

**2026 CMAS WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIP UNDERWATER  
PHOTO AND VIDEO**



**CMAS**

October 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Pemuteran - Bali  
INDONESIA

**SPECIFIC RULES**

# PEMUTERAN - BALI INDONESIA



CMAS

2026 CMAS

# WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

## Underwater Photo & Video

05-11  
OCTOBER

Organization



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# CMAS

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

These are the Specific Rules to inform and apply to the participants to 2026 CMAS World Championship Photo and Video which will take place in the waters of Pemuteran, Bali, from Monday, October 05<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Participation in the championship implies acceptance of these specific rules, the CMAS autonomous diving safety rules, the current legislation of the area.

Please note that you will also dive in Biorock Pemuteran & Karang Lestari: A Global Model for Reef Restoration Pemuteran, on the north coast of Bali, is internationally recognized as one of the most successful examples of coral reef restoration in the world. Their work has received international recognition and awards, positioning Pemuteran as a reference site for sustainable marine management.

You will also dive in Agung Prana Reef: A Community-Led Natural Reef Recovery

The Agung Prana Reef, located in front of Amertha Bali Villas in Pemuteran, is a meaningful example of how human impact can be addressed through responsibility, cooperation, and nature-based solutions.

Hosting the 2026 CMAS World Championship of Underwater Photography and Video here in October, highlights not only the visual richness of the reefs, but also a powerful conservation success story—one that aligns perfectly with CMAS values of ocean protection, education, and excellence in the underwater world.

The event will be organized by the Organizing Committee of Indonesia Federation (POSSI), and Karang Divers, under the supervision of the CMAS Sports Committee, and the CMAS Visual Commission.

During the Championship, version 2025/1 General Rules for Underwater Photo and Video Championships BOD 234 will be applied.

In case of discrepancies in the interpretation of the Specific Rules, the General Rules of Underwater Photo and Video CMAS, World Championships, Procedures and Obligations of the CMAS Championship Organization, and other CMAS Rules will apply in order of importance.

## **2. REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPATION**

- 2.1 All federations affiliated with CMAS, may propose a team. They must submit the Championship registration on CMAS Portal, by Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026, along with the team documentation.
- 2.2 Each federation may propose a maximum of:
- Five (5) persons for photography, including two (2) photographers, two (2) assistants, and one (1) team captain.
  - Five (5) persons for video, including two (2) videographers, two (2) assistants, and one (1) team captain.
- 2.3 The names of the team members must be submitted by no later than Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- 2.4 Related fees must be paid to CMAS before Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- 2.5 Necessary documentation should be uploaded to CMAS portal, no later than Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Please note that according to VERSION 2025/1 of the General Rules for Underwater Photo and Video Championships, athletes who do not have the appropriate CMAS licenses will not be allowed to participate in this Championship.

## **3 PROCEDURE DURING THE COMPETITION AND DIVINGS SPOTS**

- 3.1 CMAS and POSSI will hold a detailed briefing on the competition during the Technical Meeting on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- 3.2 The following people will participate in the Technical Meeting:
- The Director of the Host Organization
  - The representatives designated by the Local Organizing Committee
  - CMAS Technical Delegate
  - The Director of the CMAS Visual Commission
  - Team captains and competitors for both video and photography
  - The Presidents of the jury for photography and video.

3.3 The following topics will be discussed during the Technical Meeting:

- Distribution of teams among the competition zones.
- Distribution of participants on the boats/dive sites by draw
- Information on schedules and transportation
- Safety measures
- Measures and regulations of the Diving Sites
- Technical issues
- Handling and downloading of photographs and videos
- Clarification of the seven categories in the photography competition
- Clarification of the three categories in the video competition
- Details of the Control Committee and the Jury System
- Guidelines for the protocol and medal award ceremony.

3.4 The Championship will take place over seven (7) days, from Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, to Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The competition dives will take place on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, during which competitors will have three (3) hours each day underwater, divided into two (2) dives of ninety (90) minutes each. The Technical Delegate reserves the right to change the order of competition (and possibly the diving zones) and the dive times if weather and sea conditions prove to be unfavorable. It is recommended that competitors take their photographs (photo and/or video) on the first day of the competition for all categories. If the second competition day is canceled, they will have images for all categories.

3.5 There are seven (7) competition zones included in the Championship. Four (4) competition zones and three (3) reserve zones.

**Competition zones:**

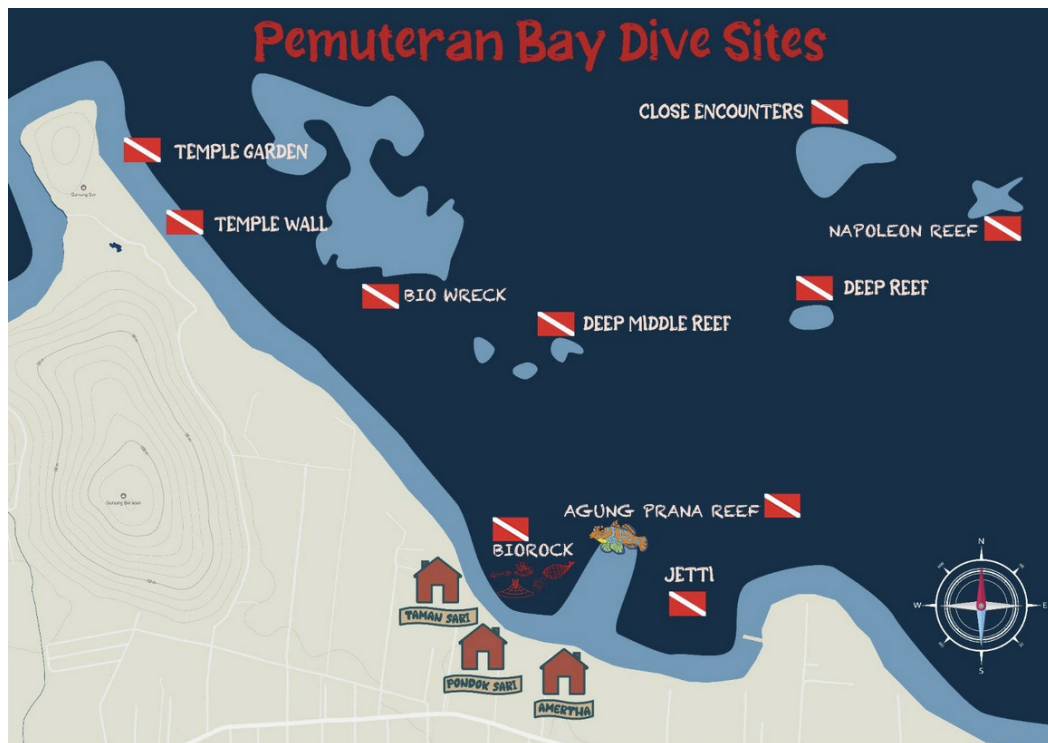
- Biorock (shore)
- Agung Prana Reef (shore)
- Napoleon Reef (boat)
- Bio wreck (boat)

**Reserve Zones:**

- Close Encounters (Boat)
- Deep Reef (Boat)
- Jetty (shore)

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### 3.6 Competition zones:



- **Biorock (shore)**

The Artificial Reef project. Is placed at front of "Karang Lestari" coral project, off the shore just on the front left of our dive base. The Rock seem from a sandy bottom about 18mtrs. Sandy slopes surrounding end up to the beach. The place is an interesting for dive for fish, lobster, nudu, shrimps, crabs and catfish among others. Karang Lestari is a project place of award-winning artificial reef project on their best team structures coral growth made of metal using small voltage electricity from the base.

- **Napoleon Reef (boat)**

About 1km from shore are a chain of reefs and underwater islands left over from a long extinct volcano. In the same stretch of water as Menjangan Island, they offer a wider variety of topography and are home to a vast array of underwater life. From 35m deep walls to shallow plateau of coral gardens as far as the eye can see, across over 25 different reef sites will keep you amused for many days.

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- **Bio wreck (boat)**

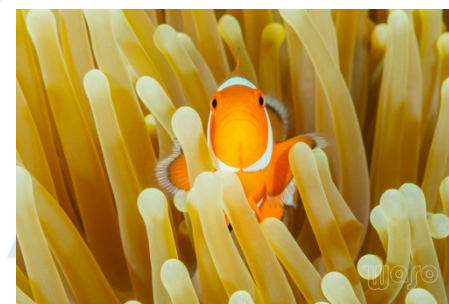
Depth, from 5 to 30 meters, Visibility: 8 to 30 meters, Travel time from shore: 5 to 10 mins. This site was affected years ago by cyanide fishing and Crown of Thorn starfish. It is in recovery now due to AusAid funding which allowed the Reef Gardeners of Pemuteran to maintain and protect the site. In 2005, they sank 2 Bio-Wreck structures, one of wood and one of steel, connected to low voltage solar panels. Next to the Bio-wreck is the largest single species of coral (povaris sp.) in Bali, believed to be over 1000 years old. On the other side, is our newest Bio-rock structure, the Bio-turtle, sunk in April 2009.

- **Agung Prana Reef (shore)**

The site offers calm and sheltered conditions, with easy shore entry and exit over a sandy bottom, making it well suited for competition diving. Depth range: approximately 3 to 18 meters. Bottom type: sandy areas interspersed with reef structures. Sea conditions: generally calm, minimal current. Visibility: usually good for shore diving, subject to natural variations.

The reef and surrounding sandy areas host a rich and diverse marine life, including various species of nudibranchs, frogfish, seahorses, clownfish, and abundant life associated with anemones distributed along the reef and near the sandy bottom.

The Agung Prana Reef Coral Conservation Project is actively ongoing and represents a successful example of natural reef reconstruction, based exclusively on natural techniques and locally appropriate materials. This initiative supports biodiversity recovery while maintaining a stable and environmentally responsible diving environment.



- 3.7 The thematic photo for this World Photo Championship will be:  
- ***Nudibranch***

3.8 Team captains will only be allowed to dive with their teams during the official training day, on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, for which two dives are scheduled.

3.9 For all dives, and for safety reasons, the depth is limited to 30 meters and a maximum of 90 minutes dive. Decompression dives are prohibited.

#### **4 PHOTOGRAPHY**

4.1 The procedures for selecting photographs will be carried out in accordance with the CMAS General Rules for Underwater Photo and Video Championships.

4.2 The Control Committee will process the images into the TOP 15 of each category.

4.3 The subject of the thematic, Nudibranch may not be used as the main subject of the photo in any category other than the "Category with a theme" photo.

4.4 The background or foreground image may only be used once in all photographs. If the same background or foreground image is used more than once, the photograph presented to the next category will be disqualified.

4.5 The participant must ensure that the copyright function and any camera metadata are disabled so that the images submitted to the jury cannot be identified by file names or metadata.

4.6 At the start and end of each of the two competition dives on both days, participants must take the "control photo" with the judge, ensuring that the judge is clearly visible in the photograph.

#### **5 VIDEOGRAPHY**

5.1 The procedures for selecting videos are in accordance with the CMAS General Rules for Underwater Photo and Video Championships.

5.2 It is mandatory to record the infographics, video images (both underwater and non-underwater), and photographs that will be used in the project only during the competition days. The participant may only import components into the project that were not created during the editing time (royalty-free and previously registered by the organization).

5.3 At the start and end of the competition dives, participants must film the "control shot" with the judge, ensuring that the judge is clearly visible in the video.

5.4 For non-underwater shots (land shots), participants will have unlimited time to film. These shots will be allowed both during the practice day and the two competition days. Non-

underwater shots are not permitted in swimming pools, tanks, or underwater environments of any kind except during the competition dives. Memory cards for non-underwater shots will be separate from the cards used for underwater shots. The mentioned cards will be formatted, the camera date will be changed, and the cards will be marked, with a control shot organized before the practice day.

- 5.5 Non-underwater shots (land shots) will be downloaded and checked by the organization in the editing room before being used and edited by the participants. The deadline for submitting these shots to the organization will be within the first hour of the final day of editing.
- 5.6 Post-production may only be carried out in the designated area, where it will be supervised by the Organizing Committee. Editing by others will result in disqualification of the entire team. Competitors must start their project from scratch, beginning post-production in the editing room, with the timeline of all participants' projects remaining completely clean and empty.
- 5.7 The organization will designate an editing room, where participants will leave their own post-production equipment starting from the first day of the Championship (official training day, Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>). This room will remain open during the Championship days according to the schedule set by the organization and closed at all other times. It is strictly forbidden to bring in or remove editing equipment, including laptops or storage devices such as external hard drives or memory cards.
- 5.8 Competitors will work with their own editing equipment; the lack of such equipment is not the responsibility of either CMAS or the Host Federation (LOC).
- 5.9 The theme for the Thematic Movie category in this championship will be:

- ***Coral conservation & local community***

## **6 THE MEMORY CARD**

The following procedures apply to the official training day and both competition days:

- 6.1 Competitors will travel together with their cameras from the hotel to the diving centers.
- 6.2 In the designated area, under the direct supervision of a judge, the following actions must be performed:
- Change the date and time of the camera
  - Ensure that only one memory card is in each camera.
  - Format the memory cards.
  - Seal the cameras.
  - Perform the first "control shot."

- 6.3 Once the camera housing is sealed, it must not be opened again. It is not allowed to change settings, make repairs, swap lenses, etc., without the direct supervision of a judge. Camera adjustments, battery changes, and lens replacements during the competition dives must be done under the supervision of the judges.
- 6.4 Athletes will take their cameras to their assigned boats/dive sites only when instructed by the Organizing Committee.
- 6.5 Athletes must take a control shot (photo and/or video) on the boat/dive site immediately after completing the dive.
- 6.6 If a lens or battery needs to be changed between dives or during the dive, this can only be done in a specially designated area, under the direct supervision of a judge, and without breaking the seal. If it is necessary to open the camera to remove the lens or replace the battery, the seal may only be broken at that time. If the seal needs to be broken, it can only be done under the direct supervision of a judge. The judge will reseal the camera housing with a new seal.
- 6.7 After the two (2) dives on the competition days, the camera housing will be opened in the specially designated area under the direct supervision of the judge. The memory card will then be handed over to the judge.
- 6.8 Once back at the hotel, the organization will copy the files from the memory cards to the server. The memory cards will be returned to the competitors according to the scheduled times.

## **7 USE OF CAMERAS DURING THE CHAMPIONSHIP**

- 7.1 Athletes may use more than one (1) camera during the competition. All cameras must be sealed as described in Article 6.
- 7.2 The photographer or videographer may only carry one (1) camera and or a smart device during the dive. If necessary, the competitor may change cameras during the ninety (90) minutes of the dive, but they must come to the surface with their assistant, change the camera, and return to the water.
- 7.3 The maximum number of photographs taken each competition day is 300 photographs. Photographers using more than one (1) camera should note that the 300 photographs are the total from all memory cards (excluding control photographs) used in all their cameras. If there are more than 300 images on the card(s), the final images will be deleted.
- 7.4 The deletion and erasing of photographs and/or videos is not permitted at any time.

## **8 SANCTIONS AND SPECIFIC AND ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS**

- 8.1 Avoid any contact or manipulation of marine fauna, flora, and seabed, and to minimize

environmental impact, proper buoyancy control must be maintained, avoiding any contact with the bottom or walls during dives. Any detected alteration of the underwater environment will result in sanctions or disqualification.

8.2 Underwater judges and accredited personnel from the organization will oversee the competition dives to ensure compliance with the regulations and promote responsible and sustainable diving.

8.3 Eco-briefing sessions will be conducted by underwater guides before all competition dives.

8.4 Other specific sanctions:

- Failure to take control of images before and after each dive. (Images from the corresponding dive will not be accepted).
- Failure to perform the safety stop to avoid exceeding the 90-minute dive limit. (The photos from the dive will not be accepted).
- Breathing from a buddy's air supply or from the emergency bottle attached to the boat's line (The dive will be disqualified).

8.5 Handling fauna/flora during the dive: The competitor will be disqualified or may even be disqualified from the Championship if the handling is considered very serious. Additionally, before the dive, the athlete's diving equipment may be inspected at any time to verify that they are not carrying any previously captured specimens, or any equipment or instruments, or bait to capture or feed marine life. If such circumstances are detected, the team will be disqualified from the Championship.

8.6 Manipulating the dive computer (falsifying the dive data, removing it during the dive to avoid recording the maximum depth, switching it with a buddy, or not presenting it when exiting the dive): Disqualification from the Championship.

8.7 Losing a dive buddy for more than 10 minutes: The dive will be disqualified.

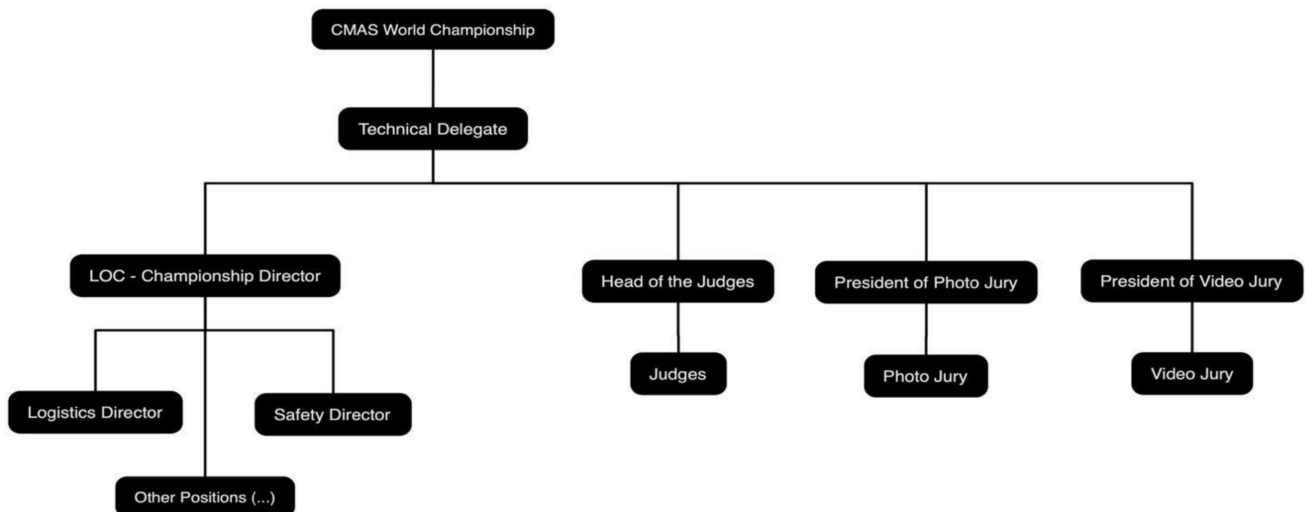
8.8 Manipulating the camera outside of the water or on the surface without the supervision of a judge: The dive will be disqualified. It is mandatory to inform the judge if the camera needs to be handled for any reason.

8.9 As explained at General Rules, and previously, submerging artificial objects is only permitted in the Creative Photo Category, and in the Creative Movie Category. These objects must be declared before the dive and at the end of the dive to the Judge or Technical Delegate. Artificial objects that are not brought onto the boat/dive site after use will result in team penalties, to be evaluated by the Technical Delegate.

8.10 The use of drones is permitted in the area.

## 9 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

9.1 In the Championship, the structure of judges and juries will be as follows:



9.2 The organizing committee during the championship consists of:

- CMAS Technical Delegate
- CMAS Visual Commission President
- Jury Presidents
- Directors of the championship (LOC)
- Chairman of POSSI

## 10 EVACUATION AND INFORMATION ON HOSPITALS

10.1 Land Safety:

- Medicalized ambulance
- Doctor
- Medical staff, assistants, lifeguards
- Communication: Mobile phones, VHF radio with assigned channel and VHF distress channel 16
- The diving points for the competition will be for the exclusive use of the championship participants.

## 10.2 Sea Safety:

- Rescue boat
- Navy vessel with hyperbaric chamber
- Communication: Mobile phones, VHF radio, and VHF distress channel 16
- Oxygen supply equipment on all participant boats and dive sites

## 10.3 Evacuation and Hospital Information:

- Kasih Ibu Hospital
- Bali Health Office

## **11 INFORMATION ABOUT THE PEMUTERAN BAY**

### Pemuteran Bay – Marine Conservation & Community Engagement

Pemuteran Bay is internationally recognized as a model of successful marine conservation driven by local community involvement. Located on the north-west coast of Bali, the bay combines rich marine biodiversity with long-term, sustainable protection initiatives.

One of the most notable achievements in Pemuteran Bay is the community-led coral reef restoration program, which uses Biorock® technology to accelerate coral growth and reef recovery. This project, developed through cooperation between local fishermen, dive centers, scientists, and conservation organizations, has transformed previously degraded reef areas into thriving marine ecosystems.

The local community plays an active and ongoing role in protecting the bay. Fishermen, tourism operators, schools, and village leaders work together under locally enforced regulations that prohibit destructive fishing practices and promote responsible marine tourism. Regular reef monitoring, beach clean-ups, and environmental education programs are integral parts of daily life in Pemuteran. In addition to long-term protection measures, Karang Divers has initiated a reef restoration project at the Agung Prana Reef, based exclusively on natural techniques and materials. This approach focuses on ecological processes such as natural coral recruitment, stabilization of substrates, and habitat enhancement using environmentally compatible techniques. The project is designed to support reef recovery while maintaining full respect for the local marine ecosystem, representing a more contemporary and sustainable alternative to older artificial reef technologies. This initiative reflects Karang Divers' long-term commitment to conservation, science-based practices, and active collaboration with the local community.

These collective efforts have resulted in healthy coral reefs, increased fish populations, and excellent underwater conditions, making Pemuteran Bay not only an important conservation success story but also a reference site for sustainable coastal management in Indonesia.

Pemuteran stands as a clear example of how environmental protection, community responsibility, and sustainable tourism can coexist and support one another over the long term.

## 12 SCHEDULE

### DAY 1 - Registration and opening

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2026

- 10h00 - 12h00 – Accreditation – Pondok Sari hotel
- 13h00 - Lunch
- 16h00 – Opening Ceremony
- 17h00 – Welcome cocktail
- 18h00 – Technical meeting
- 19h30 – Dinner

### DAY 2 – Official Training Day

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2026

- 07h30 – Breakfast in the Hotel
- 08h00 – Control Cameras/mobile devices
- 08h45 – Departure to the competition zones
- 09h00 – Training Dive 1
- 12h00 - Lunch
- 13h45 - Departure to the competition zones
- 14h00 – Training Dive 2
- 16h00 – Deliver memory cards to the organisation
- 17h30 – Return memory cards to the participants
- 19h30 - Dinner

### DAY 3 – Competition Day 1

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2026

- 07h30 – Breakfast in the Hotel
- 08h00 – Control Cameras/mobile devices
- 08h45 – Departure to the competition zones
- 09h00 – Competition Dive 1
- 12h00 - Lunch
- 13h45 - Departure to the competition zones
- 14h00 – Competition Dive 2
- 16h00 – Deliver memory cards to the organisation
- 17h30 – Return memory cards to the participants
- 19h30 - Dinner

### DAY 4 – Competition Day 2

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2026

- 07h30 – Breakfast in the Hotel
- 08h00 – Control Cameras/mobile devices
- 08h45 – Departure to the competition zones
- 09h00 – Competition Dive 3
- 12h00 - Lunch
- 13h45 - Departure to the competition zones
- 14h00 – Competition Dive 4
- 16h00 – Deliver memory cards to the organisation
- 17h30 – Return memory cards to the participants
- 19h30 – Dinner

### **DAY 5 – Jury Deliberation**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

- 07h30 – Breakfast in the Hotel
- 09h00 – Excursing departure
- 09h00 – Conservation Dive
- 09h00 – 13h00 – Jury deliberation
- 12h00 - Lunch
- 14h00 – Conservation Dive
- 19h30 – Dinner

### **DAY 6 – Closing Ceremony and Medal Ceremony**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

- 17h00 – Closing and Medal Ceremony 2026 CMAS World Championship
- 19h30 – Closing dinner
- 20h00 – Unofficial awards 2026 CMAS World Championship

### **DAY 7 – DEPARTURE OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2026**

- 08h00 – Farewell and transfer of delegations to the Airport

Schedules may change depending on the number of participants, logistics and weather conditions. If necessary, the organization will update the program through the official WhatsApp group created for the event.



### 13 ACCOMMODATION AND COMPETITION PACKAGES

13.1 Championship Packages. The event prices are per person in EUROS, and include:

- 6 nights of accommodation in Hotel Pondok Sari, with check-in on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, and check-out on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- Welcome cocktail and package.
- Full board
- Welcome Ceremony
- 6 dives (2 training dives and 4 competition dives). For Captains is 2 dives in the training day.
- Dive Tanks (S80 tanks) with air and weight (each divers needs)
- Closing Ceremony and farewell dinner
- Conservation Dive (on the 9<sup>th</sup>, October)
- Transfer by National Team. From Denpasar airport – Pemuteran – Denpasar airport.

Participants	STANDART BUNGALLOW (double room)	DELUXE BUNGALLOW (double room)
Photographer / Videographer / Assistant	1 470,00 €	1 665,00 €
Captains	1 200,00 €	
Non-competitor Companion	970,00 €	

- Single supplement for the Standart Bungallow: 260€
- Single supplement for the Deluxe Bungallow: on request and availability.
- Karang Divers Diving Center will have special prices for the training dives.
- The prices for the captains include everything specified in the participants' package, but with only two dives for the official training day.
- The prices for the companions include everything specified in the participants' package except the dives.



- 13.2. Transfer from the Denpasar airport to Pemuteran and from Pemuteran to Denpasar airport is by team. If one member of the team is flying in different date from team, please contact the Karang Divers to know how to proceed. A fee for the special transfer can be applied.
- 13.3. The reservation and registration will be confirmed once the organization (LOC) has confirmed the payment. Send the appropriate payment receipt and participants' information to: [cmas2026uwphotovideochamp@gmail.com](mailto:cmas2026uwphotovideochamp@gmail.com) by May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- 13.4. The deadline for the payment of registrations and participation packages is May 15<sup>th</sup>.2026

FOR PAYMENT OF REGISTRATION PACKAGES:

BENEFICIARY	PT KARANG DIVERS AMERTHA
COUNTRY	INDONESIA
BANK	BRI (PT. Bank Rakyat Indonesia (Persero))
ACCOUNT NUMBER	172901000093567
SWIFT CODE	BMRIIDJA
MANDATORY DESCRIPTION	CMAS WORLDCHAMPIONSHIP, NAME/COUNTRY

**If you need additional information, please send a request via e-mail to:  
[cmas2026uwphotovideochamp@gmail.com](mailto:cmas2026uwphotovideochamp@gmail.com)**

## 14 CONTACT DETAILS

Information of the local organization (LOC)

Indonesia Subaquatic Sport Association, Jakarta  
Address: Jl. Tanah Abang IV No. 27 Jakarta Pusat, Indonesia.  
Tell: +62 812-2969-4460  
Email: [issa.possiindonesia@gmail.com](mailto:issa.possiindonesia@gmail.com)

PT. KARANG DIVERS AMERTHA~  
[www.karangdivers.com](http://www.karangdivers.com)  
Jalan Seririt Gilimanuk,  
Pondoksari Hotel  
Pemuteran, Buleleng, Bali  
WA +62 819 3882 8859  
Mobil +62 821 4692 4359  
Email: [Karang-divers@outlook.com](mailto:Karang-divers@outlook.com)

## 15 LOCAL CLIMATE CONDITIONS

The competition takes place in **October**, during the **transition period between the dry and rainy seasons** in north-west Bali. Weather conditions in Pemuteran are generally **stable and favorable** for diving activities.

- **Air temperature:** approximately **26–30°C**
- **Water temperature:** approximately **27–29°C**
- **Wind:** typically **light**, as Pemuteran is well sheltered from strong ocean swell
- **Sea state:** generally **calm**, with good surface conditions
- **Rainfall:** occasional short rain showers may occur but are usually brief and do not significantly affect daily operations
- **Visibility:** normally **good**, subject to natural variations

All competitions will proceed according to the official schedule unless **exceptional weather or safety conditions** require adjustments. Any operational changes due to weather will be communicated by the **Organizing Committee** in coordination with safety officers.

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