

Southern Counties Photographic Federation

Club Reps' Meeting no 239

Date: Monday 17th February 2025

Venue: Littleton Memorial Hall

Present: Stewart Lacey (President), John Clegg (Treasurer), Ian Hardacre (Secretary), Ian Byers (Exhibition Secretary), Brian Howe (Directory Secretary), Suzie Kirkby (Championship & A/V), Sue Teagle (Roll of Honour)

Plus representatives from SCPF clubs :

Yateley CC, Farnborough CC, Chichester CC, Petersfield PS, Sandhurst CC, Fordingbridge CC, BH Photographic Club, Oakley CC, Alton CC , Basingstoke CC, Horndean CC, Newbury CC, Gosport CC, Bishops Waltham CC, LHSCC, Cricklade CC, Farnham & Portchester CC, Winchester CC, Andover PC, Bognor Regis

1 Apologies:

Ray Hems(PAGB Awards), Ferg Cowrig (PAGB Competitions), Leo Rich(Council Member), Patti Platt (PAGB Executive Member), Sue Sibley (Judging Advisor), Peter Terry (League Secretary)

Apologies from clubs:

Wareham CC, Salisbury CC, Wokingham PC, Bracknell CC, Niton & District, Steyning CC, Jersey PC, Chichester CC, Prism CC, Boundary CC,

Practical CC, Havant CC, Middleton CC, Littlehampton & District CC, Boundary CC, Romsey CC

2 Minutes of Club Reps' Meeting 238

- minutes were approved

3 Matters arising:

- the minutes for #238 were circulated after the meeting
- the current subscription model was circulated as requested
- noted that clubs are not sending feedback on SCPF appraisers, this is particularly important for Level 1 appraisers

4 President's Report – Stewart Lacey

- Stewart noted the following upcoming personnel changes to Council:

- Patti Platt is leaving the Council as PAGB Executive member and Sue Sibley has volunteered to take over her role
- Bo Hansen of Reading CC has volunteered to become SCPF Webmaster

- Suzie Kirkby has volunteered to become Vice President, retaining her Championship roles for the time being
- Ian Hardacre is stepping down as Secretary at the AGM
- Stewart also noted that the role of Publicity Officer is still open

- no comments received

5 Treasurer's Report – John Clegg

- please see item below on John's presentation to the meeting

6 Judging advisor report – Sue Sibley

- from the chair Sue asked please could clubs give feedback on SCPF appraisers, this helps their development and progression as appraisers
- this is a requirement for Level 1 one (new) appraisers
- please do ask club members if they would like to become appraisers
- No other comments received

7 PAGB Exec Member's Report – Patti Platt

- no comments received

8 PAGB Awards Officer's Report – Ray Hems

- no comments received

9 PAGB Competition Secretary's Report – Ferg Cowhig

- no comments received

10 League Secretary's Report – Peter Terry

- No other comments received

11 Championship and A/V and report – Suzie Kirkby

- from the floor Suzie was asked about the restriction on the number of "Nature" entries in the Championship and would it be possible not review as this is off putting for clubs with members who concentrate on "Nature"
- the issue would then be our winning clubs would then potentially have to reduce the number of "Nature" images before representing the SCPF at the PAGB competition
- if clubs have further comments on the format of this competition then please contact Suzie : championships@southerncountiespf.org.uk

– Suzie highlighted the ongoing issues with clubs having difficulty with the loader inputting images for the Championship and noted the need for updated documentation on logging in and using the uploader

- Suzie intends to remain as A/V secretary in the coming season but is looking for someone to shadow Print/ PDI Championship activities

- no other comments received

12. Directory Secretary's Report – Brian Howe

- ClubReps who had not received the Agenda were asked to refer to their club secretary to update the club's contact page on the SCPF website

- the club contact page holds the email addresses that are used by Council members to distribute emails to clubs, and it is important that these email addresses are kept current
- the slots on the page are for email addresses only not for comments, for example if a “contact” prefers not to have their email address listed then please put in an alternative email
- it was noted that several clubs had no email contacts for club chairman
- ClubReps were asked to check with their secretaries that the contact page have the current email addresses
- Brian referred everyone to the link for videos to help users find their way around the Directory and for secretaries to keep the page current
https://southerncountiespf.org.uk/directory_static/
- no other comments received

13 Exhibition Report – Ian Byers

- from the floor:

- is the Exhibition a competition or a marketing exercise for the SCPF? Or both?
- why are clubs asked to submit “panels” but the prints are judged individually? Especially as some panels were not cohesive
- Should we resurrect the audience vote on the exhibits?

- however, it should be noted that the exhibition was a success from the feedback received from the library and from the comments received by our stewards

- attendees were asked to canvas opinions and give their feedback to Ian Byers, in order that he can make suggestions for next year’s Exhibition, with a proposal to be ready by the AGM

: exhibition@southerncountiespf.org.uk

- no other comments received

14 Roll of Honour - Sue Teagle

- Sue reminded us that any club member can nominate for the Roll of Honour
- no comments received

15. Presentation: Roles and responsibilities of Council Members: Stewart Lacey

- Stewart explained the background to this draft document, helping Council members and clubs understand Council member roles
- this is not a task-based document. Such details, as necessary, will be covered in separate documentation
- there may be instances when this document (initially) contradicts other SCPF documentation, such as the Constitution or competition rules. Those documents shall take precedence
- see attached PDF of the presentation

16. Presentation: SCPF Sensitivity Guidelines: Stewart Lacey

- Stewart outlined the background to the proposed sensitivity guidelines.
- Council members responsible for an SCPF event will in future review submitted entries and refer any concerns to other members of Council, this is instead of referring all entries to external panel

- comments and suggestions were requested on this draft at :
President@southerncountiespf.org.uk

- see attached PDF of the presentation

17. Presentation: Headline on proposed SCPF Constitution changes: Stewart Lacey

- Stewart detailed the background to the changes the Council will be proposing at the upcoming AGM, particularly the requirement to appoint our PAGB Executive replacement BEFORE the PAGB AGM
- an updated Constitution will be circulated prior to the AGM for review and comment

- there were concerns from the floor about how in practice the suggested timing of appointment of Vice President, the exit from Council of Past President, and change of role of President would be handled

- See attached PDF of the presentation
- no other comments were received

18. Presentation: The proposed new model for SCPF subscriptions and an update on SCPF Finances: John Clegg

- John gave the background to the proposed changes to the SCPF subscription model
- This change would be an overall increase of subscription fees to the SCPF from clubs of 7.5%
- He noted that smaller clubs would see a reduction in their subscriptions and as a balance other "larger" clubs would see an increase in subscriptions
- there was a discussion about the projected finances for this current season and the estimated "surplus", the expenses incurred through support of PAGB sponsored events, any impact of increase subscriptions to the PAGB

- from the floor: where can we see the finances of the PAGB for previous seasons? Are they reviewed at their AGM?

- also as a background comment the SCPF would like to maintain a cash balance at the end of each season equivalent to one year's expenses i.e. currently approximately £7k.

- There is currently no headroom for the federation to do more than it already does in support of member clubs, nor to absorb inevitable increases in costs

- from the floor it was noted that indeed the current system does impact some clubs more others but it was expected that from the comparison graphs there may well be clubs who have upwards of a 25% increase in subscriptions

- John was asked to review whether Honorary Members of clubs, who do not pay club subscriptions, should be included in the headcount reported to the SCPF

- Thank you for all the feedback on the proposed model

- See attached PDF of the presentation

19. Video on SCPF: Suzie Kirkby

- Suzie was thanked for the video, it was agreed to be good marketing of the benefits of federation membership

The SCPF channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ1O1CRrLLHR_RfI8gOTF3w

In addition to the YouTube link (<https://youtu.be/yOXUgXXvT-I>)

Here is a download link to an identical version:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/dt6jroxndqfa4e7lsj2zt/SCPF.mp4?rlkey=jsdetxq6t9pcwvmji2plhgbbh3&st=5kfui204&dl=0>

- please do make available to your club members

- please do send comments and suggestions to Suzie : av-info@southerncountiespf.org.uk

20. Improving standards across the SCPF for our entries to competitions such as the InterFed and to help members gain distinctions

- Stewart showed images from a 2022 PAGB competition and asked attendees for their comments as there is a perception of a north/ south divide in perceived quality/ taste/ bias
- There followed a lengthy discussion about these images and experiences of club members in such competitions
- from the floor: the PAGB restrict the numbers of “Nature” images so why not restrict the numbers of “Creative” (heavily post processed images), the numbers of “Portraits”, or the number of “Sports” images; all of which are “over represented” now
- Are southern judges under-represented in PAGB competitions?
- This is an ongoing discussion about how clubs (and the SCPF) can better prepare members for example clubs such as BHPC’s open coaching events

21. AOB

- everyone was reminded to please use blind copy (BCC) when sending emails to clubs using extracted email lists for the contact club page

Meeting closed at 9:45 pm

The next meeting is also at Littleton Memorial Hall on Sunday 11th May 2025 AGM and Finals Day