

GYMPIE CAMERA CLUB

COMPETITION RULES and DEFINITIONS

COMPETITION RULES

There are 9 monthly competitions in the competition year from February to November.
June is our Social Interclub and December is the End of Year competition.
The monthly competition is only open to financial members.

We use IMPACT JUDGING which means the judge has not seen any of the images until the competition night.

Members may enter a maximum total of 8 images in 2 categories.

Set subject: 2 Prints and 2 Digital

Open (including Monochrome Open): 2 Prints and 2 Digital

Digital and Printed images need to be presented in the required format.

Digital: 1920 pixels wide (maximum) and 1080 pixels high (maximum). File Size cannot exceed 2MB.
Digital images must be in SRGB colour space and JPEG format up to 300dpi.

Print: C Grade prints From 6" x 8" (15 x 20cm) up to 16" x 20" (40 x 50cm)

B & A Grade Prints From 8" x 10" (20 x 25cm) up to 16" X 20" (40 x 50cm)

No smaller or larger!

ALL Prints must be clearly labelled on the back of each print **with the label provided** on the Gympie Website (under documents) and placed at the bottom right hand corner at the back of the print.

It is compulsory for A & B Grade prints to be mounted with a Matt Board Mount (C Grade excluded). This protects your print, and also presents your print in a much more pleasing manner to the Judge. These mounts can be used over and over again by removing the print ready for the next competition night. Please take care not to leave bits of sticky material on the back of the board as this can damage other members' work.

Resubmission of an image:

An image may be resubmitted for judging in the following competition year if at its first submission it scores an acceptance. The resubmitted image can be edited with the changes recommended by the judge at the time of the first submission with a view to gaining an award score, merit or honour. This can only occur once with any given image.

Scoring:

Points for images submitted into the monthly competitions are awarded in the following manner.

Acceptance: 1

Merit: 4

Honour: 6

Merits and Honours are classed as "award" scores.

Non-Acceptance of images:

An image that does not comply with the definition of the set subject will not be accepted for the monthly competition to which it was submitted. Image/s receiving a non-acceptance will not receive any score. Image/s receiving a non-acceptance can be resubmitted in subsequent monthly competitions.

Image Ownership:

All work submitted by members for inclusion in any Clubs competitions must consist wholly of the member's own work. Every image (or images if more than one has been used in creating an entry) must have been taken by the member. No image – or part of an image – that was taken by a third party can be included as the member's own work for entries being submitted as a competition entry.

Grading:

There are 3 Grades of Competition: A: (Advanced), B: (Intermediate), C: (Beginners)

The club process of stepping up through the grades is worked on a points system. Points are gathered by your images being judged by an accredited judge in the Club Competitions only. Competition is judged once a month every month.

On joining the club, new members are usually placed in C Grade. However, if the member feels their skills are more advanced than C Grade, they are most welcome to start in B Grade.

Members must move from C Grade to B Grade in the following year on the accumulation of 100 points obtained with Honours and Merits at monthly competitions.

At the end of the year, any member in B Grade who has entered at least 50% of possible entries in one category (print or digital) at monthly competitions during the year, and achieved 20% honours with images entered, will move to A Grade.

If, after six months of competition, a member who has moved to A Grade feels that the move has not been in their best interests, or those of the club, the member may request a meeting with the Executive Committee, and with approval from that meeting, return to B Grade.

Changes, Alterations or Adjustments to the rules

The committee reserves the right to make changes, alterations or adjustments to The Rules of the Gympie Camera Club Monthly Competitions as the committee deems necessary. Notice can be given of a rule change, alteration or adjustment at any time prior to the end of the current competition year. Any changes, alterations or adjustments will come into effect at the completion of the current competition year and will be the rules for the monthly competition of subsequent competition years.

DEFINITIONS

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>DEFINITION</u>
February	Architecture (QLD INTERCLUB SUBJECT)	Pictures depicting the interior or exterior of any manmade structure portraying the surface texture, lighting, colour, or geometry and emphasising the character or beauty of the structure. People, statues and fountains may be included but not be the dominant point of the image.
March	Australia (AUSTRALIA CUP SUBJECT)	Any image that shows a flavour of life in Australia including landscapes, people, events and places including architecture, birds and animals. Images may be taken in any of Australia's territories. Entries must be a single image as captured by the camera. Images must not be 'composite images' that combine subjects or elements from different scenes – replacing a background or sky, for example. HDR, focus stacking etc that has been performed in camera is permissible.
April	Creative (QLD INTERCLUB SUBJECT)	Creative or experimental photographs display a novel effect because of an unusual combination of objects and /or unusual viewpoint. Photographs in which the images have been modified during or after exposure by using an experimental technique are also eligible in Creative/Experimental sections. The photograph must always have a basic photographic image. Digital manipulation processes may be employed provided the original photograph was exposed by the entrant. (APS definition)
May	Food Photography (QLD INTERCLUB SUBJECT)	Food photography encompasses images where food is the main or prominent element within the frame. This genre allows for the inclusion of people engaging with the food, provided that their involvement contributes to conveying a narrative.
July	Long Exposure (TEWANTIN SHIELD SUBJECT)	Long-exposure, time-exposure, or slow-shutter photography involves using a long-duration shutter speed to sharply capture the stationary elements of images while blurring, smearing, or obscuring the moving elements. Long exposure photography captures one element that conventional photography does not: an extended period of time.
August	Action (TEWANTIN SHIELD SUBJECT)	A person or people doing something in a non-leisurely manner. E.g. sport, emergency, at play or at work.
September	Against the Light	A picture in which the main source of illumination lies behind the subject as opposed to the front or sides. Such lighting does not preclude the use of a fill-in light or available light from the camera-side of the subject.
October	Bridges and Jetties	Photographing Bridges and/or Jettys, making the image appealing to the eye using good composition, leading lines etc.

November	Forced Perspective	Forced perspective is a type of optical illusion. Objects appear to be a different size or distance due to the angle they have been shot from. You can turn tiny objects into giants, or shrink buildings. A classic example of forced perspective is the tourist shot of a person 'holding' the Leaning Tower of Pisa.
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Open:

A picture of any subject which has strong pictorial appeal, i.e. good composition and lighting. Can be colour or monochrome, except where stated 'Monochrome Open' colour images will not be accepted.

Monochrome (Mono):

Black and white, sepia or images containing hues of a single colour such as green made lighter by adding white (tint) or darker by adding black (shade). Using any post processing techniques available to an image of photographic origin.

Scapes (Landscape/Seascape/Urban-City or other):

An image featuring an expansive view without any subject dominating the scene.

Landscape

A landscape is a picture of natural inland scenery. It may include houses, other evidence of man, people, animals and even part of the sea provided that none of these dominate the picture.

Seascape

A seascape is a photograph of natural costal scenery, a wave study or a picture of the open sea. People, boats and items related to these may be present as incidental items in the picture.

Urban/City/Other

The choice of subject matter can vary to offer a variety of "scapes" but it will be up to the maker to ensure that the end result is apparent to the viewer - i.e. the impact of the image will come from the subject matter chosen. A "cityscape" or "urban landscape" subject will be identifiable to the viewer.

Generally a scape could be defined as a 'vista' or a 'broad view' of the subject. There are all sorts of scapes available and can only be limited by the authors imagination!

FIAP / PSA / RPS / APS NATURE DEFINITION CHECKLIST

The updated Nature definition has been used from 1st January, 2015.

Some exhibitions/competitions may have both a Nature and a Wildlife section. While it is permissible to enter Wildlife images in the Nature section, there are additional requirements for images entered in the Wildlife section. When deciding whether or not a particular image meets the requirements of the Nature and/or Wildlife definitions you need to consider the following factors.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Anything to do with natural history (the study and description of organisms and natural objects), except anthropology or	Anything that is classified as anthropology (the study of humans) or archaeology (the

	archaeology. Subject matter must be identifiable.	study of historic or prehistoric peoples and their cultures)
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

SPECIFIC SUBJECT MATTER

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	All extant (not extinct) organisms (plants, animals, etc); landscapes, geological formations, and weather phenomena.	Human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, mounted specimens of plants and animals.
WILDLIFE	Animals, birds, insects that are free & unrestrained in a natural or adopted environment. Carcasses of extant species.	Landscapes and geological formations. Animals, birds, insects, etc that are in captivity or under controlled conditions. Botanical species under controlled conditions (such as plants growing in a hothouse).

HUMAN ELEMENTS

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Human elements that are an integral part of the nature story (such as birds nesting on a man-made structure). Scientific bands, tags or collars.	Human elements (such as buildings) that are not part of the nature story being told by the image.
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

IMAGE ALTERATIONS

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Cropping. HDR techniques. Focus stacking. Removal of dust spots, digital noise or scratches on film. Subject must be presented honestly.	Anything (such as cloning) that alters the content of the original scene by adding, moving or removing image elements. Stitching together multiple images (e.g. to create a panorama).
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

IMAGE ADJUSTMENTS

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Techniques (such as contrast adjustment) that enhance the image without changing the nature story or altering the pictorial content of the original scene. Grey-scale monochrome images.	Adjustments that change the nature story, such as turning a daylight scene into a night scene. Toned monochrome images. Infrared images.
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

NOTES

1. Images are expected to be of high technical quality.
2. The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality.

QLD INTERCLUB SUBJECTS

Nature (Upload folder available on PhotoComp site, not included in set subjects)

People (full body) (Upload folder available on PhotoComp site, not included in set subjects)

Scapes (Upload folder available on PhotoComp site, not included in set subjects)

Architecture

Food Photography

Creative

Open (Non A-Grade) (Upload folder available on PhotoComp site, not included in set subjects)

QLD INTERCLUB NATURE DEFINITION

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.

- Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.
- The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural.
- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.
- Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.
- Images taken with subjects under controlled conditions, such as zoos, are allowed.
- Controlling live subjects by chilling, anaesthetic or any other method of restricting natural movement for the purpose of a photograph is not allowed.

EDITING GUIDELINES

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion.
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene.
- Complete conversion of color images to grayscale monochrome.
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking);
- Image stitching – combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas).

Editing techniques that are not allowed:

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing.
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original

- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome.
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation
- or over-saturation of colour

SUBJECT MATTER STATEMENT

The fundamental rule that must be observed at all times is that the welfare of living creatures is more important than any photograph. This means that practices such as baiting of subjects with a living creature and removal of birds from nests, for the purpose of obtaining a photograph, are highly unethical, and such photographs are not allowed. Under no circumstances may a living creature be placed in a situation where it will be killed, injured or stressed for the purpose of obtaining a photograph. Images that show live creatures being fed to captive animals, birds or reptiles are not permitted under any circumstances. There are also concerns about the use of aerial photography, drones, helicopters, low flying aircraft. These should not cause any interference with other individuals or animals which causes a disturbance in their normal activity or disrupt the way any individuals or animals interact with their environment. Entrants must comply with all relevant laws and regulations, associated with aerial photography, in the country in which the image was taken.

(APS definition)

Wildlife photography - In addition to the restrictions on Nature photography, to be eligible for any Wildlife award images must meet the following conditions:

- (a) Zoological organisms must be living free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat of their own choosing.
- (b) Images of zoological organisms that have been removed from their natural habitat, are in any form of captivity or are being controlled by humans for the purpose of photography are not allowed.
- (c) Botanical organisms may not be removed from their natural environment for the purpose of photography.
- (d) Images that have been staged for the purpose of photography are not allowed.

QLD INTERCLUB SCAPES DEFINITION

A pictorial representation of land, sea, seashore, or urban environments that captures the aesthetic appeal of these outdoor settings. It brings the viewer into the scenery and perfectly captures the setting, mood, and feeling in the location. It can focus on wide-angle shots of landforms, rivers, estuaries, seas, seashores, city skylines, streetscapes and the like. It may also involve closer shots of features of these environments. If humans or animals are in the image, they should not be the main foci, but rather be intentionally present to give a sense of scale to the image.