



## WAUPS Competition Rules

1. An aim of WAUPS is to encourage an understanding and preservation of the marine environment, therefore marine life should never be stressed or endangered for the sake of a photograph.
2. WAUPS is adopting the Conservation Rules established by EPIC<sup>1</sup>. Any entrant suspected of exhibiting the following behaviour may be disqualified at the discretion of the Competition Director and/or WAUPS Committee:
  - a. Diver(s) visibly damaging the environment (eg: dangling or dragging gear, kicking up sand);
  - b. Animals with signs of stress (eg: puffed puffers, inking octopus);
  - c. Animals moved to an unnatural environment or risky location;
  - d. Animals being fed food from divers e.g. no feeding fish spray cheese or feeding boiled eggs to Humphead Wrasse etc;
  - e. Marine life being touched (eg: coral polyps, handling sea snakes);
  - f. Diver(s) exhibiting poor buoyancy control; and
  - g. All subjects must be alive and in their natural environment. No captive animals will be considered and no entrapment of any kind is permissible.

The decision of the Competition Director and/or WAUPS Committee to disqualify a photo or a photographer is final and undisputable.

3. Where a theme is set for a competition, the entrant must meet the definition provided by the WAUPS Committee. Should any dispute arise as to the eligibility of any entry, the Competition Director (or in his/her absence members of the WAUPS Committee) will be the final arbiter.
4. All images are to be taken underwater and over-under images are accepted.
5. The file name must be – Name\_Competition Name\_ Image Name.jpg i.e. Bill Smith\_Pixels\_Bluefish.jpg
6. Entries having only minor variations from those entered previously by the same author will not be accepted.
7. All photographs and post-processing must be the work of the entrant, and therefore the owner of the copyright.
8. The entrant must be a financial member of WAUPS.

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<sup>1</sup> EPIC (Environmental Protection Through Incentives and Commerce) established by the Center for Environment, Economy, and Society at Columbia University.



9. Copyright remains with the entrant but the entrant agrees that WAUPS may have limited license to use any entered image for the purpose of promoting the club either on line or print. All images used will have the photographer's name added by WAUPS before being published. You can choose not to have your image used on WAUPS social media.
10. All images entered into a competition may be taken anywhere in the world, unless specific rules for an individual competition specify otherwise.
11. Do not include a watermark or other identifying details as all entries to WAUPS competitions should be anonymous.
12. Where WAUPS runs competitions or has categories within competitions for novice members, the following definition of Novice will apply:
  - a. A Novice WAUPS Member is a member that has not previously won a major WAUPS competition including Image of the Year, Day Dive or Weekend Shoot-out Overall Winner, Novice or Open Portfolio, PIXELS overall winner or won/placed in a major underwater photography competition.

#### **Image sizing**

13. Image of the Year, Pixels Competition and other competitions run by the WAUPS Committee – maximum 1920 pixels on the long side by 1080 pixels on the short side, 72 ppi and a maximum file size of 1.5 MB. The colour space for all entries to be sRGB, (not greyscale), and to be JPEG. Further details on the WAUPS Image Size Guidelines are available on the WAUPS webpage [www.waups.org.au](http://www.waups.org.au).
14. Novice Portfolio and Open Portfolio Competitions – as outlined in the WAUPS Portfolio Guidelines published on the WAUPS webpage [www.waups.org.au](http://www.waups.org.au).

#### **Timeframe for image capture**

15. Pixels Competitions – images entered must have been within the previous 3 years from the closing date of the competition.
16. Image of the Year – image must have been taken within the previous 12 months from the closing date of the competition.
17. Other competitions – the WAUPS Committee will identify the timeframe for image capture for other competitions.
18. All entries will be checked to ensure they have been taken within the time limit set by the specific competition. Images taken outside this period or where the capture date can not be determined because the image data has not been included will be rejected.