

SFUPS MONTHLY CONTEST RULES

RULES:

Photos must be taken underwater by the entrant. No aquarium or pool shots. Photographers may submit images originally taken with any medium. All images must be submitted digitally. Images derived from original film or digital files will be judged on an equal basis.

Each month the contest is divided into two categories - Masters and Challengers. A maximum of 2 images per person may be submitted per month.

If you have been a "Photographer of the Year", then you are considered a Master and are only allowed to compete in the Masters category each month. Everyone else is considered a Challenger and may compete in either category or both categories, with a maximum of two entries per month.

Images must adhere to the monthly subject matter. Some subjects are more open to interpretation, while others are very specific. Consult your I.D. books or photographer friends if you are unsure. For example, make sure you are not entering a filefish photo in the triggerfish category. Images that do not adhere to the subject matter may be disqualified at the time of judging.

Throughout the year, we also have special on-the-day contests. OTD contests with 10 or more entries will award 1st thru 5th place (with 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 point respectively). Three places will be awarded if there are less than 10 entries. Everyone will compete on an equal basis for these special contests.

Persons with winning or placing images agree to allow SFUPS to publish their images in the next month's newsletter, on the SFUPS website, and in the annual Holiday Party digital presentation. Also to announce (not publish) the winners on SFUPS social media sites.

Once an image has placed, please refrain from entering that image in future competitions.

JUDGING:

All judging will be done online. Club members are allowed up to two votes per category and may not vote for their own image.

POINTS:

Points will be totaled to determine the annual SFUPS Photographer of the Year and other awards. Awards will be presented at the annual Holiday Party. When participation is 10 images or more, 5 places will be awarded. When participation is less than 10 images, three places will be awarded.

Points will be awarded as follows:

First Place = 5 points,
Second Place = 4 points,
Third Place = 3 points,
Fourth Place = 2 points,
Fifth Place = 1 point.

Challengers who place in the Masters Category will receive 1.5 times the points as follows:

First Place = 7.5 points,
Second Place = 6 points,
Third Place = 4.5 points,
Fourth Place = 3 points,
Fifth Place = 1.5 points.

SUBMITTING IMAGES:

All contest entries must be submitted via our online system of submission and voting. The submission period will close at midnight the second Saturday prior to the monthly meeting date. The voting period will start as soon as the submission period ends, and run for one week until midnight the Saturday prior to the meeting. You are allowed two votes per category.

Please prepare your images as follows:

- Resize your images to 1400 pixels on the long side.
- Images should be submitted in JPEG format.
- Color space should be sRGB
- Pixels per inch (or dpi) should be 144.
- Rename your image file to include your photo title, month and category. Do not use any spaces or special characters (@, &, ', /, ?, !, etc.) in the file name, only dashes or underscores. **DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME.**
- For Example: Photo Title: What's That Thing
File Name: WhatsThatThing-JuneMastr.jpg

To submit your entry(s) go to <https://sfups.org/contests/enter-and-vote/> or the "Enter and Vote" drop down under the "Contests" tab. You must be logged in with your email and password. Complete instructions may be found [HERE](https://sfups.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/SFUPS-Online-Monthly-Contest-Instructions.pdf).

DIGITAL FILES:

Realizing that some computer adjustments are necessary for digital files, we ask that only minor adjustments be made in the computer. Only minor cropping, color adjustments, backscatter removal and sharpening are allowed. No extreme computer manipulation, removing items or adding items to the image.

AWARDS:

The Challenger accumulating the most points during the year will receive the top award and will be named "SFUPS Photographer of the Year". They will become a "Master" for future intra-club contests. Runner-up awards may also be given at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

The Master accumulating the most points during the year will receive the "Master of the Year" award. Runner-up awards may also be given at the discretion of the Board of Directors.