



*Business Together*

## Judging Process

### BEA25: A Modernised Judging Process that Balances Applicant Experience and Integrity

The Chamber has listened to feedback from past applicants, consulted with experienced judges, and drawn on best-practice advice from other award programs.

The result? A **modernised judging process** that reflects national standards, reduces applicant burden, and ensures every application is reviewed fairly, consistently, and by the right experts.

### What's New and Why It Matters

- **Subject Matter Experts**  
Each category is judged by professionals with expertise in that specific field, ensuring that your work is evaluated by someone who understands your industry.
- **Written Applications First**  
Judges assess written submissions using a structured scoring system. Scores are then collated and tabulated.
- **Fairness and Oversight**  
The Chamber team and a Board representative review all applications to ensure eligibility and correct category placement.
- **Interviews (Only If Needed)**  
If judges determine that interviews or additional information would support the assessment process, **all applicants in that category** will go through the same process—ensuring fairness.

### Special Awards – What You Need to Know

- **Business of the Year**  
Automatically selected from the pool of category winners. The business with the highest overall score across all categories will be awarded Business of the Year.
- **Chamber's Choice**  
This award is **elected by Chamber members**. All finalists who are current Chamber members will be eligible, and a **member-wide poll will be sent on [insert date]**. This is your opportunity to have your say on which finalist best reflects the spirit and values of our business community.
- **Hall of Fame**  
**Awarded by the Chamber Board** to individuals who have made a lasting and exceptional contribution to the Northern Tasmanian business community over many years.
- **Life Member**  
**Awarded by the Chamber Board** to individuals who have demonstrated long-standing dedication and service to the Launceston Chamber of Commerce and its mission.

This new approach ensures a **high-quality and transparent judging process**, and it reflects our commitment to celebrate excellence while respecting your time and effort as applicants.

We can't wait to read your stories and showcase the strength, creativity and resilience of businesses across our region.