



# SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society  
September 2021

## Bottleneck for senior members removed

### Rewritten rules encourage and simplify advancement

The frustrating bottleneck in the advancement of our senior members will be removed by the greatly improved club advancement system adopted by our committee last month.

Our new system is based on the recently published Club Advancement Guidelines of the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA). It is expected to come into effect by the beginning of October – in time for our next monthly meeting.

The bottleneck manifested itself in the long time it could take for senior members to advance to the next level.

On average a beginner member could advance from 1 Star to 2 Star within a few months. Then it would take progressively longer until a senior member could sit in the bottleneck on 4 Star for many years before moving on to 5 Star. From 5 Star to Magister level was even worse.

The reason for that was the rapid increases in the requirements of the old system for points and Gold awards from junior to senior level for images submitted for evaluation at our monthly club meetings.

For example a 1 Star photographer required only 20 points and 5 Golds to advance to the next level, while a 4 Star required 200 points and 60 Golds.

A quick survey of our last two years before Covid – 2018 and 2019 – showed that on average a member collected 74 points and 13 Golds per year. That means a 1 Star photographer would have met both requirements within four months, while for a 4 Star photographer it would take more than four years.

A 5 Star photographer, who is required to collect 400 points and 120 Golds, would have to sit in the bottleneck for more than eight years to advance to Magister level.

According to our new advancement system the requirements are more challenging on junior level, and then increase far less rapidly to higher levels.

A 1 Star photographer will require 65 club points and 18 Golds, which could realistically be achieved within 15 months, while even a 5 Star should collect the required 145 club points and 40 Golds within less than three years.

This time frame applies to photographers on all levels above 3 Star who choose the salon points option.

The rewriting of our advancement system, together with the Club Rules and Regulations, turned out to be a “massive undertaking”, according to club president David Wilson.

The task, carried out by Phil Sturgess, Carina de Klerk and other committee members, took some months. The implementation will take some weeks.

In addition to creating a more fair advancement process, and speeding it up for senior photographers, the new system was also designed to encourage our members to take part in national salons.

And it was simplified to enable us to let the Photo Vault advancement recording system calculate members’ progress, instead of the intensive spreadsheet system we have been burdened with up to now.

The implementation of the new advancement system will be the culmination of a process which started more than two years ago with our successful adoption of Photo Vault to upload our images for the monthly evaluation – and for participation in salons.

That was driven by our previous club president, Elizma Fourie, and carried out by Kobus Botes and other committee members.

The rewritten Rules and Regulations, containing the new advancement system, can be found on our greatly improved website, redone by Carina.

Right: A table of our club’s awards and points during 2018 and 2019

Club awards	Merit	Gold	Silver	Bronze	None	Entries	Entrants
<b>2018</b>	15	177	208	90	10	500	167
<b>2019</b>	20	187	199	89	10	505	168
<b>Total p year</b>	17.5	182	203.5	89.5	10	502.5	167.5
<b>Total p month</b>	1.6	16.5	18.5	8.1	0.9	45.7	15.2
<b>Ave pp py</b>	1.2	12.1	13.6	6.0	0.7		
<b>Ave pp pm</b>	0.1	1.1	1.2	0.5	0.1	<b>Total</b>	
<b>Points pp py</b>	4.8	36.3	27.2	6.0	0.0	74.2	
<b>Points pp pm</b>	0.4	3.3	2.4	0.5	0.0	6.7	

# Salon acceptances, merits and medals

## Tafelberg Salon

Phil Sturgess – 1 Merit and 5 more acceptances

Charles Naudé – 1 Merit and 5 acceptances

Elizma Fourie – 1 Merit and 2 acceptances

Hestie das Neves – 6 acceptances

Treurnicht du Toit – 4 acceptances

Carina de Klerk – 3 acceptances

David Wilson – 2 acceptances

Luke Horsten – 1 acceptance



*"Drinkebroers"- Merit for Charles Naudé in Tafelberg Salon*

## Sandton Salon

Phil Sturgess – 1 Merit and 8 more acceptances

David Wilson – 1 Merit and 1 acceptance

Elizma Fourie – 5 acceptances

Carina de Klerk – 5 acceptances

Charles Naudé – 4 acceptances

Luke Horsten – 3 acceptances



*"Muscular"- Merit for Elizma Fourie in Tafelberg Salon*

## Krugersdorp Salon

Phil Sturgess – 1 Merit and 10 more acceptances

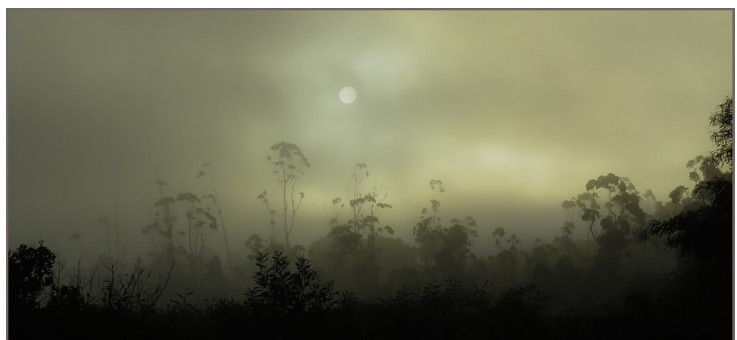
Carina de Klerk – 5 acceptances

David Wilson – 3 acceptances

Elizma Fourie – 2 acceptances

Luke Horsten – 2 acceptances

Charles Naudé – 2 acceptances



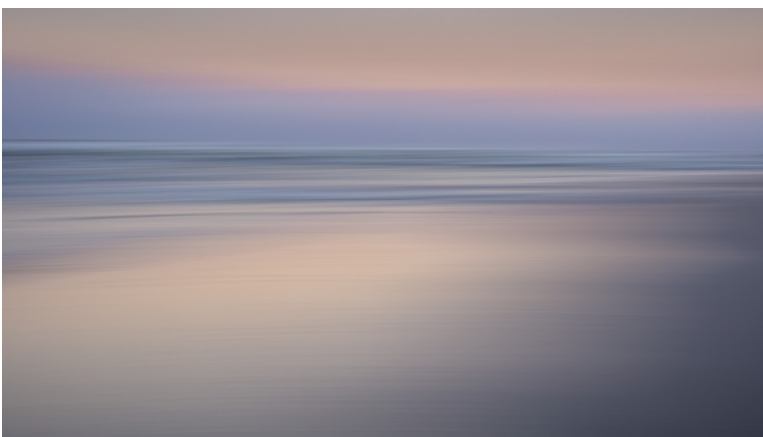
*"Vermont Mist"- Merit for David Wilson in Sandton Salon*

## International

Treurnicht du Toit – 5 Gold Medals, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze, 9 other awards and 253 more acceptances in various salons

David Wilson – 2 Certificates of Merit, 4 honourable mentions and 139 more acceptances in various salons

## This is a marathon, not a sprint



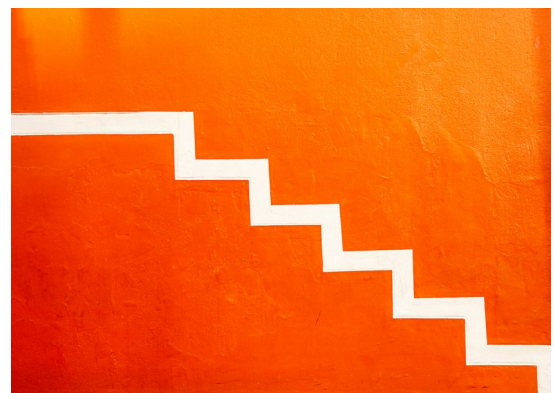
*"Iridescence" by Carina de Klerk, our September entry for the Senior Competition organized by the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA)*



*"Starry Starry Nite" by Sheron Pretorius, our entry for the Junior Competition*



*"Dead Vlei Sculptures" by Phil Sturgess, our August entry for the PSSA's Senior Competition, which received a score of 37/45*



*"Bo-Kaap Lines" by Mari Botes, our August entry for the Junior Competition (34/45)*

Our performance in the monthly competitions for clubs and individual members of the PSSA has improved from the first to the second month.

But this is not a sprint. It is more of a marathon. So it is too early to get excited, because a lot can happen in the remaining ten months.

In the Senior Competition, for club members rated 4 Star and higher, we have improved our position from 5<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> in the Western Cape and from 30<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> overall.

In the Junior Competition, for members rated 3 Star and lower, we jumped from 8<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> to joint 4<sup>th</sup> and joint 25<sup>th</sup> respectively.

And in the competition for individual PSSA members, where we had five participants in the Western Cape top 11, three of them moved up one position, while one dropped out of the top 11 by not submitting an entry for August.

So at least we still have four in the regional top ten, and all of them are now in the overall top 20.

<b>Individuals after two months</b>				
<b>Photographer</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>W Cape</b>	<b>National</b>
Charles Naudé	Hermanus	73	1	2
Elizma Fourie	Hermanus	73	1	2
Bennie Vivier	Tygerberg	71	3	9
Crighton Klassen	Creative	70	4	10
Carina de Klerk	Hermanus	69	5	14
David Barns	Tygerberg	68	6	15
Theo Potgieter	Cape Town	68	6	15
Mariana Visser	Tafelberg	67	8	19
David Wilson	Hermanus	66	9	20
Evelyn Gibson	Cape Town	63	10	25

<b>Seniors after two months</b>			
<b>Club</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>W Cape</b>	<b>National</b>
Cape Town	74	1	6
Tygerberg	73	2	9
Tafelberg	70	3	21
Hermanus	69	4	23
Paarl	68	5	32
Fish Hoek	67	6	25
Helderberg	66	7	29
Creative	65	8	37
Witzenberg	65	9	37
Swartland	35	10	46

<b>Juniors after two months</b>			
<b>Club</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>W Cape</b>	<b>National</b>
Fish Hoek	75	1	4
Tafelberg	68	2	14
Paarl	67	3	16
Cape Town	64	4	25
Hermanus	64	4	25
C Hofmeyer	33	6	31
Tygerberg	30	7	35
Witzenberg	30	7	35
Creative	28	9	38
Swartland	35	10	45

## Forthcoming events

**Our October monthly meeting** will be in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall (Covid permitting) or on Zoom on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> at 19:00. Members may enter up to three images of their choice, and one image on the Set Subject, "Bokeh", all for evaluation. All submissions must be via Photo Vault Online, and all scores will count for promotion.

Members are encouraged to read up on the set subject on the internet to prepare themselves.

**The set subjects for the next six months** are

November – Moving waters / Bewegende water

December – Your old image revived / Gee jou ou foto nuwe lewe

February – Decisive moments / Deurslaggewende oomblikke

March – Moods / Gemoedstemmings

April – Abandoned structures / Verlate strukture

May – H is for ??? / H staan vir ???

**Club outing** to Vermont Salt Pan, Rockhopper Street, on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> at 17:30 for sunset and bird photography. Daniel Reddie and David Wilson will be the guides.

**The PSSA's National Congress** will be at Nieu-Bethesda from 26 September to 2 October. Details and how to enter can be found on the PSSA website ([pssa.co.za](http://pssa.co.za)).

**The First Friday Art Walk** from 17:00 to 20:00 has been resumed under Covid protocols. Our club print exhibition which forms part of this is at Hermanus FotoFirst. Next event 1 October.

**Art in the Park** at the Hermanus Country Market venue on the first Sunday of every month has been resumed under strict Covid rules.

**Kalfieees** – Our club will join the Hermanus Kalfieees, now planned for 24-25 September.

**Forthcoming Salons**, with closing dates (details on the PSSA website):

AFO 11 September

Lowveld National 18 September

PSSA Up and Coming 25 September

Swartland National 2 October

Paarl National 30 October

Benoni National 6 November

OTRCC National 13 November

Cross Continental Circuit 20 November

## Committee

David Wilson – President, exhibitions, media

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Phil Sturgess – Treasurer, membership

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Daniel Reddie – Audio-visual, equipment, technology

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Kobus Botes – Photovault, equipment setup, points sheets

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Carina de Klerk – Website, social media

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All of them are available to assist you with your queries.

## Newsletter

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Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.