



## 2007 – 2008 Caloosa Dive Club Photography Contest Rules

### Photo Committee Members:

Marianne Barger  
Barry Donegan  
Bob Miller  
Jeri Ritz  
Todd Welle  
Cherri Wood

Cheryl Black  
Carmela Donegan  
Janet Miller, Co-chair  
Bianca Ryder  
Walter Wilt, Co-chair  
Gary Wood

### Contest Deadlines:

June 5, 2008: Entry forms and entry fee due  
August 14, 2008: Last day to submit entries

### Entry Fees:

Initial Entry Fee: \$30.00

Additional Entry Fees: Each Sub-Category - \$2.00 per photo entry - \$5.00 per video entry

### General:

1. All club members are eligible to enter. New club members may enter within 2 weeks of joining the club, even if that date occurs *after* the entrance-deadline.
2. Contest Year: August 17, 2007 – August 14, 2008. Only entries taken during this period are eligible.
3. Maximum photo entries in each sub-category are limited to 5 per person.
4. Video entries are limited to one five-minute video per person/per category.
5. All entries must have been photographed underwater in an open-water environment, except for Club Activities which may be above-water. This means that the photographers must be underwater and excludes pools, aquariums, bathtubs, or surface photos from docks, boats or other surface areas. The entrant must have taken all entries. Photos taken of the entrant by individuals using the entrant's camera will be disqualified.
6. For Digital Entries, the longest edge of the image must be between 1152 and 864 pixels. Digital images may not be extracted as a single image from a video stream. In addition, digital entries must be submitted on a CD, with the images in JPG format. See **Appendix A** for further details.
7. Slides must be marked with a spot on the lower left-hand corner on the front (emulsion side).
8. All entries must be marked with the Category Number, entrant's name, entry number within the category, and title. See **Appendix A** for format of entry forms and file names.
9. The photo committee has the final decision on qualification of entries. No refunds will be issued for disqualified entries.

10. Entries will be submitted to either of the Photography Contest Committee Co-Chairs, Janet Miller or Walter Wilt. Entries may be submitted at any time during the contest year up until the deadline.
11. Members of the Photo Committee are available during the year or at the contest conclusion to help entrants with technical questions about submissions or entry rules.
12. Helpful hints and an example of a macro and non-macro are provided in Appendix B.

## **Judging**

### **Category Judging:**

1. All entries will be judged in two sessions. Results from each session will comprise 50% of each entry's total score.
2. One session will consist of judging by a judging committee of at least 5 members, none of whom have photos entered in the contest. The judging committee will be chosen by the Photography Contest Committee. The judging committee will determine the time and place of the judging, but must be completed prior to September 11, 2008. The judging committee will judge all entries on technical merit. All entries will be evaluated on a scale of 0 through 9 (0 being poor and 9 being excellent) for each of the following criteria:
  - A. Focus – is the subject in sharp focus? If part of the photo is out of focus, is it intentional and does it add to the overall effect of the photograph?
  - B. Framing – is the subject framed well? If the subject is cut off, is it intentional and does it add to the overall effect of the photograph? Is the subject centered or otherwise well placed for effect in the photograph?
  - C. Angle – is the angle from which the photo was taken appropriate for the subject? Faces are generally more pleasing when the photo is taken from below than from above. A profile or a head on shot is a better photo than one that catches the animal swimming away.
  - D. Clarity of subject – what is the subject? Is it obvious?
  - E. Composition – how has the space in the photograph been organized?
  - F. Lighting – is the subject well lit? Are there harsh shadows? If so, do they add or detract from the photograph's effectiveness?
  - G. Unusual Subject – is the subject common or unusual? An unusual subject is usually more appealing than a commonplace one.
  - H. Artistic Appeal – does the photographer show an artistic eye? Does the photographer notice the unusual and make the most of it? Did the photographer use creative techniques to make an interesting effect?
3. In the second session, entries for each category will be judged on a scale of 0 through 9 (0 being poor and 9 being excellent) by all club members present at the club dinner of September 11, 2008.
4. All entries except video will be shown as a multi-media presentation.
5. Entries will be presented to the general membership for judging on the following dates:  
September 11: Still Photography and Video judging

September 18: Photo or Video run-offs, if necessary

**Best in Show Judging:**

1. There will be two *Best in Show* awards, one for still photography, and one for video.
2. A committee of at least five (5) non-photo contest members will vote for the *Best in Show* for still photography and video prior to the annual banquet. The first place winning photo and video in each category will be shown to the committee and there will be only one selection per voter per ballot for the award.

**Prizes:**

- ❖ Prizes will include 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in each sub-category for which there are enough qualified entries. An entry is ineligible for a prize if it receives a technical merit score of less than 5.
- ❖ Each entrant can win only one prize per sub-category.
- ❖ Winning entries will be announced and prizes awarded at the Annual Banquet
- ❖ A *Best in Show* award will be presented to the still photo and video entry receiving the most votes as judged according to the above section "*Best in Show*".

## **Categories:**

### **Category 1: Fixed Lens – may be either print, slide or digital format**

- 1A: Florida Local
- 1B: Florida Non-Local
- 1C: Non-Florida

### **Category 2: Adjustable Lens – may be either print, slide, or digital format**

- 2A: Florida Local
- 2B: Florida Non-Local
- 2C: Non-Florida

### **Category 3: Macro – may be either print, slide, or digital format**

- 3A: Florida Local
- 3B: Florida Non-Local
- 3C: Non-Florida

### **Category 4: Video**

Video may be a mix of above-water, underwater, macro, and/or special effects. The major portion of the video must have been shot underwater. For videos containing footage that would fall into multiple categories, the video must be entered in the category of the farthest location (i.e. some video outside Florida, the video would compete in 4C Non-Florida). **All phases of the video entry must have been performed by the entrant – photography, titles, editing, etc.**

- 4A: Florida Local
- 4B: Florida Non-Local
- 4C: Non-Florida

### **Category 5: Club Sponsored Activities**

- 5A: Prints, Slides, or Digital above-water club activities
  - A Club member must appear in the entry
  - The entry must be taken at a Club sponsored activity
  - Entries in this category may not be creatively enhanced

## APPENDIX A

### Entry Form Format – All

1. An entry form must be submitted by each entrant in the photo contest. The form will be provided by the Photo Committee and is organized by category. Entries not following the correct format will be disqualified.

Sample Entry Form Format for Joe Shooter

#### Category 1A-Fixed Lens – Florida Local

1. Fluffy Orange Pillow Star
2. Stone Crab for My Dinner
3. The Pegasus
4. Goliath Grouper in Hiding
5. Hunting for Dummies

### Entry Format for all Digital Photos

1. Each digital photo must be submitted in .jpg format with a resolution between 1152 and 864 pixels. The preferred DPI is 300. Digital entries must be submitted on a CD which is labeled with the entrant's name. Email entries are will not be accepted.
2. File names must be in the following name convention (with the title matching the one submitted on the Entry Form above). Underscores are acceptable to separate words in the title but do not use special characters such as \$, #, dot (.) or anything not shown in the samples.

#### Category No.-first initial and last name-consecutive no. of photo entered-photo title

Following is an example that matches the Entry Form format shown above.

File names:

- 1A-jshooter-1-fluffy\_orange\_pillow\_star.jpg
- 1A-jshooter-2-stone\_crab\_for\_my\_dinner.jpg
- 1A-jshooter-3-the\_pegasus.jpg
- 1A-jshooter-4-goliath\_grouper\_in\_hiding.jpg
- 1A-jshooter-5-hunting\_for\_dummies.jpg

### Entry Format for all Prints and/or Slides

1. Each entry must be labeled on the back of the photo (or slide) in the correct format shown below.
2. File names must be in the following name convention (with the title matching the one submitted on your entry form).

#### Category No.-first initial and last name-consecutive no. of photo entered-photo title

Following is an example that matches the Entry Form format shown above.

File names:

1A-jshooter-1-fluffy\_orange\_pillow\_star  
1A-jshooter-2-stone\_crab\_for\_my\_dinner  
1A-jshooter-3-the\_pegasus  
1A-jshooter-4-goliath\_grouper\_in\_hiding  
1A-jshooter-5-hunting\_for\_dummies

### **Entry Format for Video**

The following are the only formats that will be accepted for Video Entries and must be submitted on a CD/DVD or Digital Video Tape. Email entries will not be accepted.

Digital Video Tape  
AVI File (.avi)  
MPEG File (.mpg)  
WMV file (.wmv)  
Quick Time file (.mov)

### **Definitions:**

Fixed Lens – a lens on which focus and/or aperture cannot be adjusted

Florida Local – within a 50-mile radius of the Sanibel Lighthouse

Florida Non-Local – outside 50-mile radius of the Sanibel Lighthouse and including Florida Keys and the Dry Tortugas

Macro – Subjects close enough so that when a standard 102x152 (4x6 inch) print is made, the image is life-size or larger.

**Macros may only be submitted in the macro category.**

Non-Florida – any place outside the state of Florida

## **APPENDIX B**

### Helpful Hints

#### **Naming Conventions**

While you can name your photos simple names such as Starfish or Fish, it adds more interest to your entry if you are a little more descriptive. By the time the audience has seen 5 entries labeled Starfish, what helps them remember that they loved your Starfish? Try some imagination (not too long of course).

Starfish ideas – Wishing on a Star, Rare Blue Striped Starfish, Indian Ocean Star Sapphire, etc.

#### **Video**

What makes a video presentation stick out in your mind - clips of different scenes in no particular order or a musical presentation with a start and ending? Take your audience on a dive starting from the surface, entering the water, discovering a subject, observing a special activity, and don't forget to bring them back up at some time. Add some simple titles to help everyone know what they are seeing.