

# End of Year Competition Rules - 2023

## General information

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When	<p>The End of Year (EOY) competition is held once a year, prior to the EOY Awards Evening.</p> <p>Judging is undertaken between the closing date for entries and the EOY Awards Evening.</p>
Eligibility of entrants	<p>All financial and life members are eligible to enter. Associate members are ineligible to enter.</p>
Categories	<p>The EOY competition has four categories for still images and an audio visual (AV) category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Landscape/Seascape (including panoramic images) (Digital only)</li><li>• Nature (Digital only)</li><li>• Portrait (Print only)</li><li>• Open, including Creative (Print only)</li> <li>• Audio-Visual (AV).</li></ul>
Judging	<p>Each EOY competition category (Digital and Print) is judged according to grades:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gold</li><li>• A</li><li>• AB</li><li>• B</li></ul> <p>A winning entry will be selected for each grade and an overall winner will be selected from those by an external judge.</p> <p>Audio-Visual (AV) ungraded and is open to all grades. The winner will be selected by an external judge.</p>
Eligibility of images	<p>Eligible entries for the Print and Digital competitions must have been taken after the closing date of the previous year's EOY competition.</p> <p>For 2023, photos must not be taken earlier than Tuesday, 8th November 2022 for inclusion in the 2023 EOY competition.</p> <p>There is no limit to the age of images used in an AV presentation, but the presentation itself should have been finalised after the closing date for entries to be submitted for the previous year's EOY competition.</p>

Cut-off dates	The cut-off date for entries will be midnight on the final monthly competition judging night of the year (in November). For 2023, the cut-off date is Monday, 6 November 2023.
Number of entries	Each member may submit a maximum of one image in each category and a maximum of one AV.
Submitting entries	All photographic entries are submitted through the Entries Portal on the Aspley Camera Club's website.  Important: This includes a digital version of any print entry. The digital version of your print entry may be required for projection at the EOY Awards Evening. Judges do not receive the digital version of a print entry; judging is done from the print.  Submitting the AV entries may be by either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transmitting the file by document transfer such as WeTransfer or Dropbox or other to the Entries Officer, or</li> <li>• Delivering a USB memory stick to an ACC meeting prior to the closing date.</li> </ul> See "Entry Process" for further details.
Judges' marks and points	Judges will assess each image and will select a winning entry for each grade in each category.

## Entry Process

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- No late entries can be accepted.
- You must be logged in to the website to enter (Digital and Print). See below for AV requirements.
- The entry must be the exclusive work of the member. AI generated images are not permitted. ACC abides by the PSQ Guidelines which state "Images using AI-generated technology are not to be used in club competition."
- This applies to the set-up, shooting and post processing of the entry. This does not apply to the printing of an entry. The print may be made by commercial printing services providing no interpretive changes are made to the image.
- An entry will be received into the competition in the belief that these expectations have been met by the member. AV entries can be made by transfer to the Entries Officer, either by USB drive or using an appropriate file transfer service. Details will be provided prior to the commencement of the period for entries to be submitted.

## Digital Specifications

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This includes the digital version of any print entry.

Digital format	.jpg
Digital size	must not exceed 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels deep when resized
Naming convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Name your image with a concise but descriptive title prior to submission, e.g., Just passing time.</li><li>• Do not include in your title any "special characters" such as ? / " ' ; ( ) ! % # \$ &amp;.</li><li>• Spaces are ok, no need for _ or - between words</li><li>• Do not include your member number or grade in the title of your digital file. The website automatically appends this information.</li></ul>
Re-entering images	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An image (or substantially similar image) or an AV that has been entered in a previous EOY competition may not be re-entered due to its age.</li><li>• An image that has been entered in the monthly competition for that year may be entered in the End of Year competition.</li></ul>

## Print Specifications

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Minimum print size	8" x 10"
Maximum print size (including Mount)	16" x 20"
Mounts	Prints must be mounted, e.g., window mount, matboard, foamcore, coreflute.
Protecting yours and others' work	To avoid damage to the prints of others, all potentially damaging materials must be removed e.g., Velcro, sticky tabs, badly adhered tape. If your entry can damage the work of others, it may be disqualified.
Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Place a self-adhesive label provided by the club on the reverse side of your mounted print.</li><li>• Place in the top left-hand corner (note: the placement of the label indicates to the judge the correct orientation of your print)</li><li>• Include<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ your member number</li><li>○ grade</li><li>○ category (portrait or open)</li><li>○ and the title</li></ul></li><li>• Mark as EOY</li><li>• Adhesive labels are available at the door, just ask.</li></ul>

## AV Specifications

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- AV entries must have a running time of 5 minutes or less. They must be in a format of .mp4 or equivalent and be capable of running on a PC or Mac.
- There are no categories nor grades for the AV competition.
- All entries must be anonymous – please do not put your name on any of the slides.
- Please name your file with your membership number and the title of the video
- Please remember to credit any music.
- You may deliver your entry by document transfer (eg WeTransfer or DropBox) to the Entries Officer: [gabrielle.chisholm@icloud.com](mailto:gabrielle.chisholm@icloud.com)

# Definitions

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## Nature

### Content Guidelines

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. Adding a vignette or blurring the background during processing is not allowed.
- 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.
- No modification that changes the truth of a Nature image is allowed. Images may be cropped but no other technique that removes, adds or moves any part of the image is allowed.
- Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise and lens flare are allowed.
- Complete conversion of colour images to greyscale monochrome is allowed. Partial conversion, toning and infrared captures or conversions are not allowed.
- Images of the same subject that are combined in camera, or with software, by focus stacking or exposure blending are allowed. Multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively and combined in camera or with software (image stitching) are allowed.

### Wildlife Photography

In addition to the restrictions on Nature photography, images in Wildlife sections of exhibitions 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.

## 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 colour 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 scene.
- 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.

## Landscape

### Landscape or Seascape

- 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.

## Portrait

A photograph of a person or persons that may range from a head study to full body length and is a formal portrait (NOTE: - does not include candid photographs).

## Open

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