

SODWANA SHOOTOUT VIDEO - 2009

CATEGORIES

Both SD (Standard Definition 4:3 aspect) and HD (High Definition 16:9 aspect) entries will be accepted.

Entry Level (for first or second time entrants)

- Basic underwater shooting cut to music.

Duration: 1,5 to 2 minutes

Open – two sections:

1. Underwater Montage; Music; or Fun video.
2. 'Professional look' video or mini documentary.

Duration: 2 to 3 minutes

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SHOOTING & EDITING RESTRICTIONS

- Shooting will take place in the sea and on land only in the Sodwana region on Wednesday & Thursday of the Shootout week during May 2009.
- Friday is allocated as editing day.
- A minimum of 70% of your entry must be shot while diving on scuba or free diving underwater in the sea at Sodwana Bay. You may therefore include above water and land shots in your entry.
- No fresh water or swimming pool shots will be permitted.
- **USE OF MUSIC** - the Shootout Video Rules do not restrict the choice of music that you wish to use. However, please be sure to understand copyright laws with regard to the use of commercial music. The Shootout accepts NO responsibility for the use of music or any other material that carries a copyright.

REGISTRATION

- As from 18:00 on Tuesday, 19 May 2009 at the Shootout Marquee

VIDEO TAPES & ENTRY SUBMISSION

- Entrants must provide their own video tapes or alternative recording media.
- Entries must be submitted between 17:30 and 18:30 on Friday, 22nd May 2009.
- Entries may be submitted on MiniDV video tape, USB Memory Stick, CD or DVD.
- When submitting on Stick or Disc, please submit in MPEG2 or MPEG4 file format. Do not create a playable DVD of your entry. Specify SD or HD.
- **Submitting two entries** – additional payment is required per entry – refer to general Shootout rules.
- **Protests** – refer to general Shootout rules.

PRIZES

- Category prize allocation pending.
- **Overall Prize – Best in Shootout** - this is the top prize to be won in the Video Section and will be awarded to the overall best entry. This prize can be won by any entrant from both levels.

JUDGING

All entries will be judged according to all round production value. Judging will be made on the entrants' application to all skills involved in video production. This includes the technical and creative areas of shooting, editing, selection and use of music and sound, scripting and writing of commentary. In the case of a 'serious' music video edit, creative license in all areas will be allowed and assessed. Entries that do not comply with the maximum time limit and the 70% minimum underwater content will be penalized accordingly.

JUDGES

A panel of three judges will determine the winners

VIDEO GUIDELINES

The overall idea is to encourage entrants to understand the principles of video production and to include these elements in their entries. It is up to the individual entrant to determine what makes a suitable product capable of winning an award.

Some Suggestions

Entry Level: Pay attention to

- White Balance settings
- Focus – try to avoid using auto focus by selecting manual focus and shooting everything on a wide angle shot with the focus set at about 1-1,5m
- Composition or framing of your shots
- Smooth camera operation
- Clean editing and a conclusive ending to your edit

Open: As with Entry Level as well as

- Choose a theme and name it in the opening title
- Take the trouble to ensure a high level of attention to focus, white balance, framing, operation, etc. Entries will be marked up or down according to the standard of these elements
- The same will apply to editing. Be sure to familiarize yourself with your editing program in both visual and sound elements and make use of it in a constructive way. A skilled "pro" look to the editing will attract higher attention from the judges

Please direct any questions by email on gordon@seacamfilms.com