

PORT MACQUARIE PANTHERS CAMERA CLUB Inc.

COMPETITION RULES

Revised and reformatted December 2010

ABOUT COMPETITIONS

- Purpose** To encourage members in their photographic endeavours through display, competition and judging.
- Rationale** To foster an environment which stimulates members' enthusiasm, proficiency and enjoyment of photography by encouraging them to display their work, to share their experiences and techniques and to obtain constructive comment on their output.
- Objective** To encourage members to display and improve their work by submitting images in a monthly competition as outlined in subsequent sections below, for the constructive comments of judges and fellow members.

The Rules

General

1. Competitions shall be held regularly throughout the year. The competition year commences in December and ends in November of the following year.
2. Competitions shall be held in the sections specified in Appendix 1 – Competition sections.
3. The Stewards shall be solely responsible for the implementation and the running of the competitions and shall keep accurate records of entries.

Entries and eligibility

4. Competition entries will be accepted from financial members only.
5. Members are entitled to enter two (2) images in each Section for which they are eligible.
6. Entries must originate as images captured via a light sensitive medium by the entrant.
7. By virtue of submitting an entry, the entrant certifies that the creativity in the work is entirely theirs (i.e. the capturing of the image and all alterations and creative manipulations either digitally or in the darkroom).
8. For identification purposes, all print entries must have the Section name, Image title, (maximum 25 characters, including spaces), and 3 digit member number of the author marked in the top left corner on the back of the mount.
9. Electronic images shall be uploaded to the Club's website or, if otherwise directed, submitted on portable digital media approved by the Committee.
10. Prints may be presented on any medium (e.g. paper, metal, fabric etc.) and shall be suitably mounted.
11. Images may be altered electronically or otherwise by the entrant, and artwork or computer graphics created by the entrant may be incorporated if the photographic content predominates.
12. Imported pictorial content such as "Clip Art " is unacceptable
13. The same image can not be entered in multiple sections in the same month.

14. The Stewards will examine entries for conformity with the competition rules and may reject entries that do not conform with regulations set out in Appendix 2 – Image specifications, and Appendix 3 - Eligibility criteria.

Some examples of non-conformance are: monochrome image with multiple colours; image not fitting set subject; image not correct size for the Section.

15. At the discretion of the Steward, an entry rejected by the Steward or questioned by the Steward, may be examined by two (2) other Committee members if the Steward considers his/her decision should be confirmed.
16. Should the entrant so desire, immediately after the end of the competition, the rejected entry maybe be displayed and the reasons for rejection will be stated by a Steward.

Judging, awards and prizes

17. The Stewards will appoint suitably qualified judges for the competition sections.
18. In each competition Section, a judge (or judges) may award multiple Credit and Merit certificates at their discretion, and a single Judge's Choice certificate for each competition Section. The ascending order of importance of awards is: Credit, Merit, Judge's Choice.
19. An entry that has won an award in a monthly competition can never be entered again in a monthly competition.
20. Entries not gaining an award may be re-entered a further two (2) times in competitions for a period of 12 months after the first entry. Entries may be entered in Image of the Year competition Sections whether they have gained an award or not, provided that they have been previously entered in a competition round for that competition year.
21. If a sponsor donates a monthly prize for 'top image', it will be awarded to the Judge's Choice for the nominated Section. If the sponsor does not nominate the Section that the prize applies to, the Section will be rotated in order by the Stewards. The rotation will continue uninterrupted from year to year.
22. Members are eligible to win a particular sponsor's monthly prize only once in a competition year. If a member wins further Judge's Choice awards in a Section nominated for that sponsor's monthly prize—in the same competition year—that member will choose, from the remaining Merit awards in that Section, a winner of the prize. If there are no Merit awards, the winner will be chosen from Credit awards. If there are no Credit awards, the winner will be chosen from any entry in that Section.

Deadlines

23. Print entries are required to be submitted at the first meeting of the month unless prior arrangements are made with the Stewards.
24. Electronic images are to be uploaded no later than one day after the first meeting of the month, or as otherwise indicated in the annual program.

Image of the Year competition

25. Members may enter up to three (3) images in each Section of the *Image of the Year* competition for which they are eligible.

26. Entries for *Image of the Year* sections must have previously been entered in a monthly competition for the same competition year to which the annual awards apply.
27. Any image that has been validly entered in a monthly competition round of the competition year is eligible to be entered in the *Image of the Year* competition for that year—regardless of whether or not it received an award—providing that it is entered in a Section in which it had previously been entered in that competition year.
28. Images may be re-made providing that the original image is used and the same pictorial content of the original image is used.

ANNUAL AWARDS

29. An annual presentation shall be held in January or February following the close of the competition year.
30. Awards will be presented in Sections from the results of the *Image of the Year* competition.
31. The following awards are major awards and will be judged by an independent adjudicator selected by the Stewards.
 - Top Image of the Year - any medium
 - Image of the Year -Large Monochrome Print
 - Image of the Year - Large Colour Print
 - Image of the Year - Small Print
 - Image of the Year - Electronic Image Monochrome
 - Image of the Year - Electronic Image Colour
 - Image of the Year - Novice
 - Image of the Year - Freestyle

NORTHERN ZONE ENTRIES

32. The selection of entries to represent the Club in the Northern Zone competition will be made from the awarded images in the **Image of the Year** competition.
33. Images receiving major awards in the *Image of the Year* competition will be automatically selected for Northern Zone representation.
34. The maximum number of entries allowable for a member, in a given Section in the Northern Zone competition, will be governed by the Northern Zone rules.

Appendix 1 - Competition Sections

OPEN SUBJECT

Print Images

- Large Colour
- Large Monochrome
- Small (colour & monochrome combined)
- Novice (colour & monochrome combined)

A Novice is a member who considers themselves a beginner or not proficient with the principles of photography. If a member wishes to remain a novice, they are not eligible to enter any other print sections of the competition.

Electronic images

- Colour
- Monochrome

SET SUBJECT

Print images

- Large Colour
- Large Monochrome
- Small
- Novice

Electronic images

- Colour
- Monochrome

FREESTYLE

Print images

- Colour & monochrome combined

Electronic images

- Colour & monochrome combined

Appendix 2 – Image specifications (Image sizes, mount sizes, filenames)

Large prints

- Maximum mount size 30x40cm (12"x16")
- Mount may be any shape that falls within the maximum mount size boundaries
- Print may be any size or shape that falls within the boundaries of the maximum mount size

Small prints

- Maximum mount size 20x25cm (8" x 10")
- Mount may be any shape that falls within the maximum mount size boundaries
- Maximum print size 15x20cm (6"x8")
- Print may be any size that falls within the maximum print size boundaries.
Note: A 15x20cm (6"x8") print can, therefore, be eligible to compete in Open Large Monochrome, Open Large Colour or Open Small print sections. However the same image cannot be entered into more than one section (Rule 13).

Novice prints

- Same specifications as large prints.

Freestyle prints

- Maximum size as per *Large prints*
- Maximum thickness 25mm
- The image must be mounted on cardboard—no wood etc.—and protected by packaging (e.g. cardboard box)

Electronic images

- Images shall be in JPG, PNG or GIF format
JPG format is recommended for optimum image quality
- Maximum 750 pixels in any dimension
- Maximum file size 300kb
- Filenames shall be in the following format:
 - **ImageTitle** (or identifying text) followed by **3digitMemberNumber** followed by **.jpg .png or .gif**
 - Example: AtTheBeach999.jpg or At_The_Beach_999.jpg
 - Filenames shall be made up of the following characters only: **A-Z, 0-9, _** (underscore), **-** (dash)
Note: The Club's online system may rename images with non-compliant characters in filenames

Appendix 3 – Eligibility criteria and definitions

Monochrome image

A black and white image or an image in shades of a single tone.

Colour image

A full colour image, or a partially toned image, or a monochrome image to which one or more colours have been added.

Freestyle image

The purpose of this section is the extension of conventional photography into creative art. The main image should be photographically produced and can include mixed media of any kind. It can be two or three dimensional, a collage and/or a montage.

This section should go beyond so-called experimental techniques such as use of software filters. Its purpose is to stimulate creative thoughts and engender the confidence to try new ideas beyond the simple photograph.