



ESSENDON CAMERA CLUB Inc.

www.essendoncameraclub.org.au
Incorporated association A0026596P

Competition Rules – Revised Jan 2024

(Includes 'NON-Competitive Section'
Guidelines : point 12)

1. Competitions

1.1. Monthly

- 1.1.1. These competition rules become effective January 2024 until updated or replaced.
- 1.1.2. Monthly competitions will be in Three (3) Categories: Open DPI, Print and **Set Subject**.
- 1.1.3. The Open DPI category will be held in two (2) Levels: Intermediate and Experienced.
- 1.1.4. The Print Category will be held in two (2) formats: Standard Small / Intermediate and Experienced Large.
- 1.1.5. **The Set Subject Category will be held in two (2) formats: DPI and Print**
- 1.1.6. A member is entitled to submit a maximum of four (4) entries per monthly competition. The entries can be distributed across any three (3) categories with a maximum of four (4) entries in Open DPI or Print. **Only one entry is allowed in Set Subject (either DPI or Print). (Refer Competition Diagram)**
- 1.1.7. The competition covers all Open, Print and Set Subject categories.
- 1.1.8. A Category covers: Open DPI, Prints or **Set Subject**.
- 1.1.9. An Open DPI Level covers: Intermediate or Experienced
- 1.1.10. A Format covers: Print or DPI.

2. Eligibility

- 2.1. Only financial members may enter any competition. Non-financial members after the 28th of February will not be able to enter, nor accrue competition points towards that year's competition.
- 2.2. Camera course members are eligible to enter club competitions.

3. Categories

- 3.1.1. **A member is not to submit the same image in across any Categories or Levels in the same competition.**

3.2. Open DPI Levels - Intermediate and Experienced

- 3.2.1. A member can compete in whichever level they choose, provided that a member does not simultaneously enter both levels in any one month. A member may enter a maximum of four (4) entries into Open DPI on any competition night.

- 3.2.2. **A member can be asked to move up a competition level if the Committee and the Competition Secretary feel the member's photographic skill level and experience is above the level of competition they are currently entering. If the Competition Secretary feels a member is too advanced for the level, they shall discuss this with the member directly, explaining that the member's skill and experience show that they should be competing in a higher level. If the member disagrees, the Competition Secretary shall refer their concerns, including the outcome of discussions with the member, to the Committee and the Committee may move a motion for the member to be moved up a level. If this motion is passed, the member shall be moved up a level and the Competition Secretary and member shall be informed.**

- 3.2.3. DPI entries must conform to the standards outlined in paragraph 8.2.

3.3. **Print**

3.3.1 The print competition can be entered by any member regardless of Category or Level (Experienced or Intermediate). The competition is Open Subject and split into Two (2) formats, Standard Small / Intermediate and Experienced Large. The levels are defined as

- Standard Small / Intermediate : The purpose of this Category is to promote printing in its simplest and cheapest form to encourage members to print their photos. It is designed as the first step members can take towards printing to gain experience and knowledge in this format. Photos may be printed by any means including photo printers at retail outlets and then mounted on a simple matt board using glue or tape. **The print is restricted to a size no larger than 600 square centimetres (96 square inches) and is mounted simply onto a matt board no larger than 50cm by 40cm (20 by 16 inches) (refer to section 8.1.1 for more details).** It is a low cost, easily created print that is generally only used for one competition. This Print Category is deliberately not related to a member's level of photographic experience as it is recognised that even a very experienced photographer may be new to printing.
- Experienced Large: The purpose of this Category is for the more experienced print photographer who is most likely to create their own print and mount it themselves on high quality well prepared matt board. Whilst there is no requirement to physically print it themselves on their own printer, it is expected that the owner has played a major role in creating both the print and the mount to a high standard and reflects the current traditional method of large prints. Maximum size is limited to 50cm by 40cm (20 by 16 inches) and it is expected (but not required) to be of a larger size than the Small format. Large format prints would be expected to be used for multiple competitions both within and outside the club including interclubs. Again, this format is open to all members of any level or category although it is certainly expected they would have or be developing significant experience in the traditional print format.

3.4. **Set Subject**

3.4.1. **A member may enter a maximum of One (1) entry into the Set Subject category on any competition night.**

3.4.2. DPI entries must conform to the standards outlined in paragraph 8.2.

3.4.3. **Print entries can be in either the Standard Small / Intermediate format OR the Experienced Large format. All prints entries will be judged in the same Category (Set Subject) regardless of format. IE there is only one (1) Set Subject Print Competition.**

4. **Minimum Number of Competition Entries**

4.1. There **must be a minimum of three (3) competitors to constitute a competition.**

4.2. If there are less than three (3) competitors, images will still be critiqued by the judge without placings being awarded. A submission point will still be awarded for each entry. The competitor's images can be resubmitted in future competitions subject to the restrictions of paragraph 9.

5. Monthly Competition Scoring System

5.1. Points

5.1.1. Points counting towards the yearly aggregates will be allocated to monthly competition winners on the following basis.

- First 6 Points
- Second 5 Points
- Third 4 Points
- Fourth 3 Points
- Highly commended 2 Points (Number of HC placings is left to the judge's discretion)
- Non-winning submission 1 Point

5.2. Placings

5.2.1. If two entries are judged as being equal in a competition, then each entry will be awarded the same amount of points.

6. Submission of Entries

6.1. All Entries

6.1.1. All entries, Print and DPI, must be submitted electronically by midnight of the Saturday prior to the 4th Monday of each month.

6.1.2. Print entries must have a DPI version submitted electronically by the time outlined in 6.1.1. Prints are then to be handed to the Competition Secretary by 9:00pm on the 4th Monday of each Month.

6.1.3. DPI images are to be uploaded online using PhotoContest Pro and completing all required input fields on the competition upload page - <http://www.photocontestpro.com/Login.aspx>

6.1.4. All entries must be the original photographic work of the maker, but may be digitally enhanced. No part of the image, however small it may be, can be copied or imported from any source other than the maker's original work.

6.1.5. The Competition Secretary reserves the right to reject, from competition, entries that do not meet any or all of the criteria listed in these Competition Rules or Set Subject Definitions.

7. Identification of Entries

7.1. Prints

7.1.1. A digital copy of the print must be provided on PhotoContestPro along with the print. Use the same procedure as the DPI, as per paragraph 7.2. **Please ensure you enter the correct format of entry on PhotoContestPro.**

7.1.2. All entries must be marked on the rear of the print with the Member Number; Title; Competition; and Directional Arrow (if necessary).

Members should also indicate which format a print is to be submitted in; Standard Small OR Experienced Large.

Example: Member: 30- Winning Snap - Large ↑

7.1.3. Prints must be in good condition and mounted IAW the requirements of paragraph 8.1 depending whether the print is a Small format or a Large format.

7.1.4. DPI images of print entries must be titled with the same title as the print and in accordance with the requirements for entering DPI images. Titles that do not match may not be accepted into the competition.

7.2. DPI

7.2.1. Files must be named with a logical title on the PhotoContest Pro competition page.

Example: Winning Snap

7.2.2. Members must ensure entries are placed into the correct category and level. Images entered into the incorrect Category, Level or **Set Subject** may not be accepted into the competition.

8. Format of Entries

8.1. All Print Entries

8.1.1. **Standard Small / Intermediate :** Maximum dimensions should not exceed a total area of 600 square centimetres (96 square inches). This allows for photos conforming to standard 3 by 2 ratios like 30.48 x 20.32cm (12 x 8 inches) and any other ratio including Panorama and square format images. So long as the width multiplied by the height does NOT EXCEED 600 cm (96 inches), the image will meet the size criteria.

The matt board may be any size up to 50.80 cm x 40.64cm (20 x 16 inches) but is best if it is in proportion to the size of the image. Prints may simply be attached by glue, double sided tape or other suitable method to a flat piece of matt board or can be inserted into a reusable matt board. A border around the print is optional e.g. A 30.48 x 20.32 cm (12 x 8 in) print can be secured to a 30.48 x 20.32 cm (12 x 8 in) matt with no border if desired. Ensure your print is in suitable condition so as not to damage other prints in the box, e.g. wet glue, exposed tape.

8.1.2. **Experienced Large:** Maximum print dimensions should not exceed 50.80 cm x 40.64 cm (20 in x 16 in) and mounted on a board not exceeding 50.80 cm x 40.64 cm (20 in x 16 in). The matt board is expected to be of a suitable quality for Interclub or National competitions.

8.2. DPI

8.2.1. The maximum dimension is 1920 pixels x 1080 pixels in either portrait or landscape formats. In other words, the image must fit through a window 1920 x 1080.

8.2.2. Each image file must be in JPEG format and a maximum of 1.5 Megabytes in size.

9. Resubmission of Entries

9.1.1. A print or DPI may not be entered more than three (3) times in monthly competitions. There is no set period within which this must occur and entries may be resubmitted over several competition years. However, this does limit the total re-entries to 3 regardless of timeframe. This rule does not limit photos from being entered in competitions outside the ECC monthly competition, e.g. Interclub or VAPS.

10. Resubmission of winning entries

10.1. Any print or DPI entry having won a 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th place in a competition is ineligible for entry in any subsequent monthly competition indefinitely (ie: forever).

10.2. Having won an award (i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th place) for an image in a monthly competition, the member will not present a substantially similar image in subsequent competitions for the remainder of the calendar year.

10.3. Substantially Similar Images

10.3.1. A ruling on a Substantially Similar image will be determined at the discretion of the Competition Secretary. There is no differentiation between print and DPI images.

10.3.2. An image may be defined as substantially similar if it contains similar content from another winning image. Some examples of substantially similar images are:

- A model in a similar pose, wearing the same outfit.
- A landscape of the same scene at a similar time of day.
- An object of the same type in a similar position.
- A black and white version of the same colour image or a colour version of the same black and white image.

11. Use of Images

11.1. By entering monthly competitions you are agreeing to allow Essendon Camera Club use of the images to display on its website, in the newsletter, and for entering into Interclub competitions. Copyright remains with the maker at all times.

11.2. If a member wishes to opt out of this agreement, they must do so in writing to the Competition Secretary.

12. NON-COMPETITIVE Section : BEGINNERS - Judge's Critique only -

12.1 DEFINITION :
A 'Beginner' is regarded as any member who has little to no experience in photography. This is a non-competitive category, which provides purely critique on images submitted. This means, **no placing or scoring of points on any images uploaded.**

Entries in this section are permitted up to, but must not exceed, a **maximum of 2 years.** The member will then go up to 'Intermediate' unless already at a higher level of photography expertise.

12.2 Entries permitted:
As per **Section 1.1.6 of Competition Rules 2024**, a 'Beginner' member is entitled to submit a total of four (4) entries per competition, however, may only do so on every **ALTERNATE month**, specifically **March, May, July, September + EOY Comp (optional).**

12.3 Submission of Entries :
As per **Section 6 of Competition Rules 2024.** All entries must comply with Correct Size & Format (refer **Section 8 : Format of Entries**)

12.4 Identification of Entries:

12.4.1 : PRINTS: A digital copy of the print must be provided on PhotoContestPro along with the print. Use the same procedure as the DPI (outlined below). Please ensure you enter the correct format of entry on PhotoContestPro. All entries must be marked on the rear of the print with the

Member Number; Title and **marked NON- COMPETITIVE**. Include Directional Arrow (if necessary).

12.4.2 : DPI:

Uploaded to PHotoContestPro

Files must be named with a logical title on the PhotoContest Pro competition page. Example:
Winning Snap

Competition Diagram

Maximum Four (4) Entries per Monthly Competition

The Entries can be distributed across any Three (3) Categories with a maximum of Four (4) Entries in one Competition (ie 'Open', or 'Print' and One (1) entry in 'Set Subject'. Entries in both Experienced and Intermediate are not allowed in the same month.

Category:

OPEN DPI
Maximum Four (4) Entries

SET SUBJECT
Maximum One (1) Entry

PRINT Open Subject
Maximum Four (4) Entries

Level:

Experienced

Intermediate

Format:

DPI
Max size 1920 X 1080 Pixels in
either Portrait or Landscape

DPI

Print
Standard/Intermediate
or Experienced

**Standard
Small/Intermediate**
Max image size 600 Sq cm
Max matt size 50x40cm
May be secured to simple
matt board IAW Rule 8.1.1

**Experienced
Large**
Max Size 20"x16" including
matt.
Must be printed and
mounted IAW Rule 8.1.2