SOUTHERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

Newsletter, August 2021

We have a bumper edition this month in the run-up to the 2021-22 season, including important information on the Leagues, on judging issues and judges, and PL insurance.

Digital Image League 2021-2022

The new League Secretary Peter Terry (league@southerncountiespf.org,uk) has provided some guidance to help with preparations for entering the new League season:

The uploader is now open for entries and will close at midnight on the **30th September 2021.**

As usual, the competition runs from 1st November 2021 to 31st March 2022.

Uploading

Instructions on how to upload your entry are being added to the website League pages.

For those who are not used to the process, you will find it helpful if you put your 8 PDI images in one easy to find folder on your desktop and please add the author's hard earned photographic distinction to their name.

Keycodes

The key code for your Club is the same as last year. Get in touch if you need an update.

Fixture Dates and Judges

The fixture dates and judges are in the table on the website. Please let me have any updates as soon as possible please.

Rules

The current version of the rules is on the website. There are no changes to the PDI rules since last season.

Finally

We welcome South Downs PS who will join the League in Division 8.

Have fun choosing and uploading your images. If you need assistance, please let me know and I'll endeavour to sort things out.

Good luck! *Peter*

Judging issues

An update from our Judging Advisor Ken Scott

Dear clubs

Meetings / Booking Judges for the Coming Season

As we begin to return to what is a new normal, many clubs are considering whether to return to club venues for meetings. There has been a lot of discussion already about when to do so and how, including holding hybrid meetings.

As part of your deliberations, please can we ask you to consider your judges and speakers as well. We are going through the same process, of deciding whether and when to return to travelling. Our decisions too are based on our personal assessments of risk, pertinent to our own individual circumstances and needs. The situation can change in an instant.

- If you have judges and speakers booked to travel, please engage early and ascertain whether they are prepared to work online should circumstances change.
- If for any reason a judge or speaker decides, even on the day, that they cannot or do not wish to travel, please respect that without prejudice. We understand that changing arrangements at short notice can be difficult, and that this coming transition will be more challenging for us all, more so even than the original lockdown.

We are also aware that in the Zoom age, clubs have access to judges from all over the country now. Our SCPF Judges are very well respected, and hopefully our appraisers' pool will remain as your first port of call in the seasons ahead. We're looking forward to working with you all again over the coming season.

Judging Feedback

For the start of the new season, our Judging Feedback forms will be going online, probably using Google Forms. A link will be made available on the SCPF website shortly. Please may I take the opportunity to remind everyone:

1. Please be aware that feedback is made available to the judges, because its primary purpose is to help us improve. Your feedback should therefore be a composed response, based on discussion among at least three people. I have noticed an increasing number of feedbacks comprising 'cut and pasted' comments from a number of members, sometimes at odds with each other, which I cannot pass on.

2. Secondly, the number of feedbacks is almost too many to be useful now. A big thank you to everyone for doing them. But you don't have to provide feedback every time. We would ask you to do so:

    - Always when using a Level 1 Judge
    - Always when a judge asks you personally for feedback, or when we ask you to support a request for upgrade
    - When a judging is especially good and you feel praise is due
    - When you feel that a judge could be helped by providing constructive feedback

More detail on the process here: https://southerncountiespf.org.uk/judging/judging-providing-feedback/

Marking / Workshop Images Papers

There are still questions coming to us about these important guideline papers, which were issued last season. You may wish to refresh on these and to decide on your club's approach. We will be reminding judges to do the same to ensure there are no misunderstandings.

Papers here: https://southerncountiespf.org.uk/2020/09/new-judging-guidance-sept-2020/

Judging Q&A

The Q&A meeting held in April produced a lot of material, which is being compiled as a Q&A document. This will be available on the website shortly.

With regards
… Ken Scott
Judging Advisor SCPF

Public Liability Insurance

The Insurance Brokers for the PAGB have issued a reminder to all clubs to renew their Public Liability Insurance whenever it falls due, even if the club members are not meeting physically due to the pandemic.

They should do this firstly to maintain their insurance for whenever they do get back to meeting physically, and secondly to retain their cover for any outdoor meetings, e.g. arranged photo shoots that they might hold in the meantime.

PAGB events

PAGB Digital Championships held on 17th July: the two clubs representing the SCPF at the PAGB Digital Championships were Yateley and New Forest.

New Forest did extremely well coming 12th over the two rounds and Yateley coming 26th. Both missed the final round, but there were some lovely pictures.

The PAGB wishes, if at all possible, to hold an **Inter-Club Print Championship** this year at Smethwick on 24 October 2021. Because we did not have a Print Championship in 2021, the two clubs representing the SCPF will be the winners and runners-up in the SCPF 2020-21 League Div. 1, Winchester PS and Basingstoke CC.

SCPF Facebook Group

Our Facebook page has now been discontinued, in favour of the Southern Counties Photographic Facebook Group. We would encourage clubs to sign up to the group; this will allow them to post freely details of any speakers, events etc, that they consider would be of interest to other clubs. We're keen to see it getting a lot more use, and hope it will become a valuable resource. However, some people seem to have had difficulties finding the Group page, so here's the link:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/279557782519390

PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit

AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT ADVICE AT THE PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

Once again, we will be at the Photography Show. This time operating under strict Covid Protocols but that won't stop us offering APM advice if you want to bring your photographs. If you have entered for an Adjudication, or if you are just thinking about it, this is an opportunity too good to miss!

We will have several Adjudicators in attendance each day to discuss any work you wish to bring along – Print or PDI – and, if you take their advice, this will give you a much better chance of success

For an appointment, please e-mail rod@creative-camera.co.uk with all of the following information please.

1. **What day are you coming ?**
2. **Do you want a morning or afternoon appointment?**
3. **What level are you interested in - CPAGB, DPAGB or MPAGB?**
4. **Are you intending to apply in Print or PDI?**
5. **Will you bring Print or PDI for us to look at?**
6. **Have you applied, or have you been accepted to an Adjudication?**
7. **Which Club & Federation are you a member of?**

You can bring unmounted Prints, even at A4, but we will not be able to store them on our stand. Left luggage facilities are available in the NEC. Bring your PDI on a stick. Please do not bring too many pictures. A maximum of 15 for CPAGB, 20 for DPAGB and 30 for MPAGB please.

We strongly advise that you bring your images in Print if you are applying in Print, otherwise our advice can only speak to the content and not the quality of the print.

Bring your PDI, preferably not larger than H1600px x V1200px, on a stick. We will probably be viewing them on a Mac laptop. If you bring them on a tablet or a phone, we can only speak to the content and not the quality of the image when it is projected.

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ADJUDICATION 27/28 NOVEMBER 2021

We are planning tfor this Adjudication, hosted by the Western Counties Photographic Federation (WCPF), to be a "physical" event, open to an audience. Of course, we do not know what may happen with the Pandemic or if any restrictions will be in place.

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Following the success of our Online Advisory Service, we have now established a permanent service, administered by David Smith. If you would like advice at CPAGB, DPAGB or MPAGB in Still Photography or in Audio Visual, please e-mail apmonline@thepagb.org.uk

If you're willing to volunteer as an Adviser, please contact David Smith at apmonline@thepagb.org.uk with a brief outline of your relevant experience. Ideally Advisers should have at least a DPAGB or other equivalent APM knowledge so that they will have sufficient experience to advise at the higher levels. Currently, we have fewer MPAGB Advisers and fewer Audio Visual Advisers than we would like. However, those with a CPAGB and other relevant experience may be able to help at that level.

If you have any specific questions, please e-mail me, rather than the APM Secretary or anyone else.

APM sub-committee Chairman, Rod Wheelans

The above was provided by PAGB, (excuse the formatting!), and our SCPF Awards Officer Leo Rich comments:

"If you are considering entering for the Awards, particularly at Distinction level, this could be your best opportunity for some while. There are spaces available for both Distinction Prints and Distinction PDI at the November Adjudication though you will have to be quick to apply as they will need your actual pdi's before the end of September. The Bonus is that the event (27th/28th November) is being held in Newton Abbot and, unless there are any changes to the current Covid "rules" it is intended to be open to an audience so you can see your work being assessed!

A couple of spaces remain at Credit level but, as they do not "reserve' places any application will need to be speedy."

Leo Rich
SCPF Awards Officer

New judge on the block

Mike Cullis (mikecullis@hotmail.com) is an experienced judge / lecturer moving to SCPF from WPS. Below is an extract from an e-mail included here as it may be of interest to clubs:

I wanted to bring you up to speed regarding a few recent developments that may be of interest to you.

1) A relevant article concerning my move to Hampshire features in the July RPS e-news

2) I wrote a piece concerning my recent trip to see tennis at Wimbledon championships. Two articles can be seen on the Lumix FB sites and are based on how I planned to photograph at Wimbledon and also to test the new eye/face detect AF on the G9 camera - any G9 users may be interested in this.

Regards

Mike

John Hodge , Editor