

JUDGES REPORT

OPEN - September 2017

Judge: John North

Grade	ID	Image Title	Comments	Score
A		Street Busker	The only issue I have is the dark mass of the guitar in the corner. This could score higher had this been lightened or cropped. The detail in the hand and strings is very good.	6
A		The Spartan Challenge	You were caught up with the event; always be aware of intrusions i.e. in the lower left corner. Not much you could do except move slightly to your right. There is plenty going on.	7.5
A		A Cold Night	I like the structure of this image; dramatic sky is overpowering. May be stronger as a vertical	5
A		What are you looking at	A very interesting grouping, heavily cropped... but you have isolated the main points. I would try and darken only slightly the water.	7
A		Golden Abstract	The merging of the lines is too close to the top left corner; more room will give a better balance. Nice tones and it's simple.	5
A		The Main Attraction	This is so simple; the only problem I see is the reflections on the water surface, it tends to compete with the bloom of the lily. A different angle could have worked.	7
A		Egret Looking for Food	Well captured in a very natural setting: try and adjust the lighting on the bird so it's more even.	7
A		Rainbow Bee Eater	The bird is beautifully positioned in the frame; the only problem I have is the cable dissects it. I know there isn't much that can be done about it. Lighting is spot on.	5
A		Thistle with Trespassers	I hope you persevered with this bee and waited to get the eyes. The thistle is framed perfectly depth of field and exposure spot on.	6
A		Trees around the Water	This has the potential for a great image; a different time of day and simplify by not including the tree on the left	5
A		Catch Me If You Can	Good action, well positioned within the frame and minimal distractions from the background.	6
A		Searching Jacana	I do like this, a natural setting, beautifully framed. Every-thing is going for this image. It should be very successful.	8
A		Life and Death	The beautiful lighting makes this stand out. It's simple, with no intrusions. A slight vignette would help.	7

A		Worth Rising Early	This needs more post processing; try and lighten the shadows to get more separation in the background and crop approximately half off on the very left edge.	5
A		Ouch	Very good action; except it's way too close; sharp as a tack.	6
A		Spinifex and Gravel	This is spot on. Great colour; I love the cloud formation, with some selective dodging and burning this could be even stronger.	8
A		Go Away Paparazzi	There is a lot of tension here; who is intruding on who's territory. The background is a little cluttered. Interesting point of view.	5
A		Sign Language	I like the story here between the two groups; being in mono is OK and possibly less distracting in the background. The foreground has room to move into.	7
A		Track Reflections	This I must admit did take a little to work out, especially the reflection in the visor. Try and tone down the highlight in the lower left corner and add more contrast.	6
A		What are You Doing	This is very strong and well captured. Seldom do we see this sort of going's on during a race. The pano format suits it. It's a matter of f8 and be there!!!! Well done	7.5

IMAGE OF THE MONTH
(ONE only for each Grade please)

Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
A		Spinifex and Gravel	I consider this the top and most natural image. (Jay Perkins)

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AB		Garden View	I like the idea; a vignette is needed around the edges to lead the eye into the center...bring back the exposure on the center. The leaves are slightly over.	5
AB		Jetty at Dusk	Without the ropes this would be OK. I would have gone in closer above the ropes. Everything else is great. The cloud formation is what I would have been after.	4
AB		Evening Glow	You are on the right track regarding the quality of the light...all you must do is, add more to the left and crop ½ off the bottom of the lower deck.	6
AB		Posing for the Camera	This is a lot more natural and relaxed. Crop most of the sky and lighten up the face.	5
AB		Eyes on the Ball	Well captured, strong story and detail. I like it. The background could be softened slightly.	7
AB		Goal in Sight	Simplify this a little...block out the figure in the BG. It becomes so much stronger and the action is what matters.	7
AB		Eyelashes	The eye is too central and it could be sharper especially the top eye lid and tone back the top right-hand corner.	5

AB		Kapok	The problems here is, overexposure and not a suitable depth of field. Watch where the petals are going; don't clip the boarder with them.	4
AB		Female Rifle Bird	My thoughts on this; try and bring out more detail in the shadows and background only, see if the bird is sharp enough. I like the catch light in the eye.	6
AB		Make Hay	More work needs to be done on the treatment of the grass in the BG. The shadow doesn't fit. I don't have a problem with the format and I like the 3 bails.	4
AB		Fog Fantasy	This worries me; why so much fog, maybe more room above could be better. The eagle OK, the group of 5 to me should be smaller and I feel out of place.	4
AB		Townsville Town Common	The atmospherics have added interest, the horizon is well placed and very good natural colours.	5
AB		Dragonfly Lunch	The viewer may not pick-up on the dragon fly. I would crop in to get the bird stronger and more dominant. The branch in the background is too strong.	5
AB		Spiny-Cheeked Honeyeater	Again, you need to crop in and isolate the bird more. The BG is very good and exposure spot on. Has potential.	6
AB		Making a Living	An interesting grab shot or street scene. Be aware of the background. This can be controlled to a degree by use of the f stop.	5
AB		It's a Beautiful Day	A very nice spot; wrong time of day. You need a feeling of depth and beauty. You have missed this important point. Some can be recovered by adjusting back the exposure and possible increase in the contrast.	5
AB		Take My Photo	This is stronger than the earlier close-up of the horse. There is more of a story and better detail.	5
AB		Secret Ladies Business	The treatment of the boarder to me is way too busy. I like the grouping of the cattle and exposure.	5
AB		Traffic Control New Delhi	The 2 elements do come together, a person would just set this image off.	5
AB		Come on Pull!!!	I like the grouping, everything is contained within the frame and a good story.	6
AB		Jack and Jill	I like the structure and symmetry, the detail around the birds can be softened with a vignette.	5
AB		Early Morning	The easy fix on this image click on the + sign once. This is how I would crop. Every-thing else is OK.	7
AB		These Boots Were Made for Working and that's Just What They've Done	I would have taken a 2 nd image and moved the back pair. A word of advice Watch the number of letters and spaces in your title. It's nice and simple and a perfect BG.	7
AB		Singing Honeyeater	All you need do is crop in tighter about ½ way from the right. The bird is sharp enough.	6
AB		The Window Seat	This is so simple and relaxing. I did consider cropping.... leave it as it is.	8
AB		Still Fit, Still Fighting	Very strong action, perfectly isolated and good detail.	7
AB		Where the Water Runs	To me, the horizon is very slightly down on the right. The foreground is too bright, try toning it back.	5

AB		Dancer	To me, the pose does not appear to be very comfortable and the right arm is way too tense. No problems with the lighting and framing.	6
AB		Waiting and Hoping	These cobwebs are very good challenging subjects. Here, you should have gone in closer.	4

IMAGE OF THE MONTH6
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Grade	ID	Image Title	Reason for Placing
AB		The Window Seat	This is very good and the stand out image. (Wendy Simpkins)

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B		And then there were Two	You have done well to find these two. They need to be closer. The setting is OK and a longer lens would help.	5
B		Bird Companions	There is problem here which could be from reflecting light. The exposure is well over and the duck in the FG is not sharp enough.	4
B		Just Dropping By	Good action and you have seen something going to happen. I like the inter action between the two.	7
B		Osprey Family Tree	It's getting slightly crowded. It looks like there are 4 birds, possibly the chicks. Not much more you can do with this.	6
B		Balinese Rice Farmer	A very strong portrait, good detail. The head gear does detract a little; maybe tone it down.	7
B		Cattle Muster	This would be a lot stronger with the horse and rider fully inside the image or had you moved back further. Crop out a lot of the sky to just above the rider's hat	5
B		You can Almost Smell It	This is well framed, slightly overexposed. To give the lift a light spray of water is all that's needed.	5
B		Martian Ball	This has been taken very close to mid-day; not the ideal time for this type of image. Crop off some foreground. This comes up much better in a late afternoon or early evening.	5
B		Time to Reflect	This may work better as a mono, increase to contrast would help. A different time of day will also help, the lighting is flat.	5
B		Dawn on Rocky Shore	This is way too busy and the sunrise/set is way over exposed. A vignette may help	4
B		Rusty Workhorse Retired	I am not certain the pole and tree adds to this image. Simplify and concentrate on the front truck. The shadows add interest and I would experiment more with the colours.	6

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B		Balinese Rice Farmer	This is more appealing and I like the tension around the neck. (Larry Mudge)