

## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

### **Salon Informations**

# **2nd SPS National Digital Circuit**

Organised by:

1. Salt Lake Camera Club (SLCC) -2026/FIP/021/2026
2. Photographic Association of Belghoria (PABEL) -2026/FIP/022/2026
3. Srijan Photo Club (SPC) - 2026/FIP/023/2026

### **ACCREDITATION OF THE CONTEST**

<b>FIP</b>	<u>FIP/2026/021-022-023</u>
<b>SLCC</b>	<u>2026/021</u>
<b>PABEL</b>	<u>2026/022</u>
<b>SPC</b>	<u>2026/023</u>

### **SALON CALENDER**

Closing Date:	6 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Selection:	10 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Notification:	25 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
SDAS will be sent by:	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Catalogue, Exhibition & Award despatch:	May/June 2026

### **SECTIONS (Digital)**

1. Open Monochrome (M)
2. Open Colour (C)
3. Nature (N)
4. Photo Travel (PT)
5. Theme Portrait (Mono/Colour)

**\* Please read the definitions before uploading photos.**

### **ENTRY FEE**

1. Any three sections: Rs. 500/- (Rupees Five hundreds only)
2. All sections: Rs. 750/- (Rupees seven hundred fifty only)

### **Club Discount (Must valid registered club ( CM ) of FIP:**

1. **All sections:** Rs. 550/- (Rupees five hundred & fifty only)\* **for 10 and above participants.**
2. **All sections: Early Bird discount (upto 28.02.2026):** Rs. 550/- (Rupees four hundred fifty only)\*\*  
\* *In case of club participation all awards of the club will be sent to club address only.*  
\* *List of participants of club along with their entrant id and proof of payment to be mailed by club authority along with the club address to [spscircuit@gmail.com](mailto:spscircuit@gmail.com)*  
\*\* *For early bird discount, register and pay by 28.02.2026.*

***Please don't request for any other personal/group discount.***

### **DETAILS OF PAYMENT PROCEDURE:**

- ❖ **Account Name: Photographic Association of Belghoria**
- ❖ **Account Number: 0104010407410**
- ❖ **Bank: Punjab National Bank**
- ❖ **Branch: Paikpara**
- ❖ **IFS Code: PUNB0010420 (0 is Zero)**

**PARTCIPANTS FAILED TO PAY THEIR ENTRY FEE BY 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2026, WILL BE DISQUALIFIED AND THEIR PHOTOGRAPHS WILL NOT BE JUDGED.**

- ❖ Cheque and Demand Drafts are **NOT allowed** and if sent shall NOT be sent for clearing. CASH DEPOSIT in Account is also **NOT allowed** and if deposited shall be forfeited without any claim thereafter.
- ❖ Entrants are requested to inform the payment/transaction details with entrant ID to [spscircuit@gmail.com](mailto:spscircuit@gmail.com) otherwise the same will not be updated and will be treated as unpaid.
- ❖ Please provide the below payee account details to the mentioned email address:
  1. Account number:
  2. Reference number / transaction number
  3. Mobile number in case of IMPS Transfer
  4. Money transfer date:
  5. Entrant name and id:
- ❖ If you are sending your entry fees from someone else's account, Please MENTION THE NAME OF ACCOUNT HOLDER in your email.
- ❖ ***Position will only be updated after receiving mail from the participants as well as verification from bank account.***
- ❖ Please do not pay before completion of uploading the photographic works except for Early Bird offer.

### **JURY MEMBERS**

1. **Dr. Barun Kumar Sinha**, MFIAP, ESFIAP, Hon. FIP, ARPS,
2. **Sri A. G. Gangadhar**, FRPS, EFIAP, C-MoL
3. **Sri Ratnajit Choudhury**, FFIP, EFIAP, MPSA, GPU Crown – III, GPU VIP-I & GPU Aphrodite
4. **Sri Abhijit Dey, Diploma in Photography (PAD)**, EFIAP, FFIP,
5. **Sri Arup Bhattacharjee**, FFIP, EFIAP/s & MPSA
6. **Sri Rajdeep Biswas, Diploma in Photography**, FFIP, EFIAP, APSA & GMPSA
7. **Sri Asoke Samaddar**, EFIP, EFIAP & MPSA
8. **Sri Koshal Basu**, FFIP, EFIP(Gold), EFIAP/s, APSA & EPSA
9. **Dr. Aishwarya Mukherjee**, EFIP, GFIP & EFIAP/s
10. **Sri Suman Saha**, EFIAP/d3, ESFIP, EFIP/p, GFIP, EPCA/b, ALMG, FAPU, A.APS
11. **Sri Basudeb Chakraborty**, EFIAP/P, GMPSA, GPU Cr-3, VIP-1, Gold APU, M.FIP(N), FFIP, EFIP Gold(N), GM.APS, M.SSP, ES.CPE, M.NPS, L.IIPC
12. **Manju Vikas Sastry Veedhuluri**, ESFIP & AFIP

### **AWARDS (IN EACH SECTION PER JUDGING)**

1. FIP MEDAL
2. CIRCUIT MEDAL – 3 Nos
3. FIP RIBBONS – 4 Nos.
4. CHAIRMAN CHOICE CERTIFICATE (PDF) – 1 Nos.
5. JUDGES CHOICE CERTIFICATE (PDF) – 3 Nos.

6. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT – 5 Nos.

- ❖ **Best club award in each salon**
- ❖ **Best Entrant award in each salon**
- ❖ **TOTAL 261 awards.**

\*\*\*Calculation for Best Indian clubs and best Indian entrants will be as under:

ACCEPTANCE	01 Point	CIRCUIT GOLD MEDAL	05 Points
CM/ Chairman certificate/ Jury certificate	Choice choice	01 Point	FIP MEDAL
FIP Ribbons	02 Points	<b>Maximum point for a single image is 07 points.</b>	

**Clubs, those are valid Registered Corporate Member of FIP with minimum 12 participants are eligible for Best club awards except the organising clubs.**

**ALL AWARDS WILL BE DESPATCHED THROUGH INDIA POST (REGISTERED POST/PARCEL ONLY) WITH DUE CARE. ORGANISATION WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGE/LOSS OF AWARD DURING TRANSIT.**

**RULES & REGULATIONS**

**Conditions of Entry**

- All Acceptances are eligible for statistics applicable to FIP (all sections).
- **Monochrome images should not be entered in Open Colour section and vice-versa.**
- Entry is open to all photographers, amateur and professional, nationwide.
- The maximum entry in each section per author is 4 (four).
- An entrant's four images will be presented to the judges randomly.
- **Same/similar image must NOT be entered in more than one sections - this includes altered and unaltered images, if submitted both the images will be disqualified.**
- Entries must originate as photographs, (image captured of objects via light sensitivity), made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or acquired digitally.
- All final work must be digital file (.jpeg ONLY).
- By virtue of submitting and entry, the entrant certifies the work as his own and permits the sponsors to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the exhibition. This may include low resolution posting on a website.
- The exhibition assumes no liability of any misuse of copyright.
- At the time of judging, entrant's names/name of works WILL not be available to Jury Members.
- Please limit titles to 35 characters.
- All imagery **MUST** be the total and exclusive work of the submitting author and may not include any element that was originated by or is the copyright of other photographers.
- For awarded images, RAW/unedited jpeg file may be requested. If requested, in case of non-compliance, award will be denied.
- The right of reproduction in relation to the exhibition, including digital representation, will be assumed upon entering.
- The exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the sponsoring organization or its agent, in its reasonable discretion, believes the entry does not conform to the exhibition rules and conditions.

- ENTRIES RECEIVED WITHOUT ENTRY FEES WILL NOT BE JUDGED. NO CORRESPONDENCE SHALL BE ENTERTAINED IN THIS REGARD.
- THE SUBMISSION OF AN ENTRY SIGNIFIES ACCEPTANCE OF THESE RULES & CONDITIONS.
- All PAID entrants shall receive a DIGITAL PDF Catalogue via email. Catalogue shall also be available at our website for downloading.
- RESULTS shall be sent via email to all paid entrants. Results shall also be available at our site for downloading.
- All entries shall conform to the stricter of these definitions for acceptances to be validated by the Organization granting recognition or patronage.
- All accepted images will receive E-acceptance certificate (pdf).
- Images accepted/awarded in 1<sup>st</sup> SPS National Circuit should not be re-submitted in 2<sup>nd</sup> SPS National Circuit.

### **All about Your Entry:**

- ❖ All sections are recognized by **FIP**.
- ❖ All acceptances will be forwarded to FIP Distinctions. Acceptance certificate will be sent to all successful entrants via email.
- ❖ Our Catalogue will include a listing of accepted images for the exhibition for all sections and will include all award-winning images with statistics.

### **IMAGE SPECIFICATION (DIGITAL)**

- Entrants may enter up to 4 projected images in each section.
- Maximum size of any image **1920 pixels on the horizontal** side and **1080 pixels on the vertical** side, resolution of 300dpi, (**Maximum Size 2MB**, compression 10-12), 8 bit, sRGB and saved as a large .jpeg/.jpg file to be titled as per entry form.
- All entries to be made via our electronic entry system accessible from [spscircuit.com](http://spscircuit.com)
- For any questions, please email [spscircuit@gmail.com](mailto:spscircuit@gmail.com)

### **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

- The exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the sponsoring organization or its agent, in its reasonable discretion, believes the entry does not conform to the exhibition rules and conditions.
- An entrant's images will not be presented to the judges consecutively. An entrant's four images will be distributed throughout four rounds of judging in that section. Distribution of images shall be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant.
- Entries must originate as photographs (image-captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or acquired digitally. By virtue of submitting an entry, the entrant certifies the work as his own (aliases are not permitted). The entrant permits the sponsors to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the exhibition. This may include low resolution posting on a website.
- Note: Entrants who indicate that their images may not be reproduced or used "**will not be eligible for awards**" or inclusion in the exhibition "and could be subject to disqualification" by the exhibition sponsors.
- The exhibition assumes no liability of any misuse of copyright. Images may be altered subject to Nature and Photo Travel divisional restrictions. All final work must be on electronic file.
- No title or identification of the maker shall be visible anywhere on the face of an image.
- Each image must have a unique title. Once an image has been accepted in a FIP Recognized exhibition, that same image, or a like "in camera" or a "reproduction" duplicate of that image, may not be re-titled for entry in any other FIP Recognized exhibition, including translation into another language.

- **Images entered in one section cannot be entered in any of the other sections either altered or unaltered. If entered, both the images will be disqualified.**
- The jury's decisions are final. No correspondence shall be entertained.
- Words such as "Untitled" and "No Title" are not acceptable as part or all of an image's title, nor are camera capture filenames.
- Concerning digital entries, we recommend that authors should preserve intact, with no alteration, the original metadata of images.
- By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including email addresses, being held, processed and used by the exhibition organizers for purposes associated with this exhibition. You also explicitly consent to such information being sent to organizations that have accorded official recognition, patronage or accreditation to this exhibition. You acknowledge and accept that entering this exhibition means that the status and results of your entry may be made public.

### **BREACH OF CONDITION OF ENTRY**

If the exhibition determines before, during, or after the judging that an entrant has submitted entries where one or more images fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, including the stated definitions, the exhibition reserves the right and discretion to delete the entry from the exhibition and void any or all acceptances or awards. Fees may be forfeited in these circumstances. In order to ensure that images comply with the Conditions of Entry and definitions, the exhibition may carry out checks on the images to make sure that:

- the images are the original work of the entrant and
- the images comply with the rules and definitions as set out in these Conditions of Entry.

This may involve asking the entrant to provide originally captured image(s), with EXIF data intact, by a set deadline. The questioned image(s) of any entrant failing to comply with such a request for the original image(s) may be considered in breach of these Conditions of Entry, and declined. Such entries may be referred to FIP or any other patronage body for further investigation of possible ethics violations. FIP or any other patronage body retains the right to investigate in any way all complaints/suspicions of breaches of entry conditions, impose sanctions if deemed necessary, void the acceptances of any image found to violate the FIP rules, include the entrant's name on the list of sanctions provided to Exhibitions. Entrants automatically agree to these terms by the act of entering the Exhibition.

### **SALON COMMITTEE**

#### **CHAIRMAN:**

Km. Poulami Bhattacharjee  
Email: [alobhattacharjee2020@gmail.com](mailto:alobhattacharjee2020@gmail.com)  
Contact: 9123673513

#### **Secretary:**

DIPANKAR DASGUPTA, **Diploma in Photography**, MFIP & EFIAP/p;  
email: [dipa0618@gmail.com](mailto:dipa0618@gmail.com)  
Contact: 9038678005

### **FIP DEFINITION OF DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS**

**PID Colour:** The subject matter is unrestricted for PID images in separate colour and monochrome section. There may be a theme specified for some PID Salons and the exhibition's definition of the theme should be consulted with the organizer. **Use of major computer generated graphics is totally restricted except in Creative thematic section. Para II.8 E of FIAP DOC 018/2017 E.** All elements of the image must have been shot by the author. All parts of the image including graphics have to be photograph by the author holding copyright of his submitted works. Use of some filters available on net is permissible. Same images either colour or mono in two different section of the same Salon will result in disqualification for both the images.

**Monochrome Definition:** An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no colour (i.e. contains only shades of grey which can include pure black

and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one colour across the entire image. (For example by Sepia, red, gold, etc.).

**Nature Photography definition:** 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. (Suggested\*: An example will be helpful to the New Jury). The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.

1. Human elements must 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.
2. Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible.
3. Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are ineligible.
4. Techniques that add, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. Conversion to infrared, either by digital technique or by original technique is not allowed. Stitching of two or more image is not permitted.
5. Complete conversion to grey scale Monochrome is allowed but without partial or complete toning.
6. It is perfectly legal to remove dust, flares or digital noise. Minor global colour / tone correction is OK as long as it is not selective and the final image looks natural but not FIP DEFINITION OF DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS VIEWFINDER MARCH, 2022 23 dramatic. Dodge and Burn tool is for you only but use it judiciously. Selective darkening of background is prohibited. Techniques like panning, slow shutter speed or in-exposure zooming are part of your creativity. Use of filters like Polarizers and NDs are ok.
7. Drone Photography in the National Parks of India is illegal except with prior written permission from the concerned authorities. Drone images of Wild animals will be disqualified.
8. Welfare of the subject is extremely important. Use of live bait is totally prohibited. Relocated nest is a big NO NO and jury members should not award Nest images.

Images entered in Nature section meeting the Nature Photography Definition above can have landscapes, geologic formations, weather phenomena, and extant organisms as the primary subject matter. This includes images taken with 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.

### **Wildlife**

Where exhibitions or competitions have a Wildlife Section or are giving a Wildlife Medal the following applies: Images entered in Wildlife Sections meeting the Nature Photography Definition above 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 mammals, 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.

**PHOTO TRAVEL Trad.:** Just as with travel and tourism pictures, this section encompasses the full range of photographic genres from architecture, culture, events, food, landscape, portraits, etc. A “WORLD IN FOCUS” image expresses the spirit of an era, the essence of a

place or of a culture whether it is shown in an authentic scene or whether it is arranged. Digital manipulation to optimise an image in terms of fine tuning of levels and colours is allowed as long as the image looks natural. The same applies for removal of dust or digital noise. Techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. The only allowable adjustments are removal of dust or digital noise, restoration of the appearance of the original scene, and complete conversion to grayscale monochrome. Other derivations, including infrared, are not permitted. All images must appear natural.

### **Editing Guidelines**

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible.

#### **Allowed editing techniques:**

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion.
- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene.
- Complete conversion of color images to grayscale monochrome.
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking);
- Image stitching – combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas);

#### **Editing techniques that are not allowed:**

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing.
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome.
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation or over-saturation of colour.

The photographs should be reality based, like photo journalism and nature divisions. The objective of World in focus is to show the world as it is found naturally. The purpose is to guide the photographers towards making images that show how the world really is, rather than to arrange it and to manipulate images to obtain the best photographs.

#### **Images from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography are not permitted.**

***With the sole act of submitting his/her images or files to a salon under FIP Patronage, the entrant accepts without exception and with no objection that the submitted images can be investigated by FIP to establish if these obey to FIP regulations and definitions even if the entrant is not a member of FIP; that FIP will use any means at its disposal for this undertaking; that any refusal to cooperate with FIP or any refusal to submit the original files as captured by the camera, or failure to provide sufficient evidence, will be sanctioned by FIP and that in case of sanctions following the non-compliance with FIP regulations, the name of the entrant will be released in any form useful to***

*inform the breaches of the rules. It is recommended to leave the EXIF data in the submitted files intact in order to ease eventual investigations.*



FEDERATION OF INDIAN PHOTOGRAPHY  
**www.fip.org.in**  
The Central National body of Photography in India  
Affiliated to  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONAL DEL'ART PHOTOGRAPHIQUE

By joining the FIP,  
you are indirectly a member of FIAP,  
getting all the advantages and facilities

FIP Photographer of the Year Contest, FIP Youth Photographer of the Year Contest  
Colour & Monochrome Print Contest,  
Colour PI Contest • Inter Club Competitions • Photographic Education,  
Nature & Pictorial Divisions • Who's Who and Star Rating Division  
Photographic Workshops and Demos,  
National & International Salon Recognition  
About 201 Salons were recognised by FIP in 2017 till December 31<sup>st</sup>.

And more than this, only access to the FIAP's International Photographic  
Honours such as:  
AFIAP, EFIAP, EFIAP Levels, MFIAP, ESFIAP and Hon. EFIAP  
National Honours like AFIP, EFIP, EFIP Gold, EFIP Platinum, MFIP, ESFIP, ESFIPC

Write to

**DR. B.K. SINHA, MFIAP, ESFIAP, ARPS, Hon FIP**

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