



# Irish Photographic Federation

## Photographer of the Year Competition

### Rules and Regulations

Updated for the 2016/2017 Season

Version 3.1

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# 1. The Competition

1. The competition is open to all members of Clubs in good standing with the Federation in the current season of the competition.
2. The competition shall consist of six separate sections/categories. The three themed categories will mirror the theme requirements for the FIAP Biennials for the two years following that competition.  
(Please see definitions at the end of this document)
  - Colour Print - Open
  - Monochrome Print - Open
  - Projected Image - Open
  
  - Colour Print - Theme - Creative/Experimental Photography
  - Monochrome Print - Theme - Environmental Portraiture
  - Projected Image - Theme - The Human Face and Body
3. The regional rounds shall be held between 20<sup>th</sup> November and 31<sup>st</sup> January on a date and venue agreed with each Regional IPF committee, with the National Finals being held on a date not later than the last day of the following February.
4. Regional committees shall appoint Judges from the list of Judges provided by the IPF National Council. Appointed judges must be from outside that region. All rounds shall be subject to the authority of the IPF National Council and the National Competition Coordinator, the decision of the IPF National Council being final.
5. All regional rounds and the National Final shall be judged by three judges, each marking every image from nine points. Results shall be from an aggregate of the judges' scores.

6. Photographers who come under any of the following categories will be deemed to be Advanced photographers.

Persons who have -

- (a) received an IPF distinction or similar ie. FIAP, PSA, RPS or any other distinctions;
- (b) been awarded more than one IPF medal in IPF national competitions;
- (c) whose image(s) have represented the IPF in international competitions;
- (d) received an Acceptance or Acceptances with five or more image titles or one or more Awards, including a Ribbon, in FIAP and/or PSA recognized salons.
- (e) Persons whose club considers them to be of advanced standard in any discipline of photography (eg. Monochrome, Colour Print, Projected Image, AV etc.).
- (f) Photographers who, in the opinion of the Federation, are of advanced standard are not allowed to enter as “Non Advanced”.

## 2. Entries

1. Each competitor may enter up to three images in each open section i.e. Monochrome Print, Colour Print and Digital Projected Image, and up to two images in each themed section. It is compulsory to enter at least one open section.
2. Prints must be mounted on 20" X 16" (50.8 X 40.6 cm) board and framed prints will not be accepted. Prints must be registered online and a digital copy uploaded for entry into the regional round. The prints must be presented to the regional competition event for judging.
3. Digital images for projection must be 2,400 pixels on the longest side at jpeg quality 10, must be uploaded via the link provided for entry into the Regional competition. The IPF reserves the right to resize these images to optimize them for display or for acceptance into any international competition that the IPF may participate in.
4. Each print entry must carry the official completed IPF label (available on the IPF website) to include the name of the author, the name of his or her club, Advanced or Non Advanced, and the image title. Entries not marked in accordance with this rule will be disqualified.
5. Entries must entirely be the original work of the person represented as being the author of that work.
6. Images, which have been selected for previous National Print & Projected Image or Photographer of the Year finals, may not be entered in the regional rounds.
7. Unlabelled images will not be accepted.

### 3. Regional Rounds

1. It is the responsibility of each entrant to present their work and appropriate fee to the regional organizers on or before the closing date for the regional round. Entry for the 2016-2017 season is via online registration. Any issues experienced while trying to enter online must be brought to the attention of the regional organizers before the closing date set by the region for its event.

#### 2. Entry Fee:

The entry fees are as follows:

One Section : €15.00	Two Sections : €20.00
Three Sections: €25.00	Four Sections or more: €30.00

These fees must be paid at the point of registering for the regional round of the competition via the link provided on the IPF website.

3. Prizes for all competitions, if any, shall be as agreed between the IPF National Council and the sponsors.
4. A minimum of 80% of the entry from each region, as selected by the Judges, shall advance to the finals. The Final “cut-off” score for qualification shall be set on the day.
5. The Judges' decision shall be final.
6. Each region shall forward the qualifying prints complete with details and appropriate fees to the National Competition Coordinator on or before Monday 8th February 2017, clearly distinguishing Advanced and Non Advanced entries.

*Note: A fee of two euro and fifty cents (€2.50) per qualifying image in the 4 fullest categories, for max 60% of the original entry (which will be retained from the regional entry fee) must be included to ensure participation in the National Finals.*

Each Region will supply a list of entries, listing Title, Photographer Name, Contact Details, Image scores from the regional rounds on a completed spreadsheet to the National Coordinator and copied to the IT staff.

## 4. The National Finals

1. All qualifying entries for the National Finals must be forwarded to the National Competition Coordinator on or before Monday 8th February 2017. Entries will not be accepted after this date. The National Final shall be held not later than the 28<sup>th</sup> February each year on a date and venue agreed by the IPF Council.
2. Transmission of the entries for the National Finals shall be the responsibility of the regions, whom shall make appropriate arrangements in each case. Entries will be returned through the regions by arrangement with the organizers of the competition.
3. Only images that have qualified through the regional rounds shall be eligible for the National Finals.
4. Marking shall be as outlined in Section 1.5 above. Where necessary, judges shall rule on entries that gain equal aggregate scores in such a manner as they and the National Competition Coordinator decide. Said rulings are final.
5. IPF Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals will be awarded to the top three images in each Open section at both the advanced and intermediate level. One IPF Silver medal will be awarded to the author of the highest scoring image at advanced level in each themed section, and one IPF silver medal will be awarded to the author of the highest scoring image in each themed section at non-advanced level. In addition, each judge may award one IPF Silver medal at his or her discretion. Authors who enter as “Non Advanced” will only be eligible to win the medals as allocated for the “Non Advanced” section, even if they score higher than the advanced authors in any section.
6. Medals will be awarded on a ‘*first past the post*’ basis per section.
7. This competition is a recognized competition for the purposes of gathering qualifiers to use in your application for FIAP distinction. To attain a qualifier, you must have an image score in the top 35% in the national final. The Top 35% will be listed on the IPF website.

8. High scoring images may be retained by the IPF for possible selection for International competitions and FIAP Biennials and will be returned after selections take place.
9. A representative from each region must be present at the end of the competition to take possession of returned prints. The IPF will not accept responsibility for the safe keeping or return of prints after this point. It is up to the region to appoint whomsoever they wish.
10. It is not permitted to enter the same image in more than one section. This includes conversions to monochrome, digital versions etc. For the purpose of interpreting this rule, a monochrome version, a digital version, a colour version, (printed or otherwise), and a cropped version originating from the same original photograph will be deemed to be the same image.

## 5. General

1. The Irish Photographic Federation retains the right to reproduce any image entered in the competition in connection with publicizing or promoting the competition. The Irish Photographic Federation retains the right to publish any images entered in the competition in the annual Images of Distinction DVD. Copyright of the images shall remain with the respective authors. The Irish Photographic Federation retains the right to store the images in the National Archive Collection, and may use them to create online galleries or may display them on the IPF website.
2. The IPF National Council's decision in all matters relating to this competition is final.
3. Submission of any entry to this competition is deemed acceptance of these rules, as they relate to this competition.
4. All entries, (both open and themed) must conform to current specifications as defined by FIAP in each category of Monochrome Print, Colour Print, and Projected Image.
5. For the proper administration of IPF Competitions, amendments to the rules can be made at the end of the season on the recommendation of the National Competition Coordinator in consultation with the IPF primary officers.
6. The organizers will take reasonable care of the entries submitted but cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to images.

### IPF ENTRIES TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

IPF entries to all international competitions will be selected from the highest scoring images (theme relevant in the FIAP biennials) in each section of the National Photographer of the Year competition; and, the winning panel and images receiving individual awards in each category of all IPF National Competitions.

## 6. Definitions

### 1. Colour Print - Open

Any printed colour image that complies with the general rules of the competition may be submitted in the Open Colour category. Any subject, theme or technique is eligible, provided that every element of the printed image is the work of the entrant.

### 2. Colour Print - Themed - Creative/Experimental Photography

Any printed colour image that complies with the general rules of the competition may be submitted under the Creative/Experimental Photography theme. Terms that cover this genre include abstract, altered reality, contemporary, creative, surreal, experimental. Images may be altered, either digitally or otherwise, by the maker, but all elements of the image must have been taken by the entrant (clip art, stock, licensed or copyright free ingredients are not allowed).

Photographic content should predominate. The original image content may be changed with adjustments, scenes altered, elements added, removed or replaced. The only limit is your imagination.

### 3. Monochrome Print - Open

Any printed monochrome image that complies with the general rules of the competition may be submitted in the Open Monochrome category. Any subject, theme or technique is eligible, provided that every element of the printed image is the work of the entrant. A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white), is a monochrome image. A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour (eg, sepia, cyanotype, ambrotype or selenium toning) will be considered a monochrome work and therefore is eligible to be entered in this category. Multi-toned images, or images with an added colour accent are not eligible.

#### 4. Monochrome Print - Themed - Environmental Portraiture

Any printed monochrome image that complies with the general rules of the competition may be submitted in the Environmental Portraiture category. An environmental portrait is a portrait taken of one or more people in their usual environment, such as their workplace or home, and should, in essence 'tell a story' about that person. Travel and street photography may be considered part of this category. Studio portraiture is excluded from this category. Manipulation of images in this category is permitted but must be kept to a minimum.

#### 5. Projected Image - Open

Any projected image, in colour or monochrome, that complies with the general rules of the competition may be submitted in this category. As with all other categories, all elements of the image must have been taken by the author. Manipulation of images is allowed.

#### 6. Projected Image - Themed - The Human Face and Body

Any projected colour image that complies with the general rules of the competition may be submitted under the Human Face and Body theme. The centre of interest in the image must be the human face and/or body in all its forms and manifestations, including nude and creative compositions. Images in this category may be taken indoors, in studio, or outdoors, and may include more than one person in the image.