

Appendix to the 2023 - 2024 Syllabus

Ballarat Camera Club - Competition Definitions

1. PHOTOGRAPH

A photograph is a visible image originating from the action of light or other forms of radiant energy upon a photosensitive medium or device.

2. MEDIA

2.1 Print (P) A photograph that is presented on an opaque surface.

2.2 Slide. (S) - A photograph that is presented on a transparent surface.

2.3 Electronic Digital Photographic Image (D) - A photograph that is presented by electronic digital means. (Commonly referred to as a Digital Image)

2.4 Audio Visual (AV) Involving or directed simultaneously at the faculties of seeing and hearing.

3 CATEGORY

3.1 Monochrome (M) - Any photograph containing shades of only one colour. If toning is carried out, it must be over the total photograph - partial toning and/or the addition of one extra colour is not acceptable as a monochrome section.

3.2 Colour (C) - Any photograph that is not monochrome. It includes a monochrome photograph that has been partially toned or had colour added.

3.3 If an exhibition does not include the category of "Monochrome" in any media, monochrome photographs shall be eligible to be entered in the colour category in that media.

4 SECTIONS

4.1 Open/Pictorial/General (CP, MP, CD) - Any subject that is treated pictorially, embodying the elements of good design, arrangement or composition, which reflects the personal interpretation of the photographer.

4.2 Nature (N) - Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archeology, 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 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. Color images can be converted to greyscale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct-captures or derivations, are not allowed. Images used in Nature Photography competitions may be divided in two classes: Nature and Wildlife.

Images entered in Nature sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above can have landscapes, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions,

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such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.

Images entered in Wildlife sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above are further defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Landscapes, geologic formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible in Wildlife sections. Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds and insects. Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species.

Wildlife images may be entered in Nature sections of Exhibitions.

4.3 Photojournalism (PJ) - Story-telling photographs such as are seen in the news media and periodicals, which may include documentary, contemporary life, illustrative, spot news or human interest. In the interest of credibility, contrived situations or photographic manipulations which alter the truth are not acceptable. The story telling value of the photograph shall be weighed more than the pictorial quality.

4.4 Photo Travel (PT) - A photograph that captures the feeling of a time and place, and portrays a land, a people or a culture in its natural state. Photo Travel has no geographical limitations. Ultra close-ups which lose their identity, studio type model pictures or obviously manipulated work do not qualify as Photo Travel and should not be submitted. Photo Travel is not limited to other lands or countries and may include pictures of domestic origin.

4.5 Creative/ (E) - 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.

4.6 Contemporary - Contemporary photographs include modern fashions in photography and exclude those that show a traditional pictorial approach. An innovative, imaginative approach is required, leading to a novel or interesting result. Documentary and experimental photographs that comply with these requirements are also eligible.

4.7 Social Documentary (SD) - Concerned with the portrayal and interpretation of society encompassing both human and non-human subject matter.

4.8 Landscape./Seascape (L) - A landscape is a photograph of natural scenery with land and sky based elements displayed in a pictorial fashion. It may include evidence of man, people, animals, even part of the 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.

4.9 People/Portrait (P) - A photograph of a person or persons that may range from a head study to full body length. This section includes candid photographs and formal portraits