

APJA Australian
Photographic
Judges Association
Inc.

APJA NEWS

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Level 5 (Fellow) Training Seminar

POSTPONED

President's Message

The following message was emailed to registrants today regarding the:

Level 5 Fellow Seminar

In regard to the Covid-19 virus, recognition of the health risks, medical profession recommendations and where a few of the registrants meet some of the conditions for potentially being unsafe in a group situation the APJA Committee has decided to **postpone the Level 5 Fellow Seminar set for Sunday 22 March 2020 until either October or early November this year.**

The seminar is complete in all its details and it is only a matter of setting a specific date later in the year. As we monitor the effects of the virus in Victoria the actual date will be continually reviewed and notification of when it will next be held will be advised to you as early as possible. You are likely aware this is not the first time that the Level 5 seminar has been postponed, every effort has been made to conduct it next weekend but I offer my sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may cause you that it will not take place then.

When the last newsletter was being compiled late last week every intention was to hold this seminar – but owing to the rapidly changing situation surrounding the Covid-19 virus an urgent civic responsible response has been required in the past 24 hours, hence the postponement of this seminar. Further, the VAPS Secretary has provided me with the following, which has also been issued to all club secretaries.

‘With the worldwide health situation concerning the coronavirus, there is much media speculation and rumour.

It is strongly suggested that clubs and members follow the advice of the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the State and Australian Government Chief Medical Officers which may be found respectively at:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorian-public-coronavirus-disease-covid-19>

<https://www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov?fbclid=IwAR0dM-ptO15ayETZ9UbDWHqx8DvM213-HsxLNBMyc9xBVfbA-FLOKtgnY9A>

In terms of upcoming VAPS' activities, we advise as follows:

- Given the age cohort of camera club members, activities or events where people are in close proximity to others for more than a few minutes should be avoided
- There will be no Interclub meeting on 29th March 2020
- There will be no Print Interclub given the risk in multiple handling of the photographic prints
- EDI judging for the Interclub will occur remotely
- The voting on the VAPS Rules of Association changes proposed will be conducted by email
- Meritorious/Service awards and Year Bar applications, which are online on the VAPS website, are due on 29th March. They are to be submitted electronically.

A decision on the planned VAPS Convention in June will be advised shortly'.

Given the magnitude of the response yesterday and today by Australian Health officials, State and Commonwealth Governments the APJA committee will keep its members informed about its ongoing activities and whether any further alterations need to be undertaken. In the interim, the training program review will continue as will the completion of module documentation.

As you are no doubt conscious of the broader community response to this virus please keep in mind that the APJA has the best interests of its members in mind especially in regard to our health at the present time.

Q: Why is flying an F-16 better than flying an F-22?

A: It's one stop faster!

Paul Robinson
Paul Robinson
President