

Southern Counties Photographic Federation

Club Reps' Meeting no 237

Date: Wednesday 11th September 2024

Venue: Zoom

Present: Stewart Lacey (President), Anne Eckersley (Past President), Patricia Platt (PAGB Executive Member), Suzie Kirkby (A/V and Championship), Ray Hems (PAGB Awards Officer), Ian Hardacre (Secretary); Ian Byers (Exhibition Secretary), Leo Rich (Council Member); Peter Terry (League Secretary); John Clegg (Treasurer); Sue Teagle (Roll of Honour), Ferg Cowrig (PAGB Competitions Secretary)

Plus representatives from SCPF clubs (identified on the call):

New Forest CC, Bracknell CC, Overton CC, Niton & District CC, Salisbury CC, Reading CC, Haslemere CC, New Forest CC, "BCC", Middleton CC, Alton CC, Boundary CC, Fareham & Portchester CC, Burghfield CC, Chichester, Southampton CC, Winchester CC, Lymington CC, Southampton CC, Petersfield CC, Hailsham CC, bhpc, Viewfinders of Romsey, Bishops Waltham, Hailsham, Havant CC, Farnborough CC, Hungerford CC, Steyning CC, "BCG", Oakley & Basingstoke, Blandford Forum CC, Cricklade CC, Lambourn, Gosport, Andover PC, Boundary Came, Bishops Waltham, "BWPS"

Plus 3 others with no club identified

1 Apologies

Brian Howe (Handbook Secretary)

Apologies from clubs:

Aldershot & Farnham, Focus-Ryde Imaging Group, LHSCC, Littlehampton and District Camera Club, Yateley CC, Romsey CC, Jersey Photographic Club, Fordingbridge CC, Sandhurst CC, Wokingham CC, Isle of Wight PS, Horndean CC, East Dorset Photography Club (formerly Boscombe Camera Club), Hayling Island CC

2 Minutes of Club Reps' Meeting & AGM No 236

- minutes were approved

3 Matters arising:

- the council meeting #459 is on Monday 24th March 2025
- there were no other matters arising

4 President's Report – Stewart Lacey

- Swanage Photographic Society have decided due to dwindling membership have folded
- Stewart is concerned about some of our clubs suffering from dwindling membership, he is keen to discover from clubs any identified reasons for the decline
- we are a group of over 3,300 enthusiastic photographers and hope that we can support each other

- to summarise Stewart would like to hear about the state of your clubs, do you need any help, could your club help other clubs or give suggestions
- perhaps it is MARKETING to potential members about what are the benefits of a club
- perhaps a change of name from camera to photography may have helped new members (Salisbury CC)
- no other comments received

5 Treasurer's Report – John Clegg

- noted the funds are somewhat limited, going forward the Federation does need to increase the subscriptions in the future, review will be taking place in early 2025
- John asks for any inputs on how this could be done fairly
- Bo (Reading CC) asked why might the subscriptions need to be increased?
 - # made losses over the last three years
 - # SCPF reduced subscriptions or asked for no subscriptions during Covid to help clubs, this reduced the SCPF funds
 - # our costs are increasing and we do fund activities such as the Exhibition etc

- no other comments received

6 Judging advisor report – Sue Sibley

- where do we send judges' feedback? (Steve from Middleton)
 - # please to the normal email address
- the judge's directory is being updated
- please could we have feedback if an image is rejected by the sensitivity panel? (Kelvin from Alton CC)
- How can the SCPF encourage clubs to book newly qualified judges? (Keith from Niton & District CC)
- No comments received

7 PAGB Exec Member's Report – Patti Platt:

- in regard to finances the PAGB are also struggling financially, they have had a massive drop in sponsorship money since Covid
- plus there has been a massive increase in costs since Covid
- no other comments received

8 PAGB Awards Officer's Report – Ray Hems

- no comments received

9 PAGB Competition Secretary's Report – Ferg Cowhig

- Ferg will be asking for help to support the PAGB InterFed Championships in June
- no comments received

10 League Secretary's Report – Peter Terry

- there are still clubs in the leagues that do not have judges booked yet for their hosted evenings, this is currently at 15 events
- Stewart noted that he was disappointed that the number of clubs entering the Print Leagues has fallen, and that he had hoped that members would have resumed printing after Covid
- if logistics are an issue that what can the SCPF do to make the print leagues more accessible?
- No other comments received

11 Championship and A/V and report – Suzie Kirkby

- there will be an A/V Championships and Suzie has received many entries (noted that a number will need to go the sensitivity panel)
- no other comments received

12. Handbook – Brian Howe

- suggested that the name of this Council member be changed
- Peter Terry asked if it is possible to get a download of the club contacts
- no other comments received

13 Exhibition Report – Ian Byers

- there are still places available for clubs to enter
- no other comments received

14 Roll of Honour Sue Teagle

- no comments received

15 Brief Discussion on AI Generated Images

- see SCPF website Downloads on this page - <https://southerncountiespf.org.uk/judging/>
- a simple premise, the images that members present should consist of all your own work; this has been the case for many years
- some tools have an “AI element” for example in Lightroom - noise reduction, cloning and generative fill, etc etc these are OK; these all use your own pixels
- Patti quoted the PAGB’s position on “AI” and referenced other bodies such as the RPS too
- see PAGB AI discussion in their newsletter archive - issue 338
- see the RPS website for their comments too - <https://rps.org/about/artificial-intelligence-and-the-rps/>
- another thread is that Adobe (and others?) have started to add a “AI” flag in metadata if one of their “AI” tools is used, the concern is that this use of this tool may not have broken any of the “using your images own pixels”
- finally the SCPF will not be policing entries, even if we could

16 AOB

- no agenda items added

Next meeting is an in-person meeting at Littleton Memorial Hall on Thursday 7th November 2024

Note the date that Print League Competitions can begin after this meeting on Monday 11th November 2024

Meeting closed at circa 9 pm