



PSA ENGLAND  
MEMBERSHIP NEWS  
JUNE 2018



## NEW COUNTRY MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORS FOR ENGLAND

Barbara Jenkin and Andrew Hersom have just been asked by PSA to support members in England by providing direct assistance or by referring members to an appropriate PSA officer when they have questions. Also to provide members with information that will help them to take advantage of all the benefits that PSA offers. We hope to produce a newsletter every quarter with PSA news and updates. If you have any personal or club news, or have examples of images which have been particularly successful in recent exhibitions which you would like to share, please email us. Also, please feel free to contact us with your thoughts and suggestions about PSA services that will benefit members.

Under the new GDP regulations we are obliged to inform you that Country Directors only store your contact details to enable us to send information to you from time to time. If, however, you do not want to be contacted by the England Membership Director or Assistant Director please let us know and we will remove your details from our records.



Andrew Hersom

Andrew is a member of Cottingham F4 Photo Group and secretary of YPI Camera Club. He is also administrator of PSA Digital Dialogue Group 40. He joined PSA in 1984 and now mostly photographs maritime, industrial and travel scenes for AV sequences.



Barbara Jenkin  
GMPSA/B,  
BPSA, EFIAP/g

Barbara is a member of the Camborne Redruth Camera Club. She joined PSA in 2010 and began entering exhibitions. She earned her PPSA in early 2012, her EPSA in 2013, her MPSA in 2014, her GMPSA in 2016 and her GMPSA/B in 2018. She also has achieved an ARPS and EFIAP/p award. Barbara is Director for PSA Interclub Creative and her preferred genres are portraiture and dance.  
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## IS YOUR CLUB A MEMBER OF PSA?

There are huge benefits for your club to be a member of PSA.

1. Your club will have a hard copy of the PSA Journal
2. Your club can participate in PSA Interclub competitions
3. **Consultants** are available for representatives to assist with education, exhibition hosting, interclub competitions, judging, recognition, PSA contests, club programs, and technical assistance.
4. PSA member-clubs and councils **receive special discounts** (requires login first) created just for clubs.

For a full list of benefits have a look at the PSA website.

My own club was very reluctant to join the PSA, however, since they have been members they are enjoying entering the Interclub competitions and delighted when someone gains an award. There is always stiff competition to be the first to read the new journal. Journals are passed around until everyone has read it. It opens member's eyes to the photographic world outside of their own area. For my club being a member has had a positive energising effect. BJ

## **IMPORTANT RULE CHANGE**

### **TITLES OF COLOUR & MONOCHROME IMAGES**

The new PSA policy on the titles of colour and monochrome images is this:

*Images meeting the Monochrome definition and non-manipulated colour images from the same original capture shall be considered the same image and must be given the same title. This rule shall apply to all images used in any PSA competition or activity.*

There is an article in the June PSA Journal that explains the changed rule in detail; basically:

- For images entered in International exhibitions recognised by PSA and having a closing date after 1st August - the new rule applies, except in the following situation:  
*PSA members working on Galaxy and Diamond Star Ratings shall be allowed to continue using different titles of monochrome versions and colour versions of the same image in exhibitions without FIAP patronage if both versions have been accepted prior to August 1, 2018 until the required number of titles for those images has been completed.* (Note: If you enter these images in exhibitions with FIAP patronage you will run the risk of being sanctioned by FIAP).
- For acceptances received in International exhibitions recognised by PSA and having a closing date before 1 August - nothing has changed. ALL acceptances that have been received under the existing rule (different titles for mono and colour images) in exhibitions with closing dates before 1 August can still be used in Star, Galaxy and Diamond applications if they meet the usual rules.
- As is the case now, the responsibility for giving correct titles to images rests with the person entering the images.

## **2018 PSA CONFERENCE IN SALT LAKE CITY**

Conference registration is now open. Reduced rates for early registration apply until July 30. For regular updates on what is planned, check <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?2018-psa-conference> .

## **NATURE DIVISION STAR RATINGS**

Some members experienced delays in the processing of Nature Division Star/Galaxy applications over the past few months. The good news is that these delays should not happen again; Jenni Horsnell is now the ND SRD Coordinator. If you have a look at the Nature Division Star Rating page <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?divisions-nature-star-ratings> you will notice that All Star, Galaxy and Diamond applications in ND now go to Jenni and she ensures that they get processed by the appropriate SRD.

## **CHANGES IN 3D DIVISION**

The PSA Board has approved changes to the Star Ratings System for the 3D Division. The Star 6 has been discontinued so that the 3D Division now has the same Star Ratings system as all other

Divisions. The 3DD does not have Galaxy and Diamond awards; instead they have an unlimited number of Master awards. Each Masters level requires 75 acceptances from 25 or more different and new 3D images. Images/titles used for previous Star or Masters levels cannot be re-used.

All members who currently have Star 6 or a Master award in 3DD will have their awards adjusted by the addition of 3 Master levels. If you currently have Star 6 you will be awarded Master 3, if you currently have Master 1 you will be awarded Master 4, and so on.

## **STAR RATINGS and ROPA DISTINCTIONS**

Some of you have a lot of experience in this area but others are still exploring this aspect of PSA. The following information might help newbies.

1. A member enters images in PSA recognised international exhibitions and gets acceptances.
2. When the member has sufficient acceptances in a particular category (e.g. PIDC or Nature) they apply for one or more Star Ratings - this is the process by which their acceptances and image titles are verified (approved).
3. When the member has sufficient acceptances verified through the Star Ratings system they apply for the relevant ROPA distinction (such as QPSA).

In each category (PIDC, PIDM, Nature, etc) the verification process for Stars is the same but separate applications are necessary - acceptances in different categories cannot be combined on Star applications.

Once a member has 288 acceptances from at least 96 titles in a category (e.g. Photojournalism) they will qualify for Star 5 in that category. If they continue to receive acceptances in that category they move into the Galaxy rating system (and eventually into the Diamond rating system). However, the rules change slightly - most importantly, all the titles used for Stars in that category are retired and cannot be used on Galaxy or Diamond applications.

All Star, Galaxy and Diamond ratings applications can be submitted by email. The application instructions and the application spreadsheets can be downloaded from the Stars/ROPA overview page of the PSA website <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?stars-and-ropa>. Members can also download guidelines for using the application spreadsheet.

It is best not to wait until you have hundreds of acceptances before starting to apply for Star Ratings - this will just make the task harder. It is probably best to start with a Star 1 application or perhaps a Star 1-2 application. Submitting a Star 1 application is a simple process and it should take just a few minutes if you have kept accurate records of acceptances. Once your Star 1 application has been approved you will be confident that you know what to do and confident that records of acceptances contain all the information that is needed for Star applications. You can then simply continue to use the spreadsheet that is returned to you by the Star Ratings Director and the process remains straightforward. Members can apply for multiple Stars in a Division on a single application (e.g. Stars 1-3 or Stars 2-4) but you must obtain Star 4 before applying for Star 5. (This limits the number of acceptances that the Star Ratings Directors have to check on each application and helps them to achieve a quick turn-around of your application).

On Star applications there is no limit to how many acceptances can be claimed for a single title. However, because each Star Rating requires both a minimum number of acceptances and a minimum number of titles, you should not continue to enter images that have gained a lot of acceptances. If you do, you might find that you have acceptances that cannot be used (simply because you have too many acceptances for a particular title). On average you need only three acceptances for each different title on a Star application and when you move into Galaxy applications you need exactly three acceptances for each title.

If you have any questions about Star Ratings applications please contact the relevant Star Ratings Director, or the Star Ratings Chair, Craig Parker, MPSA, at [star-ratings-chairman@psa-photo.org](mailto:star-ratings-chairman@psa-photo.org).

## **SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS**

- Approximately 7% of USA members have a ROPA distinction.
- Approximately 42% of members from England have a ROPA distinction.
- Worldwide, approximately 13% of members have a ROPA distinction.
- Worldwide, 61 members have GMPSA but only 9 of those members have a GMPSA level (4 bronze, 4 silver, 1 gold).

## **DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES**

On the PSA website if you select Membership>Member Services from the menu it will open a page that gives contact details for the new Director of Member Services, Stan Bormann, APSA, EPSA. Over the past year Stan has been sending monthly emails to members in their first year to help them take advantage of the services that PSA offers. Stan's role has now been formalised and expanded to cover all members, not just those in their first year. The Member Services page will gradually be enhanced to become a one-stop-shop of links to member services. If you have any suggestions for links to be added to that page please let me know or send an email to Stan.

## **PSA ACCEPTANCES DATABASE**

Over the past year or so, PSA has been developing a database of exhibition acceptances. It is currently populated with about 2.5 million acceptances in the Projected Image Division, 700,000 acceptances in the Nature Division and a significant number of acceptances in the Photojournalism, Photo Travel and Pictorial Print Divisions. The database is being updated almost daily as new acceptance reports are received from PSA recognised exhibitions.

At this stage, the acceptance records are in separate databases for each Division but in the near future they will be combined into a single Exhibition Acceptances Management System (EMAS). The EMAS will provide the official records for the PSA's annual Who's Who in Photography publication and will be the reference used by Star Ratings Directors when checking Star, Galaxy and Diamond applications.

Initially, the database records will go back only to 2013 as that is when PSA started to require exhibitions to submit electronic records of acceptances (EDAS reports). If a member is claiming acceptances from 2012 or earlier the Star Ratings Director will still have to check exhibition catalogues and this may cause delays in the processing applications.

## USE OF THE PSA LOGO

The PSA Executive has recently updated the policy on the use of the PSA logo. PSA Members may use the official logo (as shown at the top of this newsletter) in the following ways:

- On personal business cards.
- On professional business cards.
- On personal websites if the logo is a *direct link* to the PSA website.
- On organizational websites if the logo is a *direct link* to the PSA website.
- On professional websites if the logo is a *direct link* to the PSA website.
- On the exhibition page of PSA-Recognized Exhibitions, with a *direct link* to the website.
- On social media websites *if special permission is granted by the Executive Committee.*

The logo can be downloaded from here: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?psa-logos>

## PSA TRAVEL STUDY GROUP

If you are interested in seeing travel photographs and participate in a PSA Travel Study Group, Les Lincke, PPSA, PTD Study Groups Director, is inviting members to send him an email and join a PTD Study Group so that each month you can view images from Antarctica to the Sahara, from Tokyo to Stockholm. Les is happy for members to join on a trial basis and he can be contacted at [les@lincke.org](mailto:les@lincke.org)

## DATA PROTECTION

On 25th May the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) became law in the European Union. It is designed to protect data and privacy for all individuals within the EU. Organisations outside the EU (such as PSA) are subject to the jurisdiction of these EU regulations when they collect data concerning an EU resident.

The PSA Executive Committee is aware of the implications of the GDPR for Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the following statement is now part of the online joining process:

*By filing this membership application, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including email addresses, being held, processed and used by the Photographic Society of America (PSA) for purposes associated with your membership. You also explicitly consent to such information being shared with the PSA organizers of programs and activities that you may enjoy. Your personal information will not be shared with any third-party organizations. You have the ability to update or remove your information by contacting PSA Headquarters at [membership@psa-photo.org](mailto:membership@psa-photo.org)*

The PSA Executive Committee is taking other necessary steps to ensure that PSA complies with the GDPR. It will not be necessary for Country Membership Directors in EU countries to take any specific action regarding the GDPR. The data held by PSA that relates to members in European Union countries will be covered by the general consent stated above.

The PSA Privacy Policy can be viewed at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?psa-privacy-policy>

## NEW VIDEO TO PROMOTE PSA

There is a new video called "You and Your Photography" at <https://vimeo.com/268851531> .