CineSol 36 Hour Film Race
Review Cheat Sheet for Rules and Other Tips
Plus, Frequently Asked Questions

First off, remember to "Have Fun" and be a good sport and challenge yourself and your team members. And, please don't forget, everything must be done within the 36 hour period that includes all production graphics.

Tips and Other things to remember….

Run Time: The total run time, including credits, of all films must be **3-6 minutes** to be eligible for competition, it must be turned in at the finish line before cut off time that is determine at the Kick-Off meeting. No Exceptions!

Participation Form Requirements are Mandatory for All Crew members!
Who is a Crewmember? A crewmember is anyone engaged in directing the actors, holding a camera or microphone, anyone who sets up the lights, writes or conceives the script, edits, animates opening titles, prepares the set or otherwise plays a substantial role in producing the film. Crew is distinguished from the Cast, the actors, who appear in front of the camera or provide voices for character in the film. They are also separate from producers. You only include actors, extras, musicians or composers or anyone else like mom or dad or other relatives, neighbors or friends that may be running errands like bringing in the coffee, pizza, tacos etc. as crewmember only if they happen to be holding a mic or light even if just for a min**.** To be safe have everyone involved with the film sign a participation form.

Talent Forms are for all Actors and other Professional Talent. This group is not counted in the team size, unless they double up as a crewmember.

Equipment: Teams are expected to provide their own cameras, microphones, lights, editing systems, computers, and any and all other equipment including props to be used for the production of the film. The equipment can be owned, rented and or it can be equipment that you beg for and borrow but under no circumstances can the equipment be stolen. By the way, it might be a good idea to check your equipment a week or two before the Race. You might save yourself some grief on "the" Day.

Judges: Each year, we have been awfully grateful to have a panel of distinguished judges from the film and video community, who kindly offer their time and expertise to be a part of the Film judging process. In the past, the judges have been scrutinized for conflicts of interest and we can assure their open-mindedness and carefulness in the judging process is beyond reproach. The judges' decisions are final. We do this because every year we get at least one disgruntled team that feels their Team was not given due process and should have won but didn't. Consequently, they want to second-guess the judges. As you know, the nature of film is subjective and second guessing the judges would diminish the event.

Required Elements & Judging Criteria: Just prior to the start of the race, and during the "Kick-Off" meeting the Committee will reveal this year's top items for each element. We make it as clear as possible. The best way to win is to pay attention to creatively integrating the required elements. Your video might be brilliant, but if it doesn't meet the criteria, it won't win.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to have color bars?
Yes, at the beginning of the film.
Before the finished film begins, the tape should have:

- 5 seconds of bars and tone
- 5 seconds of black
- team name, film title, date, and film length
- 2 seconds of black

This time is not considered a part of the length of the film.

Do I have to have credits?
Credits lend credibility to your production and are recommended but not required with the exception of including the following **mandatory statement**,
"This Film was produced as part of the 20th Annual 36 Hour Film Race 2026"

What if I have questions during the Race?
During the Kick-Off meeting, the Team Captain will be given a phone number to their assigned Race volunteer and they will provide you with their cell number you can call with questions. The Race volunteers will also be calling at different time intervals during the Race to check in and offer assistance as needed.

Do I have to have appearance releases?
Treat this as if it were a major motion picture production. You can download the Talent Release Forms and use those for any appearance release for anyone who appears on camera.

What about location releases?
These forms are also provided and should be used whenever possible.

Can I use any music?
All teams are to conduct their productions in a professional manner thus; any use of copyrighted music cannot be used without permission from the copyright holder and all licensors. There are several public access websites plus, there are several good programs that enable you to create musical scores. The best option is to make friends with a musician who will create an original score for your video.

Oops. Made it to the finish line too late!
If you are somewhat close to finishing, we will accept late tapes up until one hour from the deadline. However, late tapes will not be eligible for judging. We might, if time permits, screen them out of competition, but we cannot guarantee this.

Oops. Made it late to registration!
The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject a late on-site entry. If you are late by a couple of minutes, more than likely you will be accepted but once the Kick-Off Meeting has commenced registration is officially closed.