



BALLARAT CAMERA CLUB Inc.

Reg. No. A004054F

A B N 65 055 234 508

Postal address: P.O. Box 1362,

Bakery Hill 3354

www.ballaratcameraclub.org.au

Members' Information Folder

This folder has been developed to provide existing and intending members with information about the Ballarat Camera Club's activities.

Introduction

Welcome to the Ballarat Camera Club, a club which strives to encourage and promote photography in and around Ballarat.

We hope that you have an interesting and informative time with us.

The basic aim of the club is to provide opportunities for all members to learn about and improve their photography, regardless of their level of competence. If you decide to join us, we hope we can meet your particular need in photography. All members are willing to help you.

The Club meets each month on the second Wednesday for Print & Slide competition at Prince of Wales Park off Gillies St, Ballarat at 7.30 pm, and often at another time for practical activities which may be at other venues. The Club also has a digital group which meets on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm at a different venue.

Our syllabus is varied, providing competitions, demonstrations, lectures, and practical activities including excursions and camps. Recent events have included a visit to Horsham Colour Lab, an outing to Blackwood in search of fungi, a demonstration of printing and mounting to competition requirements, digital restoration of old B&W photos, use of Photoshop and related software, a camp at Port Fairy, and experimenting with slave flash units.

Membership of the club entitles you to:-

- Participate in monthly competitions.
- Attend the digital group.
- Compete for our Annual Awards.
- Obtain discounts from participating photographic related shops.
- The Club's monthly newsletter, *Flare*, either by email or printed.
- VAPS *Newsbrief* – by email or hard copy.
- Participate in Interclub competitions with Geelong, Ballarat YMCA Camera Group and VAPS.

You are welcome to come to three meetings before you feel obliged to pay the annual membership fee. Fees are due in August when the Annual General Meeting is held.

Monthly Competitions – Members may enter up to 6 entries overall in large prints, small prints and/or slides in sections Open and/or Set Topic (which is usually 6 different sections); however members may not put any more than 3 entries in any one section. Images submitted for competition receive helpful critiques and score points. Just attending meetings to view the images is a good way to learn how to improve composition and create impact in your photos. Participation in the monthly competitions is not compulsory.

Digital Group - On the first Monday of each month this group meets at a member's home at 7.30 pm. The relaxed atmosphere enables participants to ask for help in various areas such as understanding their camera, learning how to improve their photos with better technical know-how, and widening their skills with image-editing software such as Photoshop and Photoshop Elements. A theme may be set for the evening, or the meeting may divide

into separate groups to better meet participants' needs. The whole experience is about sharing information.

Newsletter – *Flare* is prepared each month, detailing forthcoming activities, recent events, and competition results for prints/slides. Members are encouraged to contribute articles. This is emailed just prior to the first meeting of the month, and hard copies are available at the meeting for members without email.

Annual Awards – Prints/slides entered during the year attract points which are totalled at the end of the competition year for Aggregate Awards.

Prints/slides which were entered during the year can be submitted to the Annuals Convener, with entry form detailing section and month entered, for judging by a well-qualified photographer.

Annual Awards night takes the form of a dinner followed by presentation of the print and slide entries, with comments on the winning images. Presentation of awards and certificates is followed by a display of the guest judge's work.

A special *Flare* is printed for this occasion.

Discounts are available from participating stores on production of your membership card. Check with committee members.

VAPS and Newsbrief – Victorian Association of Photographic Societies. Most camera groups in Victoria are affiliated with this body which covers our insurance and organizes a yearly convention ("muster") with workshops, outings, annual dinner and awards. It is responsible for awards for services to the photographic community. www.vaps.org.au

Newsbrief is the monthly newsletter, and is transmitted free by email (forwarded by our Publicity Officer) or hard copy posted for \$16 annually. Our club's hard copy is available at monthly meetings.

Interclub Competitions – These are hotly contested competitions between usually one other club and ourselves.

Ballarat/Geelong Interclub - Generally held in November, this is an Open competition for large prints. (no set topic). Each club takes it in turn to organize the competition, providing the judge, venue and supper. 20 prints are entered*. (*This number can be varied by agreement. Few members now use slide film and this section has been dropped from the competition.).

Ballarat/YMCA Interclub: Held on the second Saturday in September, this competition, as well as Open, has set topics in both small prints and slides which are determined by the club whose turn it is to organize the event. From 2010 slides will not be entered.

VAPS Interclub: Most affiliated clubs enter this competition which is held in conjunction with the annual convention or "muster". Sections include slides, large and small prints, and electronically projected digital images. Entries are on show at the convention and a catalogue/CD is generated, available at monthly meetings.

Australian Photographic Society: The national body (which you join as an individual) hosts an annual convention – APSCON – held around the country. Brief news from APS can be found in the monthly magazine *Australian Photography*, and membership entitles you to the Society's own detailed publication. You can join folios for prints, slides and online images whereby your peers can comment on your work.

www.australianphotographicsociety.org.au

National Exhibitions: A number of National Photographic Competitions are held around Australia, two in Victoria – Ballarat and Warragul. Entry to these competitions counts towards receiving APS honours; membership of APS is necessary.

Ballarat Camera Club is proud to run the **Ballarat National**, which has been running for approximately 40 years. Around 1000 prints are submitted from all over Australia.

This competition takes place over the summer, with the prints being hung in the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery for the Christmas – New Year period in 2010 - 2011. The Club is very busy from Judging Day until the prints go into the gallery, with a catalogue being generated, and accepted prints being framed.

All members' participation on judging day is appreciated, with so many prints to be set out and collected, scores entered in the computer, prints sorted into acceptances and non-acceptances, ready for photographing and framing. Entry to this competition is open to all photographers; prints must be mounted to 16" x 20" (for framing purposes). Entry forms are available in good time and can be sent by post or email from the Publicity Officer.

Other Nationals' entry forms are made available at monthly meetings when they are received.

A variety of other photographic competitions are advertised during the year; entry forms are made available when they are received, or online details made available.

International Exhibitions – One international exhibition is held in Victoria: VIGEX – Victorian International Geelong Exhibition, which as its name suggests is held in Geelong, every second year. www.vigex.org.au

Your committee 2009 - 2010

<i>President</i>	Bill Vermeend
<i>Vice President</i>	Keith Aggett
<i>Treasurer</i>	Kerry Daniell
<i>Secretary</i>	Carol Hall
<i>Flare Editor</i>	Betty Bibby
<i>Print & Slide Steward</i>	Keith Aggett
<i>Webmaster</i>	Jamie Walhouse
<i>Assistant Webmaster</i>	Betty Bibby
<i>Annuals Co-ordinator</i>	Jenny Leith
<i>Publicity & Information</i>	Liz Cocks info@ballaratcameraclub.org.au
<i>Extra hands</i>	Ann Pipkorn Sandie Deverall

We ask that members wear name badges so that new arrivals can get to know everyone more easily. They can be ordered (approx. \$8) from Stephen Moten. Club cloth badges (optional) are available for \$8 from the secretary. We also require members to sign the attendance book at all club functions for insurance purposes.

New Members and Visitors are always welcome. For further information contact:

Liz Cocks, Publicity Officer 03 5339 2650 or email

info@ballaratcameraclub.org.au

Monthly Competition Rules

The Club will conduct competitions for Prints and Slides, with an Open & Set Topic for each. There shall be no minimum number of competitors, prints or slides for a competition to be held. Prints may be in either of two formats – Large or Small. Home processed black & white and colour prints, commercially processed colour prints and digitally produced prints will be accepted in each of the large or small print competitions.

1. Maximum of three images per section.
2. Entries:- All original images must be the work of the competitor.
3. Eligibility:- Competitions are open to all financial members.
4. Topics and Definitions:- When selecting topics for all competitions the Committee will prepare a definition for each topic and arrange for copies of these to be available to all members.
5. Competitions:- will be held on the second Wednesday of each month, excepting December and January, when there are no competitions.
6. Monthly competitions shall be judged under the following conditions:
 - a) The score shall be within the range of 0 to 15 points. In practice, 6 is considered the minimum. If three judges are scoring, each one will give a score out of 5, giving a total score out of 15.
 - b) After the score has been announced, the judge/s shall comment on the entry.
 - c) For the purpose of the Annual Aggregate Award, points shall be granted on the following basis:-
 - i) Non-acceptances, score 7 or less
1 point per print/slide (*under review*)
 - ii) Acceptance, score 8,9 or 10
2 points per print/slide
 - iii) Merit, score 11 or 12
4 points per print/slide
 - iv) Honour, score 13, 14 or 15
6 point per print/slide
7. Prints/slides which have received an acceptance in monthly competitions, may not be shown again in monthly competitions (either set topic or open).
8. Prints/slides, which are not accepted in monthly competition may be shown a maximum of three times.
9. **The total number of images per month – slides and prints – may not exceed 6.**

All prints must be mounted, and be clearly marked with relevant information regarding print and maker on the reverse of the print. Include an arrow to indicate the top of the print.

Slides must be named and spotted ready for showing. A spot should be placed in the bottom left corner when viewing the slide in the hand. Slides must be in standard mounts 50mm x 50mm, and 2.5mm thick. Cardboard mounts are not accepted.

A monthly entry form with appropriate information must accompany prints/slides, and can be obtained from the Print & Slide Steward. For time management purposes this should all be done before attending the meeting.

Prints:- Large

1. There shall be two sections each month:- Open and Set Topic.*
2. Size of mount NOT to exceed 16" x 20" (400mm x 500mm).
3. Prints may be any size between 6" x 8" (150mm x 200 mm) and 16" x 20" or equivalent area.

Prints:- Small

1. There shall be two sections each month:- Open and Set Topic.*
2. Size of mount NOT to exceed 8" x 10" (200mm x 255mm).
3. Prints must be smaller than 6" x 8" (150mm x 200mm) or equivalent area.
4. **NB.** If a small print is selected by the club for the Small Print section (designed for novices) of the VAPS Interclub Competition it must be no larger than 7" x 5" **and the mount must be 10" x 8"**. You may wish to follow this rule in our club competition.

Slides

1. Slide format is 35mm and slides may be masked as the maker desires.
2. There shall be two sections each month:- Open and Set topic.*
3. Total of 6 slides overall may be entered. Maximum of 3 slides per section.

**These rules may be varied from time to time*

Monthly Progressive Scoring

This is separate from the aggregate scoring and keeps a continuous score until the entrant reaches 300 points. The system was established to encourage newcomers and reward those who regularly enter our monthly competitions. As from February 2008 the following awards will be made:

Certificates will be awarded when the entrant reaches 50 and then 150 points, and a medal will be presented when 300 points are achieved.

The points are 2 points for each acceptance;
3 points for each merit;
4 points for each honour.

The certificates and/or medal are presented at the monthly meeting after the points are earned.

Annual Competition

1. The Annual Awards Night will be held in July.
2. The last night that prints can be submitted to monthly competitions for eligibility of entry into Annual Competition is print/slide night in April.
3. Entries for the Annual Competitions must be submitted on the print/slide night in May, with information of print and maker clearly marked on the reverse, and a correctly filled-in entry form. Once again for time management purposes, this should be done prior to attending the meeting. Results are presented at the Annual Awards Night in July.
4. All prints (large & small) must be mounted as per rules for monthly competitions.
5. Competitors may submit a portfolio with a maximum of 10* images per maker (To be judged as Open). * *This number may be varied at the committee's discretion.*
6. There shall be no minimum number of competitors or prints/slides for a competition to be held.
7. Annual Competitions will be held in the categories Slides, Large Prints and Small Prints as per the entry form supplied by the Annuals Co-ordinator each year.
8. All entries shall either:-
 - a) have been presented at monthly club meetings within the period preceding the Annual Award Night:- May of one year to April of the following year, with the exception of Workshop*, which must have been taken at club workshops or activities between 1st February of the preceding year and 30th April of the current year. * *This category is currently under review.*
 - b) be modified prints or slides made from the original negative or slide within the stipulated period. (i.e. cropped, enlarged, masked).
9. Where prints/slides have been selected for outside competitions (such as VAPS, APS, our own Interclubs) and are not available at the closing date for the year in which they would normally be entered they may be entered in the Annual Competition for the following year, with the exception of Workshop activities.
10. Annual Competitions shall be judged on the basis of first, second and third, 'Highly Commended' as recommended by the judge(s), for the Portfolio, with all images being eligible for:

Large Prints: Open; Landscape/Seascape/Nature*; People/Portrait.

Small Prints: Open; Landscape/Seascape/Nature*.

** Nature may be a separate category at the committee's discretion.*

Slides: Open.

Best Large Print.

Best Small Print.

Best Black & White.

Best Creative Print.

Best Slide.

Best Workshop entry.

Best Portfolio

DEFINITIONS

Open – Any subject treated pictorially, i.e. good design, arrangement and composition.

Nature – Which may include Landscape/Seascape. A picture featuring living, untamed animals and uncultivated plants in natural habitat, geology and the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs.

Workshop/Activity – Must have been a club activity or workshop within the past competition period of the Annual for which it is entered. Prints entered in this section do not need to have been presented in monthly competition.

Monochrome – Black and white prints and/or prints completely or partially toned, tinted or coloured by a single colour.

Creative – The main image must be photographically produced by the maker. It can be 2 or 3 dimensional, collage, montages or computer enhanced. Images created in mixed media will only be accepted in this section.

People/Portrait – Photograph of a person or persons that may range from head to a full-length study. Includes candid photographs & formal portraits.

Perpetual Trophies

Roger Purcell Trophy

Top Slide Overall

Herb Richmond Trophy

Top Print Overall

Bon Strange Trophy

Top Nature Print

David Grigg Trophy

Awarded at David's discretion to a member who has made a significant contribution to the club or who has been a particularly successful photographer over the past year.

Aggregates run from July – June inclusive.

Updated September 2009.