



Tsunami SCUBA

4th Annual Underwater Photo Contest

Official Rules

1. All photographs must have been taken during the Competition Period – August 1st, 2009 through July 5th, 2010. Winners will be announced during the awards banquet at the Ocean Breeze Club; the banquet will commence at 1830 on Friday, July 16th, 2010.
2. Contestants must complete an official entry form and submit a single CD with up to six (6) photographs in either JPEG or TIFF formats and one (1) matted 8 by 10 inch photograph of each entry; no other formats will be judged. Entry forms are available at all Tsunami SCUBA locations. (Only one entry per category, per contestant)
3. Deadline - Entries must be delivered to one of the Tsunami SCUBA locations no later than 1800 on July 5th, 2010. No entries will be accepted after that time.
4. Each photo file name must match the entry form **exactly**; the judging panel will not make an assumption. On the entry form: describe the subject of each photograph, name the dive site where the photograph was taken, and list technical information for each photograph; i.e. camera, lens, exposure, strobe, and housing.
5. Contestants may submit only one entry per category:
Macro: *Close up photo, in which the size of the object fills the photograph*
People: *Pictures of Divers underwater*
Reef Inhabitants: *Includes fish, corals, invertebrates and other organisms*
Seascapes: *Scenic views of underwater environments e.g. reefs, wrecks, scenes etc.*
Digital Darkroom: *Original photo and enhanced photo must be submitted*
Black and White: *Any object/subject underwater*
6. Photos will be judged by an MCCS panel. Prizes will be awarded to the First, Second, and Third place photos in the above listed categories. The panel will also award the Best Overall photograph; all decisions will be final.
7. Honorable Mentions - At the discretion of the panel, photographs considered noteworthy but not included among the winning entries may be awarded "Honorable Mention" status with appropriate recognition given during the awards banquet.
People's Choice: *Guests can vote for their favorite entry from all photos submitted (One vote per category per guest)*
Best Overall: *(Grand Prize) Will be chosen by the panel from all photos submitted*
8. Only one (1) prize per contestant (within a given category) will be awarded, with the exception of the People's Choice, which will be chosen during the banquet.
9. All prizes will be awarded; **no substitutions or cash equivalents permitted.**
10. Prizes must be claimed within 30 days of the banquet. Failure to claim your prize will result in prize forfeiture. A valid SOFA I.D. card **must** be presented to claim the prize.
11. Taxes, fees and licenses, if applicable, are the sole responsibility of the winner.
12. First place winners will be published in a future issue of Okinawa Living magazine. MCCS reserves the right to use all submissions in publications, advertisements, and public displays. Whenever a photograph is used or displayed by MCCS every effort will be made to give proper credit to the photographer.
13. Harm to Environment or Marine Life - From the evidence of photographs submitted, any photographer who has consciously damaged the marine environment or intentionally harmed a marine life form to take a picture will be disqualified.
14. Pool or aquarium shots will be disqualified.
15. Tsunami SCUBA's Underwater Photography Contest is open to all *SOFA **amateur photographers.

Eligible photos are those that have not been published or accepted for publication and must have been taken by the person submitting the entry.

**Tsunami SCUBA staff, their family members, the MCCS Marketing Branch, MCCS Executive Branch, MCCS Counsel, MCCS Chiefs and Acting Chiefs, MCCS Internal Control, as well as other MCCS branches participating in the preparation, execution or promotion of the event are not eligible to participate.*

***Amateur photographers are those that derive 50% or less of their annual income from photography.*

For questions, inquiries or comments, please contact MCCS Marketing at 645-3193