



Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival 2025

The 62nd Golden Horse Awards

Guidelines and Rules for Short Film

Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee



RULE ONE

ELIGIBILITY

I. Completion Date of Film

The film must not have been publicly screened before June 1, 2024, and must not have been submitted to the Golden Horse Awards competition in any other form or different version.

II. Film Format

Films accepted into the competition must be in **DCP (Digital Cinema Package) that meets industrial standard for theatrical screening**. Those of which are not in DCP format at the time of submission shall be ready to deliver DCPs to the Committee within one week upon receiving the notice of being shortlisted (no later than August 21, 2025). Failure to deliver requested materials on time will lead to ineligibility.

III. Length of Film

Running time less than 40 minutes, including all credits.

IV. Language and Crew

All submissions are required to meet **either** of the following conditions to be considered eligible.

- 1 Chinese languages (including official and vernacular languages used in the Chinese-speaking territories of the world; dubbing not included) should be used as dialogue in no less than half of the film. Films with no dialogue **MUST** meet condition 2 as below.
- 2 All the directors must be of Chinese origin.

- V. The submission form should be completed based on the content of the submitting film and its onscreen credits (front-and-end cast and crew credits). If in doubt, the applicant shall provide a complete statement along with supporting materials; the final determination in any event shall be made by the Committee.

RULE TWO

AGENDA

- I. Submission opens from June 1 through June 30, 2025. (Monday through Friday, 10:30-18:00) All required documentation and materials for Preliminary Stage (as specified in RULE FIVE) **MUST** be delivered to the Committee no later than June 30, 2025. Failure to meet the deadline shall subject the submission to be ineligible.

II. Shortlisted Films

The Committee will notify submitting organizations of shortlisted films by Thursday, August 14, 2025. All required materials, including DCP, for the Shortlist Stage (as specified in RULE FIVE) **MUST** be delivered to the Committee no later than Thursday, August 21, 2025. Any achievement submitted for Golden Horse Awards consideration may not be withdrawn after 00:00, Thursday, August 14, 2025.

- III. Award nominees will be announced on Wednesday, October 1, 2025.

- IV. Award winners will be announced on Saturday, November 22, 2025.



RULE THREE SUBMISSION

- I.** Fill in the online submission form on the official website. Eligibility is contingent on the receipt by the Committee all required documentation and materials. Failure to meet the deadline shall subject the submission to be ineligible.
- II.** Submission form shall be completed in traditional Chinese, with English translation for film title, producing companies, producers, and directors. All awards, nominations and the official documentation shall be conformed to the official screen credits. The submitting organization shall bear the sole responsibility for any error or omission.
- III.** Submissions by company/organization (i.e. production company, distribution company or international agency), Submission form and Declaration of Compliance with the Rules shall be certified with stamp of the company and signature of its leading representative.
- IV.** Submissions by individuals must be made by the director, the producer, or the copyright owner of the film. Submission form and Declaration of Compliance with the Rules shall be certified with stamp or signature of the copyright owner.
- V.** In the event of any dispute concerning credits, the Committee reserves the right to request for copyright ownership and other official documentation for the purpose of award consideration.

RULE FOUR REGULATIONS

- I.** Film previously submitted to the Golden Horse Awards shall not be submitted again, whether in different version, different title or for any other reason.
- II.** Each film may only be submitted to either live action short film or documentary short film or animated short film. Duplicate submission is prohibited.
- III.** An animated film is defined as a motion picture in which movement and characters' performances are created using a frame-by-frame techniques.
- IV.** Recipient of Best Live Action Short Film Award, Best Documentary Short Film Award, and Best Animated Short Film Award shall be director of the films. Companies or organized groups shall not receive nomination or award in this category. Excellence of the entries will be judged on the basis of originality, entertaining nature and production quality without regard to cost of production or subject matter. Films in this category shall not be eligible for all Awards for Individual.
- V.** All awards shall be conditioned upon the delivery to the Committee of one copy (DCP) of the nominated film made by professional company and shall meet the industrial standard for theatrical screening. Such print or copy shall be in a format and of a quality equivalent to its theatrical release. The film shall be in its original language with traditional Chinese and English subtitles.



RULE FIVE

SUBMISSION ATTACHMENT REQUIREMENT

I. Preliminary Stage

All materials shall be delivered by 18:00 June 30, 2025 (GMT +8).

Please fill in the following forms and provide all requested materials at online submission.

- Submission form (including the Declaration of Compliance with the Rules)
Complete the submission form online then sign, scan to PDF file and upload.
- Synopsis in both Chinese and English
Chinese 100-150 words, English 40-60 words
- Director profile in both Chinese and English
Chinese 100 words, English 40-60 words
- Official screen credit of cast and crew (in both Chinese and English), official screen credit of cast and character (in both Chinese and English)
Word or Excel format, size ~1MB
Cast/Character credit not required for documentary
- Download link and password for the submitted film
 - The content should include full opening and ending credits and with both traditional Chinese and English subtitles. Watermark is allowed. The submitted file should be made by a professional laboratory. Please test it for reading and playback thoroughly before sending it.
 - File format: resolution 1920*1080, audio codec: AAC, suggested bit depth: 16 bits (keep the original audio bit depth, if it's lower than 16 bits), video codec: H.264, suggested bitrate: 6000 kbps, size not exceeding 1 GB, MOV or MP4 format.
 - Cloud storage: Dropbox, Vimeo, etc.
 - Please note the link should be downloadable, not for online viewing.

II. Shortlist Stage

After receiving notification on August 14, all materials shall be delivered by August 21, 2025.

No.	Required Attachments	Note
01	DCP with industrial screening quality (In original language, with traditional Chinese and English subtitles.)	DCP Format: Resolution 2K or higher / 24FPS, 25FPS or 30FPS / JPEG 2000 MXF file stored in hard drive with EXT2, EXT3 or NTFS format
02	Minimum of five different stills / three photos of director	High-definition files (300dpi or above) in either JPG or PNG format
03	Poster / Title design	High-definition layered AI or PSD file with print quality
04	Film trailer in high-definition digital file: One clean and one with subtitle	Video Format: MOV file, NTSC, 59.94i, 1920*1080, ProRes 422, Bitrate:100mbps or higher
05	Press Kit	Word / PDF format
06	Dialogue list in Chinese and English	Word / Excel format

- III.** All costs (shipping, import/export customs, and insurance) incurred during the delivery of print and other attachments shall be covered by the submitting company. Submitted materials will NOT be returned, except for the DCP of the film.



- IV.** For films not nominated for official competition, the submitting company is liable to collect the print/copy and cover all fees incurred during the return delivery. Should there be any alternative arrangements or requests for the return of the print/copy, the submitting company shall notify the Committee prior to delivery. The Committee will return the print not nominated for official competition as per the standard procedures of Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival if not notified in advance. Objection or refusal of payment on such fee will not be accepted.

RULE SIX

CONTACT

Submission shall specify Entry for Golden Horse Awards with following information.

ATTN: Ms. KAO Yi-ting

Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee (Golden Horse Awards)

Address: 17F, No. 39, Sec. 1, Zhonghua Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., Taipei City 100413, Taiwan

Tel: +886-2-2370-0456 ext. 283

E-mail: gha@goldenhorse.org.tw

RULE SEVEN

AGREEMENT

- I.** Completion of the submission procedure entails that the applicant shall comply with all rules and regulations specified. The applicant, the producer, the producing company, the distributor, and related parties of the submitted film are obliged to confirm the legitimacy of the film. The Committee reserves the right to determine the eligibility of submitting film and may refuse films that could jeopardize reputation of the Committee.
- II.** In submitting a film for Golden Horse Awards consideration, owners of the film are deemed to have conveyed to the Committee the right to choose excerpts from the film at the Committee's sole discretion, for incorporation into the Golden Horse Awards telecast and related festival events for the year in which the film is in competition. Owners of the nominated films are obliged, as requested, to submit to the Committee high-definition digital files of trailer and film excerpts. All the submitted files and related materials shall be gratuitous to the Committee for archival and research purposes.
- III.** In the event of force majeure such as natural disasters and pandemics, the Committee may make necessary changes to the submission guidelines and rules. The participant is required to modify the submitted film's authorization period accordingly and cooperate with other specified adjustments. If there are any unspecified items, the latest announcement on the festival's official website shall prevail.
- IV.** The applicant must sign the Declaration of Compliance with the Rules as follows (will be provided after completing the online submission form).



The 62nd Golden Horse Awards

Declaration of Compliance with the Rules

This declaration is an agreement between [*Company Name / Name*], hereafter known as the Participant, and Taipei Golden Horse Film Festival Executive Committee, hereafter known as the Committee.

The Participant hereby agrees to submit the production [*Film Title*] for entry into the 62nd Golden Horse Awards Competition. The Participant has thoroughly read and understood all submission guidelines and rules and hereby agreed to comply with all of it. The Participant has completed required submission forms accordingly.

The Participant is aware and agrees that submission cannot be withdrawn for any reason after 00:00, Thursday, August 14, 2025. In the event of force majeure such as natural disasters and pandemics, the Participant agrees to modify the submitted film's authorization period and cooperate with other adjustments specified by the Committee.

The Participant agrees to provide the DCP of the film to be screened during jury process and in festival events from August 14 through November 23, 2025, including but not limited to the Golden Horse Film Festival and Media/Industry screenings. The owners of the nominated films must authorize two public festival screenings at no cost (excluding Media/Industry screenings). For each additional screening beyond two, the Committee will pay a screening fee of NTD 3,000 per extra screening (including tax).

The Participant agrees to provide video files of the submitted film for use at the Press Screening Room (for the duration between October 1 and November 23, 2025), and also agrees to provide written materials (including the script and dialogue lists), film stills, posters, film excerpts, film score/song and biography/photo of nominee to the Committee for use in promotional publications, advertising, the festival website, exhibition and the awards ceremony telecast. The aforementioned materials may be used as described above, without any limitation on the number of uses or the duration of exploitation.

If the submitted film is nominated for official competition, the Participant shall guarantee delegate attendance at Nominee Party on November 21, 2025, and the 62nd Golden Horse Awards Ceremony with Red Carpet on November 22, 2025.

If the submitted film is awarded, the Participant agrees to authorize the Committee and provide one copy of the award-winning film (format: clean, 4K SDR, ProRes 422, MOV file, and along with SRT file for both traditional Chinese and English subtitles) for permanent archiving and use in Golden Horse Awards and related events, free of charge. For any non-Golden Horse Awards-related use, the Committee shall obtain formal authorization from the film's copyright owner.

The Participant hereby understands and agrees that the Committee may revoke nomination or award in the event the Participant fails to fulfill the above obligations.

Company Name

Representative

Date YY / MM / DD



RULE EIGHT

NOMINATION REGULATIONS

- I.** In the event a nominated achievement is declared ineligible by the Committee, it shall not be replaced, and the category will remain with one less nomination.
- II.** Nomination list shall be conditioned upon the official submission form. Request for correction shall be filed to the Committee no later than October 3, 2025, with official statement and signature of the original nominee. Failure to comply with the prerequisite and the deadline is subjected to rejection of such revision.
- III.** Owners of nominated films shall provide DCP of the film to be screened during jury process and in festival events from August 14 through November 23, 2025, including but not limited to the Golden Horse Film Festival and Media/Industry screenings. The owners of the nominated films must authorize two public festival screenings at no cost (excluding Media/Industry screenings). For each additional screening beyond two, the Committee will pay a screening fee of NTD 3,000 per extra screening (including tax).
- IV.** The Participant agrees to provide video files of the nominated films for use at the Press Screening Room arranged by the Committee, for the duration between October 1 and November 23, 2025.
- V.** Owners of nominated films shall provide written materials (including the script and dialogue lists), film stills, posters, film excerpts and biography/photo of nominee to the Committee for use in promotional publications, advertising, the festival website, exhibition, and the awards ceremony telecast. The aforementioned materials may be used as described above, without any limitation on the number of uses or the duration of exploitation.
- VI.** All nominees shall fulfill the obligation to attend the Nominee Party on November 21, 2025, and the 62nd Golden Horse Awards Ceremony with Red Carpet on November 22, 2025.

RULE NINE

AWARDS REGULATIONS

- I.** In the event of more than one winner, each winner shall be given one statuette.
- II.** All winning films must provide the Committee with one copy of the film (format: clean, 4K SDR, ProRes 422, MOV file, and along with SRT file for both traditional Chinese and English subtitles) for permanent archiving and use in Golden Horse Awards and related events, free of charge. For any non-Golden Horse Awards-related use, the Committee shall obtain formal authorization from the film's copyright owner.
- III.** In the event of any dispute concerning credits, the Committee reserves the right to declare any achievement ineligible or, alternatively, to reject all claims to credit, list credits as being in controversy and withhold any award until the dispute is resolved.



RULE TEN

JURY

I. Jury Qualification

1. Jury comprises film-related professionals selected and invited by the Committee, including preliminary stage, shortlist stage and final stage.
2. Participants of shortlisted or finalist films (based on the film's official screen credits) may not assume the responsibility of jury in shortlist or final stage.
3. Jury member shall not assume the position for any two consecutive Awards years.
4. No proxies or absence shall be allowed during the jury process. The Committee reserves the right to revoke the designation of jury in such events.
5. In the event of ineligibility for the jury or violation of rules, the Committee shall revoke the designation of the jury member immediately.

II. Jury Regulation

1. Preliminary Stage

Awards consideration is segmented into three phases. All qualified submissions enter preliminary stage in four categories, each with its own jury committee (narrative feature/ live action short film/ documentary/ animated film). Films are reviewed by each jury committee with open discussion and secret ballot. Candidate who receives a majority of votes shall then stand for further consideration in shortlist stage.

2. Shortlist Stage

Shortlisted films shall all be reviewed by jury upon each award category with open discussion and secret ballot; the jury can initiate a write-in nomination and change the category in which a candidate shall be considered (the number of nominations in each category may be fewer than the designated number, or even none).

3. Final Stage

Award winners shall be voted by jury with open discussion and secret ballot (there must be one winner for each category). The final winning list will be notarized and sealed by certified lawyers designated by the Committee and shall be announced at the Golden Horse Awards Ceremony.

RULE ELEVEN

LOGO OF GOLDEN HORSE AWARDS

- I.** Logo of Golden Horse Awards may only be used by the nominated films and awarded films in its publication, website, and other promotional material. For other usage of logo, additional authorization from the Committee is required.
- II.** For use of Golden Horse Awards logo, users shall apply to the Committee for standard format files.
- III.** Cropping/alternation of original design for the Golden Horse Awards logo is prohibited.