HUPS VIDEO CONTEST RULES

Effective 08/01/2023

**I. Contest Categories**

a. Best Video Clip – A clip or sequence of clips that is no more than 1 minute in length. Contestants are limited to HUPS members who have not won the Best Short Video category. Contestants must move up to the Best Short Video category after winning this category twice.

b. Best Short Video – Film that is no more than 5 minutes in length.

**II. Eligibility Criteria**

a. Contestants must be current HUPS members in good standing.

b. Videography is a hobby of the contestant.

c. Only 1 video per contestant per contest.

d. Only MP4 formatted video files are acceptable.

e. Only files of no more than 2 GB are acceptable.

f. Submitted video must be no more than 1 minutes in length (Best Video Clip category) or no more than 5 minutes in length (Best Short Video category).

g. Submitted video should be anonymous to the HUPS membership to the extent possible. This prohibits entering films that have been seen by HUPS members in the past and prohibits promotion of a film before or during the contest. This would include but is not limited to…. Referencing, showing, or discussing the film on social media, in presentations, in emails, on a YouTube channel, in film festivals, in personal discussions, etc. Solicitation of votes in any form is also prohibited. However, total anonymity is not always possible in films. Audiences may recognize people or places that can identify the filmmaker and narration often identifies the filmmaker. Such instances are part of advanced film making and are allowed so long as they are not promotional in nature. Logos, watermarks, and film credits identifying the filmmaker are considered promotional and are not allowed.

h. Submitted video and music must meet the criteria for uploading to YouTube.

i. Submitted video must be eligible for publication by HUPS for promotional purposes.

j. Video entries must be submitted to the contest coordinator by the deadline set by the contest coordinator.

k. The contest coordinator is required to inspect and determine if the submission is in compliance with the contest rules. Time permitting, the coordinator will inform the contestant of violations and request alternatives. If submission time has expired and contestant cannot resubmit video prior to the deadline, the submitted video must be disqualified.

**III. Composition Criteria**

a. 100% of the content must be filmed, processed, and edited by the HUPS member submitting the video except for archive or reference material. Such material may be used, but the film is still subject to the 50% rule as stated in paragraph III.b.

b. Submitted video composition must be 50% original underwater video. The remaining 50% may be photos, maps, titles, animations, etc., topside, or underwater.

c. Blending of photos and video into composites o animations is acceptable, but for the purpose of satisfying paragraph III.b, such will not be considered as “original underwater video” unless all material in the composite animation is original underwater video.

d. Video processing effects such as video speed, color dissolves, blurring, panning, zooming and special effects are considered “original underwater video” (III.b) so long as the underlying material is original underwater video.

e. Content must not consist of aquarium video, unless a contest topic

specifies such. Underwater pool video is permitted.

f. Content must not consist of any portion of a previous 1st place winning contest video.

g. Content may contain portions of previous contest entries that did not place 1st but not a video entry simply resubmitted “as-is”.

h. Content depicting divers stressing marine life or the environment is not acceptable. Stressful or destructive content of a documentary nature is acceptable.

**IV. Contest Themes and Scoring**

a. Two contests per year: Spring and Fall. Exact dates to be determined by

contest coordinator and published in advance.

b. No contests have any themes at this time but may be scheduled in future if desired.

c. Both contests are strictly subject to the composition criteria as previously outlined.

d. Both contests will be voted on by the HUPS membership.

e. The eligibility of a contest entry can be contested by the contestants or the video contest coordinator.

f. “Anything Goes” Video Night is the topic for the January meeting. Videos submitted for this meeting are not subject to the composition criteria and will not be considered as part of the video contest.

**V. Suggested Voting Criteria**

a. Technical quality – sharpness, exposure, color, lighting, etc.

b. Degree of difficulty.

c. Composition.

d. Video / music syncing and appropriateness.

e. Impact, drama, and storyline.