



DIAMOND RATING, DPSSA and EPSSA

Diamond Ratings are for achievement by PSSA members in:

- South African National and South African International Salons with PSSA patronage.
- All other International Salons with patronage by one or more of:
 - o The Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain
 - o The Photographic Society of America
 - o The Australian Photographic Society
 - o The Chinese Photographic Society
 - o FIAP (Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique)
 - o **No more than 50% of your acceptance points may be claimed from overseas based salons**

General Rules

Only three credits may be claimed for 1 digital image, print or audio-visual sequence. Some images can qualify for both Open and Nature (e.g. Landscape with no human elements) but still with a maximum of 3 acceptances per images. All credits are carried forward continuously as progress is made through the Diamond Rating. The onus to apply for advancement in the Diamond Rating will rest with the individual and not by automatic notification from PSSA. Acceptances received prior to joining PSSA may also be included up to one year prior to joining.

"Open" is everything that is not "Nature" such as sport, altered reality, pictorial, photo travel, etc. A category that allows both Colour and Monochrome images will be classified as OPEN COLOUR

An image is only eligible for a total of 3 acceptances. An image which has been accepted in colour and monochrome forms part of the count of 3 e.g. An image gains a total of 2 colour and 1 mono acceptance = 3 acceptances.

NATURE MONOCHROME is included in NATURE for purposes of Impala trophy and Awards and DOES NOT form part of MONOCHROME.

Salon Judges will be credited with a number of points per section they judge equal to the number of Images in that section, on both National and International Salons. **Judging points may not constitute more than 33% of the total number of points claimed.**

Non Members may apply for a 1 to 3 Diamond rating and **only PSSA Members** can apply for a DPSSA and higher. Current fees are R230 for Non Members per category and R180 for Members per category.

Application forms are to be found under the Salons tab on the home page of the PSSA website.

<https://pssa.co.za/diamond-ratings-dpssa-epssa/>

As a PSSA member you automatically participate in the annual trophy competitions namely the Impala Trophy, the Top Ten Awards and the Top Salon Points Awards, based on total salon acceptances over a year (calculated from 1 July until 30 June).

No more than 50% of your acceptance points may be claimed from overseas based salons

Diamond Ratings are awarded for:

- * **Digital:** Colour Open; Colour Nature; Mono Open.
- * **Prints:** Colour Open; Colour Nature; Mono Open.
- * **Audio Visual:** Open.

Colour badges will be awarded for the divisions in the following colours:

Medium	Open	Nature	Mono
Digital	Light Blue	Dark Blue	Black
Prints	Maroon	Grey	White
Audio Visual	Orange	Yellow	

Requirements:

Digital

- * **1 Diamond Rating** – Total of 15 acceptances with a minimum of 5 images.
- * **2 Diamond Rating** – Total of 30 acceptances with a minimum of 10 images.
- * **3 Diamond Rating** – Total of 60 acceptances with a minimum of 20 images.

DPSSA - Total of 125 acceptances with a minimum of 42 images

DPSSA(Vers) - is awarded, on application, on achieving a DPSSA in 3 categories - these can be all 3 in DPI or a combination of DPI and Print DPSSA awards.

DPSSA(CIs) - Total of 250 acceptances with a minimum of 84 images

DPSSA(CIs Vers) - is awarded, on application, on achieving a DPSSA(CIs) in 3 categories - these can be all 3 in DPI or a combination of DPI and Print DPSSA awards.

EPSSA – A total of 500 acceptances (with a minimum of 167 images) in only ONE division: Open OR Nature OR Monochrome **OR alternatively:**

2 x 5 Diamond Ratings, each of which requires 250 acceptances (with a minimum of 84 images in each) from TWO of the divisions Open, Nature, Monochrome.

EPSSA(CIs) – A total of 750 acceptances (with a minimum of 250 images) in only ONE division: Open OR Nature OR Monochrome **OR alternatively:**

2 x 375 acceptances (with a minimum of 125 images in each) from TWO of the divisions: Open, Nature, Monochrome **OR alternatively:** 3 x 250 acceptances (with a minimum of 84 images) in each of the three divisions: Open, Nature, Monochrome

EPSSA(Mille) – A total of 1000 acceptances (with a minimum of 333 images) in only ONE division: Open OR Nature OR Monochrome **OR alternatively:**

2 x 500 acceptances (with a minimum of 167 images in each) from TWO of the divisions: Open, Nature, Monochrome **OR alternatively:** 1 x 500 acceptances (with a minimum of 167 images) from ONE of the divisions: Open, Nature OR Monochrome, plus 2 x 250 acceptances (with a minimum of 84 images in each) of the other TWO divisions Open, Nature OR Monochrome.

OR alternatively: 2 x 375 acceptances (with a minimum of 125 images) from TWO of the divisions: Open, Nature OR Monochrome, plus 1 x 250 acceptances (with a minimum of 84 images in each) of the other divisions Open, Nature OR Monochrome.

EPSSA(Mille Premium) – In addition to an EPSSA (Mille)

- An additional 350 acceptances are required from a minimum of 116 images (i.e. maximum of 3 per image).
- These can be derived from any 3 of the categories, Open, Nature or Mono.
- However, in any one category there must be a minimum of 250 acceptances in total (i.e for Mille and the Premium).
- The balance of the 100 acceptances may be derived from either of the other two categories.

EPSSA(Mille Platinum) – In addition to an EPSSA (Mille)

- An additional 750 acceptances are required from a minimum of 250 images (i.e. maximum of 3 per image).
- These can be derived from any 3 of the categories, Open, Nature or Mono.
- However, in any one category there must be a minimum of 250 acceptances in total (i.e for Mille and the Premium).
- The balance of the 500 acceptances may be derived from either of the other two categories.

The **Diamond Cluster** and **Mille awards** will be acknowledged as EPSSA(CIs), EPSSA(Mille), EPSSA (Mille Premium) and EPSSA (Mille Platinum) respectively.

Prints

* **1 Diamond Rating** – Total of 10 acceptances with a minimum of 3 images.

* **2 Diamond Rating** – Total of 20 acceptances with a minimum of 6 images.

* **3 Diamond Rating** – Total of 40 acceptances with a minimum of 13 images.

DPSSA - this is awarded for achievement of a 4 Diamond rating 80 acceptances with a minimum of 26 images

DPSSA(Vers) - is awarded, on application, on achieving a DPSSA in 3 categories - these can be all 3 in DPI or a combination of DPI and Print DPSSA awards.

DPSSA(CIs) - Total of 160 acceptances with a minimum of 53 images

DPSSA(CIs Vers) - is awarded, on application, on achieving a DPSSA in 3 categories - these can be all 3 in DPI or a combination of DPI and Print DPSSA awards.

EPSSA – A total of 320 acceptances (with a minimum of 106 images) in only ONE division: Open OR Nature OR Monochrome OR alternatively:

2 x 5 Diamond Ratings each of which requires 160 acceptances (with a minimum of 53 images in each) from TWO of the divisions: Open, Nature, Monochrome.

EPSSA(CIs) – A total of 480 acceptances (with a minimum of 160 images) in ONE division: Open OR Nature OR Monochrome OR alternatively:

2 x 240 acceptances (with a minimum of 80 images in each) from TWO of the divisions: Open, Nature, Monochrome.

EPSSA(Mille) – A total of 640 acceptances (with a minimum of 213 images) in only ONE division: Open OR Nature OR Monochrome OR alternatively:

2 x 320 acceptances (with a minimum of 106 images in each) from TWO of the divisions: Open, Nature, Monochrome.

The **Diamond Cluster** and **Mille awards** will be acknowledged as EPSSA(CIs) and EPSSA(Mille) respectively. For the application form, see Digital on the previous page.

Audio Visual

* **1 Diamond Rating** – Total of 3 acceptances with a minimum of 1 AV.

* **2 Diamond Rating** – Total of 6 acceptances with a minimum of 2 AVs.

* **3 Diamond Rating** – Total of 12 acceptances with a minimum of 4 AVs.

* **DPSSA (4 Diamond Rating)** – Total of 24 acceptances with a minimum of 8 AVs.

* DPSSA(CIs) 5 Diamond Rating – Total of 48 acceptances with a minimum of 16 AVs.

EPSSA - 96 acceptances with a minimum of 32 AVs.

Diamond Rating Requirements for Honours Applications

The Diamond Rating must be the same **medium** as the Honours Application. The password to open and change the Acceptances and Application forms is: image?345 and it is case sensitive.

LPSSA - no diamond rating necessary

APSSA - a three diamond rating in the medium in which you are applying (please note that this does not mean a total of three diamond ratings but a single three diamond rating). Applicants already holding either a LPSSA in the same medium or an APSSA in another medium may apply directly for an APSSA. The Exception is the APSSA AV where a LPSSA is required before applying for the APSSA

The password to open and change the Acceptances and Application forms is: image?345 and it is case sensitive.

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