



Pixels Competition Rules

1. WAUPS Competition Rules, available on the WAUPS website www.waups.org.au and as updated from time to time, also apply to this competition. If the WAUPS Competition Rules contradict rules in this document, those in this document prevail.
2. Competition duration is for one calendar year and the results will be presented in January of the following year.
3. Images entered must have been taken in the period 3 years before the closing date for entries. Files will be checked and if they don't meet this time-line / or the EXIF data is not included, they will be rejected.
4. Image sizes are to be consistent with the WAUPS Image Size Guidelines, available on www.waups.org.au, i.e. they are to fit within a rectangle 1920 x 1080 pixels and be a maximum size of 1500 kb.
5. Image submission will be via an online form which automatically adds your image to the WAUPS Google drive. Image submission will be open for the whole month of the advertised theme. Late entries will not be accepted and entries can only be submitted via the form, not via email. Submission details including the link to the form will be communicated in the WAUPS enews.
6. For each monthly submission, an external judge will view the submitted images. Every image entered will be eligible to be awarded one of the following standards. There is no obligation for the judge to award a gold, silver or bronze award if the images entered do not meet the standard as described below.
 - a. **Gold – An Outstanding Photo** – has superb visual appeal and high initial impact. The image will display excellent technical considerations, creativity, subject matter and composition. The judge considers this image worthy of entering into external competitions.
 - b. **Silver – An Excellent Photo** – great visual appeal, most aspects are technically correct. With some small effort(s) – would earn a Gold award.
 - c. **Bronze – A Good Photo** – worthy of a mention and artistically interesting. Some aspects could be improved, but the author is on the right track.
 - d. **Entrant** – an image does not meet the above standards.
7. The external judge will be encouraged to provide critique on the images submitted.



8. The name of the external judge will only be provided once the images have been judged and not before.
9. At the following monthly meeting, members will be able to vote on the best images as part of the Member's Choice competition. The images entered into the monthly competition will be emailed to members prior to the meeting as part of the WAUPS enews.
10. Points to be allocated are as follows:
 - a. Gold – 15 points
 - b. Silver – 10 points
 - c. Bronze – 5 points
 - d. First Members Choice – 10 points
 - e. Second Members Choice – 7 points
 - f. Third Members Choice – 5 point
 - g. Entrant – 1 point
11. The name of entrants will not be announced, except if they are the recipient of a Gold, Silver, Bronze, First Member's Choice, Second Member's Choice or Third Member's Choice.
12. The PIXELS Competition winner for the year will be based on the total points received for all 6 entries within that calendar year (i.e. those allocated by the external judges and those from the Member's Choice competition).
13. Images may only be submitted once for the PIXELS Competition. Previous entries and entries having only minor variations from those entered previously by the same author will not be accepted.
14. Images that have won Image of the Year are not eligible to enter the PIXELS Competition.
15. Competition closes on last day of month at 11.30 pm.
16. The results from the judge will be announced at the following monthly meeting. The results from the member's choice will be announced in the enews following the meeting and on the WAUPS facebook page and/or website.



Pixels Themes for 2017

Month	Theme	Theme definition
January	Colour	One colour dominates the subject of the image. The image is to be in colour (not B&W) and the colour that dominates the image is not to be a black background or blue/green water.
March	All the small things	The main subject should be a small plant or animal (less than 20cms in size) and should dominate the image by being taken in macro (1:1 magnification or greater) or close-up (photographing subjects close up so that they fill the frame)
May	Open	Any image that has been taken underwater, but not including in an aquarium, is allowed.
July	Texture	Texture must dominate the subject of the image and can be man-made textures found underwater (e.g. such as wrecks) or textures of wildlife. External textures applied through post-processing are not allowed.
September	Life in context	A larger plant or animal photographed within its environment. Both the plant/animal and the environment/habitat that it lives in should be showcased in the image and both should have equal weighting within the image.
November	Man-made	Any man-made element can be used in this image but it needs to form a visible and distinguishable part of the image. Images where the man-made element is not distinguishable are not acceptable. For example a critter on a jetty pylon where the jetty pylon is not distinguishable as it is covered by sponge would not fit this definition.