

ROTORUA CAMERA CLUB COMPETITION RULES

The Club holds regular competitions, encouraging financial member participation to increase skill level and advance towards Interclub and National competition and Honours within the Photographic Society of New Zealand. Competitions take several forms and allow for different levels of experience and the opportunity to progress through a grading system within the Club. Entries are generally sent to outside, experienced Judges or professional photographers or may be judged by a judging panel within the Club.

Club Competition Calendar

Monthly Evaluations:

Held March, April, May, June, August, September, October, November.

Entries close the month preceding.

Mid Year Competition:

Held in July, entries close in June.

- David Gould Night Trophy
- Annette Champness Nature Memorial Trophy
- Mike Barkman Black and White Memorial Trophy

Audio Visual Competition – Bonnington Trophy:

Held in August, entries submitted at the July Meeting.

End of Year Competition:

Held in December, entries close in November

- Open
- Set of Six

Monthly Evaluations

- A member may enter a maximum of TWO images per month, either in the open section, or as a set subject or a combination.
- OPEN SECTION: The image may be any topic of the entrant's choosing.
- SET SUBJECTS: Topics for the year are listed on the website. The set subject is designed to offer the additional challenge of photographing to a brief and interpreting a particular subject.
- Images may be presented as a print or a projected image. A projected image is either a slide or a digitally projected image. Including a 6"x4" print of your projected (or digital) image with your entry would enable Club members to benefit viewing the print in the light of judging comments, after they have been seen on screen.
- All entries for evaluation are to be presented at the club meeting the month prior to evaluation.
- Members are assessed within their grade: Novice, Intermediate, Advanced or Salon
- An image may not be accepted, meaning that the Judge feels it has not met the required standard for competition. (See detailed information later in document)
- **Judges will, at their discretion, award Non Acceptance, Acceptance, Highly Commended, or Honours for each entry in each section, with the exception of the Novice Grade only where a Non Acceptance does not apply.**

- Points are awarded to each image based on the merit achieved. Set Subject images are awarded extra points over the Open section. Points awarded to each member are accrued over the year and count towards the award of a trophy for the highest aggregate points at the end of the year, presented at the December meeting.

Award	Open	Set Subject
Honours	10	12
Highly Commended	5	7
Acceptance	2	4
Non Accepted Entry	1	1

Mid-Year Competitions

- Entries close in June.
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd placing will be given, a certificate will be given to first placing only.
- Entries will be judged in the four club grades i.e. Novice, Intermediate, Advanced or Salon.
- Comments will be given for individual work where appropriate.
- Each member may submit one entry per section.

David Gould Night Trophy

- This trophy is awarded to the best **night** print or projected image.
- The image must have been taken outdoors, at night and depict a night subject.
- Sunsets are expressly *excluded*. Further definition of a 'night shot' shall be at the discretion of the Judge.

Annette Champness Nature Memorial Trophy

- This trophy is awarded to the best **nature** print or projected image.
- Nature photography depicts untamed animals and uncultivated plants in their natural habitat; geology; and phenomena not produced by man.
- The accurate record of the subject and the natural environment is the prime factor.
- Evidence of man and his manipulation of the natural environment is undesirable and should be avoided.
- In addition, every effort should be made to use the highest level of artistic skill in all nature photographs. Titles may be scientific names, common names, or interpretative/descriptive.
- **NOTE:** Digitally manipulated images are not eligible for the Nature Award - see *PSNZ Guidelines below*.

PSNZ Guidelines

Nature Section: *All digital images MUST maintain a faithful representation of a natural form, behaviour or phenomenon as captured in the original image. Nature photography depicts animals and uncultivated plants in their natural habitat, geology and phenomena not produced by man. The accurate record of the subject and the natural environment are the prime factors. Evidence of man and his manipulation of the natural environment is undesirable and should be avoided. Images of captive animals are NOT eligible. Any manipulation or modification to the original image is limited to minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene. Resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening and restoration of original colour of the scene are also acceptable. No special filters can be applied and any sharpening must appear natural. As well as satisfying these requirements, every effort should be made to achieve the highest level of artistic skill in all nature photographs. Titles may be scientific names, or common names."*

Mike Barkman Black and White Memorial Trophy

- This trophy is awarded to the best **Black and White or Monotone** print or projected image.
- The subject is open.

Audio Visual Competition – Bonnington Trophy

- Trophy is awarded to the best **story-telling** projected audio visual presentation.
- Entries are submitted in July and shown on the night of the August meeting.
- The winner is determined by popular vote of the Members present.
- The following rules are based on those used for the PSNZ (Photographic Society of New Zealand) Jack Sprosen Audiovisual Award
 - There is no restriction on subject matter.
 - The entry may run for a duration up to five (5) minutes. Entries longer than five minutes will be disqualified.
 - Sound may be mono or stereo and independent of the visual content if necessary.
 - The inclusion of video clips is not accepted.
 - Movement – panning and zooming which can be created in some software programs, is permissible.
 - The entry must be a stand alone digital production, able to be run by clicking on an icon and without the need of the software that first produced it or any other conversion software.
 - The output must be able to run on a Window based PC with a DVD reader installed.
 - The entry must be presented on a disk, with the titled printed or marked with a permanent disk writer pen showing the author's name, title of the Audio Visual and the exact running time.
 - The production must be the original work of the entrant and his/her declared co-authors and collaborators.
 - All credits to be declared at the end of the sequence. All work not the original work of the entrant must be acknowledged **but do not include Audio Visual authors name.**
 - The images in the presentation must be those of the entrant.
- The club reserves the right to refuse an entry that they consider, in their absolute discretion, to be undesirable, unsuitable or incorrectly programmed for projection at the club.
- One entry per member.

End of Year Competitions

- Entries close in November.
- 1st, 2nd and 3rd placing will be given, a certificate will be given to first placing only.
- Entries will be judged in the four club grades i.e. Novice, Intermediate, Advanced or Salon.
- No work can be entered in both the mid year and end of year competitions.
- Each member may submit ONE entry per category.
- Comments will be given for individual work where appropriate.

Open:

- Submit what you consider to be your best work produced within the last 18 months in either print or projected image.
- The topic may be of the member's own choosing.

George Bennett Trophy:

- This trophy is awarded for the best **set of six** prints or projected images.
- Each set should have a theme, but should at the same time show diversity within the theme.
- Each set should demonstrate the versatility of the photographer in technical skill and approach.
- Give the set a collective title. In the case of projected images place the six images into a folder naming it -

COLLECTIVE TITLE, SET OF SIX, GRADE, MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

i.e. AUCKLAND HIGHLIGHTS_SET OF SIX_NOVICE_22

- Supply a judging layout. This is how the images are to be viewed by the judge.
This is done by numbering each of the six prints on the reverse side 1 to 6 in order of viewing, or, if submitting projected images, naming and numbering each image within the folder with a 1 to 6 prefix indicating your preferred order of viewing.
e.g. 1_Rainbows End
2_Sky Tower
3_Mision Bay

Grading

To encourage each member to become a confident worker at his/her level and encourage growth in skill over time the Club operates a grading system.

- Club members are graded into four grades, Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Salon.
- When a new member becomes financial a club number and a grading are allocated.
- The initial grading for all new members will be Novice, unless the member is from another Club or has experience above Novice Grade, then the committee may require the member to present his/her portfolio to the Grading Panel for grading assessment. The member may also choose to submit his/her portfolio for evaluation by the Grading Panel.
- The Committee may set other competitions as they see fit.

Novice:

- A worker learning the basics of photography with limited photographic skills.
- The novice grade provides an avenue for beginners to offer their work for helpful comments and suggestions, without feeling threatened by the level of criticism and technical comments that is required for the higher grades.
- Some technical errors are tolerated, and the criticism is generally positive.
- **All work submitted will be judged as Acceptance, Highly Commended, or Honours for each entry in each section.**
- When a member has achieved a total of five honours, dating from February 2008, they **MUST** progress immediately to the Intermediate grade. The member will be notified by the competition secretary when this occurs.
- All competition points are retained in the novice grade, and credited at the end of the year for the purpose of the aggregate points award within that grade.

Intermediate:

- An intermediate worker must show greater understanding of the basics of photography and be generally producing work that shows competency in exposure, focus and composition.
- The evaluation is more critical.

- If work submitted is not to the accepted standard it may be "not accepted" by the judge. When a member has achieved a total of five honours in the Intermediate grade, dating from February 2010, they MUST progress immediately to the Advanced grade. The member will be notified by the competition secretary when this occurs.
- All competition points are retained in the intermediate grade, and credited at the end of the year for the purpose of the aggregate points award within that grade.

Advanced:

- An advanced worker will be encouraged to:
 - Participate at National Levels
 - Expand on all aspects of photography
 - Learn the techniques of critiquing work, so they can take part in the process of evaluating or judging.
 - Apply for PSNZ honours (Licentiate or Associateship)
 - If work submitted is not to the accepted standard it may be "not accepted" by the judge.
 - When a member has achieved a total of ten honours in the advanced grade, dating from February 2008, they MUST progress immediately to the Salon grade. The member will be notified by the competition secretary when this occurs.
- All competition points are retained in the Advanced grade, and credited at the end of the year for the purpose of the aggregate points award within that grade.

Salon:

- A member experienced and skilled in photography.
- Work is expected to be technically competent as well as of a very high aesthetic quality.
- Encouragement will be given to work towards and achieve further PSNZ Honours.
- Member will help other members to achieve their goals.
- If work submitted is not to the accepted standard it may be "not accepted" by the judge.

Competition Guidelines.

- All entries are to be assessed by suitably experienced people, either within the Club or external. Preference will be given towards members of the PSNZ selection panel.
- The directions to the assessor will reflect the Club's intention to secure fair criticism which should be direct and be designed to encourage improvement and excellence.
- A member may choose to work with a film camera or a digital camera and photo enhancing software.
- Which ever system is used, proficiency will be expected according to the standard of their given grading.
- Previously submitted work may be submitted in a later monthly evaluation only after judges comments have been acted upon or significant changes made.
- Optically created images, film or digital, manipulated or enhanced by either darkroom or

electronic processing or art working, are acceptable for all entries.

- **Exception:** Digitally manipulated images are not eligible for Nature or Natural History entries. Competition rules follow those produced by the Photographic Society of New Zealand, an excerpt of which is provided above.
- **Note:** Images generated solely by electronic means (e.g. Fractals or similar) are NOT Eligible for entry in any club or national level work or competition.
- Entries close on the meeting night unless stated.

- The Competition Secretary may change the number of entries per person if necessary when the entries are too low or high.

- **Titles:** A short title or identity should be given for **every** image, to enable the assessor to refer to it when making comments.
- Sets should be titled as a set.

Presentation

- All work, assessments, competition and exhibition entries, whether prints or projected images, are to be correctly prepared and presented as per the requirements below.
- The prescription used is that of the PSNZ which means that all work presented will not have to be remounted or sized if you wish to submit it to outside salons and competitions.
- Multiple images used on one mount are classed as one image.
- A set is individual images on individual mounts.
- All film images must be the work of the entrant, but processing, mounting, printing may be done commercially.
- All digital images must be the work of the entrant although printing and mounting may be done commercially if chosen.
- All entries must meet the correct presentation criteria as outlined below. **Entries that do not meet the correct presentation criteria will not be accepted.**

Prints:

- Prints must be mounted with a matt for display with a minimum mounted size of 230mm x 180mm and up to a maximum mounted size of 510mm x 410mm.
- The mount and matte should be of cardboard or similar material such as foam core.
- Reusable mounts are accepted and an economical way to present printed work. Permanently mounted prints are recommended for national level competition.
- Prints should be protected for delivery to the Competition Secretary by suitable wrapping and carrier. We suggest an 'art carrier', obtainable from commercial stationers. Mounting your prints costs money; it is worthwhile spending a little extra to avoid damage in transit.
- Framed or glass covered prints or mounts with exposed Velcro or similar (which may cause damage to other prints) are not accepted.
- All printed image entries must be accompanied by an identical jpeg digital image. This will allow the printed image to be displayed on screen for judging as well as for club display. The accompanied digital image is to be identified and named in the same manner as for projected image identification (see projected digital images)
- Print Identification:
 Identification should appear centred on at the top of the reverse side of the print in the following format
 - Your Title
 - Subject O = Open, S = set subject,
 - Your club number

- Your grade
- Under score between i.e.: At the Beach_O_6_Novice
- DO NOT use your name.

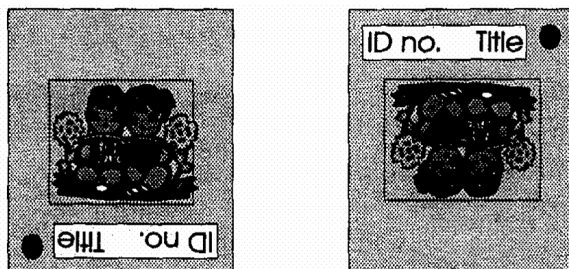
Projected Digital Images.

- Images are to be saved as a jpeg file.
- In line with PSNZ guidelines the width of an image can be no greater than 1024 horizontal and 768 vertical pixels
- The image can be enhanced, manipulated, or just as it was taken.
- The exception is the nature and digital art images which must fit the rules associated with those specific categories.

- Projected Image Identification – File Name
 - Your Title
 - Subject O = Open, S = set subject,
 - Your club number
 - Your grade
 - Under score between
 - This is to be the file name i.e.: **At the Beach_O_6_Novice**
 - Submit the images on a CD or Memory stick, or via email (see web-site). On the disc, label with your Club number, grade and a list of titles.

Slides

- Slides must be spotted in the bottom left hand corner when held to view normally.
- A label with your Camera Club ID number and title should be placed on this side.
- The slides should preferably be submitted in a box with a lid, or an envelope.
- Your Club ID, grade and subjects should be repeated on the outside.
- A list of titles shall be included.



Judging/Grading Panel

At the first committee meeting of the year a Judging/Grading Panel will be appointed for that year, including at least one Salon member, or appropriately qualified*, experienced photographer and at least two other Advanced members who are working towards PSNZ judging accreditation. The Club Judging Panel judging Club competitions shall consist of three judges from this group and must include a Salon member or appropriately qualified and experienced photographer. Club judging panel members should be actively contributing images.

* *Appropriately qualified photographer means one with PSNZ judging accreditation, professional photographic industry experience or qualifications.*

Awards List

Honours:

Monthly Evaluation for individual work as appropriate. All Grades

Mid Year:

David Gould Trophy: 1st placed night print or projected image (for each grade)

Nature Trophy: 1st placed nature print or projected image (for each grade)

Mike Barkman Memorial: 1st placed B &W print or projected image (for each grade)

The Bonnington Trophy: 1st placed projected audio visual.

End of Year:

Individual Open: 1st placed print or projected image (for each grade)

George Bennett Trophy: 1st placed set of six prints or projected images (for each grade)