

One Judge's Guide to Scoring Criteria

	No Award (The image has 1 or more of the criteria below)	Commended (The image has 1 or more of the criteria below)	Highly Commended (The image has 1 or more of the criteria below)
Impact (Emotional, visual or visceral impact of the photo)	No or limited emotional, visual or visceral effect	Some emotional, visual or visceral effect on the viewer	The image “grabs you” with its moving emotional, visual or visceral impact
Content (Story, meaning, mood, humour etc)	The image is a lifelike record of what you saw, but communicates little about why you took the image, why the subject is special, the story etc	The image tells a story, shows us a meaning, is moody or atmospheric, has humour etc BUT the story, meaning, mood etc is well known, not surprising	The image tells a story, shows us a meaning, is moody or atmospheric, has humour etc that is insightful, unique, or a new perspective on an everyday subject
Composition (How well the elements of the image are organised within the frame of the picture)	A chaotic-looking image with no clear patterns or composition	An image where most of the elements are organised into a simple composition (e.g. the “rule of thirds”)	An image where all the visual elements are organised into a complex pattern that communicates the impact and content
Technical (Lighting, and shooting techniques, in camera techniques, postprocessing, and presentation techniques)	Numerous technical problems such as (i) poor light on the main subject (ii) aperture, shutter speed and other problems, (iii) haloes and other processing issues	Good light on your main subject and few technical problems that distract us from the impact and content	Excellent light and shadow across the whole image, and no distracting technical issues