



PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
NATIONAL INTER-CLUB COMPETITION 2014

PSSA invites all affiliated Clubs to participate in the National Inter-Club Competition
The Competition will be conducted in accordance with the requirements and practices of PSSA

The competition will be in the digital medium only

CALENDAR

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Closing Date for Entries : | 31 July 2014 |
| Judging by : | 19 August 2014 |
| Results : | Announced at the PSSA National Congress |
| Exhibition : | National Congress 31.08.2014 to 06.09.2014 |

COMPETITION CONVENOR CONTACT DETAILS

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| Competition Convener : | Anne d'Oliveira |
| Email: anned@iafrica.com | Tel: (H) 011 793 1603 (W) 011 886 8262 (C) 083 325 0478 |

JUDGES FOR COMPETITION

The competition will be judged by five judges selected from clubs that have not entered the competition.

METHOD OF SCORING

Scoring by five judges will be done using scores of between 1 and 15

AWARDS

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Winning Club Overall: | PSSA Silver Medal |
| Winning Junior Club: | PSSA Bronze Medal |
| Winning Senior Club: | PSSA Bronze Medal |
| Best Junior Image: | PSSA Bronze Medal |
| Best Senior Image: | PSSA Bronze Medal |

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 1 The National PSSA Inter-club Competition is held annually and is hosted by the Society.
- 2 Affiliated clubs may enter DIGITAL images in two separate sections.
 - Junior Section – 1 to 3 Stars – 15 entries
 - Senior Section – 4 Stars and upwards – 15 entries
- 3 Clubs may enter either one or both sections depending on the status of membership ratings within the club at the time of the competition.
- 4 Photographers should enter the applicable section as per their current star rating within the club. However, a 1 to 3 Star photographer who is in possession of an Honours award may not enter as a Junior.
- 5 If a club member has only recently been promoted from the junior to the senior section their images may be entered in the junior section. However, a club member may **not** be entered into both sections - it is either the junior or the senior section but not both.
- 6 No one author may enter more than a total of three (3) images.
- 7 Where a photographer is a member of more than one club he/she may not submit the same image at more than one club. In cases where this occurs, the image will be disqualified in all clubs' entry submissions resulting in a no score for that particular image towards the club's total scores.
- 8 All images must be original and must not incorporate elements produced by anyone else. By virtue of submitting an entry, the entrants certify the work as their own and permit the sponsors to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the exhibition. The exhibition assumes no liability for any misuse of copyright by the entrants. All final work must be in digital format.
- 9 Although "categories" have been defined below, there is no stipulation or limitation as to how many images within these categories may be entered within each section.
- 10 No entry fee is payable.
- 11 Clubs entering must have paid their annual subscriptions to PSSA.
- 12 Digital entries will only be accepted via PhotoVault Online.com.
- 13 Submission of entries signifies acceptance of the conditions of entry.
- 14 Closing of entries on PhotoVault will be at 11:59 on 31 July 2014.
- 15 With respect to the judging, the decision of the Convener will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 16 Additionally to entering on Photovault each club must complete an entry form for each section and an electronic copy of these entry forms must be emailed to the Convenor at anned@iafrica.com.

SUBMISSION OF IMAGES

- 1 All the images will be judged remotely on a calibrated monitor using IrfanView software.
- 2 Images must be resized so that the horizontal axis will not exceed 1024 pixels and the vertical axis will not exceed 768 pixels.

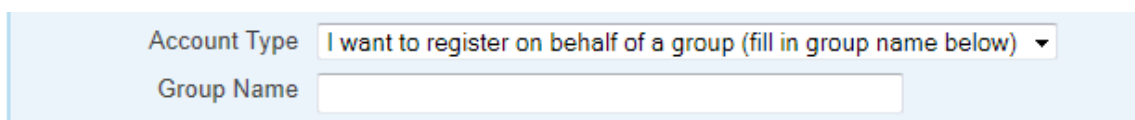
- 3 It is also strongly recommended that images be converted to sRGB colour profile, as it cannot be guaranteed that images, which have a different colour space, will display correctly when judged. Maximum JPEG size may not exceed 500kb.
- 4 Entries must be submitted via PhotoVault Online.com. Clubs will use the same submission instructions as those used when entering the “PSSA Club of the Month” competition. If a club has not previously entered this competition (or any other PSSA related competitions) and wishes to enter the Inter-club they will need to register their club on Photovault Online.com.

4.1 Club entries are uploaded onto <http://photovaultonline.com>

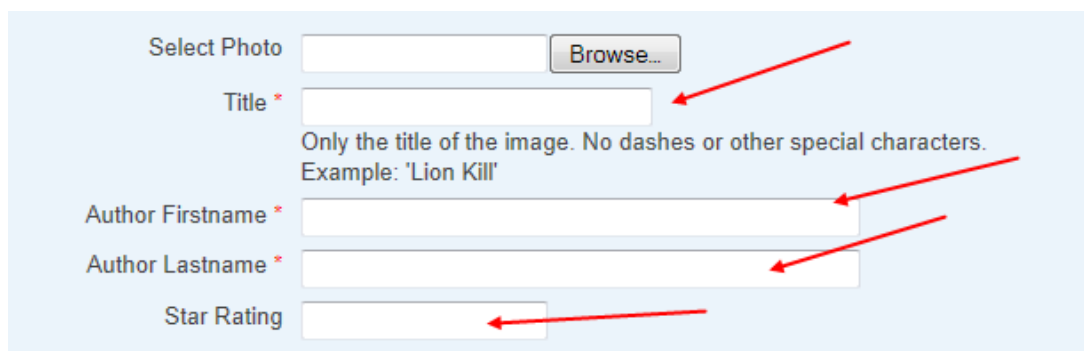
4.2 A club representative uploads the photos on behalf of the CLUB using a Photovault Online.com Group Account. If you are not already using this method for the Club of the Month Competition you will need to register a login for your club.

4.3 The Junior and Senior sections must be entered separately on PhotovaultOnline.com. Do not combine them into one entry.

4.4 To create a new account, if the club does not already have one, create an account on PhotovaultOnline.com and ensure that you select “Group Account” in the dropdown control for the type of account. Fill in the name of the club in the “Group Name” field. See below:



4.5 After logging in, upload the images into the group account’s Photo Vault. For each photo, enter the title in the field provided. Also enter the Author’s details (name, surname and star rating) in the fields provided. See below:



4.6 Once all photos are uploaded, select the “PSSA National Inter-club Competition” event from the “My Events” menu.

- 5 The inclusion of a frame or border on an image is permissible as long as it stays within the above mentioned size restrictions. No wording or text is allowed on the image unless it is an integral part of the image.

CATEGORY DEFINITIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMAGE IDENTIFICATION

Nature Definition

1. **Nature photography** is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history, except through anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify as to its honest presentation.
 - Human elements shall not be present, except on the rare occasion where those human elements enhance the nature story.
 - The presence of scientific bands on wild animals is acceptable.
 - Photographs of artificially produced hybrid plants or animals, domestic and farm animals, mounted specimens, or obviously set arrangements, are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement. Manipulation includes but is not limited to adding or removing any element by means other than cropping. Please read the full definition of manipulation.
 - The faithful representation of what was captured at the time of shooting must be maintained. Digital and printing adjustments are only acceptable if limited to minor cleaning work (removing dust spots), levels, curves, colour, saturation and contrast work, dodging and burning. Sharpening is allowed.
 - Compositing, multiple exposures, sandwich/montage shots and double exposures are not permitted except for new digital techniques such as HDR, Stacking and Stitching where the end result is a faithful representation of the original scene.
 - Adding or removing animals, parts of animals, plants, distractions, people, etc. into/from the image is not allowed.
 - Borders, if used in digital projections, should be unobtrusive and generally limited to a thin stroke that separates the image area from the black projection background.
- 1.1 **Wildlife** falls within the Nature category, and is defined as one or more organisms living free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat.
 - Therefore, while photographs of zoo and any other animals in captivity, insects or other creatures photographed in the studio or other controlled locations are Nature subjects, they are not **Wildlife** and could not be entered in a Wildlife section. Animals living free and unrestrained on game farms, private game reserves and National Parks are considered to the Wildlife.
 - **Note:** Wildlife subjects are not limited to birds and mammals. Insects, reptiles, amphibians, sea creatures and botany are also eligible wildlife subjects as long as they are not captive subjects. The main subjects must be living organisms therefore Landscapes are not eligible wildlife subjects.
- 1.2 **Nature Sub-sections** include but are not limited to Seascapes, Landscapes, Macro, Abstract, Portrait, Visual Art, etc. In all nature sub-sections, the nature definition as given above applies. Digital manipulation **is not** allowed in this section. (Please see notes below under the heading **Digital Manipulation**).

Open

Any type of image that does not fit into the Nature category may be entered into this category. **Digital enhancement and manipulation will be allowed in all genres with the exception of Photojournalism where no manipulation is permitted.**

DIGITAL MANIPULATION

Manipulation is not allowed in the categories Nature and Photojournalism. There are however no restrictions whatsoever in the way photographers choose to process an image on the Open categories.

Manipulation shall constitute any or all of the following modifications to the original image:

- **Adding an element** to the images that was not contained in the original capture;
- **Removing an element** from the images that was contained in the original capture;
- **Moving or repositioning an element** of the image that was not contained in the original capture.

The status quo remains for the following actions, which are allowed and are not seen as manipulation:

- Cropping and resizing is permissible;
- Correction of lens distortion, chromatic aberrations, purple fringing, lens vignette and critical/horizontal perspective adjustments;
- Removal of dust spots or scratch marks from sensor or scanned images;
- Due to the limitation of digital sensors regarding dynamic range, the blending of different exposures of the same scene to broaden the dynamic range (e.g. HDR) is permissible;
- Focus stacking to widen depth of field, especially in Macro photography, is permissible;
- In the case of Nature and Wildlife HDR, Stitching for panoramas and Focus Stacking will not be considered as manipulation and may therefore be used provided the end result is a faithful representation of the original scene. HDR, Stitching and Focus Stacking are not allowed in Photojournalism;
- Adjustments to exposure and contrast. This includes all algorithms that represent some form of dodging and burning;
- Adjustments/corrections of colour balance. This can either be done by selecting an appropriate white balance during the conversion in the RAW images, or by adding/subtracting colours in the photo editing software. The post capture application of digital colour correction filters like warming and cooling filters, similar to the 81 and 82 series of filters, is also allowed;
- Reduction of digital noise, especially in high ISO images from digital cameras, or film grain in scanned images;
- Sharpening the image. All modern sharpening algorithms and techniques such as edge sharpening. Luminance sharpening and mode sharpening is permissible.