Master of the Welsh Photographic Federation

Distinction Assessment Handbook

MWPF

1.0 Introduction

The Welsh Photographic Federation Master Distinction is to be introduced in June 2027 and represents the final milestone on the path of photographic achievement and reflects an Applicant's commitment to continual personal development and creative growth.

The Master of the Welsh Photographic Federation (MWPF) is the highest distinction in the WPF distinctions pathway. The criterion for a pass needs to be national and international photography level. The Master is designed to confirm that an applicant can:

- control their camera and advanced photographic technique,
- produce consistently competent high standard images,
- present work clearly and professionally,
- demonstrate a high level of understanding of technical photographic proficiency.
- demonstrates individuality and sustained ability in photography

The WPF Distinction Award shall be known as the Master of the Welsh Photographic Federation and will be held for life. A holder will be entitled to insert the letters MWPF after his/her name.

Although this handbook is designed to help you review and refine your photographs before submission, there is no substitute for discussing the suitability of your work with a WPF mentor, either at an MWPF Workshop Day or during one-to-one mentoring sessions.

2.0. Who can make a Master application?

Anyone, whether a member of a WPF club or not, may apply for Master assessment. No prior distinction is required.

3.0. Number of Images

The Master submission for assessment shall consists of twenty (20) print or twenty (20) digital images with each photograph is judged on its individual merit. Every image should clearly demonstrate the applicant's technical competence and artistic vision to national and international level photography.

4.0. Submissions

Applicants must submit twenty (20) prints or twenty (20) digital images for assessment.

4.1. Prints Applications

The twenty (20) images may consist of colour or monochrome or a mixture of both. Each print shall bear on its reverse side:

The applicants name and address.
Club/Society.

Also on the reverse side, each image should be given a title as follows:

MWPF_01_Image Title_Entrant's Number
MWPF_02_Image Title_Entrant's Number
MWPF_03_Image Title_Entrant's Number
And continue for all twenty images.

Each print must be numbered to show the order in which the applicant wishes it to be presented. The prints will be displayed in the order shown on the entry form. No print including mount may exceed 50 x 40 cm. **Please do not display your name on any images.**

A PDI of each image shall be enter on the Master award page on Pixaroo in the following format, jpeg landscape images no bigger than 1600 pixels wide x 1200 pixels high, Portrait images no greater than 1199 pixels wide and no greater than 1200 pixels high and for square images must be no greater than 1200 pixels wide by no greater than 1200 pixels high, Colour space must be sRGB.

Prints shall be mounted as follows: -

- Prints should be presented on a mounting board no larger than 500 mm by 400 mm.
- The use of masking tape is NOT permitted.
- A backing board is required.
- Prints can be home, or trade processed.
- Mounting of the prints can be done by a third party.

4.2. Digital Applications

Projected images will be assessed in the same way as a print submission, in the order shown on the entry form and will be viewed individually. **Please do not display your name on any images.**

The twenty (20) images may consist of colour or monochrome or a mixture of both. Each digital image should be given a title as follows:

MWPF_01_Image Title_Entrant's Number
MWPF_02_Image Title_Entrant's Number
MWPF_03_Image Title_Entrant's Number
And continue for all twenty images.

A PDI of each image shall be enter on the Master award page on Pixaroo in the following format, jpeg. landscape images no bigger than 1600 pixels wide x 1200 pixels high, Portrait images no greater than 1199 pixels wide and no greater than 1200 pixels high and for square images must be no greater than 1200 pixels wide by no greater than 1200 pixels high, Colour space must be sRGB.

4.3. Subject Matter and Categories

Master applicants may submit work from any photographic subject or genre. At Master level

images may include mixed subject matter.
Applications may also be comprised of one subject or genre; however, these applications will require a variety of photographic techniques and approaches to demonstrate an appropriate level of competence in photography.

Applications may be Print or Digital, but not a mixture of both. Images may be colour, monochrome or a mixture of both.

4.4. Editing and Manipulation at Master Level

Editing at Master level should support the image, correct technical issues and enhance the subject matter sensitively. Common causes of failure at this level would include over-processing and uneven finishing (see Tips and Advice to help your application).

4.5. Use of AI in the Awards

Images or elements of images that are exclusively generated by AI are **not** permitted. AI enabled editing techniques embedded in various software products, such as sharpening, noise reduction etc., are allowed.

- No text or speech driven AI changes are permitted.
- No imaging from computer games or animations is permitted (including single still frame from video).
- No AI changes where multiple options given are permitted.
- The use of AI tools within software is allowed: - examples are but not limited to clone tools, healing tools, etc.
- Sky swaps/movement of items from one image to another are permitted but only when both the giving and receiving images are the work oof the entrant.
- Any textures used are to have been created by the entrant.

4.6. Scoring

Each judge will score each image between 3-5pts. To be successful in the distinction the twenty images must obtain a minimum score of 270 points out of a possible 300 points. Should a submission fail by 2 points the assessors may review the submission the applicant may appeal and ask for the submission to be re-assessed.

4.7. Fees and Assessment Dates

The date of each session will be announced at least two months beforehand. Application forms and a fee of **£100.00*** (Members of clubs affiliated with the WPF) or **£120.00*** (Non-members) **per submission** must be received by the specified closing date (these costs will be reviewed annually by the WPF executive committee and Distinction Officer).

Assessment Day will be held in June each year (running the twelve months from the AGM in March to February, the following year) along with one MWPF workshop days. These days will only proceed if a minimum of five applications for the MWPF are available for assessment. ***If***

***a submission is withdrawn by the applicant, re-submissions may be made at the same fee*.** The maximum number of submissions that will be assessed on each assessment day will be decided by the Executive committee. Once this number is reached no more applications will be accepted, excess entries will be returned to the applicants for submission to the next session, along with the fee. Once the maximum number of entrants has been accepted, NO refunds will be made in the event of a withdrawal.

Images must be delivered to the Distinctions Secretary at least TWO weeks before the date of the assessment. An entry form and fee may be submitted at any time after the opening date for applications, normally September/October of the previous year.

Applicants may attend the assessment days. The public will be allowed entry subject to a limit on numbers. ***Silence will be enforced during adjudication.***

4.8. Certificates and MWPF Pin Badges

A certificate will be given to each successful applicant, signed by the WPF President and the WPF Distinction Officer along with a green MWPF pin badge The distinction MWPF will take effect once the assessors have approved it. Certificates will be given to successful applicants on the day of the assessment. If the successful candidate does not attend the assessment day, they will be posted with returned images. The holder will be allowed to insert the letters MWPF after his/her name. The award is a lifetime award and will not require an annual renewal fee.

4.9. Care of Entries

Whilst every care will be taken by the WPF to protect entry images whilst in their possession, the WPF cannot accept responsibility

4.10. Confidentiality

All assessments are conducted anonymously. An applicant's name is announced only where an application is successful.

4.11. Agreed use of Images

Submitting an entry for the distinction gives permission for the WPF to use any of the images to promote the awards. The WPF can display images on its website/Facebook page and in Flipbook format. The copyright of the images shall be still held by the photographer**.**

5.0. Contacts and Help

All queries should be sent to:

Distinctions: wpfma@thewpf.co.uk

General WPF enquiries: gensec@thewpf.co.uk

Please allow reasonable time for responses as the WPF is run by volunteers. This is particularly important close to application deadlines, so please ensure questions regarding producing a submission have been answered before you apply