

SULTAN MIZAN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS 2024

Rules & Regulations

CATEGORIES (Total: 3)

Contestants can only **choose ONE category** to participate in.

1. **Grand Awards (Interchangeable lens camera)**

- a) Underwater Wide Angle
- b) Underwater Macro

This category is for serious hobbyists and skilled photographers with DSLR/Mirrorless interchangeable lens cameras.

2. **Ocean Spirit Awards (Fixed lens camera)**

- a) Underwater Wide Angle
- b) Underwater Macro

This category is for compact cameras. E.g. Olympus TG series, Canon Powershot, Sony RX100 etc.

3. **Short Film Awards (NEW)**

- a) For any cameras/ drones/ GoPro etc.

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. **Entry Fees:**

There are no entry fees for the Contest. Participation is free of charge.

2. **Eligibility:**

All photographers/videographers are eligible, including amateur, semi-pro, and professional except employees of the organizer and their immediate family members.

3. **Image & Video film Usage Rights:**

By submitting images or video to the contest, participants automatically grant the organizer the non-exclusive right to use the entries for the direct promotion of the Sultan Mizan Underwater Photography Awards and Tourism Terengganu events, including but not limited to online platforms, social media, print materials, and exhibitions.

4. Eligible Images & videos:

All submitted images and videos must have been captured in Terengganu between the dates of 1st January 2024 until deadline.

5. Maximum submission per contestant:

Maximum of 2 photos or 2 videos per contestant (Contestant can only enter in ONE category)

6. Prizes:

Contestants can win more than 1 prize.

7. Information to be submitted with each photo/video:

- Name of photographer
- Nationality and ID/Passport No.
- Email address
- Category
- Title of the image/video
- Date taken (should be the same as metadata)
- Name of the dive site and island (GPS coordinates will be appreciated)
- Name of the Resort/Dive center
- Camera and lens

8. Deadline for submission:

30th November 2024 23:59 Malaysia time.

9. Winners & Prizes:

Shortlisted photos and winners will be announced on this website. Details about the prizes for each category will be made available on the official contest website or other official communication channels. All prizes are non-transferable.

10. Awards Ceremony (Date and venue to be announced) or Organizer's Rights.

The Organizer reserves the right to change, amend, delete the prizes or contest terms and conditions wholly or in part without prior notice at any time, at its absolute discretion nor obligation to justify its decision, and without being held liable in any way.

PHOTO SUBMISSION GUIDELINES (Category 1&2)

- Colour Mode: RGB
- File Format: JPG (edited)
 - Ocean Spirit Awards category: Image size of 4-7MB per image
 - Grand Awards category: Image size of 7-12MB per image
- Raw files are not required at this stage, but contestants must be prepared to produce them upon request by the judges.
- JPG Compression: High Quality (low compression)
- Dimensions: 14"/35cm (at 300 dpi) or 4100px in the longest dimension (regardless of whether it is a portrait or landscape image)
- Photos that show harassment to marine life can and will be disqualified at the judges' discretion.
- Marine creatures must be alive and in their natural environment.
- Images submitted with watermarks will be disqualified.
- The decision of the Organizers and the judges shall be final, no appeals or correspondence will be entertained.

Rules on Editing

- Cropping of not more than 25%.
- There are no restrictions on post-processing but do take note that this is not a Photoshop contest. Contestants are not allowed to digitally manipulate (adding, rearranging, reversing, distorting or removing) people and/or objects from within the frame except clearing backscatters.
- All photographic elements must have been created by the maker. No stock or AI-generated imagery will be allowed.
- Only edited photos will be published.

FILM SUBMISSION GUIDELINES (Category 3)

- Films must be NO longer than 5 minutes in duration (Inclusive title and credits), and at least 50% of the footage must be shot underwater. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to these rules. Aerial, land and animation footage are allowed.
- All videos must be submitted as MP4, MPEG, or MOV file with quality of 1080p.
- Videos should not show deliberate harassment of marine creatures or the environment.
- Without limitation, any submitted materials that are deemed by the Organizers, in their sole and absolute discretion, to be or to contain offensive profanity, explicit sexuality, harassing, obscene, or which is racially, ethnically or otherwise offensive or objectionable, may be disqualified.
- Contestants are allowed to use either English or Bahasa Malaysia including subtitles.
- Please ensure that you have all rights to any media that is used in your video(s): music, visual footage, personal, copyright, or any other legal rights.
- We may request from the contestant for high resolution file for public presentation.
- All entries or submitted materials must not include brand names, trademarks, trade names or logos.
- The decision of the Organizers and the judges shall be final, no appeals or correspondence will be entertained.