

Full Set of Rules*

By entering IPF Nature Photographer of the Year 2020 you are agreeing to the following Rules (Conditions of Entry).

As an entrant it is important that you read and understand them fully.

Please note changes from previous years highlighted in red.

Calendar

Online Entries Open - 12 noon, Friday, 25th October 2019

Online Entries Close - Midnight, Sunday 24th November 2019

Regional Rounds

Mid-East - tbc

Mid-West - tbc

North-East - tbc

SACC - tbc

(tbc - to be confirmed, though they usually take place in January)

Final

Saturday, 22nd February 2020, Talbot Hotel, Carlow.

Conditions of Entry

Entry Fee

1 section €15

2 sections €20

3 sections €25

4 sections €30

Payment via Paypal through the online entry system.

Canon Prize Draw tickets €5 and can be purchased with entry.

Categories

Entrants are divided into two categories; Advanced** and Non-Advanced. Entrants at both levels are eligible to compete for the overall IPF Nature Photographer of the Year 2020 Title.

**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 one or more IPF Gold medal in IPF NPOTY National Finals;
- (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 recognised 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”.

General Rules for Entry

- Images must be entirely the original work of the entrant.
- Prints may be any size/orientation, as long as they fit in/on the maximum mount board size of 20”x16”. The most important consideration when choosing a print size is that it should be sympathetic to your image.
- Prints must be securely mounted on 20”x16” board. Poorly mounted or framed prints will not be accepted.

- Entries must be correctly made through the online entry system www.ipfcompetition.com/npoty.
- **Images must be sized to 3,000 pixels on their longest side.** Filenames should not include under_scores or special characters (e.g *^@).
- After the closing date entrants will be emailed their labels to print and securely affix to the back, top right hand corner of each print entry. Unlabelled prints will not be accepted. No other writing on the back. Digital entries do not require a label.
- It is the entrant's responsibility to present their work at the Regional Round and collect prints that do not qualify for the finals. It is also the responsibility of the entrant to organise collection of prints after the award ceremony at the final. Many clubs/regions assist with this so please contact your club committee for more details.
- Images which have been selected for previous NPOTY Finals in Print and/or Projected Digital Image may not be entered in the Regional Rounds.
- While every effort will be made to handle all print entries with care, the IPF, it's regional bodies and volunteers working on its behalf cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage incurred to prints.
- It is not permitted to enter the same image in more than one section.
- All entrants must agree to the rules (conditions for entry) and abide by the judge's decision.

Nature Definition***

Images submitted must comply with the definition of Nature Photography as published by FIAP (Federation Internationale De L'Art Photographique) and as agreed with the PSA. Effective from Jan 1st 2015.

- Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.
- The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.
- Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves.
- Scientific bands, scientific tags, cultivated plants or radio collars on wild animals are permissible.
- Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.
- No techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted.
- Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the story or the pictorial content or without altering the content of the original scene are permitted including HDR, focus

stacking and dodging/burning (or digital equivalent).

- Techniques that remove elements added by the camera such as dust spots, digital noise and film scratches are allowed.
- Stitched elements are not permitted.
- All allowed adjustments must appear natural.

Sections

1. Print (PA) Mammals and Marine - up to four entries.
2. Print (PB) Birds - up to four entries.
3. PDI (PDIA) Invertebrates - up to four entries.
4. PDI (PDIB) Flora & Fungi - up to four entries.

Section Definitions

1. **Print (PA) Mammals and Marine**

Any print image correctly mounted that complies with the general rules for entry, the **nature definition***** above and the main centre of interest is a mammal, mammals or marine life.

Up to four entries permitted.

2. **Print (PB) Birds**

Any print image correctly mounted that complies with the general rules for entry, the **nature definition***** above and the main centre of interest is a bird or birds.

Up to four entries permitted.

3. PDI (PDIA) Invertebrates

Any digital image that complies with the general rules for entry, the **nature definition***** above and the main centre of interest is an invertebrate or invertebrates e.g butterflies, moths, spiders, beetles.

Up to four entries permitted.

4. PDI (PDIB) Flora and Fungi

Any digital image that complies with the general rules for entry, the **nature definition***** above and the main centre of interest is flora and fungi.

Flora is defined as non-cultivated plants photographed in their natural environment.

Up to four entries permitted.

Judging at the Regional Rounds

- Judges shall be chosen by the Regional Committee/host club from a list of approved judges.
- Scoring is out of a maximum 15 points. Each judge scores out of 5 points.

Score	Description
0	Not an option
1	Not an Option
2	Below Average
3	Average
4	Above Average
5	Very Good - consideration for medal.

- Images scoring 9 points or more will progress to the IPF POTY Finals 2020.

This is a trial system for this year, in previous years a percentage was used. Feedback from Regional committees will determine if this method will be used in future years.

- Awards at regional rounds are organised by the regional committees however the overall winner of each regional round will be awarded an IPF Silver Medal at the IPF Finals.

IPF NPOTY 2020 Finals - 22nd February 2020.

Judging begins at 10am sharp at the Talbot Hotel, Carlow.

Judges confirmed*;

Jenny Hibbert MPAGB

Riccardo Busi MFIAP, EFIAP/p, Hon.MWPG

Jacky Panhuyzen EFIAP/b, MPSA

Judging

As with the regional rounds - this a two stage process.

1. Initially all images are scored by the judges out of 15 points (Three judges scoring out of 5 points each).
2. Images scoring 13 points and above will automatically progress to the award selection area. Images scoring 12 or 11 points may also be included for award selection and join a pool of highest scoring images - at the judges' discretion.
3. Judge's decisions are final and must be respected.

Awards

IPF Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded from the pool of highest scoring images at the judge's discretion in each section, in both categories.

Up to 3 Honourable Mention Ribbons (HMs) to be awarded in each section/ category.

The Judge's Award is awarded at the discretion of the judges from the pool of highest scoring images.

The Judge's decision is final and must be respected.

The Overall Nature Photographer of the Year 2020 is chosen from the pool of highest scoring images and open to both Advanced and Non-Advanced entrants.

All queries/complaints may be emailed to the National POTY/NPOTY Coordinator using the following email address - admin@ipfcompetition.com

Entries may be used by the IPF to promote future competitions on the IPF Website and social media or to represent Ireland at the FIAP Biennials. This does not affect the rights of the photographer as owner of the work; copyright remains with the entrant.

*may be subject to change.

IPF POTY/NPOTY GDPR Statement

What information we're collecting.

The IPF are collecting your personal data - name, contact number and email address.

Why we're collecting this information.

To administer the competitions and to be able to contact entrants chosen to represent Ireland at the FIAP Biennials.

How long will the personal data be kept.

Two years.

Who has access to the data.

We will not pass your personal data onto third parties.

Who do I contact if I have any queries.

The National Competition Coordinator at the email address admin@ipfcompetition.com