

General Rules of AUF International Underwater Photography Competition

(In force as from 01/01/ 2016. Ver. 2016.01)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. These General Rules, specifically relating to Sea U/W photography, specify the procedures and obligations applicable to all AUF International Underwater Photography Competitions.
- 1.2. The competitions will take place in a single event spread over a period of 4 days, divided as follows
 - 1.2.1. One day for practice
 - 1.2.2. Two days of competition
 - 1.2.3. One day for judging
- 1.3. **Hosting Federation**
The right to organise the competition will be granted to the Hosting Federation only after receipt, by AUF, of the correctly signed contract and 750Euro for application fee.
- 1.4. **Specific Rules**
The Hosting Federation will have to send AUF the Specific Rules for the competition no later than 8 months before the starting date of the competition. These rules will have to list in detail all announcements and important information concerning the competition, as required by the General Rules and by the contract.

2. PARTICIPATION AND ENTRY

- 2.1. All member Federations affiliated to AUF can propose a team. They have to return no later than 4 months before the competition the entry form for the competition (Enclosure A) to AUF and to the organising Federation.
- 2.2. Each Federation or Association can propose maximum a team of 11 persons including photographers, assistants and one captain. The names of participants should be finalised at the latest 2 months before the competition and enclosure A should be resend to AUF and to the organising federation if some names were added or modified compare to previous sending.
- 2.3. The registration fee should pay to AUF, 100Euro per team and entry fee to organizer.
- 2.4. Personal entry forms (Enclosure B), have to be received by AUF at the latest 3 months before the date of the competition with a copy sent to the hosting Federation.
- 2.5. Photographers should be at least 16 years old at the date of the beginning of the competition. They must either have the Nationality of the Federation that register them or have been resident in that country for at least for 3 (three) years continuously.
- 2.6. All photographers and assistants must have a CMAS ** (2 star) diver certification or an equivalent certification as a minimum and must be in good health (Enclosure B).
- 2.7. The AUF Technical Delegate will check certificates and documents, the day before the competition
- 2.8. All those who do not comply with this article 2.6 will not be allowed to compete.
- 2.9. If one competitor, for unexpected circumstances, cannot participate to the competition, the National Federation or Association may replace him by sending to AUF and to the Hosting Federation (Enclosure A) duly signed by the federation president, indicating his agreement on the above change. This must be received not later than 10 days before the competition.

3. PHOTO JURY

- 3.1. **Role**
To establish the placing of best top 10 photographers of each category under control of AUF Technical Delegate.
- 3.2. **Composition**
This jury panel is composed of 5 members from 5 different countries whenever possible.
 - 3.2.1. Each participating team should propose one jury member from their country. They do not necessarily need to be belong to an AUF member federation, but they will have to be qualified and recognised in the field of underwater photography, especially with diving magazine.
 - 3.2.2. Each participating team should pay for their jury's air ticket, while organizer will pay for their accommodation.
- 3.3. **Presence**
All jury members are required as a minimum to be present from the morning of the judging day of competition until the award ceremony.
AUF Technical Delegate is authorised to control all judging procedure and to include whatever alteration in these rules.
 - 3.3.1. The jury will meet in private session and its mission will choose, by agreement or by vote, the 15 best photos in each category and then again select 10 best among 15 best. This judging will not make the

order of top 10.

- 3.3.2. From these top 10 photos, jury will make final ranking for each categories from 1 to 10 by agreement or votes.
- 3.3.3. Bronze, silver and gold medals are given out in each category.
The top ten photographs of each category will be rated according to following pointing system.
That means: Place 10/1 point, 9/2 point, 8/3 points, 7/4 points, 6/5 points, 5/6 points, 4/7 points, 3/9 points, 2/12 points, 1/ 15 points.
- 3.3.4. The organizer should supply all necessary equipments (Colour printer, 2 Beam projectors with high ANSI, 2 Large Screen, minimum 2 computers to save photo images and technical persons to help judging.

3.6 Keeping anonymity

- 3.6.1 The members of the jury are not allowed to keep contact in any way with the National Teams, until their work is done. The jury members have to sign a paper, that they accept the General and the Specific Rules.
- 3.6.2 If there are contacts, the National Team will be disqualified.

4. AUF Technical Delegate (TD)

4.1. Role

He controls all procedures of competition and judging. If there are any official complaints he has to decide the answer no later than one hour following receipt

4.2. Appointment

AUF TD is appointed by AUF president

4.3. Working procedure:

A complaint can be put forward only when

- 4.1.1 it is lodged by the team captain or by the photographer, if the team has no captain
- 4.1.2 it is written in English
- 4.1.3 it is accompanied by a deposit of 100 € (one hundred Euro) which will be returned immediately if the complaint is declared valid by the AUF TD.

4.5 Appeal

There is no appeal against the decisions taken by the AUF TD, except for new evidence.
The decision will have to be communicated in writing to the complainant.

5. MEETING WITH ORGANISATION

5.1. A meeting should be organised the evening before the practice day, this meeting should include the following participants:

- 5.1.1 The head of the Hosting Organisation Committee
- 5.1.2 Persons in charge appointed by the Hosting Federation (diving, boats, doctor,...)
- 5.1.3 AUF TD and Staff Judges (Judge for each boat)
- 5.1.4 Team captains and competitors

5.2. Purpose of the meeting

- 5.2.1. Allocate a number to each photographer in order to use throughout the competition. The draw will have to be held under the direction of the AUF TD.
- 5.2.2. To decide and inform the distribution of the teams on the boats and allocation of dive sites.
- 5.2.3. Announce all the information concerning:
 - 5.2.3.1. Technical matters
 - 5.2.3.2. Time schedules and means of transport
 - 5.2.3.3. Safety measures.
 - 5.2.3.4. The organisation of the dives and handling of the photos
 - 5.2.3.5. The photo categories to be judged
 - 5.2.3.6. Guide-lines for protocol of medal ceremony

6. ORGANISATION OF DIVING

- 6.1. Each national team will be allocated to boats equipped with all the equipment and safety material specified in the relevant laws of the host national country. Boats must remain at the dive site whilst any competitor is in the water. Boats will only be filled around $\frac{3}{4}$ of full capacity in order to accommodate the competitors comfortably.
- 6.2. Any changes on the programme should be approved by the AUF TD and displayed daily to competitors on dedicated notice board.
- 6.3. The maximum time of possible diving at each dive site is 90 minutes. At the end of the prescribed time, the team must back on the boat with safety stops completed. 2 dives should be planned per day for the 2 competition days.
- 6.4. Each photographer and assistant will be given at least 2 cylinders per competition day. The capacity (minimum 10 litres) and pressure (minimum 180 bars) will be similar for all competitors.

- 6.5. All competitors should dive in 4 diving places in turn by chosen in a draw. The Host Federation should have a plan for alternative protected diving area in case of bad weather.
- 6.6. Any competition that has begun but has been interrupted, because of unexpected circumstances, can be considered valid only under decision of AUF TD.
- 6.7. Only the AUF TD is entitled to decide the interruption of the competition.
- 6.8. To avoid any contention during the competition, the team captain (if one exists) will not dive during the two days of the competition, his function being to assist his team on the surface.
- 6.9. Photographers without an assistant will dive in pairs, but in case they don't find a buddy, the organising committee will make the choice.
- 6.10. In case of any unexpected circumstances (for example the assistant being unable to dive) confirmed by the official doctor, the captain can play the role of assistant for a photographer.

7. SPECIFIC RULE

- 7.1. This rule includes the competition programme and participation costs for photographers, assistants, captains and any possible accompanying staff (lodging, board, dives, local transports) as well as any possible extra charges (for instance additional night).
- 7.2. It defines the ambient conditions associated with this competition (e.g.: average temperature of the water, visibility, etc).
- 7.3. It details the name, address, telephone / fax and e-mail of the contact person, for any request for information.
- 7.4. It establishes the digital cards to be brought by the candidates according to the camera to be used.
- 7.5. It details the 5 categories for the individual classification:
 - 7.5.1. Fish : Fish photo only involving nice attitudes of these creatures (ex : turtles, octopus, starfish, mammal etc. are not accepted). Details of a fish are permitted if it is possible to define the fish onto its species/name and its biotope.
 - 7.5.2. Close-up photo with a theme as main subject : Macro or close-up photo of a theme. Each competition will have a subject or theme which is representative of the location of the competition. The theme/subject will change for each competition and will be defined by AUF
 - 7.5.3. Close-up photo without a theme : Macro or close-up photo of all subjects except the theme of the competition as the main subject. Details of the theme are not accepted.
 - 7.5.4. Wide angle without diver : wide angle photo without any diver showing the beauty of the natural underwater environment including fauna and flora.
 - 7.5.5. Wide angle with diver : wide angle photo including diver who may be the assistant, coloured lights and half-half pictures are allowed in this category.

8. PHOTOS

- 8.1. The competition will be done with digital cameras. The photographer can use any type of camera he likes to use. Cameras with radio interfaces like WLAN or Bluetooth are not allowed in the competition. It is permitted to use maximum two cameras under water. The memory card can be inserted into two cameras.
- 8.2. The min. resolution of the images are:
 - 3000 x 2000 pixel x at a picture size of 3:2
 - 2800 x 2100 pixel at a picture size of 4:3
 - 3100 x 1750 pixel at a picture size of 16:9
- 8.3. The images have to be saved in best quality with less compression
- 8.4. Only original images without any manipulation are allowed in the competition. All images have to be in the JPEG-File format. If the camera has the possibility to save images as a RAW + JPEG file, the participant is allowed to use the RAW-file format, if the integrated JPEG- file is a separate file and not only part of the RAW-file.
- 8.5. The photographers can use any type of memory cards, he likes to use. The hosting federation has to use card readers for every kind of possible memory cards. If it is possible to use more than a single memory card in a camera, it is allowed to use only one storage the other card slot has to be empty.
- 8.6. In the beginning of all days of the competition, the AUF TD has to control:
 - 8.6.1. The formatting of the marked memory cards in the participant's camera
 - 8.6.2. The closing of the underwater housing.
 If it is necessary to open the housing quickly (without control of a Staff Judge) in case of accident (e.g. leak in the housing) all images taken till this time are not allowed to be used in the competition. The participant has to format the memory card again under the eyes of AUF TD or a staff judge on the diving boat.
- 8.7. Every day of the competition (2 dives), the photographer has the opportunity to take total 150 images. Images after over 150 will not be considered by the jury. It is allowed to erase images during the competition time (i.e. under water). In case of using two memory cards in two different cameras, the addition of images on both memory cards is total number.
- 8.8. Submission to the competition.

In the end of the competition day, the underwater housing is to be opened under control of a AUF TD. The organizer has to copy the all images from the memory card to an external storage(e.g. computer, notebook ,external hard disc etc.) The folder of the copied images will be renamed with the number of the participant.

The photographer gets back his memory card, to search for the images he likes to submit to the competition. At the agreed time he just has to tell the image number to the organizer.

The organizing staff opens the submitted images on the computer, the photographer confirms the selection.

For ranking or voting, the jury uses only these images which they have copied after the competition day to their external storages. This makes sure, that the images will not be manipulated.

8.9 Manipulation of images

The improvement of images during the time of the shot done by the firmware of the camera (such as sharpness, contrast and saturation) are no manipulation of images.

Additional improvements of images done after the time of shot, are manipulations which will be punished with disqualification.

8.10 Additional usage of digital images

After the choice of images by the participant, all other images have to be deleted on the external storage of the Hosting Federation. Only images for the competition have to remain on this storage.

Photos, submitted to the Photo Jury will be property of AUF and will be used freely without payment but under the name of the photographer for promotion activities of the AUF.

9. DISQUALIFICATIONS

9.1 The following behaviours are absolutely forbidden during all the competition or practice and will result in

Immediate disqualification:

9.1.1 any unfair action

9.1.2 any action contrary to the rules

9.1.3 any form of deterioration or pollution of the environment

9.1.4 submitting of cards exposed by other participants.

9.1.5 submitting of cards not exposed while diving during the official competition time.

9.1.6 manipulation of images

9.1.7 using dead creatures or moving live animals

9.1.8 using photography of other photos or slides

9.1.9 using an underwater scooter or anything similar.

9.2 A person disqualified (photographer, assistant) cannot be replaced by another person.

10 SAFETY MEASURES

10.1 The entry form submitted and signed by each participant ensures that all team members have no physical impediments to diving and that they are familiar with the procedures and regulations governing scuba diving.

10.2 Competitors are responsible for their own safety during the competition events, and must observe the necessary safety standard for underwater scuba diving. Their participation in the AUF competitions is a pledge of their familiarity with safety rules and procedures. All photographers and assistants are obliged to wear a BC jacket and use a regulator with pressure gauge. All participants in addition should have an alternative air source (such as an octopus, regulator on jacket or pony bottle) and a scuba tuba or a sausage. All participants should be suitably qualified and will comply with the CMAS diving rules.

10.3 The Hosting Federation will have to guarantee necessary assistance to provide proficient management of the competition and will have to provide the necessary information on emergency aid and any competent local emergency services.

10.4 As a minimum requirement the organisers will provide a high speed emergency boat with radio telephone or walkie-talkie and oxygen supplies aboard will be available at the competition locations and will be used exclusively for this purpose.

10.5 A doctor specialised in diving will be present at the competition site.

10.6 Each competition boat will have on board a spare dive tank equipped for safety reasons. Any use of these tanks by competitors may lead to the AUF TD applying sanctions as it sees fit.

11 RESPONSIBILITIES

Photographers will be responsible for equipment they are given during the competition as well as for their personal equipment and accessories allowed in the competition.

12 PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

12.1 The competitors and/or assistant should not touch or move any creatures underwater. They have to avoid any manipulation or destruction of the fauna and flora during all the competition including the practice day.

12.2 Photographers and assistants may be controlled during the practice day and the competitions days.

12.3 In the case of destruction of the fauna or flora by a competitor and/or an assistant, where the destruction is

duly confirmed by the AUF TD the competitor and/or the assistant may be excluded.

13 PHOTO AND VIDEO REPORTERS

- 13.1 Photographing and filming photographers during the competition is only allowed with the authorisation of the organising federation.
- 13.2 Competitors may wish to refuse to be photographed or filmed have to submit enclosure C to AUF TD during the technical meeting. If the enclosure is not submitted, it will be considered that the team has no objection to being photographed or filmed at any time.

14 FINAL PLACING

- 14.1 For each competition, the AUF will establish the categories on which the judgment will be done; their maximum number will be of 5 categories.
- 14.2 An individual classification for the International Competition will be established by adding up points given by the jury obtained by each competitor in each of the five categories, with the rule of pointing system 3.5.5. Only the placing of the first 10 (ten) photographers individual in each category and in total point will be made.
- 14.3 The first three photographers in each category will be awarded the gold, silver and bronze medal. Only two photographers per country in same category will be awarded. The 3rd winner from same country will be displaced by next other country winner.
- 14.4 The photographer with the highest score (see 3.5.5) in all categories becomes the Grand Winner. There is no appeal against the decisions taken by the Photo Jury. Competitors are obliged to attend the Prize Award Ceremony. Competitors who fail to attend it will no longer be entitled to be awarded their prizes. Competitors should bring their national flag (size: 1.8x1.2m) and a cassette or CD of their national anthem for the ceremonies.
- 14.5 The Organising Federation will give each competitor a certificate of participation to the AUF Competition out of the official medal award ceremony.
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ENCLOSURE

ENTRY FORM

DECLARATION of PARTICIPATION

2016 AUF INTERNATIONAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



Federation

Federation Name		Federation President Name	
Country		Email	@

Person to contact for this competition

Name			
Address			
Fax		Email	@

In accordance with the general rules, procedures and duties concerning this competition, our federation will participate to this competition with :

	Name
Photographer	No 1
	No 2
	No 3
	No 4
	No 5
Photographer or Assistant	No 6
	No 7
	No 8
	No 9
	No 10
Captain	

* Put an X if a name is not yet known 4 month before the competition, but this entry form will have to be sent again filled at least 3 month before the competition.

AUF Fee per National Team

EUR 100

Payment of AUF fee to be made before 01 November 2016
 Asia Underwater Federation.
 Korea Exchange Bank, Olympic Village Branch
 Account Number 174-JSD-100912-7
 Swift Code : KOEXKRSE

Signed in :

Date :/...../.....

Stamp and
Signature of the Federation President



ENCLOSURE
PARTICIPATION FORM



B

To return to AUF and to the organising Federation 3 month before the competition

2016 AUF INTERNATIONAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Photographer N°

The undersigned

Name and Surname	<input type="text"/>		
Address	<input type="text"/>		
Fax	<input type="text"/>	Email	<input type="text"/> @ <input type="text"/>
Federation	<input type="text"/>		
Country	<input type="text"/>		

Certifies

1. To have been selected for this competitions by the president of my federation in accordance with enclosure A
2. To be at least 16 years old
3. To be a citizen of the country of the federation I represent or to be resident in this country for more than 3 years
4. To be certified at least CMAS ** diver (I will bring my Diver certificate with me).
5. To be in good health and to have the necessary training and experience to participate to this competition
6. To discharge the organisers and AUF of all responsibilities in case an accident occurs during the training and/or the competition
7. To strictly observe the AUF rules and specially those concerning the composition of the diving teams, the specific regulations of the competition and the decisions taken by AUF and/or the organising federation.

Signed in :

Date :/...../.....

Signature :

ENCLOSURE
PARTICIPATION FORM

B2

To return to AUF and to the organising Federation 3 month before the competition

2016 AUF INTERNATIONAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Assistant		Captain	
<i>The undersigned</i>			
Name and Surname			
Address			
Fax		Email	
Federation			

Certifies

1. *To have a diving certification. (I will bring my certificate with me if I scuba dive).*
2. *To be in good health and to have the necessary training and experience to participate to this competition*
3. *To discharge the organisers and AUF of all responsibilities in case an accident occurs during the training and/or the competition*
4. *To strictly observe the AUF rules and specially those concerning the composition of the diving teams, the specific regulations of the competition and the decisions taken by AUF and/or the organising federation.*

Signed in :

Date :/...../.....

Signature :

ENCLOSURE

DECLARATION



To give to the AUF Technical Delegate during the meeting before the training day

2016 AUF INTERNATIONAL UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Photographer

The undersigned

Name and Surname	
Federation	
Country	

This enclosure sign by the photographer is an agreement for all is team

Certifies

1. *Accept to be filmed underwater during the training or competition dives in order to check for the respect of the marine environment. These images cannot be used by media but only by the AUF Technical Delegate.*
2. *Accept to be filmed or photographed above and underwater during the training day for the media (press, television,).*

Agree to be filmed or photographed above water (ex : boats, ...) for media purpose during the days of competition

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Agree to be filmed or photographed underwater for media purpose during the days of competition. Filming arrangements must me made before each dive. The time will be limited and decided on by our team.

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Special request :

Signed in :

Date :/...../.....

Signature :

