



## Terms and Conditions

### 1. The Competition

1.1 The Ecoglen Photographic Competition 2026 (“the Competition”) is presented by **Ecoglen Association**, NPO number 054-659-NPO (hereafter referred to as “Ecoglen”).

1.2 The purpose of the Competition is to celebrate Ecoglen’s community, landscapes and biodiversity through original photography.

### 2. Who May Enter?

2.1 The Competition is open to amateur photographers. **Entrants do not have to live in Lynnwood Glen**, but all entered photographs must have been taken within the defined Ecoglen area (see 3.6 below). **Access to Ecoglen is controlled. Non-members wishing to take photographs may:**

- a. Visit with an Ecoglen member;
- b. attend an advertised Ecoglen activity or clean-up scheduled on Saturday 26 September and Saturday 31 October;
- c. become a member – visit [www.ecoglen.org.za](http://www.ecoglen.org.za) and fill in the membership application form (annual membership fee is R310 and includes unlimited access to Ecoglen and vouchers for other nature reserves in City of Tshwane); or
- d. Contact Ecoglen ([info@ecoglen.org.za](mailto:info@ecoglen.org.za)) to enquire about access arrangements.

2.2 Professional photographers whose primary source of income is photography may not enter.

2.3 Entrants under 18 must have the permission of a parent or legal guardian. Ecoglen may request confirmation of this permission.

2.4 Ecoglen Exco members and their immediate family members, the judges, and anyone directly involved in administering the Competition may not enter.

### 3. Entries

3.1 All entries must be received before the closing date: **30 November 2026 @ midnight**.

3.2 The entry fee is R30 per photograph. Entrants may submit more than one photograph; the R30 entry fee applies to each photograph submitted.

3.3 Payment must be made through PlusMine using the entrant’s name followed by “PHOTO” as the payment reference.

3.4 Entry fees are non-refundable if an entry is withdrawn or disqualified. If Ecoglen cancels the Competition without awarding the advertised prizes, entry fees will be refunded.

3.5 Entries can be submitted in two ways:

- (1) completing the Entry Form available on the Ecoglen website ([www.ecoglen.org.za](http://www.ecoglen.org.za)) and emailing the completed entry form and photographic entry to [info@ecoglen.org.za](mailto:info@ecoglen.org.za); or

(2) if you have a Google Account, use the online application at <https://forms.gle/3UdHpwHWMkeAr1U19> or scanning this QR code:



Both options require confirmation of payment of R30 on Plusmine by clicking on this link <https://www.plusmine.co.za/share/project/77993954-004e-42df-803a-82e26910594f> and remember to **give your name surname + PHOTO when you do (e.g. Mark Smith PHOTO)**. You can also scan the QR code below to access the Plusmine webpage or visit [www.plusmine.co.za](http://www.plusmine.co.za) and search for ECO26406 area code.



### 3.6 Each photograph must:

- **have been taken within the defined Ecoglen area** - the defined Ecoglen area can be viewed here: <https://www.inaturalist.org/places/ecoglen>;
- **have been taken sometime between 12 September and 30 November 2026;**
- show an aspect of Ecoglen's community, activities, landscape or biodiversity;
- be the entrant's own original work;
- be submitted in JPEG/JPG or PNG format;
- be submitted at its original or highest available resolution, preferably at least 3,500 pixels on the shortest side; and
- contain no signature, date stamp, watermark or border.

3.7 Entrants must retain the original, unedited image file produced by their camera or phone. Photographs downloaded from social media, captured as screenshots or compressed through WhatsApp may not be suitable for judging or printing.

3.8 Where an identifiable person is a principal subject of a photograph, the entrant must have that person's permission to enter and publish the photograph. If the person is under 18, permission must be obtained from their parent or legal guardian. Ecoglen may request evidence of this permission.

3.9 Entrants must respect wildlife, vegetation, private property and other people. Photographs obtained through trespassing, damaging vegetation, disturbing or handling wildlife, or placing people or animals at risk may be disqualified.

3.10 Ecoglen may disqualify an entry that does not comply with these requirements or whose authenticity, ownership or required permissions cannot reasonably be verified.

## 4. Photographic authenticity and editing

- 4.1 Entries must originate from photographs taken by the entrant using a camera or mobile phone.
- 4.2 Basic editing is permitted, including cropping, straightening, and reasonable adjustments to exposure, contrast, colour, white balance, sharpness and noise reduction.
- 4.3 Generative AI may not be used to create, add, remove, replace or extend any part of a photograph. Objects, animals, plants, people, skies or backgrounds may not be inserted, removed or materially altered.
- 4.4 Ecoglen may ask shortlisted entrants to provide the original, unedited image file. Failure to provide it when requested, or material differences between the original and submitted image, may result in disqualification.

## 5. Judging

- 5.1 All eligible entries will be reviewed by a panel of judges appointed by Ecoglen.
- 5.2 Entries will be judged according to the following criteria:
- composition;
  - technical quality, including focus and exposure, as appropriate to the photograph;
  - originality and connection to Ecoglen;
  - storytelling, visual or emotional impact; and
  - the interest and timing of the subject captured.
- 5.3 There will be separate adult and junior (under 18 years of age) categories.
- 5.4 The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the outcomes.

## 6. Prizes

- 6.1 Prizes will be awarded for first prize and second prize in each of the adult and junior categories:

| Category                    | Junior                                                                                                     | Adult                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Prize</b> | Game drive at <a href="#">Kwalata Game Drive</a> , Dinokeng for 4 people (Value of R2300)                  | Print of the winning photo at A1 (841mm x 594mm) size from <a href="#">OutdoorPhoto</a> (Value of R1091) |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Prize</b> | Print of photo to value of R500 (for use at <a href="#">OutdoorPhoto</a> or <a href="#">Art of Print</a> ) | <a href="#">Capital Craft</a> voucher of R500                                                            |

- 6.2 Prizes are non-transferable and may not be exchanged for cash or substituted.
- 6.3. A winning entrant must provide the original high-resolution photograph where required for printing. If the photograph is not of sufficient quality for the intended canvas print, Ecoglen will consult the applicant.

## 7. Winner Announcement

- 7.1 Winners will be contacted by telephone and/or email, in December 2026 following completion of judging.
- 7.2 Should a winner fail to respond within five (5) working days, the organisers reserve the right to select an alternative winner.
- 7.3 Announcement of winners and hand-over of prizes will be by 16 December at an appointed date and time, by the Exco and prize sponsors.
- 7.4 Ecoglen may invite winners to be photographed when receiving their prizes. A winner's name or prize-handover photograph will be published only with the winner's consent or, where the winner is under 18, the consent of their parent or legal guardian.

## 8. Ownership and Use of Photographs

- 8.1 Entrants retain copyright in their photographs.
- 8.2 By entering, entrants grant Ecoglen a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to reproduce, display and publish the submitted photographs for judging, exhibiting the entries, announcing the winners, promoting the

Competition, and Ecoglen's non-commercial website, social-media, newsletter, reporting and community-awareness activities.

8.3 Ecoglen may resize or crop photographs where reasonably necessary for these purposes but will not materially alter their content.

8.4 Wherever reasonably practical, Ecoglen will credit the entrant as the photographer.

8.5 Ecoglen will not sell an entered photograph or license it to an unrelated third party for commercial use without obtaining the photographer's separate permission.

## **9. Personal Information**

9.1 Ecoglen will use entrants' personal information to administer and judge the Competition, verify entries and payments, contact entrants, award prizes and, with the necessary permission, announce and publicise the winners.

9.2 Personal information will be processed in accordance with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPIA).

9.3 Questions or requests relating to personal information may be sent to [info@ecoglen.org.za](mailto:info@ecoglen.org.za).

## **10. General Provisions**

10.1 The organisers reserve the right to amend, suspend or cancel the competition if necessary. Any material change will be communicated through the same channels used to advertise the Competition.

10.2. Ecoglen is not responsible for entries that are lost, corrupted, incomplete, incorrectly submitted or not received because of technical or transmission problems.

10.3 By entering the competition, participants confirm that they have read, understood and accepted these Terms and Conditions.

10.4 This competition is governed by the laws of the Republic of South Africa.