



# SUNSHINE COAST PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

## Competition Rules and Procedures 2023

effective January 2023

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### Terminology and Definitions

TERM	DEFINITION
<b>SCPC</b>	In this document the initials SCPC means the Sunshine Coast Photography Club Inc.
<b>MPC</b>	In this document MPC means the SCPC website at <a href="http://www.caloundra.myphotoclub.com.au">www.caloundra.myphotoclub.com.au</a> or any subsequent address.
<b>Media</b>	The physical presentation of the image, either <b>Print</b> or <b>DPI (Digital Projected Image)</b> .
<b>DPI</b>	Digital Projected Image; A photograph that is presented by electronic digital means.
<b>Print</b>	A photograph that is presented on an opaque surface.
<b>Colour</b>	Any photograph that is not monochrome. This includes a monochrome photograph that has been partially toned, or has colour added.
<b>Monochrome</b>	Any photograph containing shades of only one colour. If toning is carried out, it must be over the total photograph - unless otherwise expressly permitted for a particular competition, partial toning and/or the addition of one extra colour is not acceptable in a monochrome section.
<b>Competition</b>	For the purposes of this document, "Competition" means any monthly or annual competition run by and for the members of SCPC, or any other competition which may be arranged from time to time, for which these rules and procedures are applicable.

## External Competition

External competition refers to any competition which is arranged and run independent of SCPC. SCPC rules and procedures may not apply for external competitions and there may be some additional requirements which are outside the scope of this document.

External Competition may be competitions which require individual entry, Club entry, or a combination of both.

In any competition for which the club is responsible for entries, the selection committee will consider all images entered in Competition during the preceding twelve months, together with any images entered solely for the purpose of selection for the event by members whether or not they have been previously entered in club competition.

Prior to the completion of the selection process, a short list of proposed entries will be published to give the authors of the images an opportunity to **opt out** of entry prior to finalising the Club's selections.

## Category

Entries may be submitted in each monthly competition in these categories:

**Set Subject,  
Creative Photography, and  
Open.**

Refer to "Entry Eligibility" for further information.

## Set Subject

A Set Subject definition is specified each competition month, and published in a separate calendar with explanatory definitions.

Unless required by the definition, images may be in colour or monochrome and may conform with either Open or Creative Photography guidelines.

## Creative Photography

Creative photography is an extension of conventional photography into a creative work. Its purpose is to stimulate creative thoughts and encourage experimentation with new ideas going beyond a simple photograph.

There should be a significant photographic content whether representational or not, and inclusion of mixed media of any kind (photocopy, paint, transfer, digital etc.) is welcome. It can be a collage or a montage and may be in colour or monochrome, however the end result must be derived from original image or images which are the original copyright of the maker.

The use of text-to-image software is expressly forbidden.

The final result must be all the photographer's own work including the original image.

**(NOTE - this definition is for SCPC Competition only and differs significantly from "creative" definitions in other external competitions.)**

<b>Open</b>	<p>The Open category has no specified subject.</p> <p>Images must have a recognisable subject, realistically depicted and may be in colour or monochrome. Enhancement of the image by any means that are an extension of traditional darkroom techniques is allowable, including but not limited to removal and replacement of objects including skies, manipulation of contrast and tones and colour, and the application of filters that do not alter the texture of the image.</p> <p>The use of textured layers and filters designed to emulate “painterly” or climatic effects and text-to-image software is forbidden.</p> <p>(NOTE - this definition is for SCPC Competition only and differs significantly from “creative” definitions in other external competitions.)</p>
<b>Grade</b>	<p>Members are assigned to either A or B grade on the basis of a portfolio of images submitted to the Grading Committee. Grade assignments may be reviewed from time to time.</p> <p>New members will granted an interim B grading pending assessment of their grading submission.</p>
<b>Subject</b>	<p>The subject, theme, or content of an image (e.g. “Nature”, “Portrait”, “Landscape”, etc.)</p>
<b>Definition</b>	<p>A definition is provided for each Set Subject. Some traditional subjects have quite rigid definitions, whereas informal subjects may have broad and loose definitions (e.g. see Set Subjects and Definitions for the current year)</p>
<b>Image Title</b>	<p>Each image entered in competition must have a concise title chosen by the maker (e.g. “Rio at Night”). Generally, it is not acceptable to change the title of an image if it has been or will be entered in another competition. The title should not include punctuation, special characters, or file type specifications (e.g. “.jpg”).</p>
<b>File Name</b>	<p>The name of the JPEG file containing a DPI entry or a digital version of a Print entry (e.g. Rio at Night.jpg). The file name must be the same as the image title (excluding the “.jpg”).</p>
<b>Scores</b>	<p>Entries are judged by assigning a numeric score in the range 0 to 5. Scores contribute to the Annual Accumulated Award Points. (See Points Scores and Awards below.)</p>
<b>Award Points</b>	<p>Award Points are based on scores received and are accumulated throughout the February to November competitions. Annual winners in each category are presented with special awards at our Annual Dinner in December.</p>
<b>Accepted</b>	<p>This designation is applied to competition entries that scored in the range 1 to 5 and were judged not to have contravened any rules.</p>
<b>Not Accepted</b>	<p>An entry given a score of 0 was judged as “Not Accepted” because it contravened one or more rules.</p> <p>A print entry which has been entered but not submitted on competition night will be considered “Not Accepted” and receive a 0 score.</p>

## Entry Eligibility

**IOTM** "Image Of The Month" - A score of 5 indicates the Judge's Choice of ONE DPI and ONE Print as best Image of the Month

In each monthly competition, for the 2023 competition year, a member may submit a maximum of 4 (four) entries. Entries may be entered in any combination of print or DPI, 1 (one) image per category until the total of 4 (four) entries is reached.

Members are required to have a grade assignment before submitting images for competition.

Photographs and modifications to them must be the member's own original work however the use of an external service for the production of prints is permitted.

There is no restriction on the age of an original image, defined by the date of exposure.

The judge may rule that an entry in the Set Subject category is ineligible if in his or her opinion it does not conform to the monthly set subject definition.

An image may be reentered in a competition only if it has received a score of 6 or less in any SCPC competition prior to 2022 or 2 or less in any year thereafter. Images which have been awarded an annual trophy award will be ineligible for re-entry.

All entries, including a DPI version of any print entry must be uploaded to the competition website [Caloundra.MyPhotoClub](http://Caloundra.MyPhotoClub) (or other web address if so advised) by midnight on the due date.

Prints which have been digitally entered must be delivered to the judging location prior to judging. (see "Entry Procedures" below)

Competition closing dates are included in the Calendar of SCPC Meetings. Competitions close at midnight on the closing date. No alteration or substitution of entries is allowed once the competition is closed.

## Entry Procedures

All entries must conform to specified size and naming conventions (see "Entry Procedures" below).

### REGISTERING ENTRIES

Both DPI and print competitions are registered by uploading digital files to our competition website ([Caloundra.MyPhotoClub](http://Caloundra.MyPhotoClub)) by the due date.

For each entry both DPI and Print, a JPEG file conforming to the prescribed specifications must be uploaded to the website before midnight on the closing date.

Registered Print entries should be brought to Competition Night and lodged with the Print Coordinator before 7:00 pm for verification and placement in the exhibition.

## **DPI SPECIFICATIONS:**

- Dimensions: Maximum Width = 1920 pixels;  
Maximum Height = 1080 pixels (regardless of format).
- File size: Maximum 2 Megabytes.
- File Name: Must not include punctuation or special characters, except “.jpg” tag.
- Image Title: Maximum 35 characters, should be the same as the file name, do not include file information or special characters. (Note - The title is automatically created from the file name on upload, but can be edited.)

## **PRINT SPECIFICATIONS:**

Upload JPEG for registration: Same as DPI Specifications above.

Print: Mounted.

Maximum overall dimensions: 500 mm × 400 mm (20”X16”) including any mount-board or mat.  
Minimum dimensions: 150 mm × 100 mm.

Print Identification Label:

Labels for print entries can be generated for printing from the Competition Website after registration of entries.

These must be affixed to the reverse side, in the top left corner, to ensure correct orientation of the displayed print.

Labels must include the following information:  
Category, Grade, Month and Year, Maker’s Name, Image Title.

For example: *Colour Print, B Grade, January 2018, Frank Hurley, “Advancing Glacier”*.

## **Competition Subjects**

### **SET SUBJECTS**

The Set Subject for each month is defined before the beginning of the calendar year.

A table of set subjects and their definitions for the year is available for download on the INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS page on MPC.

### **EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS**

SCPC facilitates members’ participation in regional competitions that accept only club entries (e.g. the annual Interclub, Tewantin Shield, and River City Print competitions) by incorporating their Special Subjects into our Calendar.

## Judging

### **DPI JUDGING**

DPIs are judged “remotely” via our competition website (MPC) in advance of Competition Night. All images are projected on Competition Night, usually with comments by the judge.

Full comments on DPI entries are accessible via the published results on MPC.

### **PRINT JUDGING**

Prints are “impact judged” on Comp Night with commentary by the judge and announcement of awards.

### **PEER JUDGING**

Occasionally, a panel of SCPC members may provide “peer judging”—particularly, but not exclusively, to decide club entries for regional competitions. Peer judging may be conducted online via MPC.

### **JUDGES SCORES**

The number of images receiving scores at each level may be decided by the judge and can vary, depending on the number and quality of entries. Image of the Month awards are limited to one DPI and one print entry each month.

### **JUDGES CRITIQUE**

Judges may provide a critique of print images either in person on competition night or by way of written comment if remotely judged. They will usually provide a critique of a particular entry when requested or answer questions from the audience.

## Points Scores

SCPC uses numeric scores on a scale of 0 to 5 to determine awards. Half points are not awarded.

The following table provides a guide to the image features generally required to achieve a particular numeric score or award.

### Score Guide to expected image features

- 0 Disqualification**  
 This score is used to disqualify an entry if:  
 it is considered to not fit the definition of the Set Subject,  
 a Monochrome image does not conform to the definition of a monochrome photograph,  
 it is a Monochrome image entered in a Colour category,  
 it clearly infringes on another artist's copyright or contains material of an inappropriate nature.  
 it is a print image that was not received in time to be placed on the display stand.
- 1 Sound Image - Meets the Definition**  
 Has little impact or imagination  
 Minor technical standards met  
 Some understanding of the need for composition and presentation  
 Message present but not strong  
 Set subject apparent though not a strong interpretation
- 2 Good Image**  
 Some impact to the viewer on first sight  
 Technically correct - any flaws are minor or compensated by other successful elements  
 Good composition  
 Presentation apparent  
 Message present  
 Illustrates the set subject well
- 3 Very Good Image**  
 Good impact to the viewer on first viewing  
 Technically very good - no deficiencies evident  
 Very good composition  
 Very good presentation  
 Has elements of telling a story or creating a mood for the viewer Subject is clearly notable in the context of the image
- 4 Superior Image**  
 High impact to the viewer on first viewing  
 Technically correct / demonstrating a higher level of technique Excellent composition  
 Excellent presentation  
 Tells a story or creates a mood for the viewer  
 Exemplifies the set subject  
 Has a compelling subject and centre of interest

## 5 **Exceptional Image - IMAGE OF THE MONTH**

Extremely high impact to the viewer on first viewing

Technically outstanding / advanced level of techniques and technical adeptness

Outstanding composition

Outstanding presentation

Tells a story or creates a distinct mood for the viewer

Exemplifies the set subject

An image to have in your home or office / a saleable or commercial grade image

## Annual Awards

Refer to separate Annual Competitions document for rules and procedures relating to each of awards and competitions.

Points are accumulated in each competition category throughout the year as set out above.

The highest aggregate point scores in each category are presented with an Award. In the event of a tie, a tie-break will be applied as follows:-

1. The highest average score - ie the score divided by the number of entries in that category. If the result is still a tie, the person who has entered the most entries in that category for the year will be declared the winner.
2. If the result is still a tie:  
The person with the most scores of 5, then 4, then 3 and so on will be declared the winner.
3. If after that time there is no clear winner two (or more) first places shall be declared and no second place will be awarded.

At the end of each year, subject to limits set from time to time, members may also submit any of their images entered during the year to be judged for Annual Awards in each category.

In addition to the above, members are invited to submit entries which have not previously been entered for club competition for the following Annual Trophies at the end of each year:

- President's Trophy (Print, subject, and definition chosen by the President),
- The Don Attree Founder's Award (DPI Nature image),
- The Robin Simpson Trophy (DPI Australian Landscape) and
- The Ted Gillingham Trophy (Print, B-Grade, "My Country" based on the Dorothea Mackellar poem).

Judging is completed in December and images are exhibited and awards presented at the Annual Awards Night.