

Definitions of Categories

Monochrome

This definition has been taken from the FIAP definition for Monochrome and is used by the PAGB and L&CPU and has been adopted by the W.P.S.

Pictures entered must be monochromatic images (which may be singly toned in a single tone colour). Monochrome prints, which have one or more added colours/dyes, must be entered in the Open Colour section. Nature subjects in monochrome should be in the Nature section.

Nature

This definition is taken from the PAGB and L&CPU definition for Nature and has been adopted by the W.P.S.

Note that images already meeting the separate FIAP Definition of Nature will satisfy this less restrictive definition.

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.

The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.

Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible. Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is allowed. Cloning of image defects and minor distractions, including overlapping elements, are permitted when these do not distort the truth of the photographic statement.

Images entered as Nature can have landscape, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.

Access to biological subjects may be restricted. By entering a W.P.S. event, Photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licences.

Guidance

Guidance on implementation and interpretation of the PAGB, L&CPU and WPS Definition of Nature is available separately, and may be read in conjunction with this Definition.

Wildlife

Images entered in Wildlife sections are further defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Landscapes, geologic formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible in Wildlife sections.

Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds, and insects. Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species. Wildlife images may be entered in Nature sections.

Note, the Annual Individual and Club Competitions are Nature competitions. There is no Wildlife Competition but this definition will be used where a specific Wildlife Award is made.

Open colour

Colour includes all other images not classified as Mono or Nature.

Record

Record depicts a factual image, Historical or Contemporary. e.g. buildings, churches exterior or interior, coins, stamps, watches, clocks, etc. Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the record.

PAGB, L&CPU and WPS Definition of Nature

Guidance on Implementation and Interpretation

Artistic Nature, meaning photographs which started as Nature but which have been creatively modified to show a purely pictorial image, do not meet the Nature definition. They may be entered in "Open" events and categories, and do not count towards any Nature quota restriction.

It is not feasible to investigate adherence to the Nature definition when receiving multiple entries at an Event. Entrants should therefore expect the Organiser to consider that if an image looks like a Nature image, then it will be treated as a Nature image, even if the entrant suggests excessive manipulation. Entrants should plan their entries accordingly, whether that is to an Event, or in a Category or within a Quota. It is not desirable to have an Image excluded at short notice, before or after judging, when there is no facility for discussion. In a Nature Event or Category, the Judges should assume that any Image presented to them does meet the PAGB Nature definition.

After judging, the Organiser has discretion to review eligibility, including calling for the original file of the image, and this is likely for any awards.

Avoiding Image Repetition in Competitions Guidance for Club Competition Secretaries and Photographers

1. All W.P.S. events include the principle that an Image, once entered into a competition, is not eligible to be entered into the same competition.
2. The definition and boundaries of each competition are stated in the respective rules.
3. The W.P.S. are building an archive of entries, made via its on-line system, with validation software which can warn entrants of possible eligibility errors. The check can only be an estimate based on the combination of the title and the photographer's name.
4. The same title by a different photographer is always a different Image.
5. Any change between competitions in typing either the title or the photographer's name may mean that a warning is not given.
6. The system may give a false warning where two photographers share the same name, or have very similar names.
7. Best practice and highly desirable is, for the author of an image to give each image a unique title, and for that title never to be changed. A different title by the same author will be assumed to be a different image. However, it is the image which matters, and a review of image files will reveal an ineligible entry.
8. An image, which is sufficiently similar to another previously entered to a competition by the same photographer, will be ruled ineligible as being effectively the same Image.
9. Colour and monochrome versions from one original image are likely to be considered the same image, unless the artistic treatment is significantly different.
10. Similarity may also arise where elements are repeated in different composite Images.
11. The W.P.S. delegates decisions on eligibility to the discretion of each event organiser.
12. Photographers and Club Competition Secretaries should be aware of the similarity issue, even if two entries have been given different titles.
13. For clarity, the following are examples where an entry to a W.P.S. competition is always eligible:
 - a) An image, in either medium (print or projected), entered into one event remains eligible for a different competition in the same or subsequent year.
 - b) An image included in a selection bank e.g. the "Knock-Out Competition" but, is not then used, has not been entered and remains eligible for the same event in a subsequent year, if it still meets the competition rules.