

1 COMPETITION RULES

- 1.1 The first Wednesday of each month (with the exception of January and July) shall be set aside on the Syllabus for Intra-Club competitions. These are designed to improve members' photography by encouraging them to submit photographs for assessment by nominated judges.
- 1.2 Members may submit up to two images for each of Open EDIs, Altered Reality EDIs, and Set Subject EDIs, in relevant monthly competitions. Members may submit up to Three Prints in the Open Prints section each month.
- 1.3 All entries must comply with rule 1.14.6 **Inappropriate Images**
- 1.4 All Open Prints and Open EDI entries allows both colour and monochrome prints. This section accepts all photographic subjects, but all images must appear natural and realistic (i.e. Not of the Creative or Altered Reality genre).
- 1.5 All images will be submitted to the judge(s) in their designated grades, i.e. A or B.
- 1.6 The judge(s) will be instructed to award points on each image's merits, regardless of grade.
 - 1.6.1 The judge(s), as appointed by the Competition Secretary, shall score each entry out of a maximum of 20 points. The judge shall award a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each section according to the highest scoring images.
 - 1.6.2 The judge(s) **may** award **up to** 2 merits, at their own discretion, per section/per grade as encouragement and/or appreciation of commendable effort - not necessarily according to points scored for an image.
- 1.7 Monthly Competitions Schedule:
 - 1.7.1 February, April, June, September and November shall be for:
 - i. Set Subject EDIs, Open Subject Prints and Open Subject EDIs.

1.7.2 March, May, August, October and December shall be for:
i. Altered Reality EDIs, Open Subject Prints, and Open Subject EDIs.

1.7.3 There shall not be a Monthly Competition in July due to End of Year Awards, or in January due to the Christmas break.

1.7.4 The Monthly Competition program will not include sections for slides or audio visual slideshows. Competitions for these may be scheduled at other times through the year, at the Committee's discretion.

1.8 OPEN PRINTS Competition

1.8.1 In this section, "Open" means Open Subject, and its rules may differ to other sections.

1.8.2 Ten Open Prints competitions will be held during each competition year, as per **Error! Reference source not found.**

1.8.3 The Open Prints Section allows both colour and monochrome prints. This section accepts all photographic subjects, but all images must appear natural and realistic (i.e. Not of the Creative or Altered Reality genre).

1.8.4 This section allows digital manipulation provided the content of the image appears as a natural and realistic photographic image.

- i. All parts of the image must be the photographer's own work, taken as a photograph.
- ii. Some digital manipulation is acceptable, but the image must remain realistic.
- iii. Techniques such as montage/composite images are allowed as long as the image is realistic.
- iv. Light texture is allowed so long as the image remains realistic.
- v. Intentional Camera Movement is not regarded as realistic.
- vi. Filters from Photoshop such as "Pencil Sketch" or similar filters from other software are not considered realistic.
- vii. A uniform monochrome presentation based on black or any other colour tone is regarded as realistic, but use of partial or full monochrome in limited areas of a colour print is not regarded as realistic. (e.g. "Colour popping").

1.8.5 Prints not complying with the above-mentioned conditions must be presented in the “Altered Reality” section. (If there is no Altered Reality Section in that month, the image will be rejected).

1.8.6 Prints protection:

- i. All prints must be matted, or mounted on backing card, for their own protection and also the protection of other prints that they may contact.
- ii. The total thickness of a matted print should be no more than 5mm. This includes the backing and mount board. The use of 5mm foam core is not permitted.
- iii. Refer to the Geelong Camera Club website, PRINT PRESENTATION for COMPETITIONS, on how to prepare prints for competition.

1.9 Print Sizes:

1.9.1 Maximum print size is 16 x 20 inches, including mount and matt.

1.9.2 Minimum print size is 4 x 6 inches, excluding mount and matt.

1.9.3 Minimum matt size is 8 x 10 inches.

1.10 Print Identification:

1.10.1 All prints must be labelled on the back in the manner required by the Competition Secretary, including the title of the image, the section entered and the member’s competition number, but not the member’s name, for purposes of recording and identification.

1.11 ELECTRONIC IMAGES (EDIs) Competition

1.11.1 EDIs include Open EDIs, Set Subject EDIs, and Altered Reality EDIs.

1.11.2 Open EDIs Competitions:

- i. In this section, “Open” means Open Subject, and its rules may differ to other sections.
- ii. Ten “Open” Electronic Image (EDI) competitions shall be held during the competition year, as per **Error! Reference source not found.**
- iii. The “Open” section accepts all photographic subjects, and styles.
- iv. The Open section of EDIs must follow the same rules as the Open Print section, as per 1.8.3, 1.8.4, and 1.8.5

1.11.3 Set Subject EDI Competitions:

- i. Five Set Subject EDI Competitions shall be held during the competition year, as per **Error! Reference source not found.**
- ii. “Set Subject” EDIs must have been taken within 12 months of the competition.
- iii. Set Subject EDIs must follow the rules for Open Prints and Open EDIs in that all images must appear natural and realistic (i.e. Not of the Creative or Altered Reality genre).

1.11.4 Altered Reality EDIs.

- i. There will be Five Altered Reality EDI Competitions each year, alternating monthly with the Set Subject EDIs as per **Error! Reference source not found.**
- ii. An Altered Reality Image is a fictional creative and/or composite photography genre and does not look realistic.

1.12 Competition Submissions:

1.12.1 Images shall be submitted to the Electronic Competitions by a method advised by the Competition Secretary prior to each competition. The method may include using the Club website, email or electronic medium or various combinations as so advised.

1.12.2 Format:

- i. Electronic images must be sRGB jpg images sized appropriately so that they will fit within a box of 1920 pixels wide by 1080 pixels high.
- ii. Images may display poorly if they are significantly undersized or not in the sRGB colour space.
- iii. Size: Maximum file size for internal competitions is 1.5MB.
- iv. Entrants are responsible for submitting their work in the correct size and format. Failure to do so may result in images being rejected from competition.
- v. Note: Competitions external to the Club may require different maximum image sizes and / or file sizes to be applied.

1.12.3 File Names:

When you ‘save as’ your resized image, it must be named as follows:

- i. Image Title (e.g., Mt Buffalo)
- ii. Membership # (e.g., 071)

- iii. Name of Competition (e.g., May Open EDI, Ballarat InterClub, EOY, VAPS)
- iv. Your file name should look like this:- Mt Buffalo 071 May Open EDI.jpeg (Spaces are allowed and .jpeg will be automatically added)
- v. Image file names shall comply with the above.

1.13 SLIDES Competition:

1.13.1 These are not part of the monthly competitions (from July 2012) but may be held on special night(s) each year as determined by the committee.

1.13.2 All slides must be labelled with the photographer's allocated competition number and a Title for recording and identification purposes. In addition, to ensure correct projection, a distinct spot must be placed on the slide-mount on the bottom left-hand corner when the slide is held up and viewed the correct way.

1.14 GENERAL:

1.14.1 Non-Compliance:

- i. Entries not correctly identified as in 1.10, 1.12.3 or 1.13.2 will not be accepted into competition.
- ii. If an image is deemed to not comply with the requirements of the section into which it has been entered, it will be disqualified and given 0 out of 20 points and stripped of any awards. This decision will be made by the Competition Secretary in conjunction with Committee member(s), and may be applied either pre- or post-judging.

1.14.2 Any image may be cropped to any format determined by the photographer.

1.14.3 Any image submitted for competition may be commercially processed.

1.14.4 All subject matter submitted for competition must be original work exposed by the competitor.

1.14.5 Competitors must submit metadata, raw files or negatives upon the request of the Competition Secretary and/or Committee.

1.14.6 Inappropriate Images:

The Club maintains a comfortable environment which caters for all members. Images which do not conform to this standard are not permitted. The Club recognises nude photography which expresses and uses the human form in an artistic but not suggestive way to be an acceptable photographic subject, with the following guidelines:

- i. The genitalia and pubic area must not be visible.
- ii. The image must not be suggestive or provocative.
- iii. The model must be an adult person.
- iv. Nudity of a person who might be under-age is not permitted in any context.
- v. Any submitted image which is considered to be unsuitable in any way may be rejected by the committee and/or the competition secretary.

1.15 Competition Criteria:

1.15.1 Submission Times:

- i. All entries for a monthly competition must be submitted to the Competition Secretary by the first Wednesday of the previous month, unless additional time is granted by the Competition Secretary.

1.15.2 Scores

- i. All entries for monthly competitions will be awarded point scores from 0 to 20.

1.15.3 Points Awarded:

Points for Competition entries are awarded as follows:

- i. 1st place = 5 points,
- ii. 2nd place = 4 points,
- iii. 3rd place = 3 points,
- iv. Merits = 2 points.
- v. Any other images entered = 1 point each.

1.15.4 Re-Entering Images:

Any image which:

- i. has been entered into less than a total of 3 monthly competitions across the past and previous competition year(s) combined,
- ii. *and* has not been awarded a Competition placing (1st, 2nd or 3rd) in a monthly competition in the past or previous competition year(s),
- iii. *and* has not received an Award at an End-of-Year Awards presentation,

may be re-submitted into a maximum of 3 monthly competitions in any section or in multiple sections across multiple competition years.

Any image which:

- i. is awarded a Competition placing or an End-of-Year Award must not be re-submitted into any monthly competition in any section.
- ii. Two images are regarded as being the same image if they are very similar and by the same maker, or if they are sourced from the same original exposure. An image converted to monochrome, re-cropped, with different post-exposure processing or converted between slide, print and electronic image formats is not regarded as a different image.

1.15.5 Collection of all entries after a competition is the responsibility of entrants.

1.15.6 Image Publication:

- i. Any image entered into monthly or interclub competitions may be reproduced on the Club website or in the newsletter or in the Club's Yearbook. These will not be used for any commercial purpose. A member must notify the Competition Secretary if they do not want their images, or some of their images, used in this way.

1.15.7 Interclub Use:

- ii. Any image entered into monthly competitions will be considered to be available for selection for Interclub competitions unless the maker advises the relevant Competition Secretary that they do not want this to happen.

1.15.8 Competition Rules must not be altered during the course of a competition year.

1.15.9 Any dissatisfaction or disagreement with the above-mentioned Competition Rules must be referred to the Committee, which will hear and settle any issues. (As per the Geelong Camera Club Rules).

2 ANNUAL AWARDS

2.1 To be eligible to receive any Annual Award, a member must have entered at least 3 monthly competitions during the competition year in the Open Prints and Open EDI sections in which they wish to compete for annual awards.

2.2 In applying this rule Open and Set Subject EDIs are regarded as being the same section.

2.3 To be eligible to receive an Annual Award in the Altered Reality EDI section, a member needs to enter at least two monthly competitions in this section.

2.3.1 Only the original Prints and Electronic Images that were entered in monthly competitions during the competition year are eligible for Annual Awards (i.e. they must not be modified or re-worked in any way)

2.3.2 If a Print or Electronic Image has been entered into less than 3 monthly competitions during the competition year, and has been entered into the Annual Awards competition, and has not gained any Awards or monthly Competition places, it can be entered in monthly competition in the new competition year until it is placed or has been entered an overall total of 3 times into monthly competitions. It would therefore be eligible for entry into the next Annual Awards presentation.

2.3.3 Any image entered into the Annual Awards competitions may be reproduced on the Club website or in the newsletter or in the Club's Yearbook. These will not be used for any commercial purpose. A member must notify the Club Secretary if they do not want their images, or some of their images, used in this way.

2.4 Awards

2.4.1 Photographer of the Year Awards (Aggregates) in each of the following 5 sections, are based on total points received for entries submitted during the competition year. Sections are:-

- i. A grade Prints
- ii. B grade Prints
- iii. A grade Electronic Images (Set Subject & Open Subject combined)
- iv. B grade Electronic Images (Set Subject & Open Subject combined)
- v. Altered Reality Electronic Image Photographer Of the Year.

2.4.2 The member with the most points in each section will be the winner of that section. Note: Points for Competition entries are awarded as follows:

- i. 1st place = 5 points,
- ii. 2nd place = 4 points,
- iii. 3rd place = 3 points,
- iv. Merits = 2 points.
- v. Any other images entered = 1 point each

2.4.3 The following Awards are decided by 3 judges, acting independently, who will be engaged at the end of the Competition year:

- i. Open Print Portfolio of the Year: W Porter Memorial Trophy.
 - ❖ Awarded on the basis of a folio of 6 prints, from the Open section that may be colour or monochrome or a combination of both. This Award section is not graded.
- ii. Electronic Image Portfolio of the Year: Joe Mortelliti Memorial Trophy is awarded on the basis of a folio of 6 images from the Open section and/or Set Subject. This Award section is not graded.
- iii. A Grade Print of the Year.
- iv. B Grade Print of the Year.
- v. A Grade Electronic Image of the Year. [Includes Set Subject]
- vi. B Grade Electronic Image of the Year [Includes Set Subject].
- vii. People Picture of the Year: the Ken & Audrey McKeown Memorial Award.
 - ❖ A print, electronic image of a person or people. This Award section is not graded.

- viii. Colour Landscape Print of the Year (includes Seascapes). This Award section is not graded.
- ❖ Definitions for Monthly Competitions and Annual Awards:
 - ❖ *A landscape is a photograph of natural scenery with land based elements arranged in a pictorial fashion. It may include evidence of man, people, animals, and even sea, provided that none of these additional elements dominate the photograph.*
 - ❖ *A Seascape is a photograph of natural coastal scenery, a wave study, or a picture of the open sea, provided always that the sea is the centre of interest of the photograph. People, boats, and man-made structures may be present as incidental to the photograph.*
- ix. Monochrome Print of the Year (Open Subject). This Award section is not graded.
- x. Robb Hooper Memorial Trophy for the Quirky, Humorous or Unusual - a print, electronic image. This Award section is not graded
- xi. Monochrome Landscape Print of the Year: Laurie Wilson Memorial Trophy.
- ❖ Awarded for a self-produced darkroom monochrome landscape print that the judges deem qualifies as a print of excellence: This Award may be withheld if the judges are not satisfied that there is a print of quality available. This Award section is not graded.
- xii. Nature Image of the Year - a print, electronic image. This Award section is not graded.
- ❖ Definitions of Nature for Monthly Competitions and Annual Awards:
 - ❖ *Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.*
 - ❖ *The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.*
 - ❖ *Human elements shall not be present, except where those*

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human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves.

- ❖ *Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible.*
- ❖ *Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.*
- ❖ *No techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted.*
- ❖ *Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content, or without altering the content of the original scene, are permitted including HDR, focus stacking and dodging/burning.*
- ❖ *Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise, and film scratches, are allowed.*
- ❖ *Stitched images are not permitted.*
- ❖ *All allowed adjustments must appear natural.*
- ❖ *Colour images can be converted to greyscale monochrome.*
- ❖ *Infrared images, either direct-captures or derivations, are not allowed.*
- ❖ *Nature images can have landscapes, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant (not extinct) organisms as the primary subject matter.*
- ❖ *This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.*

- 2.4.4 The following Awards are determined by the Committee of Management at the end of the Competition year, and are awarded only if the Committee deems that there are worthy recipients, based upon entries in monthly competitions:
- i. Meritorious Effort in Colour Prints: the Fred Williams Memorial Tray.
 - ii. Meritorious Effort in Black and White Prints: the Ted Rogers Memorial Tray.
 - iii. Meritorious Effort in EDI: a Perpetual Tray.
- 2.4.5 The Nick Majetic Memorial Endeavour Award is awarded by the Committee in recognition of endeavour of work photographically and for service to the Club, and is awarded only if the Committee deems there is a worthy recipient.
- 2.4.6 Participation Award for a Second Year Member. Awarded by the Committee to recognize participation in Club activities.
- 2.4.7 Clubmanship Award: the H. Potter Memorial Shield is awarded by the Club President in recognition of special service rendered to the Club by a member during the competition year.
- 2.4.8 Awards will be presented at an Annual Presentation Night to be held in July of each year.