

# Delaware Valley Circuit Exhibition Rules

PSA Recognition PSA-2023-252



## Contact Information

Delaware Valley Circuit Chair:

Valentina Sokolskaya, APSA, MPSA2, EFIAP

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**ONLINE Entry:** The entry method is online through the <http://dvccc-photo.com/circuit/> link. This is the ONLY option for submitting digital images.

## Sections

There will be three judgings in the circuit and two sections:

**Photo Travel — theme People PTD**

**Photo Travel — theme Places PTD**

Competition is open to entries of any subject matter within the constraints of the PSA Definition of Travel photography below.

## Entry Fees

General Fees                    **\$15** for one section and **\$25** for two sections

Group Discounts:

10 – 15 people                10%

15 – 20 people                20%

More than 20                 30%

Discount is given only if registering for both sections

For Group Discounts contact chairperson:

Each entrant must indicate a group name during the payment and group representative must send the name list of the entrants via email [valyasokol@yahoo.com](mailto:valyasokol@yahoo.com). Pay Group Participation Fee to Valentina Sokolskaya at PayPal ID: [valyasokol@yahoo.com](mailto:valyasokol@yahoo.com)

All entries must include the appropriate forms and fees. Fees are payable in US Dollars by PayPal. Any entry received without the required fees will not be processed but will await payment until the closing date. If no fee is received, the entry will not be judged.

## **Calendar**

Entry closing	October 23, 2023
Entry judging	November 1 -13, 2023
Report card	November 27, 2023
Catalog	January 12, 2024
Awards	January 12, 2024
Online Gallery	January 12, 2024

## **Judges**

### **Brandywine**

Judy Burr, USA, APSA, MPSA  
Donna Osborne, USA, PPSA, AFIAP  
Tom Tauber, USA, APSA, MPSA

### **Colonial**

Dee Langevin, USA, GMPSA  
Carolyn Todd-Larson, USA, PPSA, AFIAP  
David Woodthorpe, England, PPSA

### **Pine Barrens**

Margaret Hennes, USA, PPSA  
Marie H Schreiber, USA, APSA, PPSA  
Tony Potter, England, FPSA, GMPSA/B

## **Awards**

- PSA Gold Medal in each judging
- DVCCC silver medal in each section
- Three DVCCC bronze judges' choice medals in each section
- 10 Honorable Mentions in each section (e-certificates)

## **Report Card and Catalog**

The Catalog will be an electronic PDF file. The results and catalog will be published on the website. All entrants can view and download the electronic catalog from the website.

All entrants will receive their report cards via e-mail (the one used at registration) with the scores for each image.

## **Exhibition Requirements**

**IMAGE AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS** This exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the Sponsor or the Exhibition Organizers, in their reasonable discretion,

believes the entry does not conform to exhibition rules and these Conditions of Entry. Membership in any photographic organization is not required.

**Penalties:** Entries will not be accepted from any entrant who has put on the **PSA Penalties List for Ethics Violation**. Entry fees are not refundable in these circumstances.

### **PSA Star Ratings**

To receive proper Star ratings credit from PSA, entrants must provide their names and country exactly the same way in each exhibition. Aliases are not permitted. Please contact PSA in the event of name changes or relocating to another country. Using one's name differently in different exhibition exposes the entrant to the risk that many of their acceptances may not be recognized by PSA Star Ratings.

### **Image Creation**

Entries must originate as photographs (image-captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or acquired digitally.

### **Certification:**

By virtue of submitting an image, the entrant certifies the work as his or her own. Images may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else (for example: clip art, images or art by others downloaded from the Internet). Aliases are not allowed.

### **Reproduction**

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. The Photographic Society of America (PSA) may request specific permission from entrants to reproduce entered images in its educational materials. The terms of that permission will be mutually agreed between the entrant and PSA **except in the circumstances where the entered image is found to breach the PSA Ethics Policy. In those circumstances the image may be reproduced by PSA, without the entrant's further permission, for educational purposes to illustrate serious exhibition rule violations. For those reproductions, the entrant's name will be withheld.**

Entries will not be accepted from entrants who indicate that their images may not be reproduced in materials related to the exhibition." The exhibition assumes no liability of any misuse of copyright.

**Alteration and Computer Generation** Subject to Divisional restrictions (particularly Nature, Photo Travel, and Photojournalism) images may be altered, either electronically or otherwise, by the entrant; adjustments to enhance images or creatively modify images are allowed providing the underlying photograph is retained in a way that is obvious to the viewer. Images may not be constructed entirely with a computer and must be the sole work of the entrant.

**Re-use of accepted images:** Any image that has been accepted in this exhibition, past or present, may not be entered again in the same Division Star Ratings Class in any future instances of this exhibition. It may, of course, be entered in any other PSA recognised exhibitions but **must always have the same title. Re-titling in another language is not allowed.**

**Entry:** An Entry consists of, up to and including, four (4) images entered by a single entrant into the same Section. An entrant may only enter a specific Section once. Entrants may not enter identical or similar images into the same section or different sections of the same exhibition.

**Titles:**

Each image must have a unique title **that is a description of the image**. That unique title must be used for entry of that image or of an identical Image into any and all PSA-Recognized exhibitions. Titles must be 35 characters or fewer. No titles may be visible to the judges, and nothing in the image may identify the entrant. Titles may not include file extensions such as .jpg or .jpeg (or any other camera capture filenames such as IMG 471). Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number; or include words such as “untitled” or “no title”. Titles may not consist solely of numbers unless those numbers are prominently contained within the image, such as a contestant number in a race.

**Color and Monochrome:**

Color and Monochrome images from the same capture that share substantial pictorial content in common will be considered the same image and must be given the same title.

**Digital Entries**

All entries must be submitted through our website online registration process. All digital images **MUST** be in **sRGB color space**, in jpg format and are limited to a **maximum size of 2Mb and 1920 x 1080 pixels**. Name, identifying marks or words in any language may not be added to any image. Judging will be performed online, with images displayed to the judges on their own screens with the resolution of at least 1920 x 1080 pixels.

Images by the same maker that were accepted in previous Delaware Valley Circuits, or images that are nearly identical, may not be entered. Entrants should not submit projected images that virtually duplicate each other or differ only slightly. Only one of such images will be judged.

Acceptances will be reported to the Photographic Society of America for credits towards **Photo Travel** Star Ratings, Who's Who in Photography, and ROPA distinctions

The Exhibition will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the PSA. 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 will be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant. At no stage will a judge be able to view all the entrant's images together.

**Judging Method**

Judges will view and judge the images remotely online at their own equipment (monitors) with minimum display a native resolution of 1920 x 1080 pixels.

All judges will use color-calibrated monitors and the monitors will be capable of displaying images at 100% of the image resolution and that images will be displayed at exactly 100% of their resolution (that is, that the images will not be enlarged beyond their native resolution).

There will be 3 judges in each section for total of 3 rounds of judging.

**Target Range:** 29 – 35%

## **DATA PROTECTION**

By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including physical addresses, 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, agree and accept that by entering this exhibition, your participation status which includes your first and last name, name of the country used during registration at the exhibition, number of sections entered and number of photos entered in those sections will be made public in a published status list and that the results of your entry shall be made public in exhibition gallery, exhibition catalog. You also agree and accept the policy regarding Breaches of Rules of the PSA.

## **SUBJECT MATTER AND SECTION DEFINITIONS**

### **Statement on Subject Matter - applicable to all sections**

The fundamental rule that must be observed at all times and **applies to all sections** offered in exhibitions with PSA recognition is that **the welfare of living creatures is more important than any photograph**. This means that practices such as baiting of subjects with a living creature and removal of birds from nests, for the purpose of obtaining a photograph, are highly unethical, and such photographs are not allowed in any exhibition with PSA recognition. Under no circumstances may a living creature be placed in a situation where it will be killed, injured or stressed for the purpose of obtaining a photograph. Images that show live creatures being fed to captive animals, birds or reptiles are not permitted under any circumstances.

There are also concerns about the use of aerial photography, drones, helicopters, low flying aircraft. These should not cause any interference with other individuals or animals which causes a disturbance in their normal activity or disrupt the way any individuals or animals interact with their environment. **Entrants in PSA recognized exhibitions should comply with all relevant laws and regulations, associated with aerial photography, in the country in which the image was taken.**

Entry into PSA recognized exhibitions is conditional on accepting these policies. The content of images must comply with the General Conditions and with the Division and Section definitions listed in these conditions. Images that - in the sole opinion of the judges or the Exhibition Organizers - do not comply, will be disqualified so the entrant may be aware of the problem when considering entry into other exhibitions with PSA recognition.

## **Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel**

These sections require images to be truthful records, so there are limits on the amount of manipulation allowed.

### **Editing guidance:**

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

### **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 color.

For the purpose of this exhibition any border added to a digital file must be a single border of white or grey, no greater than 3-5 pixels in width.

### **PSA Definition of Travel Photography**

A Photo Travel image is a portrayal of the real world we live in, as it is found naturally. There are no geographic limitations.

#### **Content guidance:**

1. If the image is predominantly or exclusively a land-, sea- or cityscape, these “scapes” must include characteristic, distinctive and recognizable physical features, although it is not necessary that the image identify the exact location;
2. Images that predominantly or exclusively depict people and their activities must illustrate a distinctive culture of a country, region, or continent;
3. Images that predominately or exclusively depict animal populations are allowed, if the animals are in their native environment and are characteristic of that country, region, or continent;
4. Portraits or other close-ups of people or objects, in addition to meeting the above paragraphs as applicable, must include elements depicting some of the surrounding environment to make it obvious that the image was not taken in a studio setting;
5. Images from events or activities arranged for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are **NOT** allowed.
6. Time exposures are allowed, if they do not dominate the image as a special effect (star trails, for example, are a dominating effect). Highly distorted images such as those produced by fish eye lenses are **NOT** allowed.

Attention is drawn to the **PSA Statement on Subject Matter** which applies to **all** sections and to the **Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel**

## **Sections**

**Photo Travel — theme People PTD**

**Photo Travel — theme Places PTD**

## **PSA Rules**

### **Breaches of Rules**

Entrants are strongly advised to look at the PSA Ethics Policy which can be found at <https://psa-photo.org/page/ethical-practices>.

If, at any time, it is determined in the reasonable discretion of the exhibition organizer or the judges before, during, or after the judging of an exhibition that an entrant has submitted entries where one or more images may fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, including the stated definitions, exhibitions, on behalf of the judges, are allowed to request unedited or raw files of the submitted image

In order to ensure that images comply with the Conditions of Entry and definitions, the exhibition organizers may carry out reasonable measures to verify that:

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

These steps include, but are not limited to, questioning any entrant, requiring the submission of RAW files or other digital files representing the original capture of the submitted image(s), confronting the entrant with evidence that one or more submitted images fails to comply with the Conditions of Entry (also known as Entry Rules), and offering the entrant a reasonable opportunity to provide counter evidence to refute the exhibition organizer's evidence by a set deadline. Such entries that are not cleared or are still questionable after the entrant has presented evidence may be considered in breach of these Conditions of Entry and declined. Such entries may be referred to PSA for further investigation of possible ethics violations.

PSA, on receiving reports from exhibitions of possible breaches, retains the right to investigate in any way all complaints/suspicious of breaches of entry conditions, impose penalties if deemed necessary, void the acceptances of any image found to violate the PSA rules, include the entrant's name on the list of sanctions provided to Exhibitions, and share such investigations with FIAP. Entrants automatically agree to these terms by the act of entering the Exhibition and agree to cooperate with any investigation.

If another party is processing images for an entrant or submitting images on the entrant's behalf, the entrant will still be held responsible for adhering to all Conditions of Entry including the specific conditions in the relevant definitions.

**NOTICE:** When entrants fill in the Entry Form to submit an entry they will see the following feature to affirm they have read these Conditions of Entry

“I hereby confirm that I have read, understood and agree to the Conditions of Entry of this exhibition. I have read the PSA document to be found at [https://psa-photo.org/resource/resmgr/pdf/exhibitions\\_/exhibition-entrants-agreemen.pdf](https://psa-photo.org/resource/resmgr/pdf/exhibitions_/exhibition-entrants-agreemen.pdf) . I am aware that PSA may apply penalties for breaches of these Conditions of Entry”

Failure to agree will mean that the application will not proceed.

**T**he sponsors of this International Exhibition of Photography have been awarded Recognition by PSA, the world's largest patron of international photographic exhibitions. PSA, although it has provided recognition, is neither a sponsor nor directly involved in the operation of this exhibition.



Valid acceptances received by PSA Members in recognized sections of this exhibition are eligible for PSA Star Ratings, listing in the world-wide PSA Who's Who of Photography and credited towards the PSA Distinctions of QPSA, PPSA, EPSA, MPSA, MPSA2, GMPSA, GMPSA/B, GMPSA/S, GMPSA/G, and GMPSA/P.

PSA is a non-profit organization promoting the advancement of photography in all its forms to novice, amateur and professional photographers worldwide.

For information on membership and the many services and activities of PSA, contact:

**psa**

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