

# **SODWANA SHOOTOUT VIDEO - 2010**

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

## **CATEGORIES**

With the revision of the categories for 2010, the rules have also been revised to fit in with the changes.

Revised categories are:

- **UwTube Category** – this is the novice category as well as for entrants with video-clip capable stills cameras. While not required, basic editing is permitted and original sound and/or music maybe added to the clip. Anything shot underwater at the Shootout goes.  
**Duration: 20 to 90 seconds.**
- **Music Video Category** – this is a more advanced section where entrants may produce a music video making use of underwater footage shot at the Shootout. Entrants may use any music, but use of copyrighted music is done so at own risk and these entries will not be added to the Shootout Youtube Channel.  
**Duration: Maximum 3 minutes.**
- **Mini Documentary Category** – this category will remain the same as before. Entrants are to produce a professional-look short documentary using footage shot at the Shootout with a minimum of 70% shot underwater. A high standard of production skill which includes concept; camerawork; editing; scripting; and use of sound is expected from entrants to this category.  
**Duration: 2,5 to 3 minutes.**

## **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 2010.
- Friday is allocated as the 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 material that carries a copyright.
- In the Music Video and Mini Documentary categories entrants must insert a title at or near the beginning of the video. Should entrants wish to place end credits in their video, their names or any reference to their names may not appear in these credits.

## **REGISTRATION**

- As from 18:00 on Tuesday during the Shootout week at the Shootout Marquee.
- Date Stamp will be announced at registration. Bring your camera to registration in order to set and have this verified.

## **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 the Friday evening of the Shootout at the Shootout Marquee.
- 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.
- **More info on file formats to follow closer to the Shootout.**
- **Submitting more than one entry** – additional payment is required per entry – refer to general Shootout rules.
- **Protests** – refer to general Shootout rules.

## **PRIZES**

Prizes still to be allocated.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placed entries will receive sponsored prizes. Smaller random prizes may be awarded to commendable entries should the entry numbers in a category be suitably substantial. This will be at the discretion of the organising committee.

## **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, scripting, selection and use of music and sound and relevance to title. In the case of a music video entry, creative license in all areas will be allowed and assessed. Entries that do not comply with the minimum and maximum time limits, and the 70% minimum underwater content will be penalized on a pro rata basis accordingly.

## **JUDGES**

A panel of three judges will determine the winners. Entries will be judged by entry number and not by entrant's name. Judges will not have access to entry lists.

## **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 video 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

**Music and Open:** As with Entry Level as well as

- Choose a theme and a title and use it either in the beginning or in an appropriate place in your video.
- Take the trouble to ensure a high level of attention to focus, white balance, framing, camera 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 edit will attract higher attention from the judges.

Please direct any questions by email on [gordon@seacamfilms.com](mailto:gordon@seacamfilms.com)