

Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc

Photography Competition

Our community organisation, Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc, is running a photography competition to highlight the value of biodiversity at this important wetland, located just 15km west of Sydney's CBD.

SUBMISSIONS

Entries to the Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc Photography Competition are now open and will close at 11:59pm on Sunday, October 1, 2023. The only content restriction is that the images must have been taken at Mason Park Wetland.

ENTRY INFORMATION

The competition rules and entry form can be downloaded from the Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc website at www.friendsofmasonparkwetland.org. The correctly-sized and named digital images and the completed entry form must be sent by email attachment to the address friendsofmpw@gmail.com.

All digital image files must clearly show the title (see below). The completed entry form should be attached: the date of image and the common name of the organism for identification. There is no time limitation as to when the image was taken.

Entry Form (Example):

Name: Julia Brown

email address: jbrown@bigpond.com

Phone: 0400 123 456

Photos for entry:

Image No.	Title	Capture Date	Organism(s)	Notes
Image 1	Sunny Morning	12/08/2021	Black Swan	
Image 2	Autumn Colours	May 2022	Monarch Butterfly	
Image 3	21 Bum Salute	14/6/2023	Chestnut Teals	Feeding at northern end of wetland
Image 4	Algal Bloom	1/2/2022	Algae	After long summer rains and poor tidal flush

COMPETITION

Each competitor can submit up to four digital photographic images. Video images and printed photos will not be accepted. The images can reflect any aspect – good or bad – of the biodiversity at Mason Park Wetland.

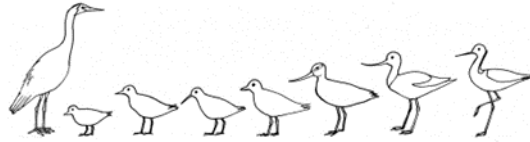
File names

Image files have a file name in the following format: Image number_title.jpg

For example (from above table), 1_SunnyMorning.jpg or 3_21BumSalute.jpg

Any reference to the photographer's name or initials must be excluded from all images and file names to ensure blind judging fairness.

Restriction to entry



There are no restrictions. Previously published photographs are permitted, providing they were taken at Mason Park Wetland. However, all images must be prepared according to our competition rules.

IMAGE PREPARATION RULES

Size and Property of Digital Images to be submitted:

- Must be provided in jpg format
- Must not exceed 1920 pixels in width (e.g., A 4:3 ratio image will be 1440 x 1080 pixels)
- Must not exceed 1080 pixels in height
- Has a maximum file size of 2MB
- Resolution of 72 pixels per inch
- Has a sRGB Colour Profile

Image Editing Techniques Permitted:

- Cropping and straightening
- Perspective correction
- Removal of sensor dust and chromatic aberration, and correction of lens distortion
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene
- Global and selective adjustments such as sharpening and noise reduction
- Complete conversion of colour images to grayscale monochrome
- HDR, focus stacking and stitched panorama

Image Editing Techniques Not Permitted:

- Addition, removal and relocation of elements in the image are not allowed except those mentioned above.
- Blurring or darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- Composite.
- Adding a vignette during processing, watermark, anything that identifies the author.
- Warping, stretching and other similar manipulation.

Overall, manipulated images that are clearly exaggerated will be disqualified. The judges' decisions on all disqualifications will be final.

IMAGE RESIZING

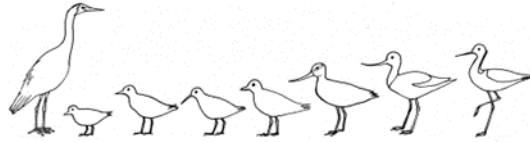
The image size can be adjusted by Photoshop, Lightroom or other photo editing software (for those who don't know how to use the tools, many short tutorials are available on YouTube.)

Using Lightroom

Please follow the method, How to Export <https://nslps.org.au/information/how-to>

Using Photoshop on a PC or Mac

- 1) Open or import your image into Photoshop.



2) From the pull-down menu of Edit, choose Convert to Profile, which opens a window. Below the Destination Space, choose “sRGB IEC61966-.2.1” for Profile.

3) From the pull-down menu of Image, click Mode and choose 8 Bits/Channel.

4) In the same Image menu, click Image Size, which opens a window. Fill the dimension in Pixels.

(Image Size*: x MB)

Maximum height is 1200 Pixels

Maximum width is 1920 Pixels.

(Resolution is 72 Pixel/Inch)

Resample to be Automatic.

(*In this window, the file size may be over 2MB if the original file format is PSD or TIFF. However, it will be reduced when converted to JPEG by compression).

5) After completing the image resizing, save your image (to retain all metadata) by clicking **File menu** and select **Save a Copy, which opens a window.**

In the Save a Copy window,

Give a **Title** for the file name and specify where to save the file.

Format: JPEG

√ Embedded Colour Profile: sRGB IEC61966-.2.1

Click SAVE, which opens another window.

In the JPEG Options window, select

Quality: 12 Maximum or as you desire.

Format Options: Baseline (“Standard”).

Press OK

Check the saved file size is equal to or less than 2MB.

AWARDS:

The judges will award first, second and third prizes, as well as any highly commended awards they deem appropriate.

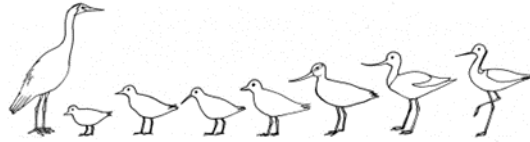
The Awards will be announced on the Friends of Mason Park Inc website on this year’s second World Migratory Bird Day, October 14, 2023. Winners will also be notified by phone or email.

There are no prizes or financial rewards attached to this competition. Winners will receive a certificate to recognise their achievement and to thank them for taking the opportunity to share and develop their creativity for a worthy cause. All photos submitted will be showcased in an online gallery on the Friends of Mason Park Inc website.

Competition Scoring:

The judging panel will develop its own rubric to judge the entries. The executive of Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc will not be involved in judging. We have secured the volunteered services of two photographers to judge the competition. One has been a photography competition judge (including nature photography) on a number of previous occasions.

AUTHORSHIP AND COPYRIGHT:



By entering the competition, the photographer confirms that the entered photograph(s) is/are his/her original work and that the photographer is the sole owner of the copyright.

RIGHTS OF USAGE:

Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc has the right to use all submitted images for marketing purposes of both this Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc Photo Competition and for promoting the conservation of the Mason Park Wetland (environment). All published photos will be attributed to the owner of the copyright.

JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL

1. Entries that do not comply with all or a part of the rules of the Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc Photo Competition in terms of content, technically or any other aspect will be excluded of the competition.
2. The judges decisions in this competition are final. No correspondence will be entered into.
3. By entering images to the Friends of Mason Park Wetland Inc Photo Competition the participating photographer agrees with the above-mentioned competition rules.