

## The Rules of the Caboolture Photography Club Monthly Digital Image Competition 2023

The Digital Competition is open to members only. There are 11 monthly competitions in the competition year from January to November. There is no monthly competition in December.

A maximum of 3 images to be submitted by each member, each month, for the monthly competitions. There will be 2 categories, Open and Set.

Open is any subject or style. It has been defined as follows:

*Any subject or style, but to be successful it should contain one or more of the following qualities - pictorial (composition), impact, appeal, story-telling or interest.*

The Set subject will be set by the committee and will have a prescribed definition. Members may enter images in any combination to a maximum total of 3 images in these 2 categories. However, at least 1 of those images **MUST** be in the Set Subject.

Example

2 in Open & 1 in Set

2 in Set and 1 in Open

3 in Set

The reason for this change is threefold;

Firstly, to encourage all members to get out of their comfort zone and have a go at the set subject. Secondly, to conform with the PSQ Judges request of less images for the judge to critique each month.

Thirdly, because the club now competes in 4 Interclub competitions with a wide variety of subjects.

**Out of Category** (This rule applies to the Set Subject Images)

An image may be given an Out of Category score if:

- It is considered not to fit the definition of the Set Subject

### Image Sizing

The images size for the competition is 1920 x 1200

Image size must be no wider than 1920 pixels for landscape format, and a maximum height of 1200 pixels for portrait format.

Resolution of between 240ppi -300ppi is recommended for optimum result.

### Limitation on age

Images submitted for competitions must have been **taken within 5 (five) years of the competition**, with the exception of creative images where elements of the image can be more than 5 years old.

The final creative image however, **MUST** have been made within **TWO** years of the competition date.

### File (image) Naming

A Grade is AAO (Open) or AAS (Set subject)

AB Grade is ABO (Open) or ABS (Set subject)

B Grade is BBO (Open) or BBS (Set subject)

C Grade (Know Your Camera) is a Non-Competition Grade for beginners

Files must be named in the following convention: [Grade][Category][6 character name] [Image title]

Example

An image from an A Grade member in Open would be named as follows: AAOJoeBloMyImage

An image from a B Grade member in Set would be named as follows: BBSJoeBloMyImage

It is up to each member to ensure they read and understand the definition for the set subject.

Any member who does not understand the definition should email the Competition Coordinator for clarification / explanation no later than ***1 month prior to the competition due date.***

### **Creative Images**

The image may be of any subject matter. All images used must be the makers original image and may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else.

### **AI – Artificial Intelligence**

By virtue of submitting an entry, the member certifies the whole of the work as his/her own.

All Entries must originate as photographs (image-capture of objects via light sensitivity)

All images **made by the entrant** must be their own.

All Post Processing must **be made by the entrant.**

Images may **NOT** be constructed entirely within a computer.

You cannot use some tools downloaded from the internet. This includes things like cloud brushes, lightning brushes, flower brushes, or any similar brushes which have been created from images made by someone else. You cannot use bird, flower, sky, cloud overlays for example, unless they have been created by you, from your own images.

The same rules apply for any textures, they too must be created from your own images. You cannot use “Replace Sky” which is available now in Photoshop, Luminar, Topaz etc, UNLESS the sky you will be using is from an image that you have taken. The sky images or any other images that come with any editing program, or downloaded from the internet, must not be used in competition or slideshow images.

### **Plagiarism and Use of Tools Downloaded from the Internet**

You may NOT under ANY circumstances use someone else’s image or any part of someone else’s image in your own work.

You cannot take a photo of someone else’s work and use it, or any part of it, as your own work. This is Plagiarism.

You can get ideas off the internet, but come up with your own, original image.

Do not Replicate someone else’s 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. The resubmission must also comply with the limitation on age requirements.

All submissions into any Image Critique or Competition must be your own work and must not include any third party imagery, graphics, or textures.

Images accepted in previous topics, or almost identical in style and subject matter are ineligible.

Submitted entries may NOT contain text in any form where it has been added to the picture. E.g watermarks, logos, photographer name or ANY text added in post processing.

### **Scoring**

Points for images submitted into the monthly competitions will be awarded in the following manner:

#### **Place Points**

Out of Category 1  
Acceptance 6  
Commended 8  
Highly Commended 10  
Merit 12  
Honour 16

Merits and Honours are classed as "Award" scores.

Place points are used to calculate averages for grading purposes

Image of the Night bonus points = 3

"Image of the Night" is selected by the judge, and is one image selected from all the submitted images in the current month's competition, grade and/or category regardless, and is the image regarded by the judge as the most outstanding image submitted in that month's competition.

Image of the night bonus points go toward the yearly aggregate score, BUT **are not used** in the calculation of the yearly average for a member.

### **Dual Membership**

As we now have several members who are also members of other clubs, and in order to provide a level playing field for ALL members entering the competition, from 1st January 2022, images entered into the Caboolture Photography Club Digital Competition are not to be entered / or have been entered into a competition at any another club.

Members who are in multiple clubs must advise the committee at the beginning of the year whether or not give permission to enter their images into external competitions. Multiple clubs cannot submit images from the same author, in the same competition.

## Grading

There are 3 Competitive Grades in the 2023 competition - A, AB & B Grades.

- C Grade (Know Your Camera, a non-Competitive Grade/Beginners): Absolute beginners who are new to photography, have never entered a competition, and have never been a member of a camera club. This is a Non-Competing Grade. Members in C grade will have a mentor for the year, to assist with their photography. They are encouraged to try the set subjects, to ready them for competition.
- B Grade: Advanced beginners who have a good understanding of the basic principles of exposure and composition.
- AB Grade: Intermediate Grade for members who have a sound understanding of Exposure, Composition and use of more complex photographic techniques.
- A Grade: Advanced grade for members who have advanced knowledge of photographic and editing techniques and who consistently maintain a high standard of work.

New members must submit 8 images of their choice for grading purposes before they can enter the digital competition. These images should be varied in subject matter and represent their best work to date.

## Regrading

Regrading of members will occur once a year, at the end of the competition year, and prior to the commencement of the next competition year. The committee reserves the right to upgrade a member at any time, if they consider their work to be beyond the standard of the grade they are currently in. The member will be consulted prior to the decision being enacted.

If, as happens from time to time, a member is regraded after the first 2 judging's of the year, points earned in the original grade may NOT be carried forward into the new grade.

Regrading will be based on an average calculated from the total place points earned and the number of images submitted.

- The competition year runs from January to November, 11 months. There is no monthly competition in December
- A minimum of 18 images submitted in the competition year is required for an average to be calculated. Members will not receive an average if they do not submit at least 18 images.
- It is possible to submit up to 33 images in a competition year. 18 images is equivalent to 6 months out of 11 months of submissions. This is to encourage the participation of all members.
- Image of the night bonus points are not taken into consideration for the calculation of averages for grading purposes

Promotion from C Grade to B Grade. Portfolio of 8 images at the end of the year.

C Grade (Know Your Camera) is a non-competition grade, for those who are learning photography. They may enter images in the Digital Competition to obtain judges critique and feedback only.

AB and B grade members who meet the required criteria are offered upgrades at the end of each calendar year.

Recommendations for upgrading are made by the Competition Coordinator to the Committee at the conclusion of each year's Monthly Competitions. The formula for upgrading is Total Place Points earned in the Digital Competition during the year, divided by the total number of entries submitted during the year.

- If a B Grade Member, after a year's competition in which they have entered at least 18 images, and their average Place Point score is **10** or more, then upgrading to AB Grade will be recommended.

- If an AB Grade Member, after a year's competition in which they have entered at least 18 images, and their average Place Point score is **12** or more, then upgrading to A Grade will be recommended.
- The Member will then be invited by the Committee to accept upgrading. This upgrading can be deferred for 1 year. However, upgrading is compulsory for that member after deferring one year.
- Members in AB and B Grade will not be down graded.
- Members in A grade with an average of less than 10 place points over a 2 year period, will be given the option of returning to AB Grade for 12 months.

Re-grading will take effect before the beginning of each competition year.

## **GRADING APPEAL**

Members who wish to appeal their current grading may apply, in writing, to the Committee for consideration of their grade,

- as soon as practicable
- before the commencement of the next year's competition
- or at the latest by 15th December.

## **Recording of Monthly Competition Scores**

The committee will maintain all records of scores of the monthly competitions. The scores of the current competition year will be released for the months of January - August.

The scores for September - November will be withheld, with the final scores being announced at our Awards Night in December.

Scores of the monthly competitions for the current competition year (with the exception of the above) and previous competition years will be available on the request of a member.

Any requests are to be made through the secretary. The committee will make the scores available to the member as soon as practicable after a request has been made.

## **Time Off**

A member may take a maximum of 1 year off for a sabbatical or for reasons of ill health etc. whilst maintaining their current grading **if:**

They inform the committee in writing prior to taking the time off.

Or in the case of a sudden medical or family crisis, as soon as is practicable.

## **End of Year Awards**

A minimum of 18 images submitted in the competition year is required for a member to be eligible for an end of year award arising out of the monthly competition.

## **Changes, Alterations or Adjustments to the rules**

The committee reserves the right to make changes, alterations or adjustments to The Rules of the Caboolture Photography Club Monthly Digital Competition as the committee deems necessary.

Notice can be given of a rule change, alteration or adjustment at any time prior to the commencement of the next competition year.

Any changes, alterations or adjustments will come into effect at the commencement of the next competition year and will be the rules for the monthly competition of subsequent competition years.

**Terms:**

"Caboolture Photography Club" - Caboolture Photography Club Incorporated

"Member/s" - Financial and life member/s

"Competition Year" - From the date of the judging of the monthly competition in January to the date of the judging of the monthly competition in November

"Image/s" - Digital image/s

"Committee" - Management Committee

## Annotations

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 01.01.2016 | Rules Adopted   |
| 26.11.2016 | V2 Rules Adopted  |
| 25.10.2017 | Updated Image size to 1200 x 1800. v3 Adopted   |
| 17.10.2018 | Removal of Set Bonus Points. Additional power of committee to upgrade a members grading under certain circumstances at any time. v4 Adopted   |
| 10.12.2019 | Changes to the minimum resolution of images.<br>Change in format of Image Naming<br>Added definition for Creative Images<br>Limitation on age of images, for Creative Images.<br>Changes to publication of scores. V5 adopted   |
| 21.10.2020 | Change in the number of grades in Digital Competition<br>Changes to Regrading Rules<br>Changes to Image sizing for the Digital Competition. V6 Adopted  |
| 01.12.2020 | Changes to Non Acceptance of Images<br>Additions to the Digital Competition regarding the use of tools, ie Brushes, replace Sky ect downloaded from the internet.<br>Addition of rules regarding Plagiarism. V7 Adopted   |
| 02.01.2021 | Changes to Image Naming. V8 Adopted   |
| 15.12.2021 | Changes to the number of images submitted for Digital Competition (PSQ Judges)<br>Addition of rule for 'Out of Category' (PSQ Judges)<br>Addition of Out of Character place points (PSQ Judges)<br>Changes to limitation of age of Digital and Creative Images<br>Change of Definition for C Grade (Know Your Camera)<br>Change of percentage place points required for promotion from B to AB and AB to A grades<br>Change to Members in A grade with an average of less than 8 place points over a 2 year period, will be given the option of returning to AB Grade for 12 months. V9 Adopted |
| 18.10.22   | Changes to Critique scoring Place points per image<br>Changes to limitation of age of Digital and Creative Images<br>Changes to percentage place points required for promotion from B to AB and AB to A grades<br>Change to Members in A grade with an average of less than 10 place points over a 2 year period, will be given the option of returning to AB Grade for 12 months. V 10 Adopted   |