

## CONTEST RULES

1. This contest is open to all amateur and professional photographers and videographers from Slovenia and abroad.
2. The contest includes the following photo and video categories:

|  |                   |                                    |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>SLR - Single Lens Reflex Cameras (film and digital)</b> |                   | <b>Digital Compact Cameras(CC)</b> |
| <b>Tropical Waters</b>                                     | <b>Cold Water</b> |                                    |
| Ambience (TA)  | Ambience (CA)     | <b>Video (UWV)</b>                 |
| Fish (TF)  | Fish (CF)         |                                    |
| Macro (TM)   | Macro (CM)        |                                    |
| <b>Fresh Waters (FW)</b>                                   |                   |                                    |

1. All entries taken with SLR cameras should be submitted in digital form, namely as original digital photos or as film image scans. This category includes also film amphibious non-SLR cameras (Nikonos, Motomarine).
2. The entries should be sent on a CD or DVD (Windows compatible). The photos should be submitted in a TIFF format or high-quality JPEG (Photoshop Level 12) for SLR category, or in "JPEG fine" for compact digital cameras. All photos should be submitted in the basic resolution of the camera without interpolation. The lowest resolution for digital SLR cameras should be 6 megapixels or more, 35 mm transparencies should be scanned at 4000 dpi. Compact digital cameras resolution has no downward limitations
3. The processing of digital images is limited to programs for image processing (as for example Photoshop), namely by using tools like levels, curves, colour adjustments, saturation, contrast, and may be cleaned with the clone stamp tool, but only the photo as a whole without using the masks. Work in layers, masking, compilation of many different photos and similar image manipulation is not allowed. The cropping of images is allowed to a maximum of 20 percent of the basic image.
4. The names of the files should include category codes, camera type (when using film camera use the word "dia" instead of camera type in the name) and the entrant's name. Example: AT2\_NikonD100\_john\_dream.jpg (2<sup>nd</sup> image of a tropical ambience by photographer John Dream, taken with Nikon D100).
5. "Cold Waters" category includes all sea waters in temperate zone and polar zone; "Tropical Waters" category includes all tropical and subtropical sea waters.
6. "Macro" categories allow for the images of all marine invertebrates, where the image capture of the longer side in the wild measures 15 cm downward. Fish images will be automatically disqualified. Only images of living organisms in their natural habitat will be eligible for competition.
7. "Fish" category includes marine fish images only, namely of individual animals, of a school, or as a portrait/detail. Only images of live fish, taken in their natural habitat, will be eligible for competition.
8. "Ambience" category includes the image of natural underwater marine ambience with wide-angle lens, with or without the diver. "Half-half" images are also allowed.

9. "Fresh Water" category allows for any image taken in all fresh waters (lakes, rivers, underground caves), including ambience and freshwater organisms.
10. All entries, regardless the category, should be taken under the water surface. Images taken in aquariums or pools will not be eligible. Images showing organisms in their unnatural habitat or in unnatural positions will not be eligible, either.
11. The judging panel will refuse to acknowledge any footage that previously competed in the Vodan contest.
12. **All entrants who fail to observe this rule will be penalized by disqualification of their entries from the contest.**
13. Each entrant may submit a maximum of three (3) entries in each photo category, or a maximum of six (6) photos when participating in the Digital Compacts category. Each individual image may be entered in only one category.
14. Digital Compacts category allows the entrants to send 6 images of their own choice, clearly demonstrating the broadness of entrant's perception of the underwater photography. The files should be marked with the entrant's name, the name of the entry and the serial number of the shot.
15. Underwater video footage category does not envisage individual categories or special topics.
16. The entrants should submit their video films on a Mini DV, DVCam or on DVD, regardless the technique they were shot in. Each entrant may enter with a maximum of three (3) video films. If entering with more video footage, submit them separately, each on its own video media.
17. The video should be no more than 15 minutes long (including the titles and ending). At least 50 percent of the video should be shot under the water surface.
18. All entries must be received by September 7, 2006 in order to be eligible for the competition. Send the entries to:  
**HSA Vodan, 30. divizije 15a, 5000 Nova Gorica.**
19. Entries will not be returned.
20. Photo and video entries shall be judged by a separate international selection panel. Awards for the first three positions shall be presented for each individual photography category and in video category. Grand Prix shall be awarded in common classification of SRL photographic category (please note: categories "Compact Digital Cameras" and Creation are not included in point system for the Grand Prix!). Grand Prix winning prize is a Seacam underwater camera housing or flash.
21. Two other small Prixes shall be awarded to the best photographer in tropical categories as well as to the best photographer in cold waters category.
22. Entry fee must accompany all entry forms. The amount of the entry fee depends on the number of entries participating in this competition.

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Entries in one category            | 7,5 €  |
| Entries in two categories          | 15,0 € |
| Entries in three categories        | 22,5 € |
| Entries in four or more categories | 30,0 € |

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| Video entries | 15,0 € per video |
|---------------|------------------|

23. The awards will be announced at the ceremony that will take place in Nova Gorica, Slovenia, on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Awarded authors will be informed of their awards in time. **Awarded authors that will not be able to attend the ceremony will receive their awards by mail.**

24. The Organizing Committee holds the right to reproduce and keep the entries of any picture for the archives of the contest, or for non-commercial purposes, without any further obligations to the author. However, the Organizing Committee must name the author of the picture or video.



**9<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL UNDERWATER PHOTO AND VIDEO CONTEST  
VODAN 2006**

**SLR - Single Lens Reflex Cameras (film and digital)**

|   | <b>TROPICAL WATERS<br/>Ambience (TA)</b> | <b>TROPICAL WATERS<br/>Fish (TF)</b> | <b>TROPICAL WATERS MAKRO<br/>(TM)</b> |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 |  |                                      |                                       |
| 2 |  |                                      |                                       |
| 3 |  |                                      |                                       |

|   | <b>Cold Water<br/>Ambience (CA)</b> | <b>Cold Water<br/>Fish (CF)</b> | <b>Cold Water<br/>MAKRO (CM)</b> |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 |                                     |                                 |                                  |
| 2 |                                     |                                 |                                  |
| 3 |                                     |                                 |                                  |

|   | <b>Fresh Waters (FW)</b> |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 |                          |
| 2 |                          |
| 3 |                          |

**Digital Compact Cameras(CC)**

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | 4 |  |
| 2 | 5 |  |
| 3 | 6 |  |

**UNDERWATER VIDEO (UWV)**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| 3 |  |

We kindly ask the competing authors to include the picture of themselves besides the entries to the contest. The photo will be used for the purpose of presenting the author during the projection on the evening of the concluding event of Vodan 2006 contest.