

Bylaw 22. Jack Sprosen Memorial Trophy for Digital Audio-Visual Sequences

INTRODUCTION

Under the Constitution of the Photographic Society of New Zealand Inc. (PSNZ) the Council have been given the power to create and set Bylaws that are applicable to the description of specific events, activities, jobs, portfolios and/or publications that fall within the operations of the Society.

Objectives of this Bylaw

This Bylaw is intended to outline the processes and jurisdiction given to given to the host Organising Club for the conduct of the audio-visual competition for the Jack Sprosen Memorial Trophy.

1. Name

The name of the competition is the "Jack Sprosen Memorial Trophy for Digital Audio-Visual Sequences" (JSMT).

2. Definition

An audio visual is a sequence of still photographs with accompanying audio built around a storyline or theme. The audio-visual medium is very flexible and artistic expression within it can take many forms. It is much more than images to music.

- An effective sequence will have unity of these elements - the storyline, the visuals, and the audio. These elements should reinforce each other, such that any one element without the others would be inadequate.
- The sequence should have an introduction, an interesting development of the storyline or theme, and a close.
- Narrative, text and graphics may be used.

3. Organisation

The competition will be conducted annually on behalf of the Society by a club appointed for that purpose by the Council or their representative.

4. Eligibility of entry

The JSMT is open to current financial members of the PSNZ or financial members of clubs affiliated to the PSNZ, residing in New Zealand or overseas.

5. Entry fees

The entry fee for each competition will be such amount as the Council shall from time to time determine, and must be paid to the organising club when the entry is made.

6. Rules

(a) There will be three categories:

- i. Documentary.
- ii. Theme.
- iii. Poetry, Music and Song.

(b) There is a maximum of two (2) entries per member.

(c) Entries which have previously received a commendation or higher in the JSMT will not be accepted.

(d) There is no restriction on the subject matter.

- The organisers reserve the right to refuse an entry that they consider, in their absolute discretion, to be undesirable, unsuitable or incorrectly programmed for projection at the national convention.

(e) Entries in the documentary category may run for any duration up to seven (7) minutes. Entries in all other categories may run for any duration up to five (5) minutes. Entries longer than the prescribed time will be disqualified.

(f) Movement - panning and zooming, which can be created in some software programmes - is permissible.

(g) An audio-visual must consist predominantly of a sequence of still images taken by the author.

- Other visual material such as video clips including time lapse taken by the author and the use of third-party images such as historic photos, reference or similar images taken from other media such as the internet are allowable.
- It is recommended that video and third-party images are limited to no more than 20% of the total viewing time and relate strictly to the theme of the audio visual.
- It is at the judges' discretion whether there is too much emphasis on third-party images, graphics such as titles and text and video clips.

(h) Entries must be saved in .mp4 format or, if that is not available, .mov or .avi format.

- A separate file for each programme must be supplied.
- (i) The output must be able to run on either a Windows based PC or an Apple Mac.
- (j) The entry is to be submitted either by web transfer (preferred) or a USB flash drive, which has an attached label with the author's name, number of entries and their titles.
 - Entrants are requested to supply a stamped, addressed envelope for the return of flash drives.
- (k) The production of the audio-visual (photos and compilation) must be the original work of the entrant. Any assistance with computer editing should be minimal. The text for a voice-over should be prepared by the author but may be spoken by someone else at the specific direction of the author.
- (l) All credits should be declared at the end of the sequence. All material not the original work of the entrant. e.g., music or text must be acknowledged.
- (m) The author's name must not be included. (The selectors must not know the identity of the author during the selection process).
- (n) The entrant must have photographed all images in the audio visual except as allowed for in 6(g).
- (o) Images will be displayed with the proportions they have been entered, at a screen resolution not greater than 3840 px on the horizontal side and 2160 px on the vertical side, in the sRGB colour space and on a black background.
- (p) After the competition has been judged, copies of the medal winning audio visuals will be sent to the JSMT Coordinator. When the organising club has confirmation that these have been successfully received, all copies of all the audio-visuals entered into the JSMT competition will be erased.

7. Conditions of entry

- (a) The submission of an entry implies the acceptance of these rules and permission for the entry to be shown at the upcoming PSNZ national convention.
- (b) The medal winning entries will be copied to the hard drive for projection at the upcoming PSNZ national convention. Copied material will be erased immediately following the convention. However - subject to authorisation of the medal winners - a copy will be kept for showing at regional conventions and PSNZ affiliated clubs. This authorisation is to be indicated on the entry form.
- (c) PSNZ reserves the right to contact the author of a medal winning sequence to seek authorisation to produce and use a recorded lecture relating to their work.

8. Notification

Information about the competition including the entry form will be circulated via the PSNZ bulk email facility to all PSNZ members and member clubs at least two (2) months before the closing date set by the organising Club.

9. Judging

- (a) The competition will be judged by a panel of three judges from at least two different clubs.
 - It is desirable that at least two of the judges will be PSNZ accredited audio-visual judges.
- (b) The judging panel will view the presentations together and decisions will be made by discussion and consensus.
- (c) The criteria used to identify the contenders for the top awards will be based on the three components within the definition of an audio-visual.
 - i. The development of the story or theme (concept) and its ability to hold the viewers' interest is given the greatest weight.
 - ii. The image quality, which should maintain a good overall standard.
 - iii. The audio, which is well constructed, supports the concept and works with the images.

10. Awards

- (a) *At the discretion of the majority of judges*, the winner of each category will be awarded a Silver Medal.
- (b) The overall winner will be chosen from the three category winners. The Silver Medal will be replaced with a Gold Medal and the Jack Sprosen Memorial Trophy.
- (c) The judges will award two Bronze Medals at their discretion and up to three Merit Certificates chosen from all the entries.

11. Exhibition

The top five (5) entries will be exhibited at the national convention of the Society and may be exhibited at a gathering of the organising club at which the general public may be present.

12. Reproduction

After the competition, the award winners may be asked for a copy of their audio visual with an introductory slide showing their name, the year and award. This should be saved as an .mp4 or .mov programme that can be shown at regional conventions and by clubs regardless of the computer platform they use.

13. Copyrights and responsibility

- (a) By participating in the competition, authors of audio-visual productions indemnify the organisers against all and any action which may be taken against them by owners of copyrights.
- (b) The organisers will accept no responsibility in the case of dispute or litigation. All care will be taken in the handling of entries, but the organisers cannot accept responsibility for loss, theft, or damage.

14. Return

The organising club will be responsible for ensuring that all USB flash drives shall be returned to entrants not later than four (4) weeks after the close of the competition.

15. Finance

The organising club must establish and operate a proper accounting system over the duration of the competition. The following are particular requirements to be adhered to:

- (a) Submit a budget to the Councillor for National Competitions for approval.
- (b) Receive any expense claims and make sure all receipts are attached.
- (c) Submit a financial report to the Councillor for National Competitions, not later than two (2) months after the Competition.
- (d) If a loan has been obtained from PSNZ, repay it as soon as funds become available.
- (e) The organising club will close out the competition as rapidly as possible at its conclusion.
- (f) The organising club will retain any profits.

16. Disputes

Any dispute concerning the interpretation of this Bylaw or the organisation of the competition may be referred to Council whose decision will be final and binding.

17. Report

The organising club will, not later than four months (4) after the close of the competition, forward to the Councillor for National Competitions a written report on the competition, including full statistics and recommendations.