

Natural History

Trophies to be awarded are:

'The Hosking Cup - Best Natural History Print' first presented by Rex & Maria Hosking in 1989.

'The Geoff Moon Trophy' - Best Projected Image' first presented by Mr Geoff Moon (OBE) (Past Patron) in 1995.

Judging: Natural History will be judged under the clubs normal competition rules for prints and projected images, using the rules & guidelines below and the trophy winner will be selected from the honours images of the night.

Natural History Photography depicts living untamed animals, insects and uncultivated plants in a natural habitat covering the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs.

Natural forces such as volcanoes, geology, hurricanes, or tidal waves reclaiming the natural environment, will be accepted, as will the presence of scientific bands or tags on wild animals or birds.

Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for Natural History subjects, should the images of untamed animals, birds or insects be photographed in zoos or wild life sanctuaries, or adapting to an environment modified by humans. Such evidence of human presence should be avoided if at all possible or at least kept to an absolute minimum.

Natural History **excludes** anthropology and archaeology, caged or domesticated pets, images of animals living under any form of **visible** restraint, this is to include, cultivated plants & insects, such as bee or ant farms. Artificially produced plants or animals, mounted specimens or obviously set arrangements, will **not** be eligible.

After satisfying the above requirements, every effort should be made to use the highest level of artistic skill showing natural history photography, and should depict the accurate record of the subject in its natural environment as being the prime factor.

The photographer, in whatever medium used, must have taken the original image and must not alter the actual main subject within the image, the only manipulation permitted is resizing or cropping, lightening/ darkening a distracting background, or lightening/darkening the image as one would have done in a dark room.

No special filters can be applied and any sharpening must appear natural. These restrictions to manipulation or modification of the image reinforce adherence to the concept of maintaining reality in a natural history image.

Titling: Correct identification of subject is strongly recommended. The use of the scientific, Maori or native and/or proper common names should be used wherever possible. Cute, humorous or other such titles will **not** be accepted.