

Technical Description

# Photography (Outdoor/ Studio)

Skill 10



|                                            |           |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>1 Skill Overview .....</b>              | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>2 Task Assignment Overview .....</b>    | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>3 Materials and Equipment .....</b>     | <b>6</b>  |
| <b>4 Skill-Specific Requirements .....</b> | <b>10</b> |
| <b>5 Assessment Framework .....</b>        | <b>12</b> |

# 1 Skill Overview

## 1.1 Skill Name and Category

Photography (Outdoor / Studio), Media

## 1.2 Number of Competitors

This is an individual Skill Competition with one competitor.

## 1.3 Competition Time

The total competition time is 6 hours and is divided into the following modules:

- Module A: Outdoor Photography – 1 hour 30 minutes
- Module B: Studio Photography / Still life / Product image – 2 hours
- Module C: Post-production – 2 hours 30 minutes

## 1.4 Description of the Skill

Photography (Outdoor / Studio) challenges competitors to capture compelling images in both natural and controlled environments, based on a given theme.

Using digital cameras and professional image editing software, competitors must demonstrate technical proficiency, artistic vision and adaptability. In outdoor settings, they must work with ambient or available light and surroundings to compose impactful photographs. In studio environment, competitors are expected to manage lighting, backgrounds, and subject placement to achieve high-quality results.

Creativity, attention to detail and decisive moments together with mastery of post-processing techniques are essential to produce visually striking images.

## 2 Task Assignment Overview

### 2.1 Task Assignment Description and Familiarisation Session

The Task Assignment is the main competition task used to assess the competitors' skills. It defines what the competitors must complete during the competition and forms the basis for all assessments. The final result is evaluated only on the finished work produced during the official competition time.

A familiarisation session is organised on C-1. During this session, competitors may enter the workshop, see the workspace, check the available tools and materials, and ask questions about procedures or practical arrangements. Competitors are not allowed to practise, start, or rehearse any part of the Task Assignment during this session.

### 2.2 Task Assignment Structure

The competition consists of three modules, arranged in three stages. The schedule for each stage is provided at the competition.

#### **Module A: Outdoor Photography**

Competition time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Competitors take a specified number of photographs following an imposed theme. The task is to produce a reportage of a given subject. Photography takes place in the competition building or outdoor environment.

#### **Module B: Studio Photography / Still life / Product image**

Competition time: 2 hours

Competitors work in a studio environment using the provided artificial lighting. Competitors must compose and stage a still life image using the given materials and objects. They may use all or some of the materials provided, but a minimum of three (3) of the given objects must be used.

Competitors must compose a product photograph that may be either an abstract or figurative still life. In both cases, light is fundamental.

#### **Module C: Post-production**

Competition time: 2 hours 30 minutes

Competitors must select one (1) studio photograph and three (3) outdoor photographs for post-production. They must complete post-production on the selected photographs using Adobe products.

The final images may be either colour or black-and-white photographs. Competitors must be able to resize images to the required format and dimensions. Upon request, competitors must provide the Judges with the original RAW files for evaluation.

Where competitors are divided into multiple groups, each group completes an equivalent Task Assignment of equal difficulty.

Competitors must use the same memory stick when photographing Modules A and B. The memory stick must be handed to the Judges between Modules A and B and again after Module B. It will be returned to the competitor for Module C.

## 2.3 Task Assignment Technical Requirements

Competitors must demonstrate competent use of photographic tools and techniques, including the following:

### Camera Use and Image Capture

- Effective use of a digital camera to compose and frame images purposefully
- Accurate adjustment of camera settings (aperture, shutter speed, ISO, and focus) to achieve correct exposure and sharpness
- Ability to work confidently in varied lighting conditions
- Appropriate lens choice for the subject and situation
- Staging, composing, and lighting studio photographs
- Production of reportage or documentary-style photographs in changing locations

### Lighting Skills

- Creative and appropriate use of available natural or ambient light, artificial light, and mixed lighting
- Use of artificial lighting for studio photography, including positioning and light modification
- Creative and intentional use of light to support the subject, mood, and visual narrative

### Post-Production and Image Processing

- Use of Adobe Photoshop, Camera Raw and/or Lightroom
- Adjustment of exposure, contrast, and colour balance to enhance clarity, mood, and visual impact
- Refinement of tonal range and/or conversion of images to black and white
- Removal of minor distractions, correction of perspective and lens distortions, and enhancement of detail while maintaining a natural appearance
- Resizing and formatting images according to the competition's technical requirements

## 3 Materials and Equipment

### 3.1 Materials and Equipment Provided by the Competition Organiser

The Organiser provides the materials, tools, and equipment listed below.

**Images are for reference only.** They do not indicate a specific brand or model unless otherwise stated in the specifications. Quantities are per competitor unless otherwise stated.

Items will be available at the competitor's workstation or in the designated competition area, as appropriate. Where exact brands, models, or task-specific material details are not specified, these may be confirmed before the competition or defined in the Task Assignment, as appropriate.

| No. | Equipment / Material                   | Picture                                                                             | Specifications                                                          | Quantity |
|-----|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 01  | Computer workstation                   |   | PC with screen, keyboard and mouse, or laptop with mouse.<br>OS Windows | 1        |
| 02  | Software                               |                                                                                     | Adobe Lightroom, Photoshop and Camera Raw in English                    | 1        |
| 03  | USB flash drive or external hard drive |  |                                                                         | 1        |
| 04  | Computer workstation table             |  | For computer workstation                                                | 1        |
| 05  | Chair                                  |  | For computer workstation                                                | 1        |

| No. | Equipment / Material            | Picture                                                                             | Specifications                                         | Quantity                       |
|-----|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 06  | Double-sided tape               |    |                                                        | 1 per skill area (studio)      |
| 07  | Background paper with support   |    | White; 1.35 m × 11 m                                   | 1 per skill area (studio)      |
| 08  | Photography table               |                                                                                     | For studio photography                                 | 1 per skill area (studio)      |
| 09  | LED light sources with tripods  |   | Or similar                                             | 1–2 per skill area (studio)    |
| 10  | Light modifiers                 |  | Softbox, reflectors, umbrella, grid, snoot, or similar | As required in Task Assignment |
| 11  | Light stands and reflector arms |  |                                                        | 1 per skill area (studio)      |
| 12  | Scissors                        |  |                                                        | 1 set per skill area (studio)  |
| 13  | Studio accessory set            |                                                                                     | Nylon wire, iron wire, Blu Tack,                       | 1 set per skill area (studio)  |

| No. | Equipment / Material                | Picture                                                                           | Specifications                                 | Quantity                      |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|     |                                     |                                                                                   | sticky tape, or similar                        |                               |
| 14  | Extension cords                     |                                                                                   | For connecting lights and computers            |                               |
| 15  | Clamps                              |  |                                                | 2-4 per skill area (studio)   |
| 16  | Trash can                           |                                                                                   |                                                | 1                             |
| 17  | Rack, shelf, small table or similar |                                                                                   | For keeping the products in studio photography | 1 set per skill area (studio) |
| 18  | Clock                               |                                                                                   |                                                | 1 per skill area              |

### 3.2 Materials and Equipment Supplied by Competitors

Competitors may bring only the materials, tools, and equipment listed below. Personal tools and equipment must fit within a toolbox or tool case suitable for checked luggage, with a maximum total weight of 23 kg, including the toolbox or case. This requirement does not apply to clothing, footwear, personal protective equipment (PPE), or equipment required due to the competitor's condition or special needs and agreed in advance with the Organiser.

**Images are for reference only.** They do not indicate a specific brand or model unless the specifications state otherwise. Quantities are per competitor unless otherwise stated.

| No. | Equipment / Material | Picture                                                                             | Specifications                                                                                       | Quantity |
|-----|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 01  | USB Keyboard         |  | Competitor's choice of language and regional settings. Keyboards with internal memory is prohibited. | 1        |
| 02  | Camera               |  | Digital SLR or mirrorless camera; minimum resolution: 24 megapixels                                  | 1        |

| No. | Equipment / Material           | Picture                                                                             | Specifications                                                                                       | Quantity  |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 03  | Lenses                         |    | Competitor's choice; macro lens permitted                                                            | 1 or more |
| 04  | Tripod                         |    | Competitor's choice                                                                                  | 1         |
| 05  | Flash light                    |    | Competitor's choice (for outdoor photography)                                                        | 1         |
| 06  | Memory card                    |   | Compatible with the competitor's camera                                                              | 1-2       |
| 07  | Memory card reader             |                                                                                     | USB connection                                                                                       | 1         |
| 08  | Battery charger                |  | Compatible with 230 V power supply; competitor must provide an appropriate power adaptor if required | 1         |
| 09  | Batteries for camera and flash |                                                                                     | Compatible with the competitor's camera and flash                                                    | 1 or more |
| 10  | Light control flag with stand  |  | For controlling the studio light                                                                     | 1-2       |

### 3.3 Prohibited Materials and Equipment

Competitors may use only the materials, tools, and equipment listed in Sections 3.1 and 3.2, unless otherwise authorised by the Skill Manager or Chief Judge. This restriction does not apply to clothing, footwear, or personal protective equipment (PPE) required in Section 4.1, or to equipment required due to the competitor's condition or special needs and agreed in advance with the Organiser.

All other materials, tools, and equipment are not permitted.

## 4 Skill-Specific Requirements

### 4.1 Skill-Specific Requirements

The Skill-Specific Requirements below apply to this Skill Competition and must be followed in addition to the Abilympics Competition Rules. The Skill Manager or Chief Judge may provide additional instructions, as needed, to ensure the competition is conducted safely and fairly.

| Topic                                                | Skill-Specific Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Materials and tools provided by the Organiser</b> | <p>Competitors must check all materials, tools, and equipment before the competition begins. If any item is missing, damaged, or defective, competitors must immediately inform the Judges. No replacements will be provided once competition time has commenced, unless authorised by the Judges.</p> <p>If equipment provided by the Organiser fails and the failure is confirmed not to have been caused by the competitor, the Chief Judge may grant additional time.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Use of personal tools</b>                         | <p>Competitors may bring and use only the personal tools and equipment listed in Section 3.2. No other personal tools or equipment are permitted.</p> <p>This restriction does not apply to equipment required due to the competitor's condition or special needs and agreed in advance with the Organiser.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Personal protective equipment (PPE)</b>           | PPE is not required for this skill.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Clothing / Uniform</b>                            | <p>There is no mandatory uniform. Competitors should wear comfortable clothing suitable for photography work and be prepared for rain and cold weather if the outdoor photography module is conducted outdoors.</p> <p>Clothing must not display large commercial logos or promotional branding. Small, non-distracting brand marks are permitted.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Sideline coaching</b>                             | <p>Competitors must remain at their workstations or within the designated competition area unless otherwise authorised by the Judges. During Module A: Outdoor Photography, competitors may leave their workstations and move within the area designated for the module.</p> <p>Communication with other competitors or members of the public is not permitted unless required as part of the Task Assignment.</p> <p>Communication with Judges, Interpreters, personal assistants, and other authorised persons is permitted where required. The role of a personal assistant must be agreed in advance with the Organiser based on the competitor's condition or special needs.</p> |

| Topic                    | Skill-Specific Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Use of technology</b> | <p>Competitors may not use personal laptops, tablets, mobile phones, smartwatches, or other personal communication or electronic devices during competition time. Competitors must store such devices away and may access them only during the lunch break or at the end of the competition day.</p> <p>This restriction does not apply to devices required due to the competitor's condition or special needs and agreed in advance with the Organiser.</p> <p>Judges and Interpreters may use devices required for their official duties only as agreed by the Skill Manager and the Chief Judge. The Skill Manager and the Chief Judge may use devices required for competition management and will specify any additional restrictions or permitted device use within the competition area.</p> <p>Only software and digital resources provided by the Organiser may be used. Internet access, cloud services, and personal external files are prohibited.</p> <p>AI-based assistance is prohibited unless explicitly permitted in the Task Assignment.</p> |

## 5 Assessment Framework

### 5.1 Assessment Principles

All Abilympics Skill Competitions are marked out of 100 points.

Points are divided between criteria that reflect the required skills and expected outcomes.

Two methods of assessment are used:

- **Measurement:** objective, factual scoring (e.g., size, accuracy).
- **Judgement:** expert evaluation of quality, technique, and artistic choices.

### 5.2 Assessment Areas

Detailed marking criteria and scoring are provided in the Task Assignment.

Assessment focuses on the following key areas:

| Assessment Area                                           | Points     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Module A: Outdoor Photography                             | 35         |
| Module B: Studio Photography / Still Life / Product Image | 35         |
| Module C: Post-Production                                 | 30         |
| <b>Total</b>                                              | <b>100</b> |