

F-STOP

**PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY**

KEMPTON PARK



NEW MEMBERS

2025/2026

ABOUT F-STOP

F-Stop Photographic Society is a non-profit camera club that brings together people who share a passion for photography.

We are proudly affiliated with the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA), giving our members access to national standards, competitions, and opportunities for recognition.

Nestled in the heart of Kempton Park in Gauteng, we come together to explore the wilds of photography as a community. With each click of the shutter, we dive deeper into the craft, unlocking its secrets and kindling the spark of curiosity.

We host monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month, where members can participate in image judging, attend talks by guest speakers, and take part in practical learning.

In addition, we organise outings, workshops, and social events that allow members to explore new photographic opportunities in a supportive and fun environment.



COMMITTEE 2026

Belinda Ueckermann



**Interim Chair &
Treasurer**

Fraser Bryce



**Interim Vice Chair &
Workshop**

Deidre Schnetler



**Secretary &
Public Relations**

Anthony Malan



General

WHEN, WHAT, WHERE AND HOW?

Let's have a look at when the club meets





CLUB INFORMATION:

TIMELINES:

Submission Year: January to December

Membership Year: March to February

Committee Year: March to February

AGM: February

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership Fees:

R420.00 Ordinary Member Annual Fees

R200.00 Pensioner Member Annual Fees

R300.00 Additional Member Annual Fees – Same household

R170.00 Junior Member Annual Fees



CLUB INFORMATION:

BANK DETAILS:

F-STOP PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

ACC NO: 63168184976

BRANCH: 250655

PAYMENT:

Fees are payable in advance on or before 1 March of every year.

Special arrangements for payment may be made in writing with committee approval. Should you encounter a payment problem, please do not hesitate to make contact with a committee member you feel comfortable with to discuss your problem.
(No refunds are given for resignation or termination of membership.)



CLUB INFORMATION:

COMPETITIONS:

CERPS:

Participants: F-Stop, Boksburg, Benoni, Edenvale and Springs

The club submits 15 Junior and 15 Senior Images and they are judge and the club with the highest scores wins.

CHOICE AWARDS:

Participants: All Members in F-Stop

Maximum of 20 Photos and only 4 Images per category. Theme Images to be slotted into the other Categories



CLUB INFORMATION:

CONSTITUTION & HOUSE RULES:

F-Stop is governed by it's constitution. The constitution is reviewed regularly and is presented to the club in the AGM or SGM

It is the responsibility of each member to make sure that they are familiar with the constitution and the clubs rules.

Both can be viewed here:

<https://fstoppphoto.co.za/addendum-rules/>

CLUB INFORMATION:

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Website: <https://fstoppphoto.co.za>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Fstopphotographic/>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@Fstop-KemptonPark>

Email: info@fstoppphoto.co.za



CLUB EVENING

F-Stop club evening is always the second Wednesday of a month. The only exception is December whereby it is the first Wednesday of the month.

The club has a physical meeting and an online meeting.

The address is 32 Malpensa Ave, Bonaero Park, Kempton Park, 1619, South Africa

The club evening start at 19.00 SATS.

The online link will be made available on the day of club and it is recorded. Recording are uploaded to the clubs Youtube channel



WHERE DOES MY IMAGES BELONG?

Let's have a look at each one of the categories
and see what they are about.

Keep in mind the manipulation rules for each



CATEGORIES:

F-Stop has 7 Categories:

- Altered Reality
- Nature
- Pictorial
- Photojournalism
- Portraiture
- Scapes
- Theme

You can submit a maximum of **four images**, whereby **one image** must be in the theme



THEME:

Code: TH

Manipulation: Allowed

Definition:

Theme subjects is selected by the club in October of each year for the following year. Members provide suggestions and then the club members votes for their top 11.

The 11 suggestions with the most votes are crowned the Themes for the following year.

Image creativity is at the discretion of the author but must have relevance to the theme.



ALTERED REALITY

Code: AR

Manipulation: Allowed

Definition:

- Abstract: An exercise in composition for the sake of art. The real identity of the abstractionist's subject is not important and the result is not intended to be anything.
- Altered Reality An image: created by altering reality in an obvious manner, created digitally or in camera. The intention is the creation of an image that conveys a feeling or message, or tells a story.
- Creative or Visual Art Images: that go beyond the straightforward pictorial rendering of a scene. The image does not have to employ derivative or manipulative techniques to be Creative or Visual Art.

NATURE

Code: NA

Manipulation: Not Allowed

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.

The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.



PHOTOJOURNALISM

Code: PJ

Manipulation: Not Allowed

Definition:

Photojournalism entries are images with informative content reflecting the human presence in our world and emotional impact which usually include human interest, documentary, news or sport.

The journalistic value of the image shall receive priority over the pictorial quality.

PICTORIAL

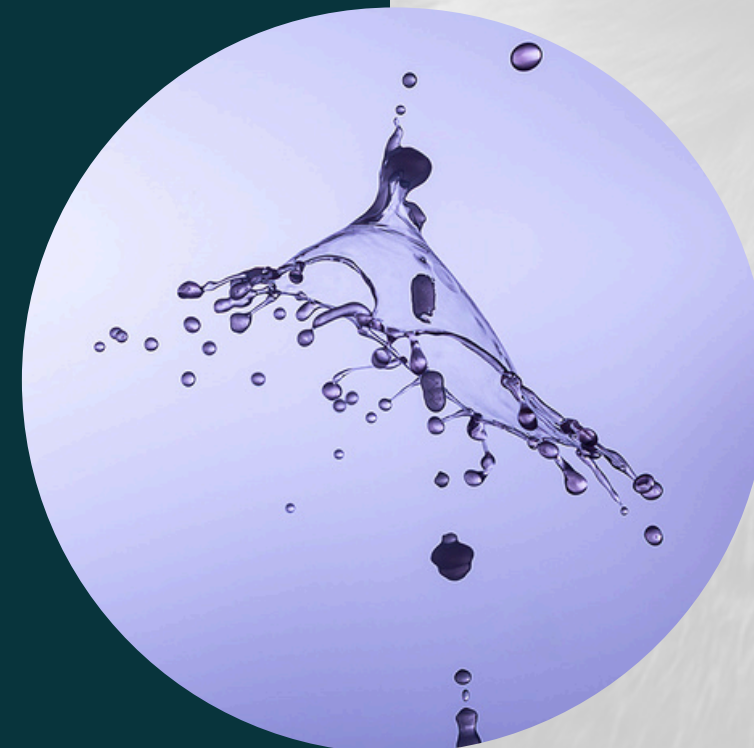
Code: PI

Manipulation: Allowed

Definition:

Open category. Images that aren't defined in any other category belongs here.

This is the most popular category every month.



PORTRAITURE

Code: PO

Manipulation: Allowed

Definition:

Portraiture is not restricted to head and shoulders and may include just a part of the face, a back view or even a full length study.

- **Animal Portraits** A likeness, personality and mood of a living animal where the subject is dominant in the image.
- **Human Interest** An image depicting a person or persons in an interactive, emotional or unusual situation, excluding recreational and sports action.
- **Human Portraits** A likeness, personality and mood of a living human where the subject is dominant in the image. Portraiture is not restricted to head and shoulders and may include just a part of the face, a back view or even a full length study.

SCAPES

Code: SC

Manipulation: Allowed

Definition:

Scapes is a term that covers the depiction of scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers, forests, sea, cities etc. where the main subject is a wide view with its elements arranged into a coherent composition. Scapes may be natural or man-made.



WHAT IS MANIPULATION?

F-Stop follows the PSSA guide on What is considered manipulations. Members needs to make sure they are familiar with new guidelines as they are published by the PSSA.





Manipulation is strictly prohibited in the Nature, Photo Travel, Street, Sport, and Photojournalism categories, as well as in any categories defined accordingly.

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, apart from conversion to grayscale monochrome, which is permitted. Over processed images will be disqualified.

Editing techniques that are not allowed:

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- In Nature and Wildlife, NO vignette may be added.
- 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 oversaturation of color.



Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Flipping an image horizontal or vertical.
- 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.
- A very subtle vignette is allowed except in Nature and Wildlife.
- 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/HDR or focus stacking).

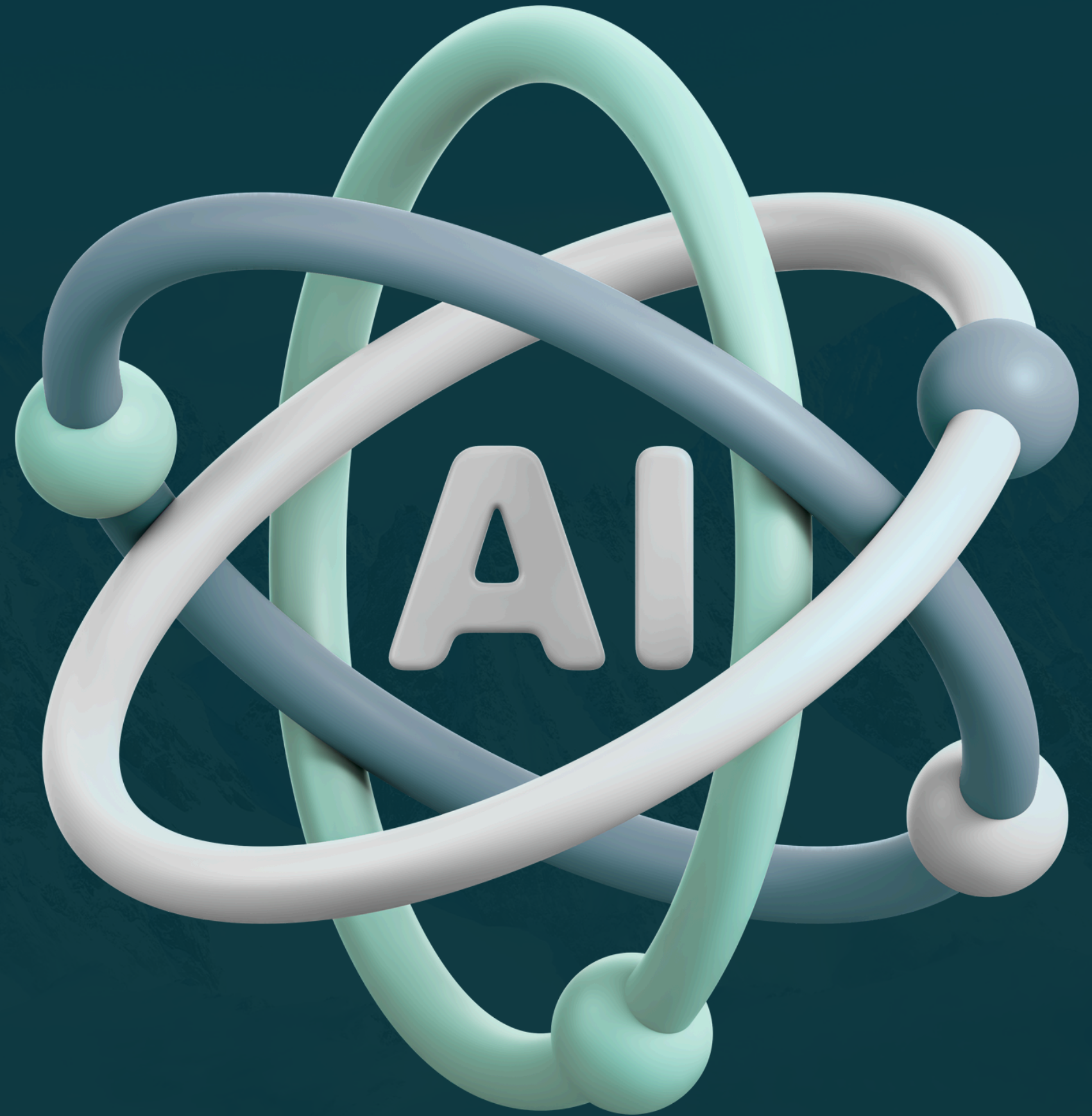
In the case of Nature exposure blending/HDR and focus stacking will not be considered as manipulation and may be used provided that the end result is a faithful representation of the original scene. Exposure blending/HDR and Focus stacking are NOT allowed in Photojournalism.

- Image stitching – combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas).

In Open categories and those where manipulation is permitted, there are no limits on how authors may choose to post-process an image.

WHAT ABOUT AI?

F-Stop follows the PSSA guide on how AI may be used in picture processing. Members need to make sure they are familiar with new guidelines as they are published by the PSSA.





PSSA AI STATEMENT & FAQs:

<https://pssa.co.za/photography-ai-faq>

I AM A 2 STAR, HOW DO I BECOME A 3 STAR?

Let's have a look at the star levels



IMAGE SCORE ALLOCATION:

- Certificate of Merit (13–15) = 5 Points
- Gold Certificate (10–12) = 3 Points
- Silver Certificate (8–9) = 2 Points
- Bronze Certificate (6–7) = 1 Point
- Best Award of Meeting = 1 Point
- Below 6 = 0 Points

NATIONAL SALON SCORE ALLOCATION:

Acceptance: 1 Point

Certificate of Merit: 2 Points

Category Winner: 3 Points

INTERNATIONAL SALON SCORE ALLOCATION:

Acceptance: 2 Points

Certificate of Merit: 3 Points

Category Winner: 4 Points



**1 STAR to 2 STAR
(WITH SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 30 Points
GOLD/COM: –
SALON POINTS: –

**1 STAR to 2 STAR
(WITHOUT SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 30 Points
GOLD/COM: –
SALON POINTS: –



**2 STAR to 3 STAR
(WITH SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 60 Points
GOLD/COM: 15
SALON POINTS: –

**2 STAR to 3 STAR
(WITHOUT SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 60 Points
GOLD/COM: 15
SALON POINTS: –

**3 STAR to 4 STAR
(WITH SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 80 Points
GOLD/COM: 20 (No more than 18 awards can be in the same category)
SALON POINTS: 5



**3 STAR to 4 STAR
(WITHOUT SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 160 Points
GOLD/COM: 40 (No more than 18 awards can be in the same category)
SSALON POINTS: –



**4 STAR to 5 STAR
(WITH SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 120 Points
GOLD/COM: 30 (No more than 21 awards can be in the same category)
SALON POINTS: 20

**4 STAR to 5 STAR
(WITHOUT SALON POINTS)**

SCORE: 240 Points
GOLD/COM: 60 (No more than 21 awards can be in the same category)
SALON POINTS: –

5 HONOURS STAR

All workers in this division will be known as Honours Workers and will be awarded an Honours Badge.

No further diversifying per category will be needed in this division.

An acknowledgement bar will be added for every 100 gold or Certificate of Merit awards plus 50 salon points per bar section.



5 Star Honours Bronze

GOLD/COM: 100
SALON POINTS: 50

5 Star Honours Silver

GOLD/COM: 200
SALON POINTS: 100

5 Star Honours Gold

GOLD/COM: 300
SALON POINTS: 150

5 Star Honours Platinum

GOLD/COM: 400
SALON POINTS: 200

PSSA??? SALON????

WHAT IS THAT???



PSSA AND SALONS

PSSA is an officially recognised body representing photographers in South Africa.

PSSA is a company registered with the Registrar of Companies of South Africa. The management of PSSA is therefore governed by the South Africa Company's Act.

PSSA Vision

The Photographic Society of South Africa aims to be the pre-eminent, internationally recognised, photographic society in South Africa serving the photographic community of South Africa.

PSSA Mission

PSSA aims to:-

- bring together all people interested in photography by providing and supporting platforms which enable members to enjoy and grow their photography
- provide the opportunity for members to grow their individual photographic abilities

- promote the highest possible standards of photography
- embrace the future of photography while continually supporting the present
- promote the interests of photography in all aspects amongst all its members



<https://pssa.co.za>

PSSA AND SALONS

What are salons and why do we do them?

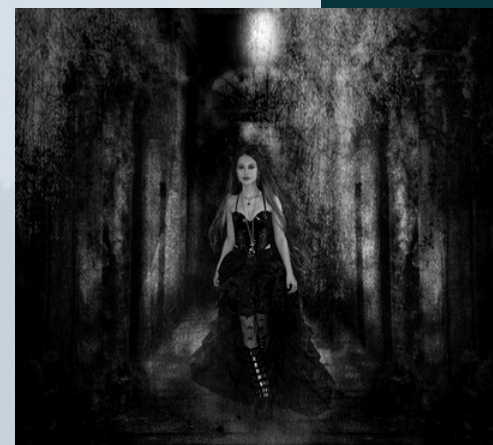
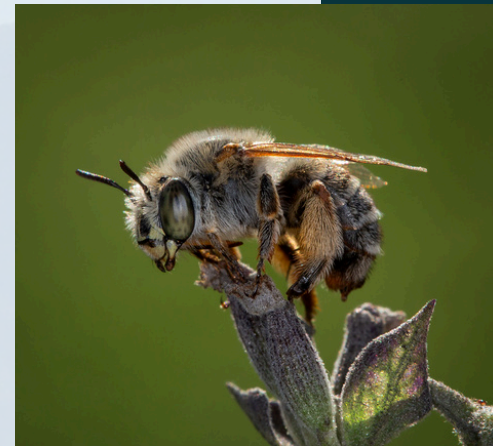
Wikipedia: "From the seventeenth century to the early part of the twentieth century, artistic production in France was controlled by artistic academies which organized official exhibitions called salons."

To be able to exhibit your work on a salon, you had to obtain the approval of the judges.

Today it is still the same in photography that all entries received are evaluated by the jury and only those found acceptable will be exhibited.

And this is how we think of a photographic salon today – an exhibition of photography.

Photographers are invited to submit their images in various categories for possible inclusion in the salon exhibition.



A panel of judges scores all the submitted images and chooses approximately 20% for exhibition. The images that are chosen are known as "acceptances" and these are the "salon acceptances" that are required for Club promotion.

The acceptance rate will be different for each event and is set by the jury but within the parameters set by the organisations which approved the exhibition (salon) and lend their name to it (patronage). In South Africa, PSSA as the national organisation representing amateur photographers, uses a guideline for acceptances for PDI (projected digital images) salons at between 20 and 25% and up to 35% for prints and Audio Visuals. Overseas you may see rates between 25 – 45%!

The prime reason for presenting a salon is to see work that you would otherwise not see and share that with all our members and the public.

PSSA AND SALONS

The entry fee is there to cover cost and if there is a surplus that is a bonus.

Salons are either National ones where only photographers from South Africa (as well as all members of PSSA worldwide) may enter or International ones where photographers from all over the world compete.

A list of salons is published on the PSSA website, in Club newsletters and entry for SA salons is generally via [PhotoVaultOnline](#).

Conditions of Entry

The salon conditions of entry document (salon brochure) will provide all the detail of the event such as:

- Time table – Closing date, judging dates, when results will be available and exhibition dates.
- Awards – Medals and other awards which can be won.
- Categories of entry and their definitions.
- Names of the judges.
- Entry fees
- How to enter



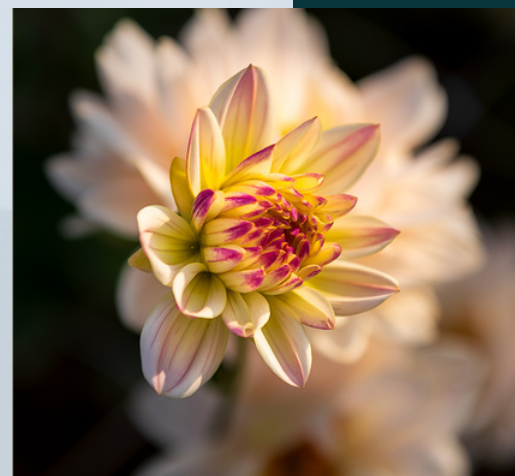
SALON RULES:

<https://pssa.co.za/pssa-salon-competition-rules/>



SALON CALENDAR:

<https://pssa.co.za/category/salons/calendar-results-for-year-ending-june-2026/>



HOW DO I SUBMIT IMAGES?

F-Stop utilizes PhotoVault for image submissions and member scores.

Lets go see how it is done!

[PhotoVault Link](#)



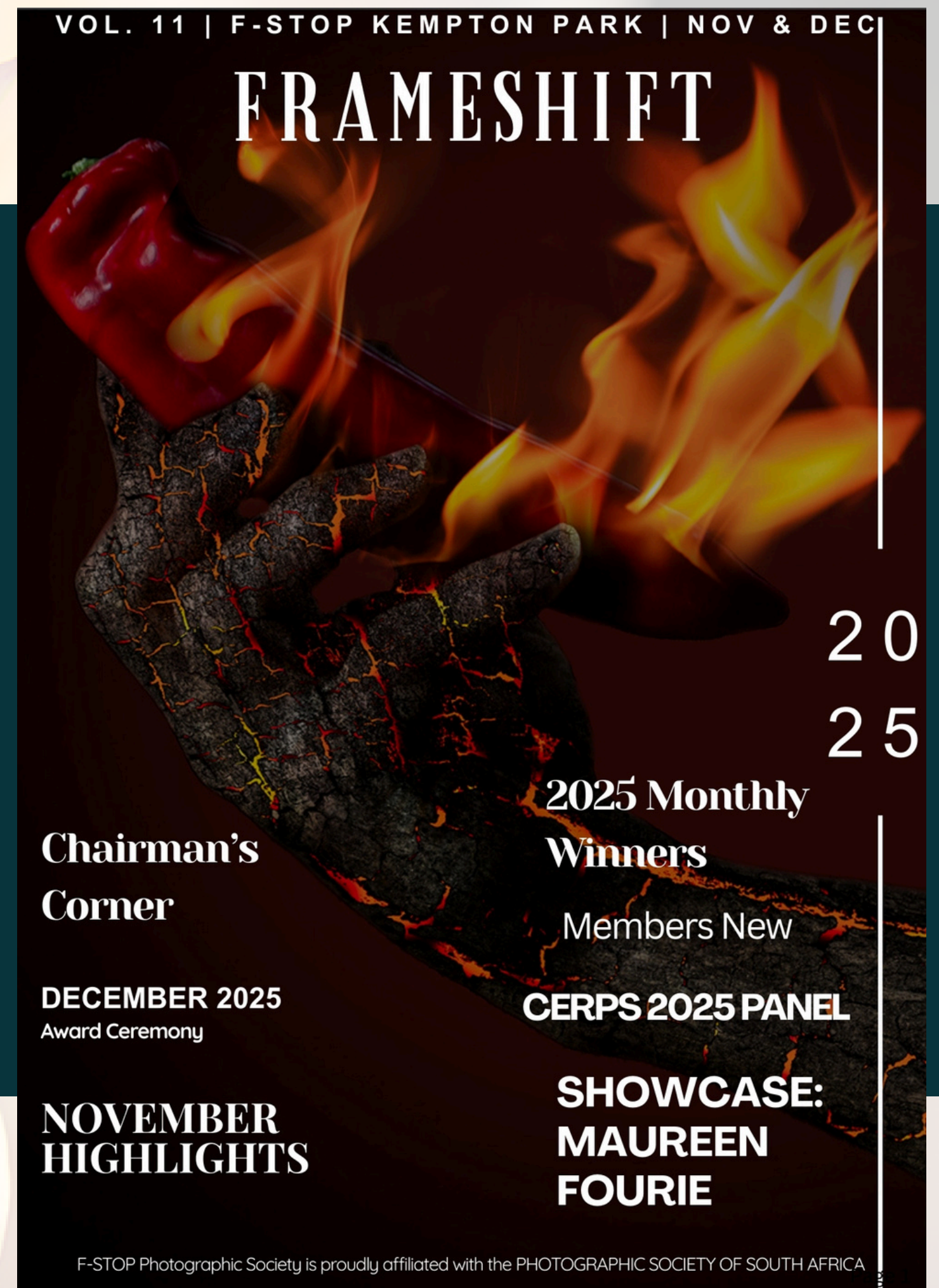
**WHAT ELSE DO
WE HAVE?**



FRAMESHIFT MAGAZINE

F-Stop has a monthly club magazine that highlights the winner for the month, club news, showcase members, learning hub, theme information and other information pertaining to the club.

The Magazine is released around the 25th of each month



WORKSHOPS

F-Stop runs monthly online workshop for all members. We select members in the club to present certain training topics.

All session is recorded and previous sessions can be viewed on the clubs Youtube channel.



WEEKEND CHALLENGE

F-Stop runs a weekly weekend challenge. The aim of this challenge is to encourage members to pick up their cameras.

Here is the Rules:

- Submissions are due by midnight on Sunday
- Voting takes place on Monday and closes at 23.59
- Winners are announced on Tuesday

⚠ Please note: These days might shift if it's a long weekend or something unexpected comes up, any changes will be communicate clearly each week.

🗳 Voting Rules:

- You can vote for only one image.
- You cannot vote for your own image.

📷 Photo Rule:

Your image must be taken during the challenge weekend. Any photo taken outside that time will be disqualified.

💡 Got a theme idea?

Feel free to send me any suggestions for future challenge themes , we'd love to hear them!



THEMES 2026

January - June

JANUARY: HUMAN PORTRAIT MONOCHROME

A black-and-white portrait showing real emotion and detail.

FEBRUARY: SHALLOW DOF (DEPTH OF FIELD)

Keeping one part of the photo sharp and the rest softly blurred.

MARCH: SONG TITLE

Capturing a title from a song.

APRIL: STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

Real moments and people in public places, shot without posing

MAY: FLOWER CLOSE-UPS

Detailed, up-close photographs of flowers, highlighting their textures and colors.

JUNE: FINE ART PORTRAITS

Portraits made to look artistic, focusing on mood and expression



July - December

JULY: REFRACTIONS

Refraction is where light bends through a transparent object, to create an inverted or distorted image of the scene behind it

AUGUST: NEGATIVE SPACE

Compose with emptiness as the lead

SEPTEMBER: SUNRISE AND SUNSET

Capturing the sun when the day begins or ends.

OCTOBER: PANNING

Moving the camera with a subject so the background blurs and the subject stays sharp.

NOVEMBER: FACELESS PORTRAITS

Showing a person without their face. The face is hidden

DECEMBER: YEAR END

Year-End Celebration

A dark, moody photograph of a tank in a field under a cloudy sky. The tank is positioned in the center-right of the frame, with its main gun barrel pointing towards the left. The tank's turret and hull are visible, with a white star insignia on the side of the turret. The tank is situated in a grassy field, and the background shows a distant horizon under a heavy, overcast sky. A large teal rectangular overlay covers the lower half of the image, containing the text.

QUESTIONS?

You are Welcome to ask any question. There is no such thing as a stupid question. If you are unsure then it is an important question.

Thank You