



## **AMPS AWARDS RULES: EXCELLENCE IN SOUND FOR A FACTUAL FILM**

### **1) FACTUAL FILM ELIGIBILITY:**

- a) Any Factual Production or Feature Documentary released and exhibited theatrically or broadcast on terrestrial television or any streaming platform in the UK between 1st January and 31st December in a given year will be eligible for the year's AMPS Factual Film Award. A Factual production shall be defined as a non-scripted or non-fiction Documentary, or a single episode from a Factual series/season. It may contain reenacted sequences.
- b) A single Episode must be specifically identified. This is to be made clear in all awards correspondence.
- c) No film may be entered in to more than one AMPS Awards Category.
- d) The Award shall be in the form of up to four identical trophies for the Factual Film or episode, with appropriate inscription on the base.

### **2) ELIGIBLE LIST:**

- a) Throughout a given year, all fully paid-up members are entitled and encouraged to submit multiple titles for entry into the eligible list. These may include Factual films and episodes from a Factual series/season they have worked on as well as titles they have viewed and consider worthy of submission for the Factual Film Award.
- b) Members may only submit one episode of a series or season. In the event of more than one episode of a series/season being submitted by an individual member, only the first submission received by AMPS will be accepted.
- c) The closing date for submissions will be published annually in the Awards timetable.
- d) Any submissions received after the closing date will not be eligible.
- e) The Factual Film Awards Group will compile and verify the Eligible List from the submitted titles. This list will be passed to the Adjudication Panel in accordance with the Awards Timetable.

### **3) PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS:**

- a) Persons deemed the Heads of Department (HODs) or Supervisors responsible for the following aspects of the Factual Film Soundtrack. Contributing crew for any archive material used in the eligible film will NOT be included.
  - i. A recognised professional Production Sound Mixer or Sound Recordist who was responsible for the acquisition of the original sound.



- ii. A Sound Editor who has prepared the sound elements for the final soundtrack mix.
  - iii. A Dubbing Mixer or Re-Recording Mixer.
- b) Where two or more persons in any of the above roles were engaged for the same length of contract, have made equal contributions, or are equally credited, both may be nominated.

#### **4) AWARDS BALLOTS AND TIMETABLE:**

- a) AMPS Council will annually agree a secret electronic ballot system for all Awards voting.
- b) AMPS Council will annually agree an Awards timetable to fit in with other Awards announcements and AMPS events.

#### **5) AMPS AWARDS GROUP:**

- a) AMPS Council will annually appoint an Awards Group to oversee the organisation of all the Awards categories and their associated events for the upcoming year, and to support the Adjudication Panel wherever necessary. The Awards Group may be made up of members of Council, volunteers from the Association's wider membership, and representatives from areas such as social media and PR.
- b) Within the Awards Group there will be sub-groups responsible for each individual awards category.
- c) Should any member of the Awards Group or sub-group find themselves nominated for an AMPS Award, they must immediately declare a potential conflict of interest.

#### **6) AWARDS ADJUDICATION PANEL:**

- a) AMPS Council will annually appoint an Adjudication Panel consisting of no fewer than three AMPS Full members, including Retired and Fellow Members, on the condition that:
  - i. They are not eligible for an AMPS Awards in the current year
  - ii. They have made no artistic or creative contribution to the soundtracks of any of the eligible Films in the current year.
  - iii. They are not associated in any way with any individual or company that has made an artistic or creative contribution to any of the films on the eligible list for the current year.
- b) This panel will conduct the ballots and associated business in strict confidence using the chosen electronic ballot system, and in accordance with the Awards timetable.
- c) The panel will also be responsible for
  - i. As soon as the Nomination ballot is closed – verification of the eligible Nominees credited.



- ii. The adjudication Panel will consult the Award Group on any occasion where advice or clarification is required. The Adjudication Panel's decision will be final.
- iii. As soon as the Final ballot is closed – verification of the crew members eligible for Certificates of Merit.
- d) The Adjudicators will inform the Awards Group of the results once the ballots are closed.

#### **7) NOTES ON VERIFYING PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR AWARD:**

On-screen credits are used to determine eligibility. In the event of a dispute or appeal about eligibility the Adjudication Panel may consult the Factual Film's Producer, Director or other source in confidence for clarification.

- a) Evidence of eligibility for sound nominations in other major sound awards may be taken into consideration.
- b) In the event of the Supervising Sound Editor not being identified in the credits, advice from the Dubbing Mixer / Re-Recording Mixer may be sought to confirm the Sound Editor who made the biggest contribution to the soundtrack of the film.
- c) In the event of the Dubbing Mixer / Re-Recording Mixer also being credited as the Supervising Sound Editor, they will be consulted to confirm which if any of the Sound Editors made the most important contribution to the soundtrack of the film.

#### **8) NOMINATION BALLOT:**

- a) On the date specified in the Awards timetable, a secret electronic ballot will open among all those AMPS members entitled to vote according to the general Constitution Rules current at the time ("Voting Membership") to decide the Nominations, with Voting Members having up to 5 votes each.
- b) The five Factual Film titles that achieve the most votes under the ballot rules will be declared Nominated.
- c) The Awards Group will verify the eligibility of the nominees for the nominated Factual Films in strict confidence – consulting the Adjudication Panel or others if required as per rule 7: a-c.
- d) Nominated Factual Films will be announced in accordance with the Award timetable.
- e) All nominees except those who go on to win the final round of voting will receive a nomination certificate.



#### **9) BALLOT FOR AWARDS:**

- a) An electronic secret ballot will be conducted among the Voting Membership to choose the winner from the five nominated Factual Films. Members will have one vote each in this round. The Factual Film title with the most votes will be declared the winner.
- b) In the event of a tie, the Factual Film that receive the most votes in the nomination ballot will be declared the winner.
- c) The winning Factual Film will be announced on the date specified in the Awards timetable.

#### **10) CERTIFICATES OF MERIT:**

Certificates of Merit may be presented to crew members of the winning team who have creativity contributed to the winning soundtrack. The Award winners will be asked to suggest such crew members with a brief submission outlining their contributions and to provide relevant context details. The suggested list of crew members will be verified but the Awards Group and/or Adjudication Panel. The certificates may be in a form such as:

*“Certificate of Merit in recognition of your contribution to the AMPS Awards 20xx winning soundtrack” – title ‘....’.*

#### **11) PRESENTATIONS:**

The nominees and winners will be presented with their certificates and trophies at an AMPS event to be determined

#### **12) GENERAL:**

- a) Awards rules may be changed annually by agreement of the AMPS Awards Group, Adjudication Panel and Council.
- b) The AMPS Fellow Members may be consulted for advice in the event of any appeal or disputes.
- c) In exceptional circumstances, where more than one candidate for a particular category can be established and verified as having equal creative input, addition crew members may be honoured.
- d) Additional trophies **will not** be available to purchase for the Factual Film Awards

**Amended February 2026**