



Metropolitan Speleological Society

2021 MSS PHOTO & VIDEO COMPETITION sponsored by CANYON GEAR



The MSS Photo & Video competition is a celebration of the last two canyon seasons in Australia – such as they were (fires, floods, lock-down, Covid and more floods). So, pick out your favourite canyon photo from the last two seasons and be in the competition for a chance to win a great prize from our sponsor Canyon Gear!

How to enter:

- Submit one photograph and/or one video digitally to either of the following Dropbox folders: [Photo Dropbox](#) or [Video Dropbox](#) by 31 May 2021.
- Fill out the [Google Form](#) by 31 May 2021 - a separate entry form must be completed for photo and video if you are entering both.

Key Dates:

1. 1 May 2021 – Launch of competition
2. 31 May 2021 – Entries Close
3. 15 June 2021– Finalists announced

Categories:

- Photos: 1. Canyon scene
2. Action
- Videos: No specific categories but must be canyon related

Judges:

David Stuckey and Ray Moxom both have considerable experience in judging international photographic competitions and have a good understanding of what makes an award-winning photograph.

Judging criteria:

Judging will be undertaken by independent judge(s). 5 points are allowed for each individual criteria (possible 15 points overall). The judging criteria will consist of:

1. **Creativity (How the image is seen by the photographer):** Image contains an extra element (or elements) that are intentionally used to convey a message, storyline or narrative. Achieved through the use of image format, cropping, composition, positioning of models and any individual physical elements placed within the image.
2. **Technical Ability (How the photographer captures the image):** Photographer demonstrates good technical skills. Achieved through demonstration of good photographic principles including lighting, exposure, focus, depth of field, composition, contrast control and fill-in lighting.
3. **Authenticity (How the photographer presents the image):** Photographer demonstrates minimal post-production editing and manipulation. Achieved by presenting a clean and faithful representation of the original image. The photographer exercises restraint in such areas as sharpening, contrast, saturation, dodging and burning. Care must be exercised if using High Dynamic Range (HDR) settings. Areas of acceptable manipulation are removal of dust, minor noise reduction and perspective correction.



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Rules & conditions:

1. The organiser of the competition is Metropolitan Speleological Society Inc.
2. Who may enter: MSS members and anyone else (ie open to everyone) other than the judge(s) and their immediate family members.
3. Photos/videos must have been taken within the last two years.
4. Any photo or video entered cannot have won an award in any other public national or international competition. Photos/videos that have won awards in competitions on image sharing websites and the like as a result of being rated by peer users of that site are acceptable.
5. An entrant can enter no more than 1 photograph and/or 1 video into the competition. A digital copy of photo in JPEG form must be submitted the following Dropbox folder: [Photo Dropbox](#). The file size per photo must not exceed 4MB, and should not be less than 500KB. For videos, entrants can provide a link to their video sharing software, or if the video is below 2GB can download to the [Video Dropbox](#) folder. The file size per video must not exceed 2GB (if possible) and should be no longer than 6 minutes run time (there will be possible delays as the Dropbox folder can only fit 2GB and we'll have to file them elsewhere between downloads, so please be patient). If you are submitting a video and have any problems or questions, email membership@mssadventure.org.au.
6. All photos and videos must be submitted by 31 May 2021.
7. Watermarks on images should be removed.
8. Each entry must be clearly identified with the entrant's name, and phone number for identification. Please fill in the Google Form to enter (if entering both a photo and video, separate forms must be filled out).
9. Multiple exposures taken from the same location at approximately the same time are acceptable – eg for focus stacking, panoramas or dynamic range enhancement – as long as the integrity of the original scene is retained.
10. With digital images, acceptable adjustments are allowed:
 - moderate changes to levels, curves, colour, saturation, contrast, shadow and highlights
 - dodging and burning
 - sharpening, noise reduction, lens perspective correction and minor cleaning (eg dust specks)
 - cropping
11. By entering the competition, entrants grant to MSS use of their image/video without payment for any purpose connected with:
 - Promoting the winner of the Competition and/or
 - promotion of a future Competition.
12. By entering the competition, the winning entrants grant to Canyon Gear the use of the winning photo/video without payment on their website or Facebook page.
13. The image or video, in its entirety, must be a single work of original material taken by the entrant. By entering the Competition, the entrant acknowledges, that the submitted photograph or video has been created solely by the entrant, that the photograph or video does not infringe on the copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy/publicity or intellectual property rights of any person or entity, and that no other party has any right, title, claim, or interest in the photograph or video.

Enquiries or questions: email membership@mssadventure.org.au