

The 24th NATIONAL AUDIO VISUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th November 2026



RULES and CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

This AV Competition is known as the “National Audio Visual Championship” (NAVC) and is organised by the Royal Photographic Society (RPS) Audio Visual Group Committee. The NAVC is open to all British Isles based Audio Visual and Multi-media producers. (The British Isles includes England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, The Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and extends to dependencies such as Gibraltar, etc.)

There is no requirement for any entrant to be a member of the RPS.

The competition is for digitally produced Audio Visual (AV) productions (which may include appropriate use of video, 3rd party e.g. archival and AI generated material), shown on a single screen and with an accompanying sound track.

*From 2026, the NAVC includes a section for new and emerging AV producers, known as the NAVC **New Talent** section. Eligibility to enter this section is defined as 'AV workers who have not won an award in a National or International salon/competition/festival'. This section will be judged separately with the top six **New Talent** entries going forward to be included as entrants in the main NAVC event. The top placed **New Talent** Entry in the main NAVC event will receive the Pollock Medal. Visit: <https://rps.org/groups/audio-visual/george-pollock-awards/> for further details.*

2. SUBJECTS

The choice of subjects is open, with no special categories for entries (although there are awards for particular genres and aspects of production). The organisers reserve the right to refuse to accept any entry which they consider, in their absolute discretion, to be undesirable or unsuitable for the Championship. The entrant will be notified of this and the entry fee returned.

3. DURATION

The duration of any entry must **not** exceed 12 minutes.

4. AUTHORSHIP

The production must be the original work of the Author and any declared co-authors.

5. ELIGIBILITY

An entrant may *not* be credited to more than two entries, either as the author or as a co-author. Entries already accepted at a previous National AV Championship will not be eligible. The author must be alive at the time of entry. For questions on eligibility for both the **New Talent** section and the main NAVC, please contact the organisers at rpsavgroup@gmail.com

6. COPYRIGHT & RESPONSIBILITY

In accordance with the established music and image copyright regulations, entries presented at the Championship should be free of all third-party rights of ownership unless licensed or permission given. By entering the Championship, applicants will indemnify the organisers against any action which may be taken against them by copyright owners. The organisers will accept no responsibility in the case of dispute or litigation.

7. USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

The use of AI generated images is permitted, in moderation, but the images used should be produced under the direction and control of the AV producer.

Authors are, however, free to manipulate images in any way they wish. The organisers will accept the use of algorithmic processing in-camera or in post-processing software which supports digital photography e.g. for noise reduction, sharpening etc.

The use of AI generated voice-overs is permitted as this is considered the same as using any 3rd party voice. Whilst authors may use AI techniques to assist in writing their scripts, the final version of the script should be the sole work of the author(s).

Whatever the source of the images, music and sound effects the overall production should be the sole work of the author(s) without the use of any AI production aids. The organisers will trust in the integrity and honesty of all those who submit their work for this competition.

8. JUDGING

The jury will consist of three persons well known in the AV field. The Championship Jury and their partners are not permitted to enter the Championship. The Championship Jury is not empowered to question decisions of the organisers. In all other respects the Championship Jury shall proceed as it sees fit and its decisions shall be final.

*The NAVC **New Talent** section will be judged in advance of the headline NAVC event. Depending upon the number of entries, this may take place on a day prior to the NAVC, or the first morning of NAVC. **New Talent** entrants will receive feedback on their entries. In this section of the NAVC, the top six **New Talent** entrants will be awarded 1st, 2nd, 3rd place with one Highly Commended and two Commended. The top six will be entered into the main NAVC.*

9. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

A digital projector with at least HD (1920 x 1080 pixel) resolution will be available. Entries created at a lower or higher resolution will be accepted, but please ensure that they are set up to run at full screen. A computer (Windows 11 platform) and sound system will be provided. The entrant must send their AV entries via WeTransfer (or a similar file transfer system) containing their AV file(s) in MP4 format which can be projected from a Windows 11 PC, using the latest VLC media player. All entries will be copied to a hard drive for projection at the Championship.

10. PRE-JUDGING

Every effort will be made to show all the entries entered, in one of the projection sessions scheduled for Saturday and Sunday. However, if the running time of the entries exceeds the available time of the Championship, the committee reserves the right to pre-judge entries to be shown. Entrants who enter two AVs are asked to indicate their first and second choices. The basis of pre-judging will be to accept the first-choice entry for every entrant, and make any pre-judging from the second-choice sequences. The pre-judging decision will be made by the Championship Jury. The organisers will not enter into dialogue with authors, nor give advice or reason for not showing any entry at the Championships, other than to advise of their decision. Entry fees will not be returned. The pre-judging decision is final and binding.

11. AWARDS, MEDALS, PRIZES and CERTIFICATES (TO BE CONFIRMED)

The following awards will be made:

NAVC Awards

- 1st - Gold Medal
- 2nd - Silver Medal
- 3rd - Bronze Model

RPS Specialist Interest Group (SIG) Awards (The SIGs will decide what they want to award)

- Landscape Group Award
- Documentary Group Award
- Nature Group Award
- Travel Group Award
- Audio Visual Group Music, poetry & song Award (includes Photo Harmony)

Highly Commended – 3 awarded RPS Ribbons

Commended – 3 awarded – RPS Ribbons

There will be three IAC medals awarded:

- Gold Medal for Best screenplay
- Silver Medal for Best use of Video in an AV
- Bronze Medal for Best Sound

The Pollock Medal for best entry in the NAVC *New Talent* section

RPS AV Group Medal for winner of Audience Vote

12. ENTRY FORMS & FEES

The Entry Fee is £16.00 for one entry and £24.00 for two entries. For the NAVC New Talent Award, the entry fee is £10.00 per entry. Entries submitted without an entry form or fee will not be accepted. Entries (together with an electronic copy of the relevant entry form) should be sent using WeTransfer/SMASH (or similar) to rpsavgroup@gmail.com

In the file transfer system 'Message' box please include the entrant's name and the name of the sequence(s). Payment can be made by bank transfer, PayPal or Credit/Debit card. Specific arrangements are detailed on the entry form.

12. CLOSING DATE

The window for entry opens on the Monday 28 September 2026. All entries, entry forms and fees must reach the organisers by **11.59 pm on Sunday 25 October 2026**. All entrants will be sent an email acknowledging safe receipt of their entry. If they do not receive a response within 7 days, they should contact the organisers at rpsavgroup@gmail.com

13. RETENTION POLICY

Unless notified otherwise by the entrant, all entries will be stored on the RPS AV Group digital archive. The organisers reserve the right to show the winning entries at other events.

14. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Except where provided in these rules the decision of the organisers shall be final and binding. Submission of an entry implies that the author has read and accepts the foregoing in all respects.

Alastair Taylor
Chairman NAVC
May 2026