



FCC COMPETITION DEFINITIONS

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- The use of Artificial Intelligence is **NOT** permitted in any section. AI refers to any photograph or element generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence.

Monochrome (Print and Digital Image)

- Any photograph containing shades of only one colour (including black and white).
- If toning is carried out, it must be over the total photograph; partial toning and/or the addition of one extra colour is not acceptable in a monochrome section.

Colour (Print or Digital Image)

- Any photograph that is not monochrome.

Nature (Print or Digital Image)

The FCC has adopted the APS definition for Nature.

- 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.
- **There is no separate wildlife section.**

Digital Art/Creative

- This is an image that has been created in camera (for example motion blur, double exposure) or had post processing manipulation and artistic effects added.
- The image must have a basic photograph origin, the original exposure and all post processing must be the work of the Image Creator.
- The storytelling element of the image should be considered.
- **Art appropriation is not permitted. The use of other people's artwork in images as a dominate element is not permitted.**
- Ways of creating a digital art image include but are not limited to:
 - **Different opacities** - several views of the same person or main subjected blended into one image using different opacities
 - **Multiple Exposures** - photographing an activity at continuous exposure capturing movement and then blending several exposures into one image.
 - **Stepping out of the frame** - placing part of the image outside the frame to give a 3D effect.
 - **Blended** - two or more images taken in different place blended into one image to create a completely new scene and tell a new story.
 - **Double Exposure** - where 2 images are blended into one image (either in camera or in post processing)
 - **Filters** - Filters are permitted provided they do not introduce a new element to the image that the Image Creator has not created themselves. For example the sky replacement filter should use your own image. Stock images are not permitted. Filters which add a texture or pattern are permitted provided the texture or pattern has been created by the Image Creator. Imported textures & patterns are not permitted.
 - **Creative Abstract** - Can be made using distortion tools such as the liquify tool. A creative abstract does not represent a true record of the subject.
 - **Composite Images** - whether they are of a realistic scene or an unrealistic scene, using editing techniques to build a scene from different elements (all of which have been photographed by the Image Creator). Stock images are not permitted. Clip art is not permitted.
 - **Vector/Raster Layers** – The use of basic tools/brushes in photoshop are permitted to create Vector/Raster Layers provided the contents have been created by the Image Creator. Custom tools/brushes/textures must have been created by the Image Creator. Vector/Raster Layers can only amount to 50% of the image.

Australian Landscape

- A photograph of Australian natural land or coastal scenery, which may include people, buildings, animals, or other objects (example manmade roads/tracks & fences) provided these elements do not dominate the photograph.
- Elements such as cultivated fields, farms and astrophotography are permitted but must not dominate the photograph. Seascapes with no land do not fit the section.
- No modification that changes the truth of the Landscape image is allowed. Images may be cropped but no other technique that removes, adds to 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.

Drone/Aerial Photography

- Photographs from an aircraft or other airborne platforms such as a drone.
- Other platforms for aerial photography include fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, balloons, pigeons, kites, or using action cameras while skydiving or wingsuiting. Handheld cameras may be manually operated by the photographer, while mounted cameras are usually remotely operated or triggered automatically. Focus should be on landscapes and surface objects.
- No modification that changes the truth of the Landscape 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.