**PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION DEFINITIONS**

**CREATIVE:**

The creative section allows the photographer freedom to explore the possibilities of photographic art through the extensive manipulation of images and the combination of images, but the photographic content must predominate. An entrant may alter images either digitally or otherwise, the inclusion of stock images is not permitted and the photographic content should predominate. Additional content or layers must be the original work of the entrant. Images created totally electronically (with no photographic origin) are specifically excluded. Black and White, Split Toning, Monochrome and Color images are acceptable.

**ALTERED REALITY:**

The alteration of a scene or subject so that it is obviously unrealistic. The image being altered must have been taken with a camera. The alternation may be done with image editing, as long as the result depicts a significant deviation from reality. Infrared (film and digital) photos will also be accepted. Examples of what would NOT qualify: simply applying a soft focus filter to the image, or simply arranging or physically altering items or a scene and then taking a straight unmodified photo of it.

**The creative definition encompasses altered reality but altered reality is not necessarily inclusive in the creative definition.**

**PSA - MONOCHROME:**  
An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of gray which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example by Sepia, red, gold, etc.) A greyscale or multi-colored image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multitoning or by the inclusion of spot coloring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be classified as a Color Work.  
  
**APS NATURE 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. Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves. 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.

No techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content, or without altering the content of the original scene, are permitted including HDR, focus stacking and dodging/burning. Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise, and film scratches, are allowed. Stitched images are not permitted. All allowed adjustments must appear natural. Color images can be converted to grey-scale monochrome. Infrared images, either direct-captures or derivations, are not allowed.

Images entered in Nature sections can have landscapes, 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.

**OPEN COLOUR**

Any image that is not monochrome. It includes a monochrome photograph that has been partially toned or had colour added.

**WIDE ANGLE**

Of, having, or being a camera lens/shot/setting with a relatively short focal length that permits an angle of view wider that approx 70 degrees.

Generally, the subject is closer to the lens while still allowing for a view of its surroundings

**MACRO**

Standard definition – When you produce an image where your subject is captured on your image sensor at life size or bigger with a 1:1 ratio.

This may also depend on the lens/camera/sensor/subject size and so may include some ‘micro’ shots.