

COMPETITION RULES

CLUB COMPETITIONS

Club competitions are held once a month. Each competition is divided in to two categories:

- Prints
- EDI (Electronic Digital Image), which is projected on to a screen.

Note: Restrictions on sizing of all images, and rules governing their naming, will be explained later in this document under the various categories.

A maximum of four entries per person may be submitted for each monthly competition with a maximum of three images in one category. (For example: 3 prints and one EDI, or 2 prints and 2 EDI, or 3 EDI and 1 print)

If an image has won a club award previously, it cannot be entered into another competition except for the Image of the Year or an interclub competition.

Printed images are to be handed in to the Competition Secretary at the 2nd meeting of the month (refer to due dates specified on the syllabus).

The preferred method of submitting EDIs is via our website ('Competition Image Upload' on the 'Competitions' tab) by the date as detailed in the syllabus. Those entering EDIs are encouraged to send their images as early as possible to enable timely preparation for submission to the judge. EDIs may also be submitted on a CD or DVD (or USB stick) at meetings, by the due date, to the Competition Secretary. Digital image devices are to be clearly marked with the maker's competition number, Open or Set Subject and month of competition; devices will be returned to the owners at the next meeting. Each image must use the club's naming protocol (refer to Projected Images section in this document).

Late entries cannot be accepted unless prior arrangement has been made with the Competition Secretary as there is limited time to prepare running sheets, deliver the work to the judge and allow time for his/her assessment to be presented at the meeting.

External judges (ie from either another club or from within the photographic industry) are invited to assess members' work, although occasionally a club member is invited to do this task. A judge from within the club is unable to submit images for that competition.

In December, an overall "Image of the Year" is selected and announced. From monthly competitions the following winning images will be judged to determine the overall "Image of the year for both Print and EDI categories":

- A Grade - 3 highest scoring Prints from each monthly competition
- B Grade - highest scoring Print from each monthly competition
- A Grade - 3 highest scoring EDIs from each monthly competition
- B Grade - highest scoring EDI from each monthly competition

Members who have received a placing shown above, are invited to resubmit images for the 'Image of the Year' award with improvements to original image (refer to 'Image of the Year' section in this document for information).

At this event the annual Aggregate Awards 1st, 2nd and 3rd will be announced for both A and B grades. As this is a social evening, members are asked to bring a plate of nibbles for supper and a beverage of their choice.

If clarification of a set subject is required, please contact the competition secretary for clarification, or look for a definition on Wikipedia.

COMPETITION GRADINGS

Monthly competitions are run for 2 grades of proficiency:

- A Grade - for more experienced photographers
- B Grade - for novice or new photographers

When joining BCC, new members will default to B Grade, unless they specifically elect to compete at A Grade level. Winners of B Grade competitions will be reviewed from time to time by the BCC committee, and B Grade members will be promoted to A Grade, where appropriate.

The Competition Secretary will maintain records of members and competition grades / results.

JUDGING and SCORING

The judge for each competition is given guidelines for judging each Set Subject category.

The Competition Secretary will determine if entries submitted do not comply with the subject set for each competition.

Judges are not advised if the member's image is submitted in A or B grade to ensure no bias in scoring. The Judge will give a score out of 15, with 1st, 2nd and 3rd places awarded for A and B grades, and if the judge believes they are warranted, one or more merits if scores are very close. The judge may also award at his or her discretion an "encouragement award".

At the end of the year, individual scores from each competition are tallied by the Competition Secretary and certificates for the highest (1st, 2nd, 3rd) aggregate scores combined across both media (print and EDI) will be awarded for A and B grades. The competition year runs from February to November each year.

Judging is a specialised and time-consuming task, and the club understands and appreciates the time and effort made by the judges. Club members are asked to respect the judge's views and cheerfully accept advice on improving images given at the time, regardless of personal feelings.

The judge's decision is final.

Any disputes or concerns following the judge's remarks are to be directed to the Competition Secretary, and will be discussed at the following Committee meeting.

COMPETITION RULES

Each monthly competition is nominated as either:

- Open (OP) - any subject of the member's choice, or
- Set Subject (SS) - a nominated subject as per the syllabus, eg 'Trains'

The syllabus, which can be found on our website, sets out the timetable and competition subjects, with guidelines provided by the Competition Secretary where required.

All new competitions, ie those that differ from the club's standard, will be accompanied by their own set of rules, drawn up by the person proposing the competition, for example a Triptych competition. These rules will be explained to members well in advance of the competition date.

COMPETITION IMAGE SIZING AND PRESENTATION

PRINT SECTION

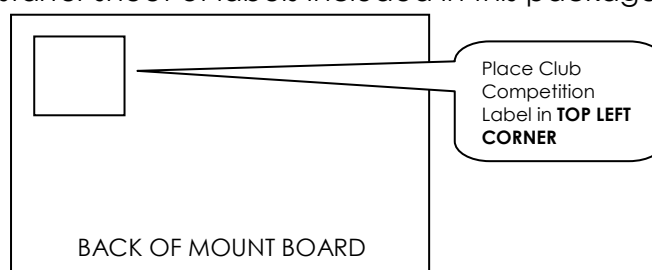
Printed images must have been taken by the entrant, and may be enhanced or manipulated by the entrant using editing software.

There is only one print category. Works that are outside the sizing criteria (below) will be disqualified from the competition.

Category	Maximum Print Size	Maximum Mount Size
Prints	30cm x 40cm (12" x 16")	40cm x 50cm (16" x 20")
Panoramic prints are acceptable but must fit within the category print and mount sizes above.		

All prints must be mounted and clearly marked on the back, top left hand corner* by way of our club competition labels. There is one starter sheet of labels included in this package. Further copies can be printed from our website.

** It may appear self-evident but some abstract photographs are equally, sometimes more so, interesting when rotated 90 or even 180 degrees, so the judge needs to know the photographer's aspect intentions.*



Mounting boards are available at a special low cost at each meeting (thanks to one of our members). Sizes and colours are listed at the end of this document under 'Discounts'. Revenue from sales assist in providing funds for the administration of the club.

It is recommend that members take care to use a decent backing board to protect the entries - old cornflakes box cardboard is a no-cost option. If unsure about mounting, ask any Committee member who will be happy to show you. Print mounting is not hard and the correct choice can really lift an image.

Printed images are to be handed in to the Competition Secretary at the 2nd meeting of the month (refer to due dates specified on the syllabus). Unless prior arrangement has been made with the Competition Secretary, late entries cannot be accepted.

COMPETITION IMAGE SIZING AND PRESENTATION (Cont'd)

PROJECTED IMAGES (EDI) SECTION

EDIs may be enhanced or manipulated by the entrant using editing software; the original image must have been taken by the entrant.

- Maximum image dimensions:
Horizontal 1400 pixels
Vertical 1050 pixels
Image dimensions may be less than these specifications, but must not exceed them, ie
 - in landscape mode, the width is up to 1400 px and height up to 1050 px
 - where portrait mode is required, as the height must be no more than 1050 px, the width would be less than this, otherwise the image would be square, unless square is your choice
- Image must be saved as an 8-bit JPEG in the sRGB colour space
- Resolution for a projected image is to be no more than 100 ppi and no less than 72 ppi for best presentation. An image saved at 300 ppi gains nothing except a large file size.
- File size is to be no greater than 1000kb (details on how to resize electronic EDIs for competitions can be found on our website).
- Each image must be named in the format below, using an underscore between each section of the file name:
 Open Competition entries: yyyyymm_Title_nnn_OP.jpg
 Set Subject entries: yyyyymm_Title_nnn_SS.jpg
 Example of image naming protocol: 201109_My Image_009_SS

yyyyymm	Year and month (eg 201109 = September 2011 competition)
Title	Image title (multi-word titles may include spaces between words)
nnn	Member's three digit competition number (for numbers below 100, examples of numbering are: 009; 032)
OP	Open entry with no set subject for the monthly competition as set out in the Syllabus
SS	Set subject for the month

- Images may show a border but the border must be included in the maximum horizontal and vertical dimensions.

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When images are submitted via the website, you will receive an email within minutes acknowledging receipt of your image. If no acknowledgement is received, contact the Competition Secretary on the email address provided. It is in members' interests to send competition entries before the cut-off date.

Images submitted into competitions may be used on the website or in newsletters. If you do not wish your images to be used in this way you must advise the webmaster by email at webmaster@bellarinecameraclub.org.au

IMAGE OF THE YEAR

In December, an overall "Image of the Year" is selected and announced

From monthly competitions the following winning images will be judged to determine the overall "Image of the year for both Print and EDI categories":

- A Grade - 3 highest scoring Prints from each monthly competition
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- B Grade - highest scoring EDI from each monthly competition

Members who have received a placing shown above for an image, are invited to resubmit their image with enhancements recommended by the judge at the time, but it must be the same image.

Examples:

- *At the monthly competition the judge may have commented that the image lacked contrast and depth of colour. The maker may increase saturation or contrast or other suggested fixes to improve the image - it is still the original image but improved.*
- *Perhaps the judge said to crop the image to lose an intruding structure or too much foreground, background, sky, etc. - same image, better result.*
- *Image format must not be changed, eg convert an original colour image to monochrome or present as a different size.*

Due date for submissions to Competition Secretary are as per the Syllabus. EDIs can be uploaded via our website ('Competition Image Upload' on the 'Competitions' tab).