

**"16th WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OF UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY,
LA PAZ, BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO 2017 "**

From November 22 to 27, the **16th Underwater Photography World Championship** was held, in La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico, a wonderful tourist destination important for the world because of its natural beauty and attraction for lovers of Underwater Activities. The event was organized by the **Mexican Federation of Underwater Activities**, under the supervision of the Sports Committee and the Visual Commission of CMAS. At the opening ceremony, a speech was sent by the President CMAS Anna Arzhanova and the speeches for personnel were delivered by the BCS Secretary of Tourism, Genaro Ruiz Hernández, and the FMAS President, Inst. Juan Manuel Gómez Valencia.

This sport event brought together the best photographers in the world from 19 countries, Germany, Argentina, Belgium, Chile, South Korea, Croatia, Denmark, Slovenia, Spain, France, Holland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Portugal, Turkey and Mexico, with the participation of 7 international judges: Víctor Isla / Cuba, Bruce Shafer / United States of America, Jacopo Brunetti / Italy, Rui Guerra / Portugal CMAS Technical Delegate, Lasse Gustafsson / Sweden President of judges, Kurt Amsler / Switzerland and Leonardo González / Venezuela, in addition to Kerim Sabuncuoglu participation, Director assigned for the CMAS Visual Commission.

The winners by category were:

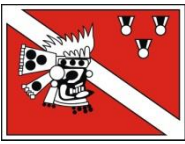
- 1) **Fish Category :** 1st. Place Spain / Rafael Caballero
2nd. Place Spain / Jesús Dorta
3rd. Place Argentina / Oscar Rulli

- 2) **Macro Category:** 1st. Place Croatia / Dalibor Andres
2nd. Place Italy / Stefano Proakis
3rd. Place Argentina / Oscar Rulli

- 3) **Close up with a Theme Category:** 1st. Place Sweden / Peter Segerdahl
2nd. Place Spain / Rafael Caballero
3rd. Place Italy / Stefano Proakis

- 4) **Wide Angle Category:** 1st. Place Spain / Rafael Caballero
2nd. Place Spain / Jesús Dorta
3rd. Place Argentina / Oscar Rulli

- 5) **Wide Angle with Model Category:** 1st. Place Turkey / Cenk Ceylanoğlu
2nd. Place Switzerland / Berset Marc
3rd. Place Norway / Vidar Skalvik



FEDERACIÓN MEXICANA DE ACTIVIDADES SUBACUÁTICAS, A.C.



The world ranking, for the championship was as follows:

Gold Medal/Spain - Rafael Caballero

Silver Medal/Spain - Jesús Dorta

Bronze Medal/ Turkey - Cenk Ceylanoğlu

ABSOLUTE WORLD CHAMPION 2017 - Spain - Rafael Caballero

Underwater photography is a way to show the world this fascinating and wonderful environment!

Atentamente
"Let's save our seas"

Juan Manuel Gómez Valencia
FMAS President

Report prepared by:
Coty Zeckua Ramos, FMAS Commissioner

Av. Río Churubusco Pta. 9, Ciudad Deportiva, Col. Magdalena Mixhuca, C. P. 08010,
México, D. F. Tel. 58 03 01 72 / 58 03 97 35