

Rules of the International Beekeeping Photography Competition as organized by the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association

We invite you to participate in the ninth international beekeeping photography competition.

PARTICIPATION

Any natural person of any nationality may participate in the competition by submitting their own photographs.

SUBJECT CATEGORIES

The competition is focused on five subject categories:

1. Honeybee and the World of Plants

Photographs of bees on flowers, plants, in front of the apiary, in flight with pollen on legs and hairs, bees collecting nectar and manna, photos of honey plants – herbs and species, spruce, linden, chestnut, willow, wild cherry, Shasta daisy, meadow sage, white clover, etc.

2. The Life, Biology and Health of Bees

Photographs from the whole lifecycle of bees and honeybee colony, of each of the member of a colony (queens, workers, drones) and their behaviour and roles, as of the whole honeybee colony as a super organism, photographs of bees showing parts of the body, bees on the honeycomb, bee nests in the wild, bees in the seasons: in the winter cluster, swarming, robbery, mating, exchange of nectar, and disease states, symptoms, etc.

3. Honeybee Products and the Work of a Beekeeper

Photographs of all bee products in the hive or in the production phase and in the processing phase or in the final packaging or in serving, consumption, apitherapy (honey, pollen, propolis, royal jelly, wax, bee venom), bee products, mixtures of bee products, honey drinks, lect and gingerbread products, beeswax products, photos of the beekeeper at work throughout the beekeeping season, with various beekeeping tools and equipment and in interactions with bees, photographs of beekeepers with a swarm of bees on their chin or in their hands, transporting bees to pasture, urban beekeeping.

4. Dwellings of Bees, Traditional or Modern Bee House / Bee Yard

Photographs of stands or hives and beehives from outside and inside, in different seasons or parts of the day, bees in front of the hive and apiary, different types of beehives, landscape with beehive, beautiful, special, and old beehives or interesting beehives, beehives with painted hive fronts, interesting hive fronts, beekeeping and bee dwellings around the world.

5. Pollinators – World Bee Day

Photographs of various pollinators, bumblebees, solitary bees, and photographs of various subspecies of honeybees: Carniolan bee, Italian bee, Macedonian bee, Sicilian bee, Greek bee, dark bee, etc.

An author may participate in one or several categories.

TECHNIQUE

Colour or black and white photographs (300 dpi or more). It is preferable that the photographs are authentic without computer retouching.

ASSESSMENT PANEL

The assessment panel will consist of together four members, from representatives of SBA and beekeepers' photographers.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The photograph authors shall be anonymized prior to assessment.

The photographs shall be assessed by the panel according to the predefined criteria:

1. Expressiveness
2. Originality
3. Technical design
4. Aesthetics

An additional criterion applies to the Dwellings of Bees, Traditional or Modern Bee House / Bee Yard subject category:

5. Orderly appearance of the bee house / beehives and the surroundings

NOMINATIONS AND WINNERS

For each subject category, the panel will nominate three authors with the best photographs. The best photographs' authors shall be awarded the gold, silver, and bronze certificate, respectively. The decision reached by the panel is final.

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

The competition winners will receive an award and the applicable certificate.

Every nominee will receive a certificate of nomination.

Honorary mention of participation will be given to some participants chosen by the panel.

IMPORTANT DATES

Photograph submission deadline is 15th of February 2026.

Nomination submission deadline is 7th of March 2026.

The award ceremony will be held at the ApiS Slovenia Europe Fair on Sunday 15th of March 2026, in Celje, Slovenia.

After the Api Slovenia Europe Fair, the winners will be announced at the SBA website as well: www.czs.si.

EXHIBITION

All photographs nominated will be expectedly displayed at the ApiS Slovenia Europe Fair in Celje, Slovenia, from 14th to 15th of March 2026.

PHOTOGRAPH SUBMISSION

Every photograph must include an ID number, title, subject category name, and the year in which it was taken. The photographs submitted for Dwellings of Bees, Traditional or Modern Bee House / Bee Yard subject category must include information on the owner of the bee house / bee yard. The photographs should be sent by e-mail to the address: "mara.golobmeserko@czs.si" or by registered mail on the data storage devices to the following address: Čebelarska zveza Slovenije, Brdo pri Lukovici 8, 1225 Lukovica, Slovenia, with a post scriptum "Photography Competition". All data storage devices received will not be returned to senders. All photographs submitted must include information on the author (first and last name, address, country, telephone number, e-mail address).

RIGHTS

By submitting photographs, the participants of the competition transfer all material copyrights to the submitted photographs, especially those that will enable the organizers of the competition, the Beekeepers' Association of Slovenia to display, exhibit and reproduce photographs, use of photographs in printed and electronic media, electronic reproduction and making available to the public on websites and other uses of photographs for the needs of the competition organizers. The organizers of the competition will respect the moral copyrights of the participants in the competition and, in the case of a public announcement or publication of photographs, will state the authors of the photographs accordingly.

CONSENT TO PERSONAL DATA PROCESSING

By participating in the competition, the author agrees that the organizers Slovenian Beekeepers' Association collects, stores, processes and uses his or her personal data for the purpose of organizing the competition, inviting to future competitions, publicly publishing photographs, and stating the authorship of photographs. The organizers undertake to process and protect the data in accordance with the Personal Data Protection Act and the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

DECLARATION

Participation in this competition implies full consensus and acceptance of these rules.

INFORMATION

For detailed information, please contact Mara Golob Meserko at mara.golobmeserko@czs.si or per mobile phone: +386 30 604 660.