

Traditional Philately

An occasional article for exhibitors in New Zealand

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This first update is a result of my imagination. Going forward, I would like to think that it is you, the readers, who can drive content. If you can make suggestions as to what you would like to debate, share views and ways of doing things, then let me know.



For the next issue I thought I might try to cover the good, bad and ugly of illustrating flaws on an exhibition page. Other suggestions I have received are how to highlight philatelic research, thoughts on the bibliography on the title page and how to treat rarity.

Outline of a good title page

Attached along with this, is a powerpoint presentation on title pages. This was first shown at the Philatelic Judges NZ meeting in Wellington last year (2024), and subsequently at the Australian National Exhibition in Canberra in 2024. If you read the notes sections to the first slide you will see that I developed the theme from a presentation first given to me by Lars Jorgensen from Belgium. I don't need to go through the content here, but most of you should find it useful.

When I am judging an exhibit, I don't personally check whether all the elements of a good title page are present. But it definitely shapes my thinking about marks for treatment. If you have covered all the aspects of a good title page in your exhibit, then it is a very good checklist for you.

My suggestion is that you have a draft title page available when you re-write your exhibit. Then when you have finished writing it all up, have you followed your plan? You probably need to then re-write the title page and you certainly need to update the page numbers in the plan. Think about the ending as well. It is not as important as the title page, but it is more important than the bulk of the exhibit. That's another discussion topic for another time.

About the author

My motivation for writing "Traditional Philately" is that I am the NZ representative to the FIP Traditional Commission. It is my duty to spread the word in New Zealand about matters relating to the exhibiting of traditional philately. I have several exhibits of Iceland in the traditional class. I have exhibited at FIP shows around the world and several times in Iceland. I am a qualified FIP Trad judge and have successfully completed the FIP Judging Academy.

Please feel free to circulate any content I send out. It is for everyone to share. But as we all know, as a rule the exhibitor knows more about the subject than the judge and that no two judges will ever completely agree!

Till next time.....

Useful references:

- FIP Traditional Commission <https://traditionalphilately.f-i-p.ch/>
- New guidelines (2018) <https://www.f-i-p.ch/wp-content/uploads/TRGuidelines-New-approved-final.pdf>