

# AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT (APM)

## APM WORKSHOPS



### The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

APM Secretary: Daphne Hanson DPAGB APAGB. [hanson16@virginmedia.com](mailto:hanson16@virginmedia.com)

APM INFORMATION LEAFLET SEVEN

# 1 PAGB “FUNDED” WORKSHOPS

1.1 Each Federation may apply for a PAGB “Funded” APM Workshop in their area approximately two years prior to the Adjudication they are hosting.

1.2 These Workshops will often be advertised in **e-news** and may be freely available to potential APM entrants from other Federations.

1.3 An "introductory" structure will be used with the morning devoted to presentations of the requirements and standards for the various levels and will include an interactive “assessment exercise” for which we require 4 display boards, each capable of displaying 10 prints.

1.4 If possible, it is beneficial, at the start of the day, to display, on these boards, successful panels by local Club members. The Federation will present any "local" information and Qualification requirements.

1.4 In the afternoon we will look at a sample of work, 5 or 6 prints or PDIs, from potential entrants simply to inform them if their work is suitable to pursue an APM and which level might be appropriate. This is not a suitable workshop for applicants who have already applied, or who are about to apply, and, whilst we are happy to advise such people, this will impact the number who can be accommodated. It takes 5 minutes perhaps to discuss 6 pictures but up to 15 minutes to look at a full entry.

1.5 PDI are usually better done projected as a group with all advisors participating and this takes less than the looking at the prints. The host must ensure properly calibrated projection in darkness.

1.6 The PAGB will bring a chairman for the event plus a few "advisors" and will pay the travel and accommodation costs for this party. The Federation will assist in sourcing accommodation for the PAGB team.

1.7 Hopefully, the Host Federation can provide 2 local Advisors on the day. Such people should have had recent experience of acting as an Adjudicator at an APM event or, at the very least, have achieved recent success as an entrant at, or above, the level they are going to advise about. The Advisors will be organised in teams of two, each team requiring a large table or two.

1.8 The Federation will provide the venue, a light lunch for the Advisors and any local helpers. All these “local” costs will be the responsibility of the Federation and it is recommended that they should charge for admission with a reduced charge for observers. The Federation will co-ordinate the arrangements for the day, sell the tickets and retain the proceeds.

1.9 The date, the venue and the admission charge, which may include refreshments and even lunch, should be agreed in advance with the PAGB APM Event Coordinator.

## ROTA OF ADJUDICATIONS AND POSSIBLE PAGB FUNDED WORKSHOPS

	ADJUDICATIONS		PAGB FUNDED WORKSHOPS	
2019	NWPA 27/28 April	CACC 23/24 Nov	NIPA	KCPA
2020	MCPF 25/26 April	WCPF 21/22 November	N&EMPF	SCPF
2021	NIPA 24/25 April	KCPA 27/28 November	WPF	SPF
2022	N&EMPF 23/24 April	SCPF 26/27 November	NCPF	SPA
2023	WPF 22/23 April	SPF 25/26 November	EAF	L&CPU
2024	NCPF 27/28 April	SPA 23/24 November	YPU	CACC

## 2 PAGB “SUPPORTED” WORKSHOPS

2.1 It is highly recommended that the Federation should organise at least one federation funded APM Workshop a few months prior to the Adjudication that they are hosting so that any of their members intending to take part may be helped to finalise their decision and/or their entry. The PAGB will Support such a Workshop by paying the travelling expenses of up to four Advisors, sharing one car, to assist and advise applicants. All other costs are the responsibility of the Federation, including any overnight stays required for the PAGB team. It is recommended that the Federation should charge for admission, with a reduced charge for observers

2.2 Such Workshops will be tailored to the needs of the Federation, but the usual format is a Presentation of the Standards Required by a member of the PAGB Team, illustrated with samples of successful work, followed by individual Advisory Sessions, looking at the photographs that prospective entrants think they might use.

### 2.2.1 Presentation of the Standards

**Short version**, just over 1 hour, giving an illustrated description of the Standard required and a brief explanation of the scoring system and allowing time for questions

**Long version**, around 2 hours to additionally include an informative and fun interactive section where the audience get to "judge". This is highly recommended if the time is available, but it must be presented by a member of the APM team and requires 4 display boards, each capable of displaying 10 prints.

2.3 Local Advisors are also useful to look at the work of individuals. Such people should have had recent experience of acting as an Adjudicator at an APM event or, at the very least, have achieved recent success as an entrant at, or above, the level they are going to advise about. It is our experience that having at least three teams of two Advisors is very beneficial but does not necessarily increase the throughput, as everyone usually wants the advice of every team.

### 2.3.1 Advisory Session

**Short version** - 6 to 9 people per hour looking at 5 or 6 pictures to indicate if the applicant is in the “ballpark” and at which level they might apply. The purpose is to encourage the photographer to consider working towards an entry – perhaps in 2 years when the APM is hosted locally or perhaps earlier.

**Long version** - 4 to 5 people per hour looking at a complete entry plus 5 spare pictures to indicate if the applicant is likely to succeed and how the entry and/or individual pictures can be improved.

2.4 PDI are usually better done projected as a group with all advisors participating. The host must ensure properly calibrated projection in darkness.

2.5 It is quite normal for the event “observers” to listen in on these Advisory Sessions.

## 3 FEDERATION WORKSHOPS

3.1 Federations, and even Clubs, are, of course, free to organise their own workshops without the presence of PAGB representatives.

3.2 DVD are available from the Recorded Lecture Service which could prove useful at such events. Federation Awards Officers also have access to a DVD without music which they can use for such workshops.

3.3 Advisors must be fully equipped to give accurate advice. They should have had very recent experience of acting as an Adjudicator at an APM event or, at the very least, have achieved recent success as an entrant at, or above, the level they are going to advise about.

## MANDATORY STATEMENT AND BRIEFING FOR ADVISORS

The Statement given at Appendix One must be displayed and explained to the Advisors and to the Audience at EVERY PAGB Funded and EVERY PAGB Supported APM Workshop and is strongly advised for EVERY Federation or Club APM Workshop.

Adjudicators are not barred from advising an applicant beforehand, but should be very careful not to give false hope and this statement becomes even more important

For each photograph, Advisors should suggest –

- 1 READY** for Submission at the level specified – this does not, of course, guarantee success. Remember that, although an average score of 20 is enough to achieve the CPAGB and DPAGB award, the candidate **should be aiming for 6 Adjudicators to say “Yes” by pressing the 4 button – a total of 24.**
- 2 BORDERLINE** – is unlikely to score 12 and unlikely to score 24. **Might possibly** achieve a score of 20 (22.5 for MPAGB). This is the average score required but the aim should be to score 24.
- 3 COULD BE** made ready for submission with suitable alterations which will be suggested – these must be done well and, ideally, should be shown to another qualified advisor when completed. **You cannot be responsible for any misunderstanding of the advice given or the success in implementing the improvements suggested.**
- 4 UNSUITABLE** – unlikely to achieve a satisfactory score at the level specified.

Please be very careful in your summing up as it is very easy to give a false impression, engendering misplaced confidence and later disappointment.

Ensure that the person you are advising understands what you have said and is capable and willing to make any improvements you have suggested.

Participants may consult with more than one advisor on the day and they may disagree with each other. It should be made clear that disagreement between Advisors suggests that there could be disagreement amongst the Adjudicators at an event, giving a mixture of scores.



## **AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT**

**Advice you are given by an Advisor or Mentor is entirely a personal opinion, although it will be well informed by experience and knowledge of the APM.**

**Mentors will be as honest and as accurate as possible but, on the day, the Adjudicators may not agree with them.**

**Even if your Advisor is later an Adjudicator, he or she will only be one of 6 Adjudicators and, although they are very carefully briefed, the other Adjudicators may not agree with your Mentor, or even with each other.**

**The difference between an Adjudicator voting **YES - by scoring 4 - or voting NO - by scoring 2 -** can be a very close decision and a slight swing, one way or another, can result in in a lower, or higher score than your Advisor may have anticipated.**

**Mentors will give honest advice to the best of their ability, even if it is not good news for a prospective entrant.**

**It is better to be totally honest, rather than to give false hope.**

Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. November 2016