01 November 2026

PSA Interclub Competition Procedures and Rules

General Procedures

- The Interclub Competitions are held three (3) times each year with closing dates of Nov. 15, Feb 15, and April 15, USA Central Time Zone. An End of Year competition is held in June -July with all Merit images from the 3 Rounds.
- Each club may enter 6 images by different makers in each round.
- No image may be entered more than once in a specific competition's season. It may be entered the following year if it has not received an award.
- No two clubs may submit images by the same maker in the same Division Interclub Competition.

Image Release Form

Interclub Competitions require "Releases" before Interclub Representatives can upload images. This is the same request for approval from image makers used in all individual competitions but since Interclub Representatives cannot sign permissions for another club member, our system uses Release documents Individual releases are valid for all Division Competitions.

Releases verify the member images are created by the maker only.

Releases state the maker holds all copyrights.

Releases state the maker gives permission for PSA to post the images on their protected web site.

Releases must be signed and dated by every club member who wishes to participate.

A current Release must be uploaded in the software before the maker's image can be uploaded into the competition.

This release document is for the maker, not the image, and is good for 3 years from the date of the signature.

It is suggested that spelling be checked carefully when uploading Releases as names will be printed as submitted.

- Releases should recognize the member's PSA honors and Distinctions and any level of FIAP Please do not enter FIAP Honors. EXAMPLE: PSA HONORS. PSA Distinctions, FIAP Distinctions. In this order. IE: APSA, PPSA, EFIAP (do not list FIAP honors)

Unique aspects of Division Competitions

- Nature: Nature uses only General and not Wildlife rules. Wildlife can be entered in General.
- PID Color: Images can only be in color. Images previously entered in 2022 or before in Open PID are all considered a color Image because there was no separate monochrome competition. Creative Images may be entered in this competition.

- PID Monochrome: Images can only be Monochrome: One tone in monochrome or black and white. A color image that has been turned into a monochrome image can be entered but the same title as the color image must be used. Creative Images may be entered in this competition.
- Photo Travel: Images are General and open subject.
- Photojournalism: Image submission includes both General and Human Interest. Clubs can enter only a total of 6 images in either the General or Human Interest sections but all 6 images must be by different makers.
- Photo Travel: Images are General and open subject.

Uploading Images

- While Directors try to check incoming images and notify potential errors to the Interclub Representative, they cannot make any change. Incorrect information could result in disqualification. Frequent errors include forgetting to change maker or uploading the same image twice.
- Re-entering Images: If the Primary or Alternate Rep wishes to replace a different image for one of the previously uploaded six images before the Round's deadline, the Primary or Alternate Rep can simply go into the uploading panel, remove the original image, and enter the replacement image in the exact position 1-6.
- The upload site is locked after the deadline date and late submittals are not allowed in the system. The deadline is Midnight USA Central Time Zone.
- If you know a maker has a Release in the system but it will not come up when you try to upload their image, often the Release has expired. If you have time, you can ask the Member to submit a new Release.

Image Entries

- The **recommended Image size is 1920 pixels wide x 1080 pixels tall** but the **software accepts 1400 pixels wide or 1050 pixels tall**. Judges have commented that there appears little difference if clubs are unable to use the recommended size.
- Unless your image proportions are exactly the file size given, one of these dimensions will be less than the maximum. Usually, it will be the width. Vertical images can be no more than 1080 pixels tall.
- The **file format is jpg /jpeg** only.
- **sRGB color space** is recommended for optimum results.
- The software system does not enforce a **max file size**, but it is **recommended to keep files under 3 MB**. If the file does not upload, an error message pops up. If the upload fails, we recommend reformatting the image size to under 3 MB.
- There is no specific resolution requirement.
- A club can enter up to **6 images by 6 different makers in each competition**.
- Greyscale Monochrome images and Color Images may be entered in Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel but toned images are not permitted for these competitions.
- Borders for Reality Based Divisions (Travel, Nature & PJ are considered Reality Based). The Nature Guide recommends against borders but does not prohibit them. Travel

and PJ also allow small borders. When a border is used, a small neutral color (gray tones) border is preferred and is generally considered OK.

- Colour borders and decorative borders are not considered appropriate for Reality Based Divisions.
- There are no border restrictions in the Color or Monochrome Competition Division. • Images that are substantially the same image by the same maker may not be entered in the same Division during the competition season. These same images may be entered the following competitions season if they did not win an award.
- • Images that are substantially the same image by the same maker may be entered in a different Division during the same competition season.
- • Images that are substantially the same image should have the same title regardless if it has been changed to a color, monochrome or cropped portion from the same image.
- • An image that has won an Award or an HM in a Division can not be re-entered in the same Division. However, even if they win an award in one competition they may be entered into a different Division Competition.
- • There is no restriction on award images from PSA or other Exhibitions.
- An Award Image earned in a specific Division Competition may not be entered again in that same Division competition. However, that same Award Image may be entered into any other Division competition where the image fits the image Definition of the Competition.

TITLES;

Conditions of Entry (Rules for organizing a PSA-recognized exhibition - 2024) is used as the reference to this section. The PSA board has stated that all rules for titles are to be followed by any PSA Exhibition or PSA Competition

- Each image must have a unique title that relates to the content of the image.
- Titles can be no more than 35 characters.
- Titles may not consist of personal identifiers by a number unless those numbers are prominently contained with the image such as a contestant number in a race.
- Titles may not be words such as “Untitled or No Title”
- Color and Monochrome images from the same capture that share substantial pictorial content in common are considered the same image and must be given the same title
- There is no filename format. The system rewrites the filename for the scoresheet that includes a Control Number.
- Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number or word
- Titles may not include .jpg or. jpeg or any other camera capture.
- Titles are important for tracking purposes, but titles are not part of the judging. PSA believes the image stands alone without the title. This ruling is in place for all FIAP and PSA Competitions and Exhibitions.
- No titles may be visible to the judge and nothing in the image may identify the entrant.
- In Interclub, Titles are not viewed by the judges, and instead a control number is associated with the image.

Awards:

- MERIT AND HONORABLE MENTION AWARDS are established for each Round with 20% of the entered images chosen as awards. Awards chosen represent 10% Merit and 10% Honorable Mention.
- Award winners receive a digital certificate with the embedded image. In addition, the Award images are posted on the secure and protected PSA Division Interclub Home Page slide show which is open to the public and organized by Division Competitions showing the winning image, specific award, the maker's name and their club.
- TOP CLUB AWARDS: Standings are established for each Division Competition. Club points from each round are tallied for the 3 rounds. The top three scoring clubs in each group and in each competition are recognized at the end of the year with a Top Club Certificates. Certificates have all images embedded on the certificate that were submitted during the season by the winning club. This was put into place because Interclub believes reaching this level is a team effort. In the case of a tie in 3rd place, 4 clubs are recognized.

END OF YEAR Merit images from all three rounds are judged again by experienced exhibition judges. and usually not interclub members. Experience is valued and judges may or may not be PSA members but are highly respected in the field of photography.

End of Year Round determines from each group a Gold Award, Silver Award, and Bronze Award and 10% Honorable Mention Images. A Best of Show for each Division is chosen from the Gold Award Images from that competition.

Winners receive Digital Certificates. Gold Award and Best of Show also receive a medal from PSA Headquarters. *Pictorial Print and 3D have a slight modification listed for END of Year Awards in their Guidelines.

Group Placement after the completed Competition Season.

- The Top 3 Clubs (or four in the case of a tie in 3rd place) in each competition and in each group are automatically moved up to the next level. If this makes the group unbalanced, bottom scoring clubs are moved down a level to keep the group balanced at approximately 25 clubs.
- The Director will establish the desired number of clubs in each group in June to balance each group at approximately 25 clubs with the A Group considered the top group.
- Standing Scores are used for placement, but only within groups. Scores across groups cannot be used for placement. For example, a score of 150 in Group B is not the same as score of 150 in Group C since each group was judged by different Host Clubs. Throughout the summer, groups can be rearranged by the Director if the number of clubs in groups changes, and this change may make room to move others up to another group. Group size is determined by the Director as some Competitions Directors want to keep their groups balanced.
- There will be an effort to keep the last group smaller to provide space for new clubs.
- Clubs with zero points indicating no participation in any rounds in the previous competition season will be removed, along with clubs who wish to drop out. Their club and Interclub Representative names will be removed from the Site, and they will need to register their club again if they wish to participate in the future.

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- Group Placement is finalized for the coming season by Oct 15.
- Once the competition Registration period closes groups will not change.
- A Director always makes room for any new Club. New clubs to the competition enter the lowest (entry-level) group. After the Registration deadline date, clubs can enter any time of the year, but entry in a specific interclub competition can only occur if there is room in the entry group.

A club returning to the competition after a year of no participation will be placed back into the entry group.

Warm regards,
Managing Committee
The Photographic Society of India (PSI)