

STAMPA

The Irish National Stamp Exhibition

10th - 12th September 2026

Competition Regulations

Please note that entry forms must be returned by **Friday 14th August**, accompanied by the full fee and a copy of the introductory page. Exhibits sent by post/courier must be received by Tuesday 8th September. Entries delivered in person must be brought to the Conference Centre at Griffith College between 2pm and 4pm on Wednesday 9th September. Exhibits can be taken down from 3pm on Saturday 12th September.

There are no Customs formalities for exhibits from within the European Union or Northern Ireland. Exhibitors from outside the EU (including GB) must clear Customs. The Exhibits Secretary can recommend a broker, if required.

The trophies and medals will be presented at the Stampa Awards Dinner (*Wynn's Hotel, Lr Abbey Street, Dublin 1*) on Friday 11th September. Reservations and payment to Stampa, PO Box 12624, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, Ireland (tickets €58.50 each) by Friday 4th September.

We would recommend that exhibitors view the Stampa website, www.stampa.ie, for links to the FIP general regulations, the FIP rules for the Picture PostcardClass and the FIP guidelines for the Modern Class.

Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, Maximaphily, Postal Stationery, Revenue and Aerophilately

Regulations

1. The minimum number of frames per entry is **three**; the maximum is **five**. Note that only five-frame entries can qualify for international exhibitions.
2. Every class, except Novice, is open to all collectors. All exhibits must have an introductory page, a copy of which must accompany the entry form.
3. Competitors may exhibit in more than one class, but only one entry can be submitted in any class.
4. Each frame holds sixteen sheets. *The recommended sheet size is A4 or multiples thereof. Pages exceeding this can be accommodated but will overlap.*
5. The exhibit may comprise postage or revenue, handstruck or adhesive stamps of any country, theme or period, or any material directly related to philately or postal history.
6. Exhibitors may display their collection under a pseudonym.
7. All items exhibited must be the property of the exhibitor and indications of value should not appear in the exhibit.
8. The entry fee per frame (*minimum three frames*) is €25.
9. **All pages must be in suitable exhibition protectors** and be mounted on a **minimum of 120gr paper**; otherwise, the exhibit cannot be mounted and will be withdrawn.
10. Exhibitors must arrange their own insurance. The Council will take all reasonable care of exhibits left in its charge but disclaims any responsibility for loss or damage howsoever caused.
11. In accordance with GDPR rules, in completing and returning the enclosed form, you agree that Stampa retains your name, address and contact details electronically. Please note that we do not retain debit/credit card details in electronic format. Further details of our policy are on www.stampa.ie.

Open Philately

Regulations

1. Regulations 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 from the main competition will apply.
2. Exhibits must contain at least 50% of philatelic material.
3. They may contain up to 50% of non-philatelic material, which must be original and capable of being mounted in standard exhibition frames (max. 5mm deep).

Modern Philately (since 1984)

This class was introduced to encourage collectors of modern philatelic material to exhibit at the highest level. Entering an exhibit in the Modern Philately category does not preclude participation in other classes.

Regulations

1. Regulations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 from the main competition will apply.
2. Exhibits can be entered under (a) Traditional Philately, (b) Postal History or (c) Postal Stationery.
3. Exhibits must contain philatelic material issued by postal authorities, primarily since 1984. There will be some latitude in the dates of the material shown. Material issued before 1984 can be included providing that the majority of the items shown have been issued since 1984.
4. Exhibits will be judged according to the respective FIP marking system for the above-mentioned three classes. The allocation of points will recognise that modern philatelic material is worthy of study and, in many instances, is difficult to acquire, treat and present, while the short passage of time since the issue of the material may not provide an accurate indication of importance or rarity.

One Frame

One-frame exhibits should be based on **narrow themes**, which, due to their limited subject or available material, are best **developed in only one frame**. One-frame exhibits may be in any of the following categories – Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, Open Philately, Postal Stationery, Revenue, Aerophilately or Picture Postcards. The category must be indicated on the entry form.

Regulations

1. Regulations 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 & 11 from the main competition will apply.
2. Exhibits must not exceed the capacity of one frame (16 pages).
3. The entry should narrate the complete story of the chosen subject.
4. The marking will be on the same basis as the corresponding main category class.
5. The entry fee is €35. Exhibitors may enter more than one category.

Picture Postcards

Regulations

1. Rules 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 from the main competition will apply.
2. In addition, see www.stampa.ie for further regulations..

The Novice Competition

It is recommended that those eligible (Irish residents only) who are entering Stampa for

the first time start with this competition. Entries will be judged on presentation, originality, research, general interest and condition and not on the value or rarity of the material.

Regulations

1. Rules 5, 6, 7, 9,10 & 11 from the main competition will apply.
2. The competition is open to all collectors resident in Ireland who have not won an award at national level and are not entering the main competitions.
3. Only one exhibit will be accepted per entrant.
4. The entry must have an introductory page.
5. The entry should consist of 16 A4 sheets or multiples thereof (one frame).
6. Certificates will be given to all entrants, with the Gwyn Bennett Trophy and a Stampa medal being awarded to the overall winner. -
7. The entry fee is €25.

Youth class

It is best to arrange the exhibit in a logical order, or chronologically if the display is related to a timeline or a historical event.

The exhibit should have a **title sheet** as the first page, with an introduction setting out the plan and a brief outline of the purpose of the exhibit. This must be included with the entry form.

Trophies and medals will be awarded and all entries will be given a certificate.

Regulations

1. The entry fee is €30.
2. Rules 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, and 11 from the main competition will apply.
3. In addition, see www.stampa.ie for the FIP Youth Class regulations.

Literature

1. This class includes all published material concerning postage stamps and postal history, or any specialised fields thereof, provided that the entry is published and printed / compiled in Ireland, **or**, if not published and printed / compiled in Ireland, that it is concerned mainly with Irish philately or postal history.
2. Handbooks, catalogues, periodicals, and articles may be entered. They may also be submitted on CD/DVD/USB stick.
3. Dates of publication must be no earlier than five years prior to the year of the exhibition. Periodicals should be submitted by complete volume or year.
4. Literature may only be entered by the author, compiler, editor or publisher. Medals will be awarded on the same basis as the other classes.
5. The entry fee is €35. **Two copies** of each entry (including CDs/DVDs) must be submitted by **Monday 10th August**, together with the entry form, to allow time for judging. These will not be returned.
6. Regulation 11 of the main competition also applies.

Medals and Trophies

The following medals may be awarded, based on compliance with FIP rules. A Vermeil, Large Vermeil, Gold or Large Gold medal qualifies an exhibit for international philatelic exhibitions.

Large Gold	90+	Large Silver	70 - 74
Gold	85 - 89	Silver	65 - 69
Large Vermeil	80 - 84	Silver-Bronze	60 - 64
Vermeil	75 - 79	Bronze	55 - 59

Note that, for exhibitors with multiple entries, only one medal for each points category will be awarded.

The following **trophies** will be awarded, subject to a sufficient standard being attained:

- **David Feldman Trophy:** Best multi-frame exhibit
- **Jonathan Harvey Memorial Shield:** Runner-up in best multi-frame exhibit
- **Whyte's Trophy:** Traditional Philately, excluding Ireland - multi-frame.
- **Brian Warren Trophy:** Traditional Philately, Ireland - multi-frame
- **Hibernian Trophy:** Outstanding Exhibit of Overprints
- **FE Dixon Shield:** Postal History - multi-frame
- **Charles O'Neill Memorial Trophy:** Thematic Philately - multi-frame
- **William Kane Trophy:** Aerophilately - multi-frame
- **Michael Giffney Salver:** Open Philately - multi-frame
- **JE Foley Memorial Award (Éire Philatelic Association Medal):** Best Irish exhibit – any class except Literature
- **Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland Trophy:** Best One Frame
- **Cork Philatelic Society Trophy:** Picture Postcards - multi-frame
- **Gwyn Bennett Trophy:** Novice competition

Remember to complete an entry form and to include your payment and a copy of your introductory page. A synopsis (no more than 2 A4 pages) is also encouraged but is not mandatory. A marking/comment sheet will be provided to each exhibitor, either at the show or shortly thereafter.