



PARTICIPANTS

The contest is open for individuals at the age of 18 or above. Any skill level is welcome. Members of the Jury and the staff of the contest are not allowed to participate. Registering to the competition automatically implies the photographer's agreement and acceptance of all competition rules as set and stated by the competition production below.

DURATION

The upload starts on 11th May 2021. All entries must have been uploaded and paid latest on 30th June 2021 at 23:59 (CET/MEZ).

GENERAL RULES

Every picture may only be submitted into one category. The pictures must have been taken underwater. Over/Under shots are always allowed. Aquarium and Pool pictures are not allowed.

Any camera type is allowed, except in category Compact Cameras "Wide Angle" and Compact Camera "Macro", where only compact cams are allowed. A compact cam is defined as fix lens camera, including mobile phones, action cams and similar devices.

ETHICAL GUIDELINES

Conservation rules are strictly to be followed. Our underwater world should never be harmed just for taking a picture. Entries that are showing following signs will be disqualified:

Photographers visibly damaging the environment (e.g. gear dragging or kicking up sand)
Animals with signs of stress (e.g. puffed puffers, inking octopus). Animals moved to an unnatural environment or risky location. Marine life being touched (e.g. coral polyps, seahorse tails). Divers exhibiting poor buoyancy control.
Entries to any category may not contain profanity, any kind of nudity, pornographic images, violent

images, anticompetition messages or any other illegal material.

The pictures must have been taken underwater while diving. Over/under shots are allowed, but aquarium or above water shots are not.

ENTRY FEE

The entry fee is calculated as follows:

10€ 1 picture

30€ 5 pictures

50€ 10 pictures

Thereafter 5€ each picture.

CATEGORIES

1) **PORTFOLIO**

Every participant is allowed to present one series of 5 pictures, which are judged as an entire set. The photographer can upload his/her best 5 pictures, but if the 5 images will have a common theme or represent a story, they will be welcome and appreciated.

2) **WIDEANGLE**

Eligible are any wide-angle shots taken with an interchangeable lens system (DSLR or Mirrorless). This category includes also split shots and CFWA shots.

3) **MACRO**

Eligible are macro and super macro shots taken with an interchangeable lens system (DSLR or Mirrorless).

4) **COMPACT CAMERAS "WIDE ANGLE"**

Any wide angle shots, taken with a compact cam (fix lens camera), are allowed. Of course, the use of wet lenses is allowed.

5) **COMPACT CAMERA "MACRO"**

Eligible are macro and super macro shots taken with a compact cam (fix lens camera). Of course, the use of wet lenses is allowed.

6) **CETACEANS AND SHARKS**

Pictures showing Sharks or Cetaceans as main subject.

7) **BLACKWATER**

Blackwater photos are taken of pelagic subjects (i.e., organisms in the water column - not on the bottom) with a characteristic black background. Most blackwater subjects are macro subjects, though some

may be larger, as long as the photo maintains a black background and the subject does not live on the bottom.

Photos from both Blackwater and Bonfire dives are both accepted in this category.

A 50% crop is allowed. Images of the most typical and common subjects of night dives will not be considered eligible for this category.

8) **CONSERVATION**

Images that depict critically endangered and vulnerable subjects, and represent genuinely and faithfully impacts on wildlife from environmental change and social inequality.

The most appreciated pictures will be those ones triggering debates, inspiring action and improving understanding of the causes.

IMAGE SPECIFICATION AND SUBMISSION RULES

Every participant can upload an unlimited amount of pictures to each category. A picture may only be submitted to one category.

No text, watermarks, frames or borders are allowed. Such signed pictures are subject of immediate disqualification without any refund of the entry fees.

All pictures must be uploaded as jpg, in sRGB, highest quality setting and with a minimum of 1800px longest side and max 5 MB. Winning pictures must be delivered with at least 3300px longest side.

POST PROCESSING

Minor adjustments are allowed. This includes global adjustments to white balance, exposure, contrast, sharpening, color and noise reduction as well as local burning or dodging.

Cleaning is permitted, including the removal of backscatter, dust and scratches. Reasonable cropping is allowed (30%).

Composing (adding, removing or moving objects) is not allowed.

HDR, Stacking, Panoramas and other techniques involving more than one picture are not allowed.

Double Exposure pictures are allowed as long as they are made on location, meaning in the camera and the output of the camera is one file.

Picture which have been placed first place in a major contest before 31st March 2021 are not eligible to enter the contest. Major contests are annual or monthly contests in which the picture has won a prize worth more than 300\$.

COPYRIGHT

The photographers retain all copyrights to their images. They certify, that the entries are their own work and they own all rights including a model/property release, if appropriate. Scubashooters retain a non-exclusive worldwide licence to publish the contest entries in any format for publication of the results (including a press release), advertising the contest or for use at any contest related event or publication. A proper photo credit is always placed.

Every participant grants that they own every applicable right on the picture, including being able to provide a property or model release.

JUDGING

The decisions of the Jury are final in all aspects of the competition and may not be challenged. In case of "look alike", the jury has the right to present the best ranked one and to eliminate the lower ranked ones to provide a broader spectrum of winning pictures. There will be no correspondence about the competition.

PRIVACY

Any payment information is kept safe and confidential.

By entering the contest you agree that the provided information about you and your picture may be passed to sponsors and media. You may be contacted by our sponsors for communication regarding the contest or promotional offers.

PRIZES

Physical prizes are shipped by standard mail. However a faster shipment can be requested on the winners cost.

LIABILITY

Scubashooters cannot be held responsible for any damages nor for the availability of the contest platform. In case of physical prize, we will take all the possible precautions in order to ship it to the winner and we will give proof of shipment. However, Scubashooters.net and Deepvisions organization take no responsibility if the shipped item goes lost or damaged by the carrier.

All import fees that local governments might apply are to be paid by the winner of the prize (official importer of the item) In case of misguided delivery for whatever reason, we will ship a second time but shipping fees will be on the winner's pockets.