



e-news

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New Distinctions for Audio-Visual Exhibitors

In its December mailing, FIAP have announced **FOUR** new distinctions that are now available to **Audio-Visual Workers**. These new distinctions are designed to bring **AV-Distinctions** more into line with those for still workers.

The distinctions were announced as part of a completely new set of Rules for AV Distinctions, which came into force as from the 1st January 2018. They provide a set of EFIAP Levels Distinctions, ranging from EFIAP Bronze, through Silver and Gold to EFIAP Platinum. The general criteria and overall concept of these distinctions have been designed to largely mirror those for still workers that have been in existence for many years.

Whilst full details of the criteria and are available on the PAGB website, the following is a short synopsis.

Applicants will be required to gain after the date on their EFIAP certificate, which they must have held for at least 12 months the following results from new work.

AV-EFIAP/b	20 acceptances with 4 different works in	3 different countries
AV_EFIAP/s	30 acceptances with 5 different works in	4 different countries
AV-EFIAP/g	50 acceptances with 10 different works in	5 different countries
AV-EFIAP/p	80 acceptances with 14 different works in	6 different countries

They will also have to submit a portfolio of works (sequences) to meet this table of requirements.

AV-EFIAP/b	4 awarded AV works in 3 different countries and different salons
AV_EFIAP/s	5 awarded AV works in 4 different countries and different salons
AV-EFIAP/g	6 awarded AV works in 5 different countries and different salons
AV-EFIAP/p	7 awarded AV works in 6 different countries and different salons

The system of applying for these awards will remain the same for the AV-AFIAP and AV-EFIAP distinctions, which in effect means that unless you can qualify by the end of this month your first opportunity to apply for one of these new distinctions will be in the 2019 batch of applications.

And finally, before anyone asks, there is no provision for AV_EFIAP Diamond Distinctions. Bearing in mind that it will take at least four years to get to AV-EFIAP/p there is plenty of time for FIAP to decide if there is sufficient demand for Diamond Distinctions.



FIAP's new Sanctions and "Red List" Rules

Following a protracted court case, which resulted in FIAP withdrawing its "Red List", it has implemented a new policy of "Sanctions", and a new "Red List" (a list of banned persons), which will be supplied to all FIAP patronised salons and it is compulsory for them to implement it. This came into force on the 1st January 2018.

This must be welcomed, because sadly we have too many exhibitors out there who think it is fair game to cheat. This means the honest exhibitor can lose out unfairly. The down side is that if such a policy is to be effective in countering a small but very devious minority, then there is a need for all of us to be supportive and accept that we must do our part. This can mean having to conform to rules designed to close the door on the cheat, but sometimes inconvenient to the honest majority.

We hope no one from PAGB will find themselves subject of the "Sanctions" process, but if history is anything to go by then it will occur at some time. What is more important though is that everyone who enters an International salon, knows the rules and can keep on the right side of them. Each time you enter a FIAP salon you will be required to certify you have read and understand the policy documents and agree to abide by them. If you don't, then you will not be allowed to enter.

So, what is all this about? The "Sanctions" structure is divided into three categories: -

a) Retitling, b) Manipulating Nature and Traditional entries, and c) Use of any image or part of any image not originally taken by the entrant.

Very briefly these are the main consequences (there are others): -

a) **Retitling.** (*Giving an already accepted photo a different title to that it was first accepted with*).

- i) 1st proven case - written warning and put on a watch list for 3 years.
- ii) 2nd proven case - banned from salons for 3 years and Red Listed.
- iii) 3rd proven case - banned for 5 years, Red Listed and loss of all currently held FIAP Distinctions. (i.e.: - after the 5 years you will have to start from scratch).

b) **Manipulation**

- i) 1st proven case - banned for 3 years, Red Listed and loss of all currently held FIAP Distinctions. (i.e.: - after the 3 years you will have to start from scratch).
- ii) 2nd proven case - banned for Life, Red Listed and loss of all FIAP Distinctions.

c) **Use of Images or Part of Images not taken by the Entrant**

Any case - banned for Life, Red Listed and loss of all FIAP Distinctions.

The policy has been published alongside a completely new set of FIAP Patronage Rules, which also come into force on 1st January 2018. Both documents are available to be downloaded from the FIAP Patronage page of the PAGB web site at: - www.thepagb.org.uk/fiap/fiap-patronage/

You are strongly advised to familiarise yourself with both documents, which place several requirements on exhibitors, e.g.: - retaining original untouched RAW or JPEG files.

I have spoken with FIAP officials about "Retitling" and the question of flexibility for what I will call 'mistitling' (often innocent). Whilst FIAP are prepared to be reasonable in minor cases, because of the devious conduct of some exhibitors worldwide, they are extremely unlikely to tolerate anything other than isolated instances, and then they must be very minor.

More information about FIAP Distinctions can be found at <http://www.thepagb.org.uk/fiap/fiap-distinctions/>