



# UNDERWATER PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST



## Dive World Austin Official Event Rules

- Prior to participating, you must fill out the PADI Event form. This will be emailed to you at least 1 week prior to the event or when you sign up if within a week of the event.
- You **MUST** check-in at the judges table **prior to and after** completion of carving to be eligible for the contest.
- All participants are required to have a dive buddy at check-in, unless you are certified as a solo diver. If you need a buddy, please let the store know ahead of time and we can help pair you up with someone.
- You must provide all of your own items for this event, including pumpkin, carving tools, lights, accessories, mesh bag for pumpkin gut collection, and, of course, all your own dive gear. We recommend bringing extra weight to hold down your pumpkin as you are carving since they are extremely buoyant.
- Only pumpkin carving tools or a blunt tip dive knife will be allowed for safety reasons. No pointed tips or any other sharp items are permitted. While you may carve as many pumpkins as you like, each participant is allowed only one pumpkin entry per diver into the contest.
- You are NOT allowed to stab the pumpkin before taking it underwater. All carving must be completed underwater. You may not “pre-gut” your pumpkin.
- You are not allowed to draw your design out on the pumpkin prior to submerging. Designs sketched on a slate or laminated designs are acceptable.
- While carving, ONLY the diver that is signed up for the competition may touch the pumpkin. The dive buddy may not in any way, shape or form touch the pumpkin or assist except for holding the pumpkin guts mesh bag
- Carving may only take place on the platform assigned
- You must surface safely with your pumpkin and have it turned into the judges table before 6pm.
- All pumpkins must surface with the diver that carved them. Any pumpkins that surface alone will be disqualified, additionally any uncontrolled ascents of any kind or dangerous acts witnessed by underwater safety professionals or judges will lead to disqualification of diver and pumpkin.
- Once surfaced, you may add accessories to your pumpkin **AFTER** checking in at the judges table before 6:00 pm. Judging starts at 6:10pm, and at that time it is all hands off pumpkins! Pumpkins that arrive to the surface already lit will receive extra points, additionally pumpkins carved by a blunt tip dive knife will receive extra points.
- Prizes awarded for the following Categories: Artsy Fartsy, Classic Carvings, Mermaid's Delight

(best aquatic), Creepiest Creation, and Fantastically Funny. There will also be a prize for Top Social Media Pumpkin! This pumpkin will be voted for on our facebook page and the winner will be announced on Halloween for a larger grand prize!

- Group photo immediately follows :-)