

**FIAP Bulletin**  
**November & December 2023 Edition**  
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**FIAP Distinctions 2024**

As per my October FIAP Bulletin that was sent to all APS members via email on the 26<sup>th</sup> October, this is a reminder that we are now on the lead in to the 2024 application round for FIAP Distinctions. With the exception of the Master level (MFIAP), lodgement opens on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and closes strictly on the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Those hoping to apply in 2024 should be checking if they meet the requirements for the relevant Distinction noting that these must be applied for in sequence without jumping any levels. There is still time to send entries to salons to cover requirements that you might not have yet met. Please remember that applications in 2024 see the resumption of the requirement for AFIAP and EFIAP applicants to have four photos and twelve photos respectively that have achieved a print acceptance. These two levels are cumulative so if you had print acceptances on your AFIAP application, these can also be shown and counted on your EFIAP application.

This month's edition of e-News contains the main Distinctions notice for the 2024 application round. Please read this carefully and please place yourself on the applicant register when you are fairly certain that you will be applying. The link to register is in FIAP Distinctions notice in this edition of e-News.

The application documents for 2024 are now available in the FIAP area of the APS website. The main FIAP document 011/2016 that lists the criteria for each level is unchanged.

**MFIAP Distinctions Applications for 2024**

Anyone planning to apply for MFIAP needs to contact me as soon as possible! These applications must be lodged with me by the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023. I need to discuss your application with you before this date to help ensure your application is well prepared.

**New FIAP Salon Patronage Regulations – Doc 040/2023**

This new document is important reading for all those who are entering international exhibitions that have FIAP Patronage and all organisers of international salons. Other than multiple updates to FIAP clauses, this document also encompasses the regulation changes resulting from the collaborative work done by FIAP and PSA on salon rules.

It was originally planned for the new regulations to commence at the beginning of 2024. Due to delays in finalising this document, this will instead now apply to all salons that have a closing date AFTER 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

This means changes such as the increase to the maximum allowable acceptance rate, going up from 25% to be 30%, will not apply for salons that have a closing date earlier than 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Photo Travel sections will only be available in salons run under PSA approval and will not be available in salons with FIAP Patronage. FIAP instead have introduced a section called "World in Focus", the definition for which can be found in the Appendix at the rear of the new regulations document. A new joint FIAP/PSA definition for Photojournalism has also been added.

There will be a new FIAP/PSA Nature definition that will have some minor changes from that used by PSA during this year. Unfortunately, this was still being finalised and could not be included in the newly released Patronage regulations. All the set subject definitions are located in the appendix section of the document and this part of the document will be updated in coming weeks to swap over the Nature definition to the new one.

There are other changes, and it is important to read what has been sent by FIAP. This will be one of the documents to which you agree to comply when you enter a salon under FIAP Patronage. The new Patronage regulations document can be downloaded from the Other FIAP docs and forms page in the FIAP area of the APS website:

[https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/other-fiap-documentation?category\[0\]=101&category\\_children=1](https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/other-fiap-documentation?category[0]=101&category_children=1)

There is also an article in the November edition of FIAP News from the Patronage Director that lists the main changes to the Patronage document. This can also be found at the above link.

### **FIAP Rules Regarding Pictures Created Using Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

FIAP's salon regulations already had clauses that effectively banned creating images using AI. The new regulations also have these same clauses:

#### **Excerpt from clauses in II.2:**

*"IMPORTANT: Concerning digital entries, authors must preserve intact with no alteration, the original metadata of images. In case of dispute relating to compliance with FIAP regulations, the fact of FIAP not being able to access this important data could result in the author being sanctioned.*

*Any person who is found guilty of using photographic material that was not captured in camera by that person will be excluded for life from FIAP activities."*

#### **Clause II.8 E**

*"E) The mention that all parts of the image have to be photographed by the author who is holding the copyright of all works submitted."*

#### **Except from Clause II.8F**

*"that any refusal to cooperate with FIAP or any refusal to submit the original files as captured by the camera, or failure to provide sufficient evidence, will be sanctioned by FIAP,"*

In other words, all parts of the image must have been photographed by the salon entrant using a camera. As to then modifying these components and having composite photos, that has always been possible and is permitted in salons with the exception of sections that specifically ban modification of the photo, eg nature.

In July, FIAP sent out Info Document 260/2023 with a clause that salons were required to add to their conditions of entry documents. This clause, shown as follows, is now part of the new Patronage regulations document mentioned above, (Doc 040/2023):

#### ***"Important information regarding pictures generated by artificial intelligence (AI):***

*Please note that:*

*Pictures created by artificial intelligence are not allowed in salons run under FIAP patronage. Therefore salon organisers are asked to include the following text into the regulations of their events :*

*PICTURES CREATED BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THIS SALON! It is reminded that all parts of the image have to be photographed by the author who is holding the copyright of all works submitted. Offenders will be sanctioned for life!"*

### **FIAP News – November Edition is now available**

The November edition of FIAP's official magazine is now available. This has a lot of news from FIAP's Directors and includes the above-mentioned major notice about the changes to the salon patronage regulations. It also has an article about the signing of a third Memorandum of Understanding between FIAP and PSA which covers some aspects included in the new regulations document and some of the ongoing collaborative work going forward.

FIAP's Best of the Best Author for 2022 is featured in this edition and you will also find an article in the Recommendations section written by APS member, Karen Willshaw. If you like to keep up with news from FIAP, this quarterly magazine is essential reading. It also always carries some interesting, informative and educational articles.

The three latest editions of FIAP news can be easily located on the home page of the FIAP website but all editions can be found on the FIAP News page:

<https://www.fiap.net/en/fiap-news>

The latest edition is also available from the Other FIAP Docs and Forms page on the APS website. Note that this file is a lower resolution version of the file than the one available on the FIAP website:

[https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/other-fiap-documentation?category\[0\]=101&category\\_children=1](https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/other-fiap-documentation?category[0]=101&category_children=1)

### **FIAP Nature Biennial**

The FIAP Nature Biennial is coming up in 2024. This is a huge competition between FIAP affiliated National Photographic bodies around the world, such as APS. Each country selects images from its photographers for both a print and digital section. The countries must enter a cohesive set of photos on a subject of their choosing for each section. APS have this week announced the two subjects which will be "Dragonflies" and "Fungi".

There is **no cost** to participate. You just submit photos for possible selection to represent Australia as per the APS entry information and APS does the rest. Photos are all submitted in digital format and APS will organise the printing of the photos going in the print section. The cost of this and the postage is all paid by APS, so all you have to do is send in the best photos you have for each of these subjects.

It is essential to have as many people as possible participate in order to pick the most cohesive set of competitive photos. In the Biennial judging, points are given not only for individual photos but there is also a large number of points added for the cohesiveness of each set of photos.

If you have images selected to represent APS in this competition, you can use these results for your APS honours. If your photos score 8 or more points in the Biennial itself, you can count these and any personal awards gained by your photos, for your FIAP Distinctions.

The coordinator for the APS entry for the FIAP Nature Biennial is the Nature Group Chairman, Brian Russell. The closing date for submitting images is the 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024.

Full details about how to participate in this event are available on the FIAP Biennials forms page in the FIAP area of the APS website. You can download the document in either Word or pdf format:

<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/fiap-biennials>

### **FIAP Cards – Buy Before The Discount Ends**

Again, I would like to remind people that the 50% discount that has applied to the purchase of a person's first FIAP Card during the pandemic period, ends on the last day of December 2023. This discount does not apply to the postage cost.

People planning to apply for FIAP Distinctions must hold a FIAP Card when they lodge their Distinctions application, and most people buy their card around the time they apply for their first FIAP Distinction. However, you also need to hold a FIAP Card if you plan to go to a FIAP Congress or FIAP Photo Meeting. Once you hold a FIAP Card the card is automatically replaced each time you get a new FIAP Distinction and shows the Distinction on the card.

I strongly recommend that people wishing to obtain a FIAP Card, either for the future or if they plan to apply for their first FIAP Distinction in Jan/Feb 2024, set up a myfiap account and purchase their card via that account asap. Don't leave this to the final weeks of December as this will be in high demand and sometimes there can be problems with spam protection when setting up myfiap accounts, and these take time to resolve.

In the FIAP area of the APS website, there is a detailed information page about FIAP Photographer's Cards and how to order one. Here is the link:

<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/fiap-lifecard-myfiap-login>

### **Video Tutorials and the Salon Entrant Essentials Page**

If you are entering international salons with FIAP Patronage, then at some stage in the future you might well be eligible for FIAP Distinctions. Every year I have at least one applicant applying for their first FIAP Distinction who has made errors when entering salons that impact their applications and sometimes enough to mean they are not eligible that year.

There are resources in the FIAP area of the APS website that are specifically there to help prevent problems and to give you tips and guidance. The first is the "Salon Entrant Essentials" page. This covers some of the basics such as finding salons with FIAP Patronage and titling your photos.

The other main resource is the page containing the "Video Tutorials". This series of tutorials not only guides you on how to find and choose from the salons with FIAP Patronage, and titling your photos, but also guides you through the FIAP Distinctions application process.

The first video in this series is titled "Finding Salons With FIAP Patronage". Parts of this had become out of date due to the relocation of the website that housed the list of salons with FIAP Patronage which resulted in the link in the tutorial no longer being correct and some parts of the old website also being moved to a different location on the myfiap platform. This tutorial has now been edited to amend these issues. The tutorials can be found in the FIAP area of the APS website:

<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/videos>

### **Important Links**

FIAP website: <https://www.fiap.net/en>

List of Salons with FIAP Patronage: <https://www.myfiap.net/patronages>

FIAP area of the APS website: <https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/about-fiap>