

### RESULTS for AUGUST 2024 TECHNICAL CHALLENGE - Long Exposure\_Slow Shutter - Paul Naude

Cat	Seq	Star	Title			Score	Award	Comment
TC	1	1S	All falls down	Nyasha	Godoka	13	Merit	The water is beautifully captured and the shutter speed just right to give the water a silky look whilst still retaining detail. Exposure is good with the histogram right on the right limit. A very good effort.
TC	2	1S	Grindstone Cave shower	Dylan	Evans	10	Gold	The bouncing droplets add some chaos to the image which here is a good thing. Some areas are washed out and the background is too bright and the darks too dark. A crop at the bottom would eliminate the bright leaves and some of the dark area which is non-contributory. Well done on spotting this scene and capturing it
TC	3	1S	Heart of stone	Nyasha	Godoka	10	Gold	What a beautiful scene and you would have scored a merit without the addition of the light.I appreciate why you did it but you met the brief without it. As a pre-daw / sunset shot it is marvellous.
TC	4	1S	Karoo milky way	Dylan	Evans	13	Merit	These shots are difficult to acquire and you have done very well. The addition of the windmill grounds the image. I suggest an inferior crop to eliminate some of the dark area.
TC	5	1S	lucky 13 seconds	Nyasha	Godoka	10	Gold	Well done on capturing the tail lights. Your choice of position to get an s-curve is great. A lower ISO would allow a darker image with the tail-lights then providing a greater contrast. The viewers focus should be on the lights so a crop from the top would help. Try this image again with the above suggestions and you will do even better.
TC	6	3S	Full Throttle	wynand	lens	13	Merit	The detail you achieved of your subject whilst blurring the background shows great technique. Well done, a marvellous image.
TC	7	3S	Jockey	wynand	lens	8	Silver	Movement is portayed with bits of grass flying. Unfortunately it is difficult for the viewer to discern which way the horse and jockey are moving. Logically we know what it is but there is nothing to confirm it. Overall, the image is just too blurred.
TC	8	3S	Ziping Past	wynand	lens	13	Merit	The car is superbly captured with excellent technique.Although there are a lot of intervening objects the image does not feel cluttered. I do suggest moderate cropping top, bottom and left. Very well done.
TC	9	4S	Berlin Falls	Meleney	Naik	12	Gold	You have captured the falling water well with the splashes at the bottom looking great. Consider cropping the image to make the falls stand out more. As it is it gives the falls a sense of place but it does detract from the main subject.

TC	10	4S	Cascades	Jan	Lens	11	Gold	Your choice of shutter speed works very well with this slow flowing water, leaving the texture visible but still imbuing a sense of movement. The upper background, especially upper central, could be darkened to help highlight the water. A minor inferior crop would be beneficial. A good image, well done.
TC	11	4S	early morning walk	Liesl	Couperthwaite	9	Silver	A great idea, giving a ghostly feel. The brights are however too bright as shown by the histogram. Consider adjusting levels and possibly a mono conversion to improve the feel of the image.
TC	12	4S	ghost bird	Liesl	Couperthwaite	9	Silver	An interesting image where the bulbul appears underwater. Consider darkening the background to highlight the birds and bath, and lift the blacks a little too.
TC	13	4S	Ghosts on the Pier 7510	Doug	Couperthwaite	10	Gold	This pier is a superb subject and you have captured it well. Next time, if feasible, consider placing the camera more to your right to eliminate that bright light and get more of the sky colours in the frame. I understand why the "ghosts" are there but the image would be stronger without them.
TC	14	4S	Lisbon Falls	Meleney	Naik	9	Silver	A lovely view and your chosen shutter speed imparts a silkiness to the water. Your exposure of the water is well handled, it is just a pity there is so little of it visible. Remember to check for dust spots.
TC	15	4S	Mountain River	Mags	Vosloo	9	Silver	You made a valiant effort to capture this scene. Your subject, the flowing water, forms only a small part of it instead of being the main actor. By lowering the camera you may reduce the background and increase the amount of water in the scene. Unfortunately all areas are out of focus.
TC	16	4S	Self light	Jan	Lens	8	Silver	A good effort but the light does appear formless and as an afterthought. One's eye is drawn to Jan who is perfectly in focus but he should not be the subject. A lot of the dark area inferiorly could be cropped.
TC	17	4S	slow fall	Liesl	Couperthwaite	8	Silver	The falling water is lovely and silky but one does wonder from whence it comes. It is as if the image has been cropped at the top instead of at the bottom. Unfortunately all appears out of focus. Was a tripod used?
TC	18	4S	Sunrise Palatte	Meleney	Naik	10	Gold	A great colourful and well composed sunrise which would have scored higher but for the dust spots.
TC	19	4S	Surprise Visitor 7922	Doug	Couperthwaite	9	Silver	A good attempt at drawing a rhino, better than most of us could probably achieve. Because of the long shutter speed the background is showing more detail than what is desirable and the tree is a touch too bright. A fun image and kudos to the light artist.

TC	20	4S	Synchronized flow	Mags	Vosloo	9	Silver	A good idea but the water is too bright in several areas causing a loss of detail. A right crop would eliminate the non-contributory area. Use levels or similar to to bring detail back into the washed-out areas.
TC	21	4S	The Essence of Life	Mags	Vosloo	10	Gold	Your image is well composed with little extraneous background. The rocks are sharp suggesting the use of a tripod. Your choice of shutter speed is too fast to allow the water to show a good flow, particularly in the inferior portion of the image. Your lens may not have a smaller aperture, in which case a neutral density filter would help you. A good effort which begs a repeat with the above to help guide you.
TC	22	4S	The last autumn leaves 7914	Doug	Couperthwaite	10	Gold	The tree is well highlighted and exposed, showing lots of detail. The white building does unfortunately detract. If possible, moving the camera to the right may help?
TC	23	4S	tick tock	JOAN	JUNG	11	Gold	A great idea and one that is difficult to execute. Cropping the sides would be of benefit.
TC	24	4S	Winter stream	Jan	Lens	9	Silver	Your composition is good but consider a smaller aperture to give a longer shutter speed and so blur the water a bit more. A dance with the levels will be required to darken the background. As is, the upper left background is washed out. Consider a small superior crop.
TC	25	5S0	Moody morning	Heidi	Taylor	12	Gold	A beautiful image with very pleasing water movement and colours. My only suggestion is to crop off the half-ship to the right and also inferiorly to eliminate some of the rocks.
TC	26	5S0	Nandi falls rocks	Heidi	Taylor	8	Silver	EXIF data is missing but adjusting levels highlights the water and improves the appearance of the rocks. Unfortunately nothing is in focus which has let you down.
TC	27	5S0	Silky sunrise	Heidi	Taylor	9	Silver	EXIF data is missing but a smaller aperture would give an extended depth of field. The best colours, it appears, are off to your left and moving to your left may have afforded a better composition.. The sand at the lower edge could be cropped out. Adjusting the levels to lift the blacks and provide more detail in the rocks could help.
TC	28	5S1	Fish	Stephen	Pryke	8	Silver	With little background to show motion blur as one gets when panning, it appears the fish were just photographed whilst moving, resulting in a blurred image. Try it again where and if panning is possible.
TC	29	5S1	Lions River	Stephen	Pryke	8	Silver	A marginally slower shutter speed would aid in giving the water a more flowing appearance. Using ISO 100 instead of 200 and a smaller aperture would afford you this. By adjusting levels you can increase the visibility of the water, a lot of which is too dark. A tripod would help with the background blurring.

TC	30	5S1	Smoking Pincushion	Maxi	Holder	14	Merit	This is a beautiful, ethereal image. Very well done.
TC	31	5S1	The River runs fast	Stephen	Pryke	11	Gold	Everything about this image is superb, except for the white balance. If you intended it to be so blue, you did well but it is a bit jarring. I really wanted to give a higher score but the blue held me back.
TC	32	5S3	Crashing waves	Ronelle	van den Heever	11	Gold	A pleasing image but the brief, being slow shutter speed, is only evident in the right half. Moving your viewpoint to the right if feasible, would have been a better option.
TC	33	5S5	moody morning in the bay	Carol	Phillips	13	Merit	A picture of serenity, well composed with exquisite-looking water. Marvellous.
TC	34	5S5	storm at sea	Carol	Phillips	9	Silver	A good balance is achieved by the lightening and and lighter water on the right. The image is too dark overall and a levels adjustment does help in bringing out the cloudy sky. Even so, a superior crop would help.
TC	35	6S1	Double Exposure in the Forest	Leon	Heyes	7	Silver	I am not sure a double exposure meets the brief. It does introduce blur but no movement.
TC	36	6S1	The Chase Is On	Leon	Heyes	8	Silver	The composition and timing of the shot are perfect but as a horse and rider move forward as well as up and down, your shutter speed may be too slow resulting in nothing being in focus. That may be an artistic interpretation? Remember to remove those dust spots!
TC	37	6S1	The Falls at the Old Mill	Leon	Heyes	7	Silver	Your choice of shutter speed has resulted in some blurring of the water and as this should be your main focus, the rest of the image is superflous. Although a pleasing snapshot more could be done with the scene. Watch those dust-spots!