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## ASA1

### Advice for Applicants for SSAPS

#### The requirements for SSAPS are as follows:

#### A.3 STATE SERVICE TO PHOTOGRAPHY (SSAPS) - YELLOW Badge

A.3.1 REQUIREMENTS: In this requirement, unless a contrary intention appears, "State" means any Australian State or Territory. This Honour is to award recognition to those who have given outstanding service to photography within their own State for a period of not less than five years. It will also recognise APS Members who have worked in the National scene, with or without State Service, but not to higher National requirements generally necessary for the ESAPS Honour.

A.3.2 MEMBERSHIP: The nominee for the Honour SSAPS must be a Member of APS or be nominated by one of the State & Territory photography club bodies that have been granted complimentary Organisation Membership of APS.

A.3.3 SPONSORSHIP: APS Members who have given the necessary service as stated above, but not necessarily within the Camera Club movement, must be sponsored by two APS Members. Each State Camera Club organisation is invited to nominate annually up to two people per State on behalf of their Members. Each nomination from the State organisation requires two sponsors.

A.3.4 PROPOSER RESPONSIBILITY: It shall be the responsibility of the proposer to supply full details of the nominee's service. It is important to supply all relevant detail as the submission is assessed only on the detail provided.

A.3.5 USE: Honour not to be used when exhibiting prints/projected images.

#### A.3.6 APPLICATION DETAIL:

Each application is different and at times it may be difficult to distinguish between cases where an application failed because insufficient details were presented or cases where the amount of service itself was insufficient. If in doubt include too much rather than too little detail. Try to group the types of service together, with dates, so that it is obvious how much effort was expended on each type of activity.

It is important to emphasise that the application will only be judged on the details included. Honours Sub-Committee (HSC) will not use their personal knowledge of an applicant to "fill in the gaps" in an application that does not contain sufficient details.

While not wishing to encourage verbosity, the application should contain details of the quality and amount of service rendered. An application should enable HSC to see that the applicant really exerted him/herself in a particular position and made a success of it rather than just filling the job with no indication of outcomes.

HSC is looking for evidence of service beyond that which any reasonably enthusiastic photographer would provide to their individual camera club. Examples could include;

- Holding a responsible and demanding job on the committee of the State body
- Extensive service on behalf of APS
- Holding a responsible and demanding job on the committee of a National or International Exhibition
- Extensive lecturing and/or judging over many years/geographic areas.

Membership of camera clubs, even where the applicant has served as an office bearer for extended periods of time, do not by themselves show the service to photography at a State level which HSC is seeking. However, a documented track record of judging and lecturing to camera clubs will make a stronger case.

The emphasis is on **outstanding service**, either in terms of a great deal of activity for at least five years, or a much longer period of valuable sustained service, again to a wider community than just one or two Camera Clubs. It always helps to give dates of service and as much detail as possible on the amount of activity during that time. For example, a listing of the exhibitions at which the applicant was a judge, rather than a general statement about judging at exhibitions for a number of years.

Exhibition successes are not relevant to a service honour, but records of judging or assisting with the organisation of exhibitions will be taken into consideration.

Letters of commendation from the State body or the relevant APS officer, expressing an opinion on the value of the applicant's service, will generally be well received. However, "padding" which adds nothing to the information presented should be avoided. It would help if the nominators/seconders gave an indication of their personal knowledge of the applicant's service and avoided the impression that the details were hearsay.

The main question to be answered is whether the service, as detailed in the application, is clearly outstanding and indicates that the applicant really exerted him/herself for the benefit of the wider photographic community for a period of time, rather than just a very intense, but short-lived "flash in the pan".

It is **essential** that the application is signed by both the proposer and the seconder, to verify all the details of the application.

Applicants should use the APS Service Nomination Form ASD1 for their submission. Send the completed application to the address published in the December edition of APS E-News preceding the closing date for submissions.

There is no application fee for APS Service Honours.