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HONOURS INFORMATION - 9 JUDGING PANEL, JUDGING & FEEDBACK

JUDGING PANEL

In the interest of consistency and fairness to both applicants and PSSA judging is done twice a year by a panel of experienced, active photographers. These judges are selected for their overall knowledge and experience and for their ability to assess, regardless of their own personal taste.

Fellows who would like to join the judging panel should send a motivation as well as their CV to the Chairman of the Honours Division jillsneesby@gmail.com

Honours are awarded for mastering the art and craft of photography to varying degrees.

Photography is a subjective art and as such no hard and fast rules can be set for the grading of images, because of its subjectivity it can provoke controversy. This is healthy, in that discussion usually follows and hopefully, more knowledge can be imparted.

The panel acts with absolute sincerity and wholehearted fair play in assessing the applications.

Information regarding the current judging panel can be found here.

JUDGING

PDI & Prints - Judging is done live by the judging panel and the applications are assessed one at a time. The panels are judged anonymously.

Digital applications are projected twice in their entirety using a calibrated projection system. Refer here for more information on calibration. During the second projection, judges are asked to mark the images as either "Up to" the required Standard or "Below" the required Standard.

Print applications are exhibited on correctly lit exhibition stands in order for the judges to assess the panel as a whole and individually. The judges are asked to mark the images as either "Up to" the required Standard or "Below" the required Standard.

8 of the 12 judges (66.6%) must pass all the images in an application in order for it to be successful.

Once each panel has been judged the resultant spreadsheet is shown to and discussed by the judges. This is not a matter of one judge dominating the process as each member of the judging panel has a valuable contribution to make.

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Images that miss passing by only one or two judges are discussed and the judges may then rescore those specific images if they wish.

If a panel is only one or two images short, then the whole panel will be shown again and discussed - the judges will then rescore that panel. If it is still not successful but only misses by one image for an LPSSA or APSSA, then the applicant is invited to submit an additional image. In the case of an FPSSA application, the applicant may miss by two images and is invited to submit an additional two images.

These images are judged remotely and if 66.6% of the judges feel that they are of the required standard to pass then the panel will be passed.

Audio Visual - Audio Visual applications are judged remotely and discussed via Zoom.

Each sequence in an Audio Visual application is viewed using calibrated and suitable viewing and sound equipment. The judges will mark each sequence as "up to standard" or "below standard" basing their marking on the aspects as detailed in the PSSA Audio Visual Judging Sheet.

In the case of Audio Visual, 60% of the judges must pass all of the sequences in an application in order for it to be successful.

In order for a panel to be successful all images/sequences have to pass. If a panel does not pass credits are awarded.

FEEDBACK

Feedback from the judging session will be given to each unsuccessful applicant by one member of the honours judging panel. The feedback may be via email, telephone or Zoom/meetings, whatever works best for both the applicant and the judge.

While they will give as much assistance and advice as possible it must be realized that the judge is only one member of the panel and his/her advice cannot guarantee a successful result in the future.