

FEDERATION of AUSTRALIAN MOVIE MAKERS Ltd.
By-Law 2 –Competitions-
(Confirmed by delegates at the Biennial Convention Bridport 2008)

COMPETITIONS

1. The Federation shall conduct “movie” competitions as and where appropriate to facilitate the promotion and good name of the Federation, its members and servants.
2. The Federation shall encourage affiliated members to conduct internal, inter-club, Divisional and external “movie” competitions and where appropriate to conduct those competitions using rules and conditions as recommended from time to time by the Federation.
3. The Federation shall encourage members of affiliated members to make club productions for entry in all competitions.

COMPETITIONS - GENERAL -

4. The entry must be a non-professional production.

The concept of the term non-professional applies to the movie only. A movie is a nonprofessional movie when the maker has no financial or commercial objective in making that particular movie. The movie must not be subject to any prior commercial agreement, and if the movie is subsequently disposed of in a commercial transaction that movie then loses its non-professional status and can no longer participate in any competition conducted by the company, its affiliated members or associate members.

5. Movies must be made exclusively for pleasure, education or challenge. There must be no profit involved or intention to be sold, offered for sale or hire.

Note: For the purposes of this By-Law the term “movie” shall be interpreted to mean the telling of a story using moving pictures. The practice of manipulating still pictures shall be discouraged unless there is no alternative to achieving the objective of telling a story.

All material including inserts must predominately be shot by the entrant. Any material supplied by a third party must be given due acknowledgement in the credits of the movie.

6. The entrant shall be responsible for copyright.
7. Maximum length of movies shall be defined for each competition by the competition conveners.
8. No movie shall have a credit and /or title showing success in any other competition.
9. A separate entry form must accompany each entry.
10. Irrespective of the medium used all entries shall contain only one movie. Entries on tape shall be rewound to the start of the tape for immediate play.
11. Entries are to be made in a digital format either on a tape medium or optical disc. Entries on optical disc are to be “finalised”. The aspect ratio of entries shall be 4:3, 16:9 or letterbox in standard or high definition.
12. Irrespective of the medium used all entries shall be clearly marked with the following information clearly printed on them for correct presentation. Movie Title, Name of the moviemaker, Date of completion of the movie, Running time, Aspect ratio – 4:3, 16:9, letterbox. Such markings are to be made on both the medium used and any container accompanying the entry.
13. Sound tracks must not be made in professional studios by professionals. Non-professional sound tracks must be the work of non-professionals. It is permissible to use unpaid professional voices or recordings for source material but the re-recording of such must be the sole work of non-professionals.
14. Each movie shall be in an appropriate container which shall bear the name of the entrant, the title of the movie and the name and return address of the entrant. The Federation shall exercise every care in regard to contestant’s movies, but cannot accept any responsibility for loss or damage.
15. The decision of the Executive of the Federation shall be final in regard to appeals, disputes and the interpretation of these rules and conditions.
16. All movies entered in competitions held by, or on behalf of, the Federation may be previewed by the Federation Executive or a committee authorised by the Federation Executive, and movies considered below the standard of the competition may be excluded on the majority vote of the Executive or authorised committee.
17. The competition shall close on the nominated date when all movies must be in the hands of the Competition Secretary or other nominated person. Where indicated by the entrant movies shall be returned as soon as practical after judging.
18. The Federation reserves the right to award trophies and certificates of merit as considered appropriate.
19. The entrant grants the right to the Federation to duplicate any entry submitted and to use those duplicates for screenings by the Federation or affiliated members. Duplicates shall be placed in the Federation’s Library.

ENTRY FORMS

For sample entry forms see Appendix A

20. The entry form must bear the completion date of the movie.
21. All entry forms shall be set out in such detail as will require the entrant to answer specifically in detail the following questions;

Entrants Name, Entrant's Address, Name of Member's Club, Movie Title, Name of the moviemaker, Date of completion of the movie, Running time, Medium of Entry, Aspect Ratio – 4:3, 16:9, letterbox.

22. The Federation recommends that movies submitted in a competition by a group, or as a Club Production, be identified by both the Club Name and a Group Name.

23. Each entry form will state the medium on which entries will be accepted.

24. In selecting movies to represent Australia the Executive is authorised to have regard to the content of entries, irrespective of the placing of the entries by the judges.

JUDGING

For sample Judging Sheets and Judging guidelines see Appendices B, C, D and E.

25. Entries will be judged as entered. No allowance will be given for poor quality copies.

26. The decision of the judging panel is final.

27. No entrant may be present during the screening of their movie when the competition is being judged.

28. Movies submitted in FAMM Ltd. Competitions or competitions conducted on behalf of FAMM Ltd., including its Divisions, shall be judged according to the following method.

(a) By the average score of a number of persons aged 16 years, or over, based on their subjective evaluation of the movie's accomplishment in effectively achieving its objectives.

(b) The score (a) to be modified by a score from "technical" judges who are concerned only with technical/mechanical aspects of the movie and in disregard of its content.

29. It is recommended that affiliated members, where appropriate, use these judging rules in Club, Interclub and Divisional competitions.

Composition of Subjective Judging Panel

30. The subjective evaluation panel should consist of at least ten (10) persons, preferably more.

There is no upper limit on numbers. Members of the panel need not be associated in any way with FAMM Ltd. Or any affiliated member. At least 80% of the panel must have no connection with, or interest in, any of the movies being judged.

31. The "technical" judges shall be independent of FAMM Ltd. or any participating affiliated member.

32. "Technical" judges should number two (2) or, preferably, three (3).

33. "Technical" judges should be persons active in a technical field of movie-making

or Previously active in such a field

or Active in an associated field

or Capable of evaluating technical aspects of movie-making (movie critic, media lecturer, etc.)

34. Competition judges are to be briefed prior to each judging session regarding the specific aspects to which they are required to confine their comments. They should make no comments, verbal or written, outside their own responsibility.

35. "Technical" judges are requested to give written comments on the Judging sheets accompanying each movie.

Method of Marking

36. Each person judging should have a sheet marked 0 – 100. On the sheet the judge shall mark his/her evaluation of the standard achieved.

37. The sheet should be designated for the chosen aspect being judged (eg. attainment of objective, photography, sound, editing, etc).

38. The 50 in the middle of the sheet should mean an average, competent, but ultimately a dull production with nothing to distinguish it but nothing to discredit it. A mark above or below shall represent the judge's opinion of the degree to which the movie in question exceeds or fails to exceed this standard.

Judging conditions

39. Attention must be paid to the conditions under which movies are judged. Movies in any competition deserve to be viewed in circumstances which will present them in their best light.

Continuity of display

40. Should an incident occur during display of a movie to an audience of judges which interrupts or terminates the display such movie shall be removed from display. The next movie shall forthwith be screened and the affected movie re-displayed immediately after. All movies shall be displayed correctly, from intended start to conclusion, without interruption.

AUSTRALIA'S FIVE BEST COMPETITION

41. The Federation shall conduct a competition known as "Australia's Five Best" and all affiliated members shall refrain from using the words "Australia's Best" in their local Club and/or Divisional Competitions.

42. This competition shall determine the result of the "Federation Shield Competition" held in conjunction with a biennial convention.

43. No movie shall be entered in more than one "Australia's Five Best" Competition.

44. No movie shall exceed fifteen (15) minutes in total length, including titles and credits.

45. The Federation's "Australia's Five Best" Movie Competition shall be conducted and judged separately from any other competition.

46. The Federation reserves the right to award trophies and certificates of merit as considered appropriate.

47. Encouragement shall be given to all affiliated members to make Club productions for entry in the Federation Shield and Australia's Five Best competitions.

48. The competition is not intended to be one for the individual producer but for the affiliated Club of which the producer is a member.

(a) All entries in the competition will represent an affiliated member whether produced by an individual or a group/team.

(b) The entry shall be a non-professional production, hereinafter called "movie" and must be entered through an affiliated member, countersigned by the member's Secretary.

(c) The number of entries from any one affiliated member shall not exceed five.

(d) The affiliated member must ensure that all nominated entries are truly to competition standard.

49. Where an affiliated member enters more than three (3) movies an order of preference must be given. Should the total number of entries in the competition, and consequently the judging time, be considered excessive and therefore likely to adversely affect results, all preference five (5) movies and if necessary also preference four (4) movies, may be excluded from the competition. A minimum of three (3) movies will be judged.

Entry of more than one movie by any one moviemaker or moviemaking group is acceptable, but it should be noted that the "Federation Shield" is awarded to affiliated members achieving the highest aggregate mark in "Australia's Five Best" competition for its three highest placed entries by different moviemakers or groups.

Note: Secretaries should therefore ensure, where entering more than three movies, that their order of preference does not disadvantage the Club if fifth and fourth preference movie are excluded from the competition.

50. The Federation shall produce a compilation of the five (5) winning entries, as judged to be "Australia's Five Best", such compilation shall be placed in the Federation's Library.

(a) The Federation shall use the duplicates in any way it sees fit to promote the good name of the Federation and its affiliated members.

(b) The original producer shall retain full copyright, except pertaining to clauses 50, 50(a).

51. Movies shall be judged and points allocated in accordance with the currently recommended policies of the Federation.

52. Prizes shall be awarded to the following in "Australia's Five Best" Movie Competition as judged.

First Movie Appropriate Trophy

Second Movie Appropriate Trophy

Third Movie Appropriate Trophy

Fourth Movie Appropriate Trophy

Fifth Movie Appropriate Trophy

Best Club Group Movie Appropriate Trophy

(a) Certificates of merit may be awarded to the five highest scoring movies which have not received a trophy.

(b) The Federation reserves the right to award additional certificates and/or prizes as considered appropriate.

(c) The Federation reserves the right to withhold any or all of the awards if, in the opinion of the Executive and/or the Directors, the entries are not up to competition standard.

53. Any entry, if required, must be made available for screening during the Federation Convention.

FEDERATION SHIELD COMPETITION

54. The Federation shall conduct a competition known as the "Federation Shield". This Competition shall be an integral part of a biennial convention.

55. The Federation Shield shall be awarded to the affiliated member as described in Clause 49.

56. The Federation shall present, in accordance with these rules, to the winning affiliate member a trophy known as the "Federation Shield". This trophy shall be a perpetual trophy.

58. The Federation Shield shall be retained by that member until the next "Australia's Five Best" Movie Competition.

(a) The member club for the time being holding the Federation Shield shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, the said shield to the next ensuing convention of the Federation.

(b) The name of the member club to which the Federation Shield is awarded and the year of the award shall be engraved on the Federation Shield at the expense of the Federation.

59. In Clause 49 the term "moviemaker" refers to either an individual or a group of individuals working as a team. Any individual member of a group may also be the maker of one (1) other movie selected from those submitted by his/her affiliated club.