

# SCOTTISH PHOTOGRAPHIC FEDERATION

## SPF Club Members and Eligibility to enter SPF or PAGB Competitions

Over the past two years, Clubs have been inventive in continuing their activities using on-line methods for virtual meetings. This has been largely beneficial, with the ability to entertain speakers from a much wider geography. One behaviour which has become much easier is wide-area recruitment of members by Clubs, and several Clubs are on record as advertising such membership even to overseas members. This is different from Clubs having long term members who live at a distance perhaps through moving away who they know very well.

SPF Clubs are autonomous and can take members from wherever they like, and an Individual member's work can be used in their Club's internal competitions bound only by the restrictions of that Club. But care requires to be taken by the Club and Individual before using that member's images in external events, particularly those of the SPF, PAGB or FIAP.

The SPF must ensure the eligibility of any submissions made to its own events together with its own entry into PAGB or FIAP competitions, as should Clubs, to avoid any duplicate images or duplicate photographers in events. Otherwise, this can cause embarrassment for Club, Competition Secretary and Photographer alike if it happens at a public event or results in a placing, trophy or medal being withdrawn.

As many more individuals are now members of multiple Clubs, that are not geographically close, or even in Scotland, this makes it difficult for the Clubs or SPF to establish eligibility before an entry is made. In some cases, the club may not know that one of their members is entering with another club. Although this situation has been exacerbated due to the pandemic, several Clubs are considering continuing hybrid membership to keep speakers, members and money coming in from further afield, so the indication is this issue is likely to continue.

The PAGB and SPF have both had discussions over the best way to tackle this. The PAGB will take their own decision in due course.

After some deliberations the SPF have taken the decision to introduce the following eligibility rule for all of its events from **1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2022** to help all concerned avoid any embarrassing situations occurring, keeping the rule as simple as possible and following the ethos of our constitution of only having SPF membership open to Clubs based in Scotland.

**'NEW' RULE – "To be eligible to enter SPF competitions individuals must be resident in Scotland\* or via application to the SPF"**

\*An exception is made for members of Clubs close to the Scotland/England border who stay in the north of England provided they indicate they do not wish to enter through NCPF.

**'NEW' IN ADDITION –**

- Clubs require to ascertain at the start of each club season if any of their members are also members of other UK Clubs (not just SPF Clubs) and ask the individual to declare which club they wish to enter with for SPF/PAGB competitions for the coming season.
- The Club Secretary who deals with the Club's external competitions requires to declare to the SPF, those details for all of their members with multiple club memberships, before any entries can be used by the Club or Individual for that season.

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- Individuals can indicate which club they wish to enter SPF competitions through directly to the SPF if they wish, but they must also make sure that all clubs of which they are a member of are also informed (including any non-SPF clubs).
- **An SPF Form is available for this purpose** (in PDF or Word Format) for use by Clubs and Individuals alike. It is available directly from the SPF website under SPF > COMPETITIONS GUIDANCE follow the link below -

<https://www.scottish-photographic-federation.org/competitions-guidance>

If you require assistance, please email the SPF via the Contact Us area on our website if you are unsure.

## Summary of SPF, PAGB or FIAP General Event Requirements Applicable to all Entries

- SPF Competitions require that an Individual only enters for one SPF Club per event.
- PAGB Competitions require that an Individual only enters for one Club per event
- SPF and PAGB Competitions require that a photographer's image has not been used in the same competition in any previous year.
- SPF entry to PAGB events requires SPF to ensure that an Individual's work is not being used by any other Federation to avoid the entry being disqualified. By extension any Clubs entering PAGB events require to ensure the same. *The PAGB now count disqualified scores of zero first.*
- As the SPF select work from our own SPF Competitions to make our entry into FIAP or PAGB events. The SPF require to ensure that this work is eligible to be used by us in these events.
- Long-term members of an SPF club pre-2020, who have moved away, are no longer eligible to enter SPF events with their Club. *(The PAGB currently limits Clubs to one photographer per event from more than 30 miles from the Club's Federation border)*
- Any club member living out with Scotland is not eligible to submit to FIAP via SPF – *FIAP Rule*
- All SPF, PAGB events are entered on the photographer's behalf by the organisation's Competition Secretary, who requires to confirm the eligibility of the entry and permission to use that photographer's entries on behalf of that organisation when submitting.