



SECTION 7: PAGB AFFILIATION AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION (SCPF)

PAGB AFFILIATION: the PAGB is the ‘**Photographic Alliance of Great Britain**’, and comprises the Federations and Associations of Photographic Societies in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The purpose of the PAGB is to promote and co-ordinate the interests of the Federations and Societies and to co-operate with other national and international photographic organisations. A photographic society or camera club is affiliated to the PAGB through membership of its regional Federation – in the case of Farnborough through membership of the SCPF, the **Southern Counties Photographic Federation**.

The PAGB performs a number of functions which impact the societies and clubs:

- provides a list of all lecturers offered by the various Federations, and sets standard booking conditions.
- offers a recorded lecture service for speakers unable to visit clubs.
- provides a list of judges accredited by the Federations and sets standard booking conditions to be followed by clubs.
- organises competitions at national level:
 - runs the Inter-Federation Print and PDI Competitions annually for monochrome and colour prints and open and nature PDIs. Each Federation selects the entries from its club members.
 - holds annual competitions for prints and PDIs called the Print Club Championships and the PDI Club Championships. Each Federation selects two clubs to represent them.
 - runs the National Audio Visual Championship.
 - hosts the Great British Cup, a PDI competition with Open and Natural History sections, in which all clubs may enter.
- offers awards for photographic merit in prints and PDIs – Credit (CPAGB), Distinction (DPAGB) and Master (MPAGB). Applicants must be paid-up members of an affiliated club and meet certain time qualifications - see Membership of the SCPF section below.
- awards the APAGB for meritorious service to member societies, through a long period of judging, lecturing or service at the Federation and club level.
- organises and provides patronage for national photographic events and exhibitions
- allows members entrance to FIAP international exhibitions and thus to FIAP awards – FIAP is the ‘International Federation of Photographic Art’.
- offers Public Liability Insurance to clubs through the Federations.

PAGB Definition Of Natural History And Wildlife Images: FIAP and the PSA (Photographic Society of America) have adopted a definition for these images which is very restrictive in the degree of digital manipulation and of human influence permitted in such images. While the PAGB initially adopted it for use in its competitions, it subsequently adapted it to allow a more relaxed approach on these issues. The revised PAGB definition applies to all Natural History and Wildlife competitions that have PAGB Patronage and any other external competitions where so specified. **Members who enter PAGB competitions and PAGB-sponsored competitions and exhibitions must ensure that their images comply with these rules. Competition Secretaries who enter Members’ images into such competitions to represent the Club must request the authors to confirm that their images comply with these rules before submitting the Club’s entry.**



“Definition of Natural History and Wildlife Images

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, 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.

Scientific bands, scientific tags 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.

Processing of the captured image, by cropping, exposure adjustment, colour correction, noise minimisation, dodging/burning, HDR, focus stacking and sharpening, is allowed. Cloning of image defects and minor distractions, including overlapping elements, are permitted when these do not distort the truth of the photographic statement.

Images entered as Nature can have landscape, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with the subjects in controlled conditions, such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, aquariums and any enclosure where the subjects are totally dependent on man for food.

Access to biological subjects may be restricted. By entering a PAGB event, photographers warrant that they have followed relevant codes of practices and hold any necessary licences.

Wildlife

Images entered in Wildlife sections are further defined as one or more extant zoological or botanical organisms free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Landscapes, geologic formations, photographs of zoo or game farm animals, or of any extant zoological or botanical species taken under controlled conditions are not eligible in Wildlife sections. Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds and insects. Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species. Wildlife images may be entered in Nature sections.”

PAGB Guidance on Implementation and Interpretation

The PAGB organises a variety of Events where a Nature definition is used to determine eligibility for inclusion and exclusion. Decisions on the application and interpretation of Rules are delegated, by the PAGB, to each Event Organiser.

Events where ONLY Nature entries are permitted

- The GB Cup (Projected) Nature
- The GB Trophy (Prints) Nature



Categories within an Event where ONLY Nature entries are permitted

- The Inter-Federation Projected, Nature
- The Masters of Print Exhibition, Nature

Quotas within an Event where Nature entries are RESTRICTED to a maximum number

- The Inter-Club Print Championship
- The Inter-Club Projected Digital Image Championship

Events and Categories where Nature entries are NOT permitted

- The GB Cup (Projected) Open.
- The GB Cup (Projected) Small Clubs
- The GB Trophy (Prints) Open
- The Inter-Federation Projected Open
- The Masters of Print Exhibition, Monochrome and Colour categories.

Artistic Nature, meaning photographs which started as Nature, but which have been creatively modified to show a purely pictorial image, do not meet the Nature definition. They may be entered in “Open” events and categories, and do not count towards any Nature quota restriction.

It is not feasible to investigate adherence to the Nature definition when receiving multiple entries at an Event. Entrants should therefore expect the Organiser to consider that if an image looks like a Nature image, then it will be treated as a Nature image, even if the entrant suggests excessive manipulation. Entrants should plan their entries accordingly, whether that is to an Event, or in a Category or within a Quota. It is not desirable to have an Image excluded at short notice, before or after judging, when there is no facility for discussion.

In a Nature Event or Category, the Judges should assume that any Image presented to them does meet the PAGB Nature definition. After judging, the Organiser has discretion to review eligibility, including calling for the original file of the image, and this is likely for any awards.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION (SCPF): the SPCF was known as the Southern Photographic Federation (SPF) up to 2013. Federations such as the SCPF represent the clubs in their respective geographic regions. Their objective is to promote co-operation between member clubs and to further the interests of photography through mutual effort and inter-club activities. Each is run by officials from the member clubs and 2 members from each club are entitled to attend their regular meetings – contact the Club Secretary if you are interested in attending.

The SCPF provides a number of services to its member clubs:

- provides a detailed list of local speakers and lecturers.
- provides training for judges who if successful are added to the Federation’s list. There are 2 levels of ability.
- organises inter-club competitions and exhibitions.



- maintains a website with information about its organisation, competitions and any events it runs – there is a link on the Club website.
- offers PAGB Public Liability Insurance cover to clubs.

Members are encouraged to attend and participate in SCPF events. Members who seek PAGB awards for photographic merit must pre-qualify in accordance with the SCPF's criteria. Applicants must be paid-up active members of an affiliated club for minimum periods that vary with the award sought: CPAGB 2 years, DPAGB 3 years and MPAGB 5 years. A letter of eligibility is required from the Club Secretary in order to enter. PAGB Award Adjudication Days are held twice a year, and full details are available from the Club's Secretary. Members seeking awards should also seek advice from the Club's Distinctions Adviser.

The SCPF maintains a Roll of Honour which recognises outstanding service to the Federation and/or its member clubs. Club Members who qualify may be nominated using a pro forma available on-line or from the SCPF Council. Members who have been accepted on to the Roll of Honour and who meet the qualification criteria may subsequently be nominated for the PAGB Award for Meritorious Service: APAGB.

SCPF Inter-Club Competitions And Exhibition: the SCPF runs competitions in which all member clubs can compete, and FCC's Management Committee decides which the Club will enter. At Farnborough, prints and PDIs to be entered in these competitions are chosen through a selection process organised by the Competition Secretaries. In the case of prints, Members are requested by the Competition Secretary to submit specific prints from the prior season that received good marks in the Club Trophy Competition or that achieved favourable comment in the Club Annual Competitions. For PDIs, the Competition Secretary is able to access these images from the image files held on the Club laptop. In each case, the selected images are then assessed by a small group of experienced Members who assist the respective Competition Secretary in choosing the images to be entered.

Inter-Club Print and PDI League Competitions: for each format, clubs compete in a league and are split into a number of divisions, based on ability. Each club will compete against all the other clubs in its division, and at the end of each season the top two clubs are promoted and the bottom two clubs are demoted. The prints and PDIs are judged at separate meetings. Detailed rules can be found on the SCPF website. The top clubs from each division receive awards at the Finals Day and compete for the League Cup, while the print and the PDI from each club's panels with the highest score from the divisional matches will be eligible for the Individual Best Print and Best PDI competitions.

The Annual Exhibition: both prints and PDIs may be entered by clubs in line with instructions issued by SCPF which may vary from year to year. There are awards for the best club entries and best individual entries in both print and PDI. The Exhibition is held in Salisbury Library in January.

SCPF Print and PDI Championships: competitions in prints and PDIs in which all SCPF clubs may compete. The rules are available on the SCPF website. There is a trophy for the winning club in each format, an award for the best individual image and three judge's



awards. The first and second placed clubs represent the SCPF at the respective PAGB Print and PDI Club Championships.

SCPF Entry in the PAGB Inter-Federation Print and PDI Competitions: An annual competition where the SCPF selects and submits images from all members to compete in a single judging against the other Federations. There are two sections in each: Colour and Mono in prints, and Open and Nature in PDIs. Awards for Federation success and individual images are available. In this case the images to be entered are not chosen by the Competition Secretaries, but the Club's Secretary will request Members to submit images at the appropriate time. The rules are published on the PAGB website.

For more information on the PAGB and the SCPF and their competitions and awards, contact the **Club Secretary**, or access the PAGB and SCPF websites through the links on the Club website.