

PSA TRAVEL DIVISION - INTER-CLUB COMPETITION

2018-2019

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STRUCTURE

In accordance with the PSA recommended practices for running a divisional inter-club competition, the Travel Division Inter-Club competition is divided into two groups - A and B. Each group will consist of between 15 and 30 clubs.

There will be three competitions (November, February and May) and clubs in a group will only compete against the other clubs in the same group. After the final competition in May, the overall top three clubs in each group will be invited to compete in a combined 'playoff' to determine the overall Travel Division champion.

Clubs will remain in the same group at the end of the year.

On a rota basis, clubs in group A will be responsible for judging one of the Group B competitions and vice versa. If a club is willing to enter the competition, it is expected that, if asked, they will agree to do the requested judging of the other group.

In order to balance the strengths of the two groups, new clubs joining the competition will be allocated so as to balance the number of clubs in each group.

COMPETITION

In each of the standard competitions, a club will enter 6 images from 6 different photographers. Once an image has been entered in a standard competition, it cannot be entered again in a subsequent standard competition. A photographer is not permitted to enter images for more than one club. If a photographer changes clubs, they cannot use images previously submitted via a former club.

During the season, a photographer may enter for only one club. If images are received from more than one club for the same person, both images will be disqualified and the scores removed from the total score for both clubs.

In the end of season 'playoff', each club will enter 8 images with no more than 2 images from the same photographer. The images can be either new images or images entered in one of the standard competitions in that season.

Each club designated in the rota as being responsible for judging will receive a link for downloading the relevant images and a spreadsheet for entering the results along with explicit guidance on the judging process. Neither the image filenames nor the spreadsheet will contain any details of the club or photographer.

REGISTRATION

The competition is open to all clubs which are members of the PSA. The individual photographers in the club do not need to be members of the PSA.

In September and October a club wishing to register for the competition will nominate a person to be the contact representative. That person will then register the club using the registration page at <http://www.psa-photo.org/ptd/ic/data/register/>

NOTE: There is no automatic re-registration - each club must explicitly register each year.

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Registrations need to be received before 1 November. At this time, new clubs will be assigned to the groups so as to maintain the balance of the number of clubs in each group.

The Club Interclub Representative is the club member who is responsible for sending in the clubs' entry, receiving the results back, and then communicating those results to the club membership.

IMAGES AND ENTRY

All images must be entered using the PSA Travel Division on-line entry screens. Each image must meet the PSA Travel Definition. Images which do not meet the definition are liable to be disqualified. It is in the interests of the club to ensure that the images clearly meet the requirements.

All images must be uploaded as JPEG images with a maximum file size of 1.5 megabytes, a maximum width of 1024 pixels and a maximum height of 768 pixels. NOTE: portrait shaped images must not be taller than 768 pixels. Images not meeting these requirements will be rejected at entry time. It is recommended that all images be converted to the sRGB color space - other profiles will be accepted but may not project as intended.

A confirmation email will be sent to the club contact detailing the images currently entered in the competition.

The entries will close on the specified date and late entries will not be accepted. A club which misses one of the competitions will not be permitted to enter more images in a subsequent competition.

COMPETITION JUDGING

Prior to being made available to the judging club, the images will be renamed and sorted randomly. The file names will show only the presentation order and the title. Titles may be read out loud to the judges.

One of the objectives of the Inter-Club competition is to provide experience of the processes involved in major salon judging. Each competition will consist of two parts - a) determination of the inter-club standings and b) determination of individual awards. The two aspects use the same images but are to be done separately as described below.

In the first part, all images will be previewed in strict order and then in a second pass all images will be scored in strict order. Three judges will each assign a mark between 1 and 5 for a total score ranging from 3 to 15. Once assigned, a score is not changed. The club standings will be determined by adding up the scores of the submitted images. During this process all images are treated the same way and judging each image should take between 5 and 15 seconds. Having seen all images in the preview before scoring, the judges should be willing to assign scores using the full range of marks.

5 - *superior* - a really good powerful image showing no obvious technical flaws

4 - *above average* - good composition and quality meeting the definition well

3 - *average* - nothing wrong but lacking in impact or travel story telling

2 - *below average* - problems with the composition or image quality or travel aspect

1 - *unacceptable* - does not meet the definition or over processed or not appearing natural

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In the second part, the top scoring images will be examined in detail to determine the award winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 3 Honourable Mentions). If there are less than 6 images receiving the top mark, then the 'pool' of images for awards will include the next lower mark until the 'pool' consists of at least 6 images. During the award determination process, since the images are being examined in detail, all images are considered equal and the judges are not told the scores. This means that with the benefit of closer scrutiny, the top award could be allocated to an image which did not receive a top score in the first pass. The scores are NOT adjusted just because an image receives an award.

When each round has been completed, the results are sent back to the Director. The results will then be sent to each club in the Group and the overall standings and winners shown on the PSA web site. The awards will be posted to the club contact.

END OF YEAR

When all three competitions have been completed, the top three clubs in each Group will receive a certificate recognizing their achievement.

The top three clubs in each group will be invited to enter 8 images in the 'playoff'. The images can be either images from this season OR new images not yet entered. A 'new' image used in the playoff can still be used in the following season. The playoff will be judged by a set of selectors determined by the Director. The winning club will be declared the Travel Division Inter-Club Champion and receive a certificate.

TRAVEL DEFINITION

All images must meet the following Travel Definition.

"A Photo Travel image expresses the characteristic features or culture of a land as they are found naturally. There are no geographic limitations. Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not appropriate. Close up pictures of people or objects must include features that provide information about the environment. Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. The only allowable adjustments are removal of dust or digital noise, restoration of the appearance of the original scene, and complete conversion to greyscale monochrome. Other derivations, including infrared and toned monochrome, are not permitted. All images must appear natural."

NOTE: Portraits of people which do not include sufficient environment are liable to be scored very low as not meeting the concept of 'features that provide information about the environment'.

NOTE: Images which have been too 'worked' or 'processed' and no longer look like photographs are liable to be scored very low as not 'appearing natural'.

NOTE: Toned monochrome is NOT permitted and will receive a minimum score.

Dr Greg Duncan, MPSA2, GPSA, EFIAP/s

PTD Inter-Club Competition Director