

Christchurch Photographic Society

New Member Information Sheet

Welcome

Welcome to the CPS, one of the leading and largest photographic societies in New Zealand. Enjoy your photography and we hope that you benefit and grow from your membership. Here is some information that should assist you, so read on.

Who's who?

At the AGM each November, officers are voted into a variety of positions, to assist in the smooth and successful operation of CPS throughout the year. An active committee meets monthly.

Refer to your syllabus for a list of current office bearers.

What is CPS all about?

To promote the enjoyment, mastery and advancement of the photographic science and art in all its applications and in particular by organising competitions with critique, lectures, workshops and field trips.

Meetings

Meetings are every Wednesday at 8 p.m. throughout the year from late January to late November.

The venue is the Riccarton Community Church, 44 Elizabeth Street, Riccarton, Christchurch.

Programme

A comprehensive annual programme incorporates a combination of competitions, guest speakers and instructional evenings.

Refer to separate CPS syllabus guide.

Competitions

There is a wide range of print and slide competitions to enter, including:

C grade (C grade members only) – two per year

Open (A, B, and C grade members) – ten per year

Natural History, Landscape – two per year

Audio Visual - one per year

Entries for these competitions close about one month before each is programmed, entries are handed to a judge, who then comments via tape/DVD or in person on the night.

End of year judging for Portrait and unaltered New Zealand Landscape and Photojournalism

Entries fall into three categories –

not accepted, accepted or honours.

Refer to syllabus for competition dates and closing dates for entries.

Refer to separate competition rules for details.

Ensure that you understand these rules, and if unsure speak to a committee member for clarification.

Salons

There will be a Print and a Projected Salon held during the year

Workshops

Once a month, and usually on the first Wednesday, prior to the weekly meeting, a more experienced member will conduct a workshop commencing at 7.15 p.m. This is followed up two weeks later for members to show their results after the workshop.

Refer to separate programme for details of workshops.

Critique Sessions

Once a month several members are available at 7.15 p.m. to informally critique your work.

Constructive comments are made to improve your photography.

Field trips

Each month there is a field trip (usually on a Sunday) to somewhere reasonably close to Christchurch.

These are well attended and are an opportunity to get to know members and learn more from each other in the field.

Refer to the syllabus for venue details.

Noticeboard

The board is in the supper room and has a variety of notices displayed, including competition results, aggregate score progress, forthcoming events and sale items.

Supper

Supper is available each night after meetings. This is an ideal opportunity to chat, and peruse the noticeboard and library.

Grades

There are three grades of membership – A, B and C. New members are automatically C grade. Each year, member's progress in the open competitions is noted by points, and if their level meets the criteria set out in the competition rules, he/she progresses to B and A grades. It is possible for a member to submit a selection of work to the grading committee for regrading consideration at any time.

Honours

The Photographic Society of New Zealand (PSNZ) Honours Board meets annually, in February, to consider submissions for 'letters' from photographers countrywide. This is recognition of a photographer's ability. There are three levels of honours – Licentiate, Associate, and Fellow.

Interclub Activities

CPS regularly invites other clubs to attend its meetings and vice versa. There are interclub competitions, such as the Commonwealth Challenge (between clubs in Australia, England and here at CPS), the Trena Packer Natural History and the South Island Inter-Club. Each year there is the national PSNZ Salon as well as other prominent regional salons. CPS members are very active in attending these salons and entering the associated competitions with each salon.

Website

CPS has its own website which has more details about the Society, including any late changes to competition rules, committee and competition secretary's phone numbers as well as images by club members and links to other photographic sites at www.cpsnz.com

PSNZ and some other prominent NZ photographic societies have their own sites. As well, there are many world recognised professional photographers with their own websites, all worth visiting.

Final Night

The last event of the CPS year is always the Final Night, which is on a Saturday night in early December. This is one night not to miss. All accepted photographs from throughout the year are displayed, after being re-judged, to determine the overall champion photographs (print, projected image or slide) for the year. Members from all the regional clubs are invited to attend this gala evening.

Finally

Enter as many competitions as you feel comfortable. Enjoy the fellowship of a happy group of enthusiastic photographers.

Continue to learn and improve your images – this process never stops.

There is always someone out there who is willing to help and share. Before you know it, you will be buddying up with another keen photographer, and walking up to receive your first acceptance certificate.