



HUPS Photo/Video Contest Rules

By- Laws

Of

Houston Underwater Photographic Society

**Attachment 3 B – HUPS Photo Contest Rules for January
through November**

Rules are effective from 1 January 2016

Table of Contents

Attachment 3 B – HUPS Photo Contest Rules for January through November1

Contest Divisions Rules—Novice4

Contest Divisions Rules—Intermediate5

Contest Divisions Rules—Advanced6

Contest Divisions Rules - Video7

Images File Format Color Profiles & Editing that is acceptable8

 Image file formats and color profiles.....8

 Minor photo editing adjustments are acceptable.....8

 Photo editing adjustments that is not acceptable.....8

 Video file Formats.....8

Images Dimensions and File Size9

 Maximum Vertical dimension.....9

 Maximum Horizontal dimension9

 Maximum file size9

 Video length.....9

File Naming Format10

 Contest Division Codes10

 File name format10

 Examples - acceptable10

 Examples – not acceptable10

Submitting Entries11

Restrictions12

Judging.....13

 Criteria13

 Video.....13

Presentation14

Contesting the Results15

HUPS Photographer of the Year16
Use of Images/Video17

Contest Divisions Rules—Novice

Photography is a hobby.

Has never taken a best of show, 1st - 3rd in national or international photographic competitions.

Has not been a HUPS Photographer of the Year.

Has not won the 'Best of HUPS contest.

Has not advanced from the Novice to the Intermediate Category.

Contest Divisions Rules—Intermediate

Photography is a hobby.

Has never taken a best of show, 1st - 3rd in national or international photographic competitions.

Has won HUPS Photographer of the year in the Novice category.

Has not been a HUPS Photographer of the Year in the Intermediate or Advanced categories.

Has demonstrated intermediate level skills and petitioned the Photo Contest Coordinator for permission to participate in the Intermediate Category.

Has not advanced to the Advanced Category.

Contest Divisions Rules—Advanced

Photography is a hobby or profession.

Has won Photographer of the Year in the Intermediate category.

Have taken best of show or 1st-3rd in national or international photographic competitions.

Has demonstrated advanced level skills and petitioned the Photo Contest Coordinator for permission to participate in the Advanced category.

Club members who have won Photographer of the Year in the Advanced category will continue to be eligible to compete in future year has Advanced competitions.

Contest Divisions Rules - Video

Videography is a hobby or profession.

Video content can be a combination of stills, video, and music. However, the video content should at least half of the length of the total video.

The video contest is open to all active members.

Images File Format Color Profiles & Editing that is acceptable

Image file formats and color profiles

Only digital formatted images are acceptable.

JPG

JPEG

Color profile – sRGB

Minor photo editing adjustments are acceptable.

Resizing and cropping.

Adjusting global levels, curves, brightness, contrast, and color.

You can change the images color to black & white.

Backscatter removal and sharpening.

Photo editing adjustments that is not acceptable.

Content removal/additions

You cannot remove or add the little fish, sponge or other elements.

You cannot copy the subject on to another background.

Dodging or Burning is not allowed.

In general, you cannot manipulate the image other than in a global level.

If images do not meet the above criteria, or if they are not consistent with the category description, they will not be considered for judging.

Photographers who submit a photograph that is rejected may be notified and permitted to resubmit a conforming photograph (time permitting), which must be received before the contest deadline.

Video file Formats

Only digital formatted video files are acceptable.

MP4

AVI

Images Dimensions and File Size

Maximum Vertical dimension

Up to 1080 pixels

Maximum Horizontal dimension

Up to 1920 pixels

Maximum file size

1 MB

Video length

Minimum - 1 Minute

Maximum - 3 Minutes and 59 Seconds

File Naming Format

Contest Division Codes

NOV -- Novice

INT – Intermediate

ADV – Advanced

VID - Video

File name format

MonthYear + Contest code + your First initial + your Last name + Number 1, 2, or 3.

Examples - acceptable

012016_ Nov_JDoe_1.jpg

012016__JDoe_Nov_ 2.jpg

0116_ Nov_DoeJ_3.jpg

Examples – not acceptable

Image Me 1.jpg

File 66666 .jpg

Contest Sept Novice file 2 (two).jpg

Submitting Entries

You must be an active HUPS member.

Up to a maximum of three (3) entries per monthly photo contest.

Up to a maximum of three (3) entries for the video contest.

Deadline for submitting is by 11:59 pm on the Wed prior to the meeting.

Photos submitted after this deadline may be accepted by the contest Chairperson, at his or her discretion and availability.

E-mailed your entries as attachments to hupsphotocontest@gmail.com

You do not have to be present at the monthly meeting to participate.

Attach your files to the email do not embedded the images in the body of the email.

From time to time, it may be necessary, at the discretion of the Photo Contest Coordinator, to reduce the number of entries from three to two or even one per photographer in one or more of the entry categories.

Video entries will be submitted using the Club's drop box system. To gain access to the system contact the Photo Contest Coordinator using hupsphotocontest@gmail.com.

Photo Contest Coordinator will poll the membership for desired theme for the next interval.

Monthly contest themes will be posted on the website, face book, and the newsletters.

Monthly contest themes will be in 2-year intervals and posted prior to the starting year.

Example: Themes for 2018 and 2019 will be posted by Oct 2017.

Restrictions

Images must be captured underwater using a digital or film camera.

No aquarium or pool shots; unless a monthly contest topic specifies such.

Photographs/videos with divers stressing marine life will be disqualified.

Photographs/videos with divers holding, petting, stroking or poking the marine life will be disqualified.

Entries that have won 1st, 2nd, or 3rd, in previous HUPS contests, or any major competition are ineligible. The only exceptions are permitted during the Best of HUPS night at the December meeting.

Images may not display copyright or any other identifying markings (except for the December contest).

Images will be disqualified if in the opinion of the Photo Contest Coordinator and monthly judges, the images do not meet the monthly subject matter, or do not meet one of the aforementioned rules.

Judging

The Photo Contest Coordinator will create a slide show from the submitted images for each category of photographer and will make it available to judges.

All contest judging will be performed by a permanent panel of six qualified judges selected by the HUPS Photo Contest Coordinator. Each image will be anonymous to the judges. A quorum of at least three judge scores are necessary for determining the monthly scores.

The judges will independently rate the Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced entries on a scale from 1-10 and return their votes to the HUPS Photo Contest Coordinator for tabulation before the Monday meeting.

The image winning the most points in each category will win 1st place.

The second most points will be 2nd place.

The third most points will be 3rd place.

Ties will be awarded for photos having the same number of points.

Criteria

Adherence to the month's contest topic description.

Technical image quality - sharpness, exposure, and lighting.

Composition.

Impact, drama.

Degree of difficulty.

Video

All contest judging will be performed by a permanent panel of qualified judges selected by the HUPS Photo Contest Coordinator. Each video will be anonymous to the judges.

Presentation

The Photo Contest Coordinator will create a slide show from the submitted images/video for each category of photographer and will present it at the monthly meeting.

The Photo Contest Coordinator will also create a winner's image/video slide show identifying the photographer.

The slideshow will also contain any judge's comments concerning the images/video.

The monthly entries and winners will appear on the club's website as soon as possible.

Video entries will be placed on the club's YouTube page with a link provided on the club's website.

Contesting the Results

If a member wishes to question the results of a contest, they must submit their complaint in writing to the Photo Contest Coordinator or any club officer.

The complaint must include:

**Complainant's name,
Questionable image,
Nature of complaint (indicating rule broken),
Proof behind complaint.**

The Photo Contest Coordinator will review the complaint, and if they find merit, they may disqualify the image.

If a first, second, or third place winning image is disqualified, the photographer will receive no points for that image, and the image(s) with the next higher point total(s) will be declared the first, second, or third place winner.

HUPS Photographer of the Year

A Photographer of the Year is recognized in each of the Photo Contest entry categories: Novice, Intermediate, Advanced and Video

The "active" HUPS member in each category accumulating the most points from January through November will be the HUPS Photographer of the Year in that category.

To qualify for a Photographer of the Year, one must be a member in good standing and "active" in the club by participating:

Once a member has qualified, they will be grand fathered in for any subsequent year if they move away from the area and cannot attend the meetings or participate in the trips.

The Photographer of the Year award will be presented at the TGCC Banquet.

The award includes a Banquet ticket for the award recipient.

Points are calculated on each image submitted to the monthly contest.

The 1st place winners are awarded an extra 9 points.

The 2nd place winners are awarded an extra 6 points.

The 3rd place winners are awarded an extra 3 points.

The score for photographer of the year is a running total from each monthly total numbers for that person.

For Bob Smith submitted 3 photos in the Jan contest his total scores from all the judges were 16, 17 and 24.

His total for the month is 57 with an extra 9 for the 1st place winner.

His POTY total is 66

Use of Images/Video

Persons entering a contest, including those with winning digital images/video agree to allow HUPS to retain and use the images/video in the newsletter and on the web page or for other club-sponsored activities.

HUPS agrees, in return, not to abuse this privilege by marketing the image/video in any form, and will use it in promotional literature only with the advance consent of the photographer owning the image/video and with full recognition of said ownership of image/video (s).