



IMPALA TROPHY RESULTS – 2020 / 2021

SALIENT ISSUES RELATED IMPALA TROPHY RESULTS FOR THE YEAR CLOSING JULY 2021

In reviewing the results from the Impala Trophy competition and subsequent queries that have been raised since the results have been published, I deemed it important to share some feedback in this regard which hopefully in the new Impala Trophy year will be minimised.

1. PSSA MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

Unfortunately, I had a few distressed PSSA Members contact me and ask me why their names have been removed off the IT log. The rules of the Impala Trophy competition is that anyone may enter the competition but after the last salon in that Impala Trophy year, only PSSA member's results remain. Therefore the simple answer is that they are not a PSSA member. Horror, shock and disbelief to my direct answer, as they are in fact PSSA Members!

The problem is that I work off the data that is supplied to me by Corine the PSSA Salon Administrator. In these files the PSSA Membership number is reflected where applicable. This information is linked to the member's membership number in PVO. If it is not there, then according to me you are not a PSSA member for the IT competition. Unfortunately, I do not have the time or inclination (to be honest) to validate a 500 odd entrant's membership details in the PSSA Membership Database.

So, what is the solution I hear you ask? Quite simple: every PSSA member must ensure that their details are up to date and correct in PVO. Under "My Details" tab, please update your PSSA Membership details there together with your Honours, latest Club star rating and any of your contact details. Once you have done this, when the salon results come out, your PSSA Membership number will be on the results and your results will not be removed from the IT final results.

2. CHANGES TO ENTRANT'S NAME DETAILS IN PVO

Another challenge that I need to contend with is where members have decided to change their name details in PVO. What I hear you say? Yes, a simple space means that when I concatenate the first and last names, it will see the person as two people. At times there is a valid reason to add or remove a title or change the UPPER CASE name to a lower case name – this also contributes to my challenge to ensure that the scores are allocated to the right person.

Please bear in mind that when you enter any PSSA patronage International Salons (like CCC or Camera Obscura) it's important to keep your name syntax the same.

Please can I request that should you wish to make material changes to your PVO profile you do it before or at the end of the Impala Trophy competition and not midstream into the competition. Otherwise these discrepancies will manifest and will need addressing when the competition's results are finalised.

3. CHANGES TO IMAGE NAMES IN PVO

This area we all know poses some serious challenges in conducting the final audit of entrant's images. Like in point 2 above, any changes to an image's details, it is dealt with as a "different" image. However, we conduct an audit where we sort an entrant's images in alphabetical order and then conduct the count of the said images. As per the rules of the competition, if a colour image is converted to a Monochrome image, the name must remain the same and the suffix "BW" or "mono" is added – this counts towards the 3 acceptances for a particular image.

The appeal is to please keep to this rule. In the final audit, we pick this up and then we deduct the points awarded and because I use lookup formulars to assist me, but any small changes I don't pick it up. If I had the time I could go through the 30,000 accepted titles to double check this , but quite honestly this seems to be a pointless exercise if there is a tacit understanding with entrants that they compile to the competition's rules. Please assist us in making sure this is kept to honest errors.

4. MEMBERS WHO HAVE MULTIPLE CLUB MEMBERSHIPS - PRIME CLUB

There are a number of members that have multiple club memberships. However, there are members that wish to have one club as their prime club. When drawing the members' club, the lookup reference takes the club for the first instance where the member's name comes up.

There have been a number of instances where I have been requested to change the member's prime club details. In terms of the results for those members with multiple memberships, the points are allocated to that club which was selected by the member when they entered a specific salon – these points allocated to the club for the Premier Club Award are in fact correct.

Therefore, I request those members with multiple memberships to please send me the preference of their prime club, and I will reference that club in the Impala Trophy going forward.

5. SALON JUDGING NEW RULES

As of the new Impala Trophy year, the PSSA Board has agreed at the last interim Board meeting in August 2021 to limit the number of salon categories that one judge can judge in any one Impala Trophy year to 6. Originally the limit was 4 but after some debate and consideration it was agreed that 6 categories would be the new limit thus allowing a degree of flexibility for the judges as well as the club's hosting the salons.

This process will be managed by the PSSA Salon Administrator on a running basis and any judge that appears on a salon brochure that has effectively reached the 6 salon category limit, the Regional Director, Salon Director and the specific judge will be advised of the limit. The specific judge's name will be removed, and the Salon and Regional Director will then need to source another judge. The PSSA Salon Administrator has and will maintain a list of Salon Judges throughout South Africa so should you require names, please contact the PSSA Salon Director.

Therefore, if you judge salons, please keep your tally and when asked to judge and it is in excess of 6 salons, kindly decline the offer by advising the Salon Director of your salon category status.

In closing, as the Board of Directors we thank each and every one of you who has and continues to enter the national salons. Its encouraging that we have in the region of 1,000 photographers that have acceptances, certificates of merit and medals on a consistent basis. At this stage we have around a 50:50 split PSSA to non-PSSA Members who enter these salons. We know that Covid has caused havoc in many aspects of one's life, but as the PSSA we would like to encourage those of you who enter salons frequently to consider joining the PSSA. There is 56% difference in your cost of salon entry which if you are planning to enter a number of salons maybe a consideration you may want to make.

Best of luck if you are planning to enter the new Impala Trophy year. If you have any questions or issues, please feel free to contact me on the contact details below. If no further feedback is received by Sunday 15th August 2021 the updated audited salon results will be deemed final.

Yours sincerely

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