

Florida Skin Divers Association

2013 State Underwater Photography & Underwater Videography Championships

1. The 2013 State Photo & Video Championships will run between May 3rd, 2013 - June 15th, 2013. Competition begins at Noon on Friday May 10th, 2013 and ends on Friday June 7th, at midnight. Awards will be given on Sunday June 16th, 2013. **Competition photos and videos must be taken during this period.** This is an amateur contest therefore photographers earning more than 25% of their base income from photography are excluded.
2. FSDA Reserves the right to use all images and videos as they see fit.
3. Registration, check-in, film entry assignment and film drop off will be held at the following locations between May 10th, 2013 through June 7th, 2013:

Aquatic Obsessions 6193 Central Ave St. Petersburg, FL 33710 (727)344-3483	Jim's Dive Shop 9385 C Bay Pines Blvd. St. Petersburg, Fl. 33708 727-393-3483	Woods & Water 124 Edwards Ave. Brandon, Fl. 33510 813-684-0122
Vortex Freediving 2803 SW 27th Ave Miami FL 33133 305-443-6789	Florida Freedivers 905 US 1, Ste A Lake Park, Fl. 33403 561-848-0678	Dive Adventures 8803 Cortez Rd. W. Bradenton, Fl. 34210 941-727-3483

4. **All photo and video** competitors **must** go into one of the above locations to register for the competition and receive an entry number.
5. Photos and videos must be taken underwater and be of original/natural subject matter (no props) in a natural underwater environment in **Florida coastal waters or Florida lakes, springs and streams**. No photos will be accepted if taken in artificial environments such as aquariums, tanks, or man made ponds.
6. Photos and videos showing any disrespect for the environment or marine animals, or showing animals viewed in an un-natural environment, location or grouping will not be considered for judging.
7. Contestants will recognize that photography and videography judging is subjective and that the decisions of the judges are final.
8. Trophies: THREE trophies will be awarded in the U/W Photography and Video portion of the tournament.
They are:
 - State U/W Film Photography Champion
 - State U/W Digital Photography Champion
 - State U/W Videography Champion

9. Prizes: **Prizes & Awards:** Trophies and prizes will be awarded on Sunday, starting at approximately 1:30pm, June 16th, at the Resort & Club at Little Harbor, Ruskin, FL. The trophy winners from the spearfishing, photo and video (15 total) will be entered into the "Trophy Winners" prize drawing, for a single selection off the prize table. All Trophy Winner's names will be randomly selected before the first mystery ticket is drawn. Each Trophy winner's name will be called only once and receive that one prize pick in place of their mystery ticket prize pick, giving every competitor a single pick off the prize table either as a Trophy Winner or Mystery ticket holder. ***The prize table will be awarded randomly and not based on the participant's placement in the tournament. Each participants name will be drawn randomly from the pool of participants for their trip to the prize table.*** These prizes are a bonus for the participants and the amount and type of prizes is dictated by the generosity of our sponsors. These are randomly picked drawings. Participant must be present to accept a prize. Only one pick for each participant regardless of the number of events they have entered.

10. For both the Photography and Video, the competition starts at Noon on May 10th, 2013 and ends at midnight on June 7th, 2013.

No late entries will be accepted.

The following rules are specific to the Photography portion of the competition

11. Photo competitors **MUST** bring in their film or digital card along with their camera when registering. Participant's digital storage cards will be reformatted at the time of registration. For both digital and film registrants, the official at the time of registration will shoot the first frame of the competitor's entry form for identification purposes. The competitor can then shoot the next 24 photos. Only the first 24 photos, after the entry form photo, will be used for the competition.
12. Competitor's using a digital camera **MAY NOT** delete any photos.
13. Photo competitors shall provide their own 24 exposure print film (no slides) and/or digital (SD) card.
14. Photo competitors must return their completed roll of film or data card to one of the above listed registration locations **before the close of business on Friday June 7th, 2013** (Each location may have different store hours, it is the contestants responsibility to know the drop off locations hours of operation). Film canisters or SD cards can also be mailed to:

Aquatic Obsessions
6193 Central Avenue
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Those entries that are mailed, must be postmarked by June 7th, 2013

NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED

Please note: entries will not be turned in at the Captain's meeting, but are due one week prior to the Captain's meeting.

15. Film canisters must bear the original markings given at the time of entry. Digital entries shall be submitted via the SD card. Officials will verify the creation information on the SD card.
16. The FSDA will have all film and SD cards developed and the first 25 exposures printed (entry photo and contestants 24 photos).
17. No editing or deletions of any images are permitted. Any attempt at altering the original 24 photos will constitute cheating and the violator will be disqualified from this and all subsequent Southern Open Tournaments.
18. Judges shall select the top photo from each entrant's pictures for judging.
19. The scoring system used for judging the photo competition will be based on:
 - A. Technical Merit - focus, exposure, excessive backscatter
 - B. Composition - subject, background, creativity, overall arrangement
 - C. Impact - overall emotional appeal/interest
 - D. Degree of Difficulty -shooting moving subjects, subjects requiring time/patience, etc.

Points 1 – 10 will be assessed in each of those 4 areas. In case of ties during judging, judges will rely upon the picture displaying the greater degree of difficulty and composition to break the tie by adding an additional 1/2 point.

20. Photos will be displayed at the awards ceremony on Sunday June 16th, 2012. Videos will be available for viewing on line at www.floridaskindivers.com after June 8th, 2013.

21 U/W Photography Categories

- a. **Film Category:** Participants in this category can use cameras, which can possess built-in adjustments for exposure or focus, these cameras may use close up lenses. This category includes disposable, point and shoot to advanced adjustment cameras.
- b. **Digital:** Photographs taken with any type of digital camera.

The following rules are specific to the Videography portion of the competition

22. Video competitors will receive an identification number at the time of registration. Instructions on how to upload the video will be available on the FSDA website and attached instructional sheet. Videos may be uploaded anytime after Noon on May 10th , 2013 and no videos will be able to be uploaded after midnight on June 7th, 2013. ***The identification number must be included at the beginning and end of the competitor's edited and uploaded video entry.***

23. The scoring system used for the video competition will be based on:
 - A. Technical merit - focus, stability

- B. Composition - subject, creativity and overall arrangement
- C. Editing - flow of story, transitions, title creations
- D. Impact - overall emotional appeal

Points 1 – 10 will be assessed in each of those 4 areas. In case of ties during judging, judges will rely upon the video displaying the greater degree of difficulty and composition to break the tie by adding an additional 1/2 point.

24. Videos may contain the videographers own still images but video may not be comprised more than 1/4 length of still images. 3/4 of the video must consist of an underwater environment. Video may contain topside images and video relating to the story of the video.

25. Video will be at least two minutes in length and not greater than five minutes in length.

26. Video **MAY NOT** contain copyrighted music, all music must be original or royalty free. **Videos submitted with copyrighted music will be disqualified.**

27. **Protest:** Any diver or tournament officer can file a protest with the Tournament Chairman. The protest committee consists of the FSDA President, the FSDA Vice President, the FSDA Treasurer & the FSDA Secretary. The decision of the protest committee is final.

FSDA President, Bill VanDeman,
FSDA Vice President, Teresa Hattaway
FSDA Treasurer, Bill Hardman
FSDA Secretary, Malachi Keddington.

Video Upload Instructions

1. We will use youtube to upload videos. If you do not have a youtube account, please log into www.youtube.com and create yourself an account.
2. Log into your youtube account. Click upload at top of page. Select video file from your computer. Title your video, in video description add "2013 Southern Open".
3. Once your video has uploaded, copy the link and email it to divefsda1@gmail.com. Once the link to your video has been received, the link will be placed on the 2013 Southern Open website www.floridaskindivers.com
4. You will be sent an email confirmation that your video has been received.
5. Do not use copyrighted music. When uploading your video, make sure it is set for public viewing and allow embedding.
6. If you have any questions on uploading the video, please contact Teresa Hattaway (Jim's Dive Shop) 727-393-3483.

Location of Awards Presentation

The 2013 Southern Open weigh-in and awards presentation will be held at:

The Resort and Inn at Little Harbor
611 Destiny Dr, Ruskin, Fl. 33570
www.staylittleharbor.com