



Waverley Camera Club By-Laws

Latest changes highlighted

Document owner: - WCC President

INTRODUCTION:

The Waverley Camera Club, is an Association Incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (the Act), (Registered No. A0023863S).

This document outlines the Competition (and other) Rules of the club and should be read in conjunction with the Rules of Association. In the event of any conflict between the Rules of Association and these By-Laws, the Rules of Association take precedence.

The content of these By-Laws is decided by the Committee and authorised by the current President. They are published by the Committee to all members whenever any significant change occurs and following the AGM each year after including anything decided as a result of that AGM.

1. Rules regarding image eligibility for WCC competitions.

WCC holds competitions amongst our Members (Internal competitions) and between our members and other photographers (Interclub competitions). The limitations of these competitions are defined in terms of content and format for the purpose of fairness to all entrants, and as guidance for Stewards and Judges. Such definitions in regard to Interclub competition are set by the organisers of those competitions, however WCC attempts to align our definitions with most Interclub definitions such that entries into our internal competitions will usually be eligible for entry into Interclub competitions without change.

This section sets out definitions (defined limitations for a qualifying entry) for our internal competitions in terms of Format (EDI or Print), Colour (Monochrome, Greyscale or Unrestricted), Content (how and by whom the content was created) and Subject (genre/ topic).

A. Format

- EDI (electronically displayed image)
 - a JPEG file in the sRGB colour space
 - file size of 5 MB or less and
 - no more than 1920 pixels wide and no more than 1080 pixels tall (to fit the screen when set up for projection)
 - File names (and image titles) can only include the following characters:
 - a to z, uppercase or lowercase
 - 0 to 9
 - single spaces
 - Please note that all other punctuation marks (commas, apostrophes, hyphens, slashes, ampersands etc.) are no longer allowed
- Print
 - An image physically and durably produced on a solid surface.
 - All different types of print including colour, black and white, photogram series, photo-essay, toned, and hand-coloured prints are acceptable,



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provided that the presented image shows evidence of an underlying photographic image. (VAPS)

- 3 dimensional elements are limited to the texture (fine topography, e.g. canvas) of the surface on which the image is printed.
- The resulting image and surface must be mounted (with backing board, matting etc.) for presentation whilst ensuring that the final product fits within a maximum volume of 407mm x 508mm x 5mm.
- All entries must be securely constructed to ensure protection of this and other entries against damage during handling for competition purposes.
- Member number, month/ year and image title are to be written on the back, top left with an arrow indicating the top.
- For WCC competitions, the photographer must also create and submit an EDI version of the entry.

B. Colour

- Unrestricted – Unless otherwise specified, each position on an image can display any amount of light and any hue without restriction.
- Monochrome – each position on an image can display a different amount of light (luminance), but all positions must be the same hue (such as can be produced by combining a greyscale image with any single colour overlay). It includes greyscale photography, but may use any single hue.
- Greyscale (sometimes referred to as Black and White) – This is a specific group of monochrome images containing only shades of grey ranging from black to white.

C. Meaning of some terms used here in regard to Content and Subject:

- **Predominant** content – any element/s of an image (there may be more than one) which significantly draw the attention of a typical viewer in the context of the other elements of the image. Note: Such significance may be interpreted differently by the Photographer, the competition Steward and the Judge. Borders, strokes, and single colour overlays and backgrounds (e.g., a black background behind a subject) are not considered predominant content.
- **Photographic** content – elements (including entire images or parts thereof) which have been made by recording light via electronic light sensing device/s (such as in cameras and scanners) or light sensitive materials (such as photographic films and papers).
- **Computer generated** content – elements (including entire images or parts thereof) which have been created by electronic means (usually via computer graphics software tools), but not originating as photographic content.
- **AI generated** content, for the purpose of this document, is a particular type of Computer generated content which relies on machine learning from a wide database of images from many creators/ sources, and uses that learning to generate (usually based on a text prompt) entire images or elements which can be



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incorporated into an image. (This type of content is **not** allowed in any WCC competitions.)

- **Acquired** content – Photographic or digital content which has been created by someone other than the photographer, and which the photographer has acquired the legal permission of the owner of the copyright to incorporate into the photographer's own work and to publicly display. (This type of content is **not** allowed in any competition entries, with the exception of WCC internal Creative competitions only)

D. Content Requirements (unless explicitly overridden by a specific subject definition)

- The image must be the photographer's own work including exposing all the images and any post-production editing.
- The photographer is responsible to ensure that they have the legal right to incorporate and display any element which they include in an image entered into any WCC competition. This includes but is not limited to commercial, copyright, decency and privacy considerations.
- In camera and post production manipulation, combination and editing of any sort is allowed, so long as it does not introduce Acquired content.
- All Predominant content must be Photographic content.
- Computer generated content must not be Predominant content.
- AI generated content is not allowed.
- Acquired content is not allowed.
- The image must not include the photographer's identification including aliases, logos or watermarking.

E. Subject

The subject (genre/ topic/ subject) is chosen, defined and published for particular competitions, such that entries are restricted to certain types of subject matter (examples are Architecture, Portrait, Macro, etc.) as defined by the name and associated definition of the Subject. The Subject definition requirements may differ from the content requirements set out above, and if so the explicit limitations and allowances in the Subject definition take precedence for that competition.

Subject definitions may be combined with a stated format and/or colour type as set out above for a particular competition in a particular month. For internal WCC competitions, the following Subject definitions are common cases worthy of inclusion here.

- **Open** – images for these competitions are open to and include all subjects (genres/ topics/ "set subjects") and the content requirements set out above apply.



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- **Creative (Internal WCC competitions only)** – An image which depicts an imagined scene, or unusual combinations, alterations and/ or perspectives of reality. Content requirements set out above apply, with the following exceptions/ variations:
 - Acquired content is allowed but must not be Predominant content. (The WCC competition upload site for Creative competitions requires the Photographer to declare whether there is any Acquired content or not.)
 - Computer generated content may be Predominant content
 - AI generated content is not allowed.

2. How does the competition work?

- a. Members are invited and encouraged to submit photographs into the monthly competition categories in their group, via the WCC competition upload site (<https://upload.waverleycameraclub.org/>).
- b. Entry into the club's competitions is conditional upon financial membership. Entries from non-financial members do not qualify for entry.
- c. Only one image may be submitted in each section per member per month with the exception of the End of Year competition.
- d. EDI images must be uploaded using the WCC competition upload site.
- e. Print entries are brought to the meeting on the due date or delivered to the competition steward by prior arrangement. An EDI version of the print is also uploaded to the WCC competition upload site.
- f. Entries must be submitted by the due date scheduled.
- g. The WCC Competition Steward vets all entries and advises any member whose entry clearly does not comply with competition rules (e.g a full colour image entered into a monochrome competition; or a print which is poorly mounted). **Although rarely used, the Competition Steward has the authority to forward entered images to a review panel which may reject the image.** If time allows, the entrant is given the right to re-enter a substitute image.
- h. Submissions are appraised by the judge who selects images of note and presents awards – merit, highly commended, monthly winner – which then receive points that aggregate over the year. It is intended by WCC that all submissions receive feedback from the judge of the competition, usually verbally at the competition night. The judge does not have the authority to require that an image be removed from competition, although they have the right not to comment on any particular image.
- i. An image NOT receiving an award of Merit or Highly Commended or Section Winner may be re-entered in a subsequent calendar year. The image may be changed. No further re-entries of that original image (or as amended) are permitted, with exception of the End of Year Competition.
- j. WCC reserves the right to select images entered into its internal competitions for submission into external WCC sanctioned events. Ownership of images remains with the photographer at all times.

3. Review of entries for compliance with Set Subject definition

- a. When the committee determines the set subjects for each month of the year, they also work on the definitions drawing from various sources, such as PSA & APS. These



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definitions are provided to the members well ahead of time for consideration and comments.

- b. Once the set subjects and definitions are issued to all club members, there is an expectation that the images will be created to comply with the definition and Club By-Laws. The committee in no way wants to curb anyone's creativity, thus members can be as creative as they want as long as it fits within the definition.
- c. Once images are submitted into the upload system, the competition steward may pre-vet entries for adherence to the set subject definition. If the image has the potential of being forwarded to a review panel, the member is contacted via email to clarify their awareness of the set subject definition.
- d. Once entry submission closes for a competition, the Competition Steward will review the images. For images that may not adhere to the definition, the Competition Steward will forward them to a review panel
- e. Review panel consists of four (4) committee members (excluding the competition steward) and arranged by the President. The panel will convene within 72 hours, and based upon the majority decision, the following action will occur:
 - (a) The panel says the image adheres to the definition, it stays in the competition, and no further action occurs.
 - (b) The panel concludes (75% majority required) the image does not meet one or more requirements the review panel will advise the competition steward as to the reasons why.
- f. If the review panel finds as per 3 c. (b) above, a member of the panel then rings the author and explains the review panel's decision within 48 hours, and:
 - (a) If the author concurs with the reasons, they then replace or withdraw the image in that competition category, and no further action takes place.
 - (b) If the author does not agree with the reasons, and still wants their image in the competition, the image remains in the competition. When the images are sent to the judge, the judge may be advised as to the identified non-compliance of this image.

4. Judging and scoring of competition Entries.

- a. For all monthly competitions a guest judge provides feedback and awards Merits and Highly Commended to images they feel are deserving of such awards. One image from each section is also nominated as the overall winner in that section. Judges are requested to award up to one third of entries. This is subject to discretion in the event of low entry numbers.
- b. Points leading to end of year competitions are awarded as follows:
 1. Merit award – 2 aggregate points;
 2. Highly commended award – 3 aggregate points;
 3. Section winner – 4 aggregate points.

5. End of year competition and awards

- a. Any image entered for competition during the course of the year may be entered into an annual End of Year Competition. The competition consists of 3 sections for each of Intermediate and Advanced Group (Open print, Colour EDI, Monochrome EDI).



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Additional categories may be added as required. Awards are judged for Intermediate and Advanced Groups.

- b. Members may enter a maximum of 2 images in each section.
- c. Each entry must have been entered into a monthly competition during that year, be in the same format and may be altered (for example to incorporate Judges' comments).
 1. Alterations are limited to ensure that the altered (EOY) version is clearly recognizable as a revision of the same image as entered in the monthly competitions. Conversions from colour to monochrome (or vice versa) are allowed.
 2. A print must have been previously entered as a print, and an EDI must have been previously entered as an Open EDI or Set Subject entry. An EDI cannot be printed and entered as a print, or vice versa.
- d. Images nominated for inclusion in the EOY competition retain the same image name as used previously.
- e. At the end of each year a President's Trophy is awarded for a set subject competition, one entry per member, the subject and winner is determined by the president.
- f. At the end of each year aggregate awards are made to the highest scoring members in each group, in each of the competition sections.
- g. Members promoted to Advanced Group part way through the year still compete in Intermediate Group for the aggregate points award at the end of that year, including any points earned in Advanced.
- h. In addition there is an overall "Top Scorer" Award for the member who scores the most aggregate points over all categories for the year, regardless of group.

6. Outing Award

- a. An Outing Award is made each month for an image selected from images uploaded to the Club's photo sharing site ("SmugMug") by participants following each outing. The Judge (chosen by the committee) is free to set their own criteria as to which image qualifies for the award; however, it is often used as an opportunity to recognise the work of less experienced members. The winner is announced at the subsequent monthly competition night.

7. Membership

The following Membership Categories have been defined.

Member Category	Definition
Member	Full voting and competing rights.
Associate	Children under 15 who have full competing rights but may not vote. Associates are welcome at all WCC events.



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Membership fees are based on an amount determined by the committee and ratified at the AGM. Discounts on the annual fee are available as follows: -

Discount Category	Definition	Annual Fees (% of Member fees to nearest \$10)
Member	Full voting and competing rights.	100%
Associate	Children under 15 who have full competing rights but may not vote. Associates are welcome at all WCC events.	40%
Concessional	Members over 60 years of age.	90%
Family	Parents and any number of Children under 18 yrs. Parents are Members and have voting rights and have full competition rights, Children are associate members and may compete but do not have voting rights.	200%
Student	Members who are full time students, less than 25 years of age – full voting and competing rights.	40%
Life Member	Full voting and competing rights. Life Membership is awarded by the Committee from time to time to members who have given outstanding service to the club, its members and its administration.	0%

Any member who has not paid the appropriate fee for Membership will be considered a non-financial Member and is not qualified to vote or compete until payment is made.

Life Members are considered financial members even though their fees are currently set at \$0.

8. Groups

- The groups are designed to provide a more balanced competitive environment by grouping members with similar skill levels.

There are 2 groups:

Advanced

This group includes the club's best photographers. This group receives comments/feedback from the judges as well as awards as allocated. If members choose to enter into Advanced Group they understand they are competing against the better photographers in our Club.

Intermediate

This group is comprised of all other members (including beginners) who wish to compete for awards, but do not feel they have sufficient skill to compete in the Advanced Group. This group receives comments/feedback from the judge as well as awards as allocated.



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9. Moving between groups

- a. A new Member's group is determined initially upon becoming a member, and then monitored for several months as required.
- b. A member may request promotion from Intermediate to Advanced Group at any time. The committee usually allows this, although no further changes are considered for the remainder of the year.
- c. The committee may approach a member in the Intermediate group to encourage/request them to move up to the Advanced group, after taking into consideration a number of factors that include the following:
 1. Prior demonstrated ability, at other Camera Clubs and/or via publicly recognised photographic competitions.
 2. Clear high scoring in aggregate scores for the Intermediate group for a calendar year.
 3. Demonstration of consistently high photographic competency in monthly competition entries on a per entry basis, where the total number of entries is limited, thus limiting aggregate score.
- d. A member may request relegation from Advanced to Intermediate at any time. The committee considers this in the light of any reason why the member might no longer be competitive in the Advanced Group.
- e. A member is entitled to appeal their grading, but the decision of the committee following a review is final.

10. Membership Register

The Secretary is responsible for ensuring the Membership Register is maintained (usually delegated to the Membership Officer), This Register contains member information necessary for compliance with legal requirements. This register is available to be examined by members, but may not be used improperly, as defined by the Act.

11. Membership activation and de-activation

- a. Each application for membership is submitted to the committee for approval at the first available opportunity. Pending formal approval by the committee, an applicant who has paid the requisite membership fee is entitled to participate in the activities of the club. If the application is subsequently declined, the amount paid is refunded to the applicant in full.
- b. An applicant approved after 30th June shall pay 50% of the annual fee, covering membership until Dec 31st.
- c. An applicant approved after 31st August pays the full annual fee which is deemed to be full payment until December of the following year
- d. The period of membership is from 1st January to 31st December in any year.
- e. A Member who has paid the appropriate membership fee for the current year is considered a financial member.
- f. A Member who has not paid the appropriate membership fee for the current year is considered a non-financial member, and is not qualified to enter competitions or to vote.
- g. A Member who resigns from the Club during a year has their contact details removed from the Membership Register and contact from the Club ceases.



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- h. A Member who has not resigned, but has not paid the appropriate membership fee for a full year is deemed to have resigned as of December 31st of that (non-financial) year. Under these circumstances, the member's contact details are removed from the Membership Register.

RECENT DOCUMENT HISTORY:

Date	BRIEF description of changes	Owner (name)
1/12/2018	New: Issue 1	Vicki Moritz
26/8/2024	Issue 7 Committee can ask a member to move to Advanced group	Ian Coombs
14/4/2025	Issue 8 Image Compliance review panel timings added. Removed restrictions on applied content on prints and replaced with VAPS wording.	Ian Coombs
1/09/2025	Fees stated as % of full membership rather than \$	John Crawford
1/08/2026	Clarification of details in the competition review panel process	John Crawford