

APJA Australian  
Photographic  
Judges Association  
Inc.

# APJA NEWS

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Following is an advisory note about the Covid-19 Virus and the APJA response. There are some points you could consider here and it also refers to further advice that will be issued soon.

*Paul Robinson*  
Paul Robinson  
President

The committee is making the following recommendations to all its members.

1. Going forward it is suggested you reconsider attending any photography club or other similar activity/function in person as a judge or as a presenter owing to the Health, State and Federal Law guidelines currently being issued about social distancing and unnecessary travel.
2. This will not only effect club competitions but also those involved in State, National and International competitions. Advice has been received from some of these organisations that they are making alternative judging arrangements.
3. While the decision about your attendance at any photography function is entirely yours, where current bookings are in effect you could reflect upon not attending and kindly offer your apologies. Offer the club written or other appropriate method of commentary, i.e. Audacity program or the like.
4. For booked judging over the next six months you are encouraged to only deal with Projected images. There is no concrete evidence about the virus life on cardboard surfaces but WHO says its life is up to a few days. Gloved hands do not help. The problem is you touching the prints and then inadvertently touching your face. Then the virus is closer to getting into your respiratory system. Wash your hands far more often than you would normally do. A study made by the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, UNSW Medicine, UNSW, 2015, found people touched their faces about 23 times per hour and a study in Cincinnati, USA found it can be up to 50 times per hour – mostly without knowing they were doing it.
5. The government guidelines regarding mobility will become more severe so clubs that booked an APJA judge for a specific set subject will more than likely either have a very limited number of entries in that set subject (based on members using their old file images) or the club may only conduct an open competition.
6. If clubs do not pursue prints, they may change their rules about how many images can be submitted per person as EDIs, which if made on an image for image replacement basis may not result in an increase in the overall number of entries received for written commentary but nevertheless, may be onerous. Should this be the case then be aware of the time involved in writing commentaries which will be different to making reference notes or key points if you use notes when judging. A maximum reasonable number of entries per monthly competition, as a rule of thumb, is about 100 entries anything going much beyond this could be negotiable regarding timelines.
7. The APJA committee will issue an advisory this week about options to speed up or smooth out the methods available to go about making commentaries.
8. The APJA committee will re-schedule its 2020 program and advise members as soon as possible. Therefore, not only has the Level 5 Fellow seminar been postponed but so is the Level 1 Intro Seminar and the Image Evaluation Workshops. There is also a strong possibility the APJA AGM for 19 July will need to be postponed but this will be reviewed closer to the date.

Should you or any club have any queries about the above then please contact Paul Robinson by email: [pr.artpics@gmail.com](mailto:pr.artpics@gmail.com).