

**Phillip Island Monthly Club Evaluation – Judge Feedback for – Nov 2023 - Subject – Fast Shutter Speed - Judge – David Skinner**

Please refer to Judge Instruction Letter for ratings: **HC** (Highly Commended) - **C** (Commended)

Topic for judge’s evaluation: Speed Fast shutter speed Fast shutter speed will let you stop time and show magical moments our brain wouldn’t be able to preserve.

References

<https://expertphotography.com/fast-shutter-speed/>

<https://www.adobe.com/au/creativecloud/photography/discover/shutter-speed.html>

<https://www.pocket-lint.com/cameras/news/144971-awesome-high-speed-photography-of-things-exploding>

<https://weburbanist.com/2008/10/09/high-speed-photographers-and-photos/>

Sequence by Title	Member No	Title	Judge Rating	EDPI
1	326	<b>A Squadron</b>		Yes, the image is in focus, so a fast shutter speed has played a roll. However, as the pelicans are static on the ground, we need to see a point of difference, Such as one taking off, some action that has been captured in focus due to a fast shutter speed.
2	866	<b>Beach fun</b>		Here we see kids splashing about in the shallows. The shutter speed has been fast enough to capture the water droplets in focus, arms in focus, therefor an effective use of freezing motion.
3	875	<b>Cape Barren Goose</b>	C	We have a definite action shot where the shutter speed has been fast enough to capture in focus wings with all the detail. Other technical and aesthetics have been done very well.
4	862	<b>Charlette Plains Bore</b>	HC	A great idea to capture the bore water back lit with a fast shutter speed to bring out the detail, freezing the action. A slight criticism would be to increase the exposure or enhance the whites selectively on the darker sections of water. This image meets the brief to a tee.
5	852	<b>Cooling Down</b>	HC	Well framed action shot utilizing the light to show us detail in the wing. Perfectly frozen in a moment of time as the bat flew low in the water, nicely capturing the splash as it only skims the surface.

<b>6</b>	326	<b>Cross Country</b>		We have a fast enough shutter speed to have frozen the wheel motion... we can see the spokes. We do have some low-resolution issues that pulls the image down. Nicely framed with room for the rider to move.
<b>7</b>	886	<b>Dancing Duck</b>		An interesting close-up image of the duck that holds our attention. However, the blurred left-hand corner has missed the brief. It can be a good action effect to include blur, but the brief specifically called for fast shutter speed to stop time. A better approach would have been to have gotten lower and include all of the dancing duck caught in an interesting moment in time, all sharp.
<b>8</b>	862	<b>Darling river White Necked Heron</b>		The moment in time with wings in flight has been captured, no doubt. Other factors to be an award-winning photo is overall sharpness needs to be better, as does detail in the bird itself. Keep at it, as birds in flight is not easy to do and practice, experimenting with aperture, ISO and shutter speed will produce more rewarding results. Cropping may be a factor here as to lack of detail. A longer lens will also help.
<b>9</b>	487	<b>Dive Bomber</b>		The cormorant(?) has been placed centrally in the frame and is far away. This works, for the image, with the diver silhouetted against the grey sea. Your eye goes straight to it. To open up the scene has been the best approach. It makes it a simpler image to lessen the distracting effect rippled waves. There has been some sharpening of the bird (halo). Overall the image works when you put it against the definition.
<b>10</b>	852	<b>Dragon fly Dance</b>	HC	The maker has shown great camera skills and use of light to capture this excellent work. Skimming on the water, darting about as they go through their mating ritual. Patience, observation, knowing where the light is, (Backlight), what the reflections will do adding to the impact. 1/2000 at 500mm, to get an image like this is a very good result indeed. I suspect there were many more failures than keepers. Well done.
<b>11</b>	866	<b>Spinebill</b>	HC	Shutter speed certainly freezes the action of the bird in flight, hovering like a bee feeding on nectar. The diagonal of the flower, bird and flower, frames the subject against mostly blurred unobtrusive foliage. The back light highlighting detail in the wing is stunning. Some selective processing (maybe not) on the bird to bring out detail has been done extremely well, less is more. Your camera skills, if no selective processing is excellent. The flower part blurred over the

				upper breast is of no consequence. We see a moment in time, beautifully captured perfectly focused where it needs to be.
12	885	Escape		To have the bat on the top LH thirds intersection, flying away from us, for whatever reasons seems to work. The whole image is out of focus unfortunately. We don't have a sharpness issue, so shutter speed is ok. If we had the subject in focus, we would have had a more impactful image. The moment in time has been realised though.
13	399	Good Surf	C	Harsh light has been well handled. Depth of field well handled. The moment in time has been capture very well. From continuous burst shots (probably), the maker has picked a good one, subject on a diagonal, one arm up, one down. A well-balanced image, but it might be said a slight crop off the RH edge would improve aesthetics of composition.
14	886	incoming		The diagonal leading lines in the timber lead us to the LH half of the frame where the action is. There is a focal length issue where our bees are out of focus. This combined with a faster shutter speed would have produced a very dramatic image. The bee with most interest is the top RH one, hanging in mid-air. We have the moment in time, but how good would it have been in focus and freezing the wings as well?
15	885	Lunch	C	Nice shot... a bit of action going on with this gull. He looks like he is running away with his catch. Plenty of detail in the subject, with the splash around the feet caught in the moment. Harsh light dealt with successfully.

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16	866	Ocean action		Certainly fast enough on the shutter speed to catch the detail in the crashing waves. If you have a long lens, a much more intimate shot would have provided a stronger impact. We don't need the cliff for dramatic action. Harsh

				light has been dealt with, maintaining some definition in the waves and swirling water.
<b>17</b>	487	<b>Overflow</b>	C	The concept has definitely been seen by the maker with a shutter speed to freeze the water. Focus has fallen on the sunlit rock between the cascades leaving most of the cascades out of focus a tad. Nicely done to capture the layers of falling water, with the shaded areas still with detail
<b>18</b>	447	<b>PRINT – Woman’s Soccer</b>		Perfect capture of a moment in time with the ball in mid-air. To improve that impact, crop most of the image out. Play with the 3 or four players only. Continuous shot would have given more images to choose from. The ball and players are nicely contrasted by the green grass
<b>19</b>	447	<b>PRINT – Junior Socceroo’s</b>	C	This is a more tighter scene than the other soccer image with frozen action, therefore more dramatic; girls running, goalie defending and concentrating faces. The players positions lead to the focal point of the ball in mid-air. Nicely done
<b>20</b>	399	<b>Running in</b>		Nicely done action shot focused well on the girl running in to the sea. A well balance image of the subject clearly showing running action, one foot off the ground, the other nearly.
<b>21</b>	487	<b>Take off</b>		Fast shutter speed of 1/4000 certainly gets the rotor blades static. The helicopter is only just off the ground. Better timing with some distance to the ground would have more impact with static in focus blades that we expect to see some blur in reality.
<b>22</b>	852	<b>Taking a Bath</b>	HC	Lovely capture of the goose, well framed and plenty of detail of focus and sharpness of flapping wings and droplets flying off.
<b>23</b>	326	<b>Up in the Air</b>		A good photo of the plants taken from underneath, however there is little to see that has been captured by utilizing a fast shutter speed. 1/500 has been used, but we have a static plant that could only be moving from wind. This does not really meet the definition. If your club ever has a competition utilizing depth of field in the image, then you will do better.

<b>24</b>	399	<b>Wipeout</b>		Well done on capturing the wipe-out . Detail in the water splash and frozen surfer in difficult lighting conditions sets the scene. A tad soft, unfortunately. The ankle rope forming a semi circle is a nice touch
<b>25</b>	889	<b>Butterfly</b>		The butterfly has been captured well with all of the detail. However, as it appears to be resting, perhaps fluttering, the shutter speed has not provided a dramatic image, A wow factor utilizing fast shutter speed would be the butterfly in flight. Nicely framed image with positioning and contrast in colours.
<b>26</b>	889	<b>Brown Cuckoo Dove</b>	C	It appears the bird is coming into land, so we have some nice action in the wings captured relatively sharply due to a fast shutter speed. Well done. Composition and positioning of the bird adds to the impact
<b>27</b>	889	<b>Woodswallow</b>	HC	Technical and aesthetic skills combine to capture this bird in flight with great detail. The back lit wings is a bonus.
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