



INFORMATION and RULES for ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition

14th to 17th February 2018, Business Design Centre
52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH



Introduction

This Exhibition is organised by Stamp World Exhibitions (SWE), a company limited by guarantee, on behalf of The Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS).

It is a National Exhibition, open to all exhibitors in the United Kingdom. It is also open to exhibitors from other countries affiliated to the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) and the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA). However, no facilities are available for national Commissioners.

This document provides information and rules for those wishing to enter an exhibit.

Exhibits will be accepted in all Classes recognized by the FIP as well as in the Cinderella, Picture Post Card and Ephemera Classes. Exhibits may be entered competitively or non-competitively.

All arrangements for the delivery and return of exhibits are the sole responsibility of the exhibitor and at the cost of the exhibitor both for shipping to and from the exhibition. This includes making arrangements for customs clearance and any attendant customs duties and costs.

Timetable

Deadline for receipt of entry forms	8 th December 2017
Deadline for receipt of postal entries	6 th February 2018
Hand in & self-mount (personally delivered entries)	13 th February 2018
ABPS Seminar: Postal History (Class 2c Studies)*	17 th February 2018 at 11:00
Awards Ceremony	17 th February 2018 at 12:00
Jury Feedback	17 th February 2018 at 13.15
Exhibitor takedown	17 th February 2018 around 15:30 ø

*The ABPS seminar will be presented by Chris King RDP, FRPSL. It is free of charge and open to all.

ø Approximate time. Please do not make firm arrangements, such as rail departures, based on it.

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Any enquiries or clarifications sought about the contents of this document should be addressed to: ABPS Spring Stampex 2018, c/o SWE, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, or to exhibiting@abps.org.uk.

A: CLASSES AND FRAMES

FIP Classes	
Traditional Philately	
Postal History	
Aerophilately	
Postal Stationery	
Revenue Philately	
Thematic Philately	
Open Philately (Note 1)	
Literature	Handbooks
	Catalogues
	Periodicals
	Articles (Note 2)
	Digital Media
Non-FIP Classes	
Cinderella Class	
Picture Postcard Class	
Ephemera Class (Experimental)	
Non-Competitive Class	

1. Social Philately entries are no longer accepted: Exhibitors who have previously shown in this class are encouraged to enter in Open Philately.
2. When submitting a Literature Article please state the publication in which the article first appeared.

Number of Frames: An entry may be comprised of the following number of frames each consisting of 16 standard display sheets (See B10 below):

One frame entries (Note 3)	1 frame	i.e. 16 sheets
First time entries, or exhibits that have been awarded less than 75 points at previous exhibitions.	2, 3, 4 or 5 frames	i.e. 32, 48, 64 or 80 sheets
All other exhibits	5 frames.	i.e. 80 sheets.
Option for exhibits awarded 80 points and (at least) a large vermeil medal at a previous national exhibition only . (Note 4)	8 frames	i.e. 128 sheets.

3. One Frame exhibits will be accepted in all Classes, including non-FIP Classes.
4. Please note that it is at the exhibitor's discretion to move from five to eight frames. An exhibit which has previously been exhibited in eight frames may not be shown again in five.

B: GENERAL NOTES

1. Eligibility

SWE follows the guidance of Article 12 of the current FIP GREX in determining the eligibility of applications. These can be found under the Regulations tab at <http://www.f-i-p.ch>.

2. Organiser's Discretion

Stamp World Exhibitions, as the Organiser of the ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition, reserves the right to determine whether an entry should be accepted, judged, or displayed in this exhibition, without having to give a reason for any decisions.

3. First Time Competitive Entries

A first-time competitive entry is an exhibit (not an exhibitor) that has not been accepted at a UK National competition or at any other National or FIP-recognised International Exhibition during the ten years preceding the date of this exhibition.

4. Ownership and Residence

All non-literature exhibits must be the *bona fide* property of, and entered by, just one person, a married couple or civil partnership.

5. Overseas Entrants

Exhibits may be accepted from exhibitors in countries affiliated to the FIP or FEPA.

6. Language

It is recommended that exhibits are written up in English. Exhibits are accepted in French, German and Spanish but the first (introductory) page must be written in English.

7. Entry Fees

The entry fees are £25 per frame for both competitive and non-competitive entries. Payments must be made in sterling and are non-refundable. They can be made:

- in cash,
- by cheque, payable to 'Stamp World Exhibitions',
- by BACS credit transfer to Sort Code 56-00-23, Account 46989773 in the name of 'Stamp World Exhibitions'. For international payments, the IBAN number is GB70NWBK56002346989773 and the BIC is NWBKGB2L.
- by Paypal using the address payments@abps.org.uk.

8. Judging

All accepted competitive exhibits will be judged and the results posted on the frames during the exhibition. The main awards presentation will also take place on 17th February 2018 at the Awards Ceremony following the seminar. The judges will be available to give feedback to exhibitors between 13.15 and 15.00 on 17th February 2018 at the exhibition. Exhibitors who want to receive feedback should reserve an appointment with the jurors in advance. Appointments can be booked at the Business Design Centre from Tuesday 13th February 2018.

9. Introductory Page

Every competitive exhibit must have an Introductory Page as the first sheet. **The object of this page is to state the aim of the exhibit and set out a plan showing how the exhibit will be structured. It should not simply be a contents list.**

Exhibitors are **required** to provide a photocopy or scan of their introductory page, or a draft, with their entry forms. Thematic and Open Philately entry forms should be accompanied by a copy of the plan sheet, which may be a provisional plan.

Literature exhibitors should provide a scan of the front cover and a separate single A4 document with marketing details so that these can be mounted in a frame.

A synopsis is not a requirement for Stampex entries, but if provided must not exceed a single page of A4. Longer synopses may not be circulated to the jury.

10. Paper and protectors

To protect your material, paper at 120 gsm should be used and pages must be enclosed in transparent protectors. Sheets must also be numbered consecutively, preferably in the front bottom right hand corner. Please do not use thin paper in thin protectors as sheets made up of these materials tend to fall out of the frames when being mounted. Sheets without protectors will not be exhibited or judged.

11. Page Size

The exhibition display frames measure 120 cm in height by 100 cm in width and pages are usually mounted in four rows of four. Typical page widths are A4 and A3, but other combinations may be used. For example, frames may be made up of 12 sheets of 1½ times a “standard” size, i.e. four rows of three pages.

Pages of 30 cm in height (including the protector) will fit into four rows. Other height sizes must be notified to the Organisers at the time of application for entry. The maximum permissible page size for all exhibitors is A2 (420mm width x 594mm height). Where pages exceed 30 cm in height and/or typical width they will be placed in the frames at the risk and responsibility of the exhibitor. Please consider any problems with mounting and viewing when using other page sizes. FIP recommended sizes are shown at www.f-i-p.ch.

The depth of the items mounted on a page must not exceed 5mm.

12. Photocopies and Reproductions

Where a photocopy or other reproduction is shown in an exhibit, it must be reduced or enlarged by at least 25%. Where a copy of part of a cover or stamp is shown at the actual size, it must be clearly labelled as a copy.

Exhibits composed entirely of photocopies or scans are not permitted, and will not be accepted, except in the case of non-competitive entries.

13. Exhibits at Owners'/Exhibitors' Risk

All reasonable steps will be taken by the Organisers to protect the property of the exhibitors, but the safety of all such property, whether within the exhibition premises or otherwise, is at all times the responsibility of the exhibitor who shall keep the Organisers fully indemnified against any claim

whatsoever, which may be made in respect of any loss or damage, however caused, to such property.

The Organisers, whilst not taking responsibility for any errors or misplaced item in the display, will make every effort to avoid such occurrences.

Exhibitors are advised to send their entries by UK Special Delivery/Registered Post or to deliver and collect by hand. Exhibitors are also recommended to ensure that their material is fully insured for the total period it is out of their hands, i.e. from the date of despatch to the date of return which, in the case of entries returned by post, should be taken as two weeks following the close of the exhibition.

14. Liability and Insurance

All exhibitors are required to sign the Liability and Insurance form, and return it with the Entry form.

15. Application Forms

The Application Form for all exhibits is at the back of these notes. It should be completed and sent to ABPS Spring Stampex 2018, c/o SWE, RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place, London, W1G 6JY to arrive by 8 December 2017.

The forms should be accompanied by:

- Copy of the Introductory Page,
- Signed Liability and Insurance form (also at the back of these notes),
- Advice on payment method, including a cheque if that is the preferred option.

Queries should be addressed to exhibiting@abps.org.uk.

All entrants whose applications are accepted will receive notification with future instructions and specific dates/times for handing in and receiving back entries. If possible, please ensure you provide an email address for this purpose on the application form.

The entry title and brief description of the exhibit will be published in the exhibition catalogue.

16. Receipt and Despatch Arrangements

Delivery in Person Exhibits brought in person should be brought to the Business Design Centre on 13th February. Exhibitors should report first to the binroom who will check the exhibit in for mounting and issue a receipt. Once mounted the exhibit will not be accessible prior to the close of the exhibition, which is expected to be around 15:30 on 17th February 2018.

Any exhibit which has not been received by the closing date for receipt of exhibits will not be accepted subsequently. A receipt will be issued for all exhibits.

For hand-back exhibitors should report again to the binroom. **Please note:**

1. When collecting an exhibit, it will not be returned unless the receipt is produced.
2. Access to the exhibit will only be allowed to the exhibitor or a person having his/her written authority and the receipt.

The Organisers take no responsibility for any folders or containers in which an exhibit is delivered.

Delivery by Other Means Where an exhibitor cannot deliver or collect their exhibit personally, suitable arrangements must be made by the exhibitor to deliver / collect it, and paid for in advance. Please notify these arrangements to the Secretary at exhibiting@abps.org.uk.

Exhibits being sent by post are to be mailed to ABPS Spring Stampex 2018, c/o SWE, RPSL, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, for delivery by 6 February 2018, marked **ABPS Exhibition**.

A Traceable delivery service will be used to return exhibits within the UK. A £45 charge is payable, in advance with frame fees, on all exhibits to be returned by the Organisers by post within the UK. Where possible exhibits, certificates and awards not collected at the Awards Ceremony will be despatched during the week following the close of the exhibition, provided postage has been prepaid.

Exhibits from outside the UK may be returned by mail or courier but only where prior arrangements have been made with the Organisers, with all costs being met by the exhibitor including both UK and home customs, and paid in advance.

Any special instructions regarding exhibit returns will be charged for. The Organisers will not be liable for any such costs or consequential loss.

We are unable to accept or hand back exhibits on an “ad hoc” basis outside the arrangements outlined.

17. Certificates and Awards

Certificates and awards will be presented at the Awards Ceremony on 17 February 2018, prior to collection of the exhibit.

C: RULES: Judging, Awards and Marking for Competitive Exhibits

The Jury

The Jury, whose decisions are final, will consist of nationally accredited Judges. Should they decide that an exhibit has been wrongly classified, they have the discretion to transfer it to another Class if that is more appropriate. The Jury’s comments will be passed to entrants. No correspondence on the judging will be entered into. Awards will be made subject to the minimum marks being achieved.

Any attempt to influence Jury decisions by an exhibitor or other persons will result in removal of the exhibit(s) concerned from the exhibition.

Awards

Minimum points required:

Large Gold Medal	90
Gold Medal	85
Large Vermeil Medal	80
Vermeil Medal	75
Large Silver Medal	70

Silver Medal	65
Silver Bronze Medal	60
Bronze Medal	55
Certificate of Participation	Below 55

One frame exhibits will be marked on the same basis as multi-frame exhibits in their class.

Marking

All classes unless otherwise indicated below

Treatment and Importance	Treatment	20	
	Importance	10	30
Knowledge and Research	Knowledge	20	
	Research and Personal Study	15	35
Condition and Rarity	Condition	10	
	Rarity	20	30
Presentation			5
Total			100

Thematic Philately

Treatment	Title and Plan	15	
	Development	15	
	Innovation	5	35
Knowledge, study and research	Thematic	15	
	Philatelic	15	30
Condition and Rarity	Condition	10	
	Rarity	20	30
Presentation			5
Total			100

Open Philately

Treatment and Importance	Title and Plan	10	
	Philatelic Treatment	5	
	Non-philatelic Treatment	5	
	Philatelic Importance	5	
	Non-philatelic Importance	5	30
Knowledge and Research	Philatelic Knowledge and Research	20	
	Non-philatelic Knowledge and Research	15	35
Material	Condition	10	
	Rarity	20	30
Presentation			5

Total			100
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Literature Class

Treatment of contents	40
Originality, significance and depth of research	40
Technical matters	15
Presentation	5
Total	100

Non-FIP Classes

Cinderella Class

Treatment and Importance	Treatment	20	
	Importance	10	30
Knowledge, Study and Research	Knowledge	20	
	Research and Personal Study	15	35
Condition and Rarity	Condition	10	
	Rarity	20	30
Presentation			5
Total			100

Picture Postcard and Ephemera Classes

Idea, plan and treatment of the topic	Idea and Plan	10	
	Treatment	20	30
Knowledge and Research			35
Condition and Rarity	Condition	10	
	Rarity	20	30
Presentation			5
Total			100

Further information on various aspects of competitive philately is provided on the ABPS, FIP and FEPA websites:

ABPS: <http://abps.org.uk/Exhibiting/Seminars/index.xalter>

Fédération Internationale de Philatélie: <http://www.f-i-p.ch>

Federation of European Philatelic Associations: <http://fepanews.com>

D: EXHIBIT CLASSES

Qualification for FIP and Continental Federation Exhibitions

To be eligible for five frames at FIP, FEPA or most Continental Federation competitions it is necessary to achieve 75 points and a vermeil medal at a UK National competition in a recognised FIP Class. These are shown below.

Only Exhibits that have received 85 points at a previous FIP or Continental Federation competition qualify for eight frames at such events.

British exhibitions follow the guidance of the FIP in determining and judging exhibit classes and the brief notes below should be read in conjunction with the individual regulations for each class (SREVS) which can be found on the FIP website and on the individual FIP Commission websites.

One Frame Exhibits

One frame exhibits can be from any of the other established classes and will be judged according to the criteria applicable to the class concerned. Exhibitors should note that "One Frame" exhibits need to give an introductory page and the treatment should be as complete as possible in relation to the subject chosen. Thus, the choice of subject is crucial and simply extracting one frame of material from a multiple frame exhibit is unlikely to produce an optimal result.

Recognised FIP Classes:

Traditional Class

Traditional philately can embrace all aspects of philately. It is based on the collecting of postage stamps and related items, including items related to the production of postage stamps. It also includes Telegraph, Railway and Local stamps.

Postal History Class

This class includes studies of the development of postal services, including the evolution of rates and routes, postal markings and marcophily. It is not normally advisable to include unused adhesives or unused postal stationery.

Exhibits in the sub-class 2C, being Historical, Social and Special Studies exhibits, which include material developed by commerce and society for use in the postal system, may include non-philatelic material where relevant to the subject of the exhibit. The non-philatelic material should be incorporated into the exhibit in a balanced and appropriate manner in such a way that it does not overwhelm the philatelic material. Non-philatelic items must relate directly to the Postal History material.

Aerophilately Class

This class is based on studies of the development and operation of airmail services and the material prepared for these services, both official and unofficial. It can also include exhibits of airmail stamps and their usage.

Postal Stationery Class

This class is for exhibits of Postal Stationery. Exhibits can include proofs, essays and formula items where appropriate. Exhibits entirely comprising items without printed designations of face value or service are likely to be transferred to another class.

Revenue Philately

A Revenue exhibit comprises embossed, imprinted or adhesive tax, fee or credit stamps issued by or under the aegis of a Government Authority.

Thematic Philately

This class is for entries based on a theme or a subject which is developed to a logical plan by the use of the widest range of appropriate stamps and other philatelic material. Revenue stamps may be included where no other philatelic material will convey the intended message. However, such material should be used sparingly.

Open Philately

This class gives an exhibitor complete freedom to present an exhibit on any subject using up to 50% of non-philatelic items. The non-philatelic material must not be thicker than 5 mm so as to be able to fit into standard exhibition frames.

Literature Class

This class contains a number of sections:

Handbooks Includes specialised works and studies that are not more than five years old at the date of the exhibition.

Catalogues Should have been published in the last three years, and may not be entered at less than five yearly intervals, unless a major revision of the contents has been made.

Periodicals Published by individual philatelists, Philatelic Societies or other organisations with a philatelic connection. Any exhibit in this section must have been published in the last three years, cover a period of at least one year and cannot be entered more frequently than once in three years.

Articles Published by individual philatelists, Philatelic Societies or other organisations with a philatelic connection within the three years preceding the closing date for exhibits.

Digital Media Includes CD, DVD, Web and other digital formats.

All entries in the Literature Class must have been published in English.

Handbooks and articles which have previously won an award at a UK exhibition will not be eligible for entry.

Two copies of all exhibits in the Literature Class must be submitted. Please note the requirement for at least a full year to have passed for a periodical to be submitted. Unless specifically requested, they will not be returned to the exhibitor and one copy will be donated to the library of The Royal Philatelic Society London and the other to that of the National Philatelic Society.

Literature exhibitors are asked to provide a scan of the front cover and a separate single A4 document with marketing details so that these can be mounted in a frame.

Non FIP Classes

If a class is not recognised by the FIP, it may still be recognised by other National Associations in Europe, the USA and elsewhere, and the rules for such exhibitions should be read carefully.

Picture Postcard Class The class is now offered at exhibitions in many parts of the world including the USA and there are FEPA regulations for the exhibiting of Picture Postcards which cover all of its affiliated federations in Europe, including Turkey, Israel and Egypt. The FEPA regulations are at <http://fepanews.com/news/picture%20postcard%20regulations>

Cinderella Class

Cinderellas include local stamps, telegraph stamps, railway stamps, revenues/fiscals, forgeries, bogus and phantom issues. Christmas, Red Cross, TB and other charity seals, registration labels, advertisement and exhibition labels etc. However, things such as trade, cigarette and telephone cards (unless the image of a stamp is incorporated in the design), matchbox or cheese labels, aerial propaganda leaflets, and other forms of ephemera are not considered as Cinderella items for this purpose.

Ephemera Class (EXPERIMENTAL)

There will be an experimental ephemera-only class at Spring Stampex accepting entries of one to five frames that can be competitive or non-competitive. Ephemera has been defined as 'the minor transient, printed or handwritten documents of everyday life that were generally expected to be discarded'. For the purpose of this experiment it can cover almost any printed or handwritten material that is of suitable size and thin enough to be exhibited in the frames. An essential requirement is that it is presented in two dimensions so, for instance, cigarette and food packets would have to be opened out or collapsed flat. Photographs can be included.

Competitive exhibits of ephemera will be judged according to the same marking system as the Picture Postcard class, but on their merits as exhibits of ephemera. They should be arranged in a way that tells a coherent story with a logical progression based on, for example, typology, chronology, social content, printing methods or commonality - a range of materials with a common theme or picture. No more than 15% of the content should be philatelic material eligible for other exhibition classes such as Traditional, Postal History, Postal Stationery or stamped revenue documents.

All other rules for the Ephemera Class will be the same as for the other classes (as set out above).

NOTE: While Stamp World Exhibitions, the Organisers of ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition, endeavour to ensure accuracy of the information they publish, accuracy cannot be guaranteed, and the Organisers will accept no liability for any use of or reliance on information contained within this document. Decisions of the Jury or its Chairman are final and conclusive, and there is no requirement to give reasons for any decision made. All references in this document to Stamp World Exhibitions, the Organisers of ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition, include its directors, employees, sub-contractors and volunteers.

Application Form ABPS Spring Stampex 2018

National Exhibition Please complete clearly in black ink and capital letters.

Organised by Stamp World Exhibitions, a company limited by guarantee

Correspondence Address: ABPS Spring Stampex 2018, c/o SWE, 41 Devonshire Place London W1G 6JY

Please tick if this is: A Competitive Exhibit:
 For Display Only:
 A First-Time Exhibit:

Please tick Delivery Method/Return Method as appropriate.

Delivery Method: By Hand <input type="checkbox"/>		By Mail <input type="checkbox"/>		Return Method: By Hand <input type="checkbox"/>		By Mail <input type="checkbox"/>	
1. Title		2. Surname		3. Forenames			
4. E-mail Address				5. Telephone No			
6. Address				7. Postcode			
				8. Country			
9. Title of Exhibit <small>Email to exhibiting@abps.org.uk</small>				10. Exhibition Class			
11. Short description of exhibit (50 words maximum) <small>Email to exhibiting@abps.org.uk</small>				12. No of frames requested			
				13. Sheet Size if oversized			
14. If the exhibit is submitted on behalf of a society, or more than one author, or exhibitor, what name is to be used in the catalogue and on the certificate?				15. Literature: Date of issue			
				16. Value of Exhibit: £			

17. Past awards received by this exhibit at National & International Exhibitions								
Exhibition Name & Year	LG	G	LV	V	LS	S	SB	B
18. The undersigned (Exhibitor) hereby agrees to accept the rules and regulations relating to ABPS Autumn Stampex 2017, and confirms that the exhibit is owned by him/her.								
Signature						Date		

Signing this form gives your assent to all of the rules and guidelines set out for the documentation to the exhibition, and to the data provided, and subsequent associated data, being stored in an electronic database, including security copies. Analysis of that data will be used for this exhibition and may be used to contact you in the future. Data will not be made available to third parties, except in connection with this exhibition, will not be used for commercial purposes, and will be retained only by SWE and its agents.

**Liability & Insurance Form for ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition,
organised by Stamp World Exhibitions,
a company limited by guarantee**

14th to 17th February 2018, Business Design Centre
52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH

Please complete, sign and return one form for each exhibit or entry.

Please write your name in capital letters: _____

Liability and Insurance

1. I accept that the material is submitted entirely at my own risk and undertake to make my own arrangements with regard to the insurance of the entry whilst it is out of my possession. (This must include transit risks, temporary housing of the exhibit, its use for judging purposes and its display at the exhibition.) I confirm that all material in this entry is my bona fide property and that all information given is correct.
2. I accept that Stamp World Exhibitions, the Organisers of ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition shall not be liable whether in contract, in tort, under any statute or otherwise for damage to or loss of my exhibit and for any loss consequential thereto including but not limited to loss of profit and loss of opportunity. Nothing in this declaration shall exclude or limit liability in respect of fraud or any statements made fraudulently.
3. I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain suitable insurance for the entire period that my exhibit will be held by Stamp World Exhibitions, the Organisers of ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition.
4. I note that it is a condition of acceptance of my exhibit that my insurer waives all rights of subrogation against Stamp World Exhibitions, the Organisers of ABPS Spring Stampex 2018 National Exhibition.
5. I agree that the limitations on liability contained herein are reasonable in all circumstances at the date hereof and that Stamp World Exhibitions, the Organisers, may assign any or all of their rights and/ or obligations under this document.

Signed:		Date:	
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Remittance payable to **Stamp World Exhibitions** including return postage (if applicable) is enclosed.

			Total
Frame Fee	No of Frames	@ £25 per frame	
Literature	No of entries	@ £25 per entry	
Return of Exhibit to a UK address with certificate and Award		@ £45 per entry	
Literature entries where there are multiple authors. Add an extra £10 for each additional medal		@ £10 per medal	
TOTAL:			£

Please tick to confirm you have enclosed your:

Application Form Insurance Form Front Page Remittance

All entries must be with the Organisers in accordance with the dates provided.