the main image details display. If the rules allow half marks these can be entered by typing a dot.
4. Hit the **Tab key** to move to the next judge and **type in their mark**. This will be displayed (*MJ Info*) and the accumulated total will be shown in the main image details. Repeat for all judges.
5. Certificates, and medals can be also be added with the appropriate keyboard commands.
6. Repeat from step 2 for all selected images.

Note: Avoid using the up-arrow key to get back to the first image, as this will present all images, not just those selected. To quickly get back to the first selected image use the procedure in step 1a above.

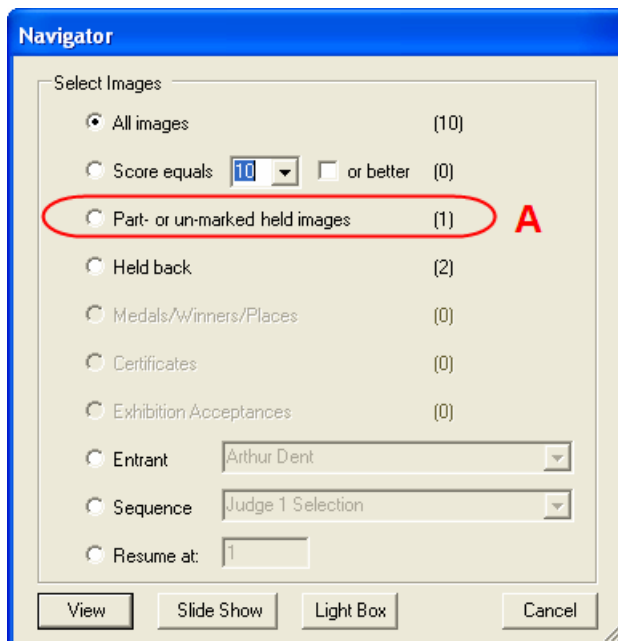
Correcting a Mark

1. Use the **left/right arrow keys** to move to the relevant image, if necessary.
2. Use the **Tab key** to highlight the mark to be corrected.
3. Hit **Delete** to delete the mark and **type in the new mark**.

Checking Marks

It is possible that some images might not be completely marked. To check for this:

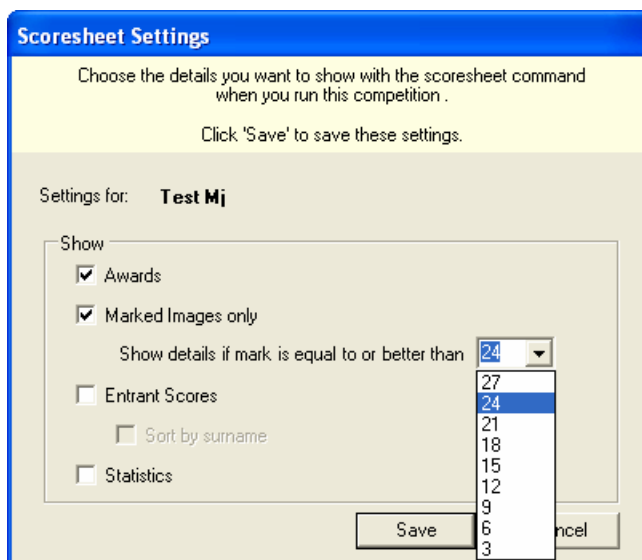
1. **Right-click** anywhere on the screen, and select **Navigator ...** from the context menu.
2. A *Navigator* dialogue similar to this will be shown.
3. If the number following *Part- or un-marked held images* is not zero, **click** its radio button.
4. Click **View** to present the offending images for amendment.



Scoresheet

The scoresheet can be presented to the audience using the keyboard **S** command while any image is being viewed or the competition title is displayed. However, it is best to do a little preparation beforehand.

1. Click on **Competition > Scoreboard Settings ...**
2. From this dialogue select the items you want to display on-screen.
3. There is probably no reason why *Entrant Scores* would be selected for a multi-judge competition, unless all images are marked.
4. Only a selection of marks is available as the threshold for display of *Marked Images*, but these should be adequate.
5. *Statistics* will show the number of selected images etc.



Printed Reports

Use **File > Reports > Printable Reports** to produce a printable report of the results. It has a similar dialogue to that for the scoresheet.