

ALWAYS SHORTER

General Rules

Is your approach to the short format classic or unusual, conceptual, creative...?

Take the opportunity to present a very short film!

Opening of registrations: March 23, 2026 – www.recif.nc

Registration deadline and submission of the screening link: no later than September 21, 2026

Participation confirmation: no later than October 1, 2026

Film submission deadline: no later than October 2, 2026

Information: tournages@province-sud.nc

ALWAYS SHORTER is a program that encourages the production of **fiction films**.

- **Registration Conditions**

Registrations are open from **March 23 to September 21, 2026** online at www.recif.nc

Registration is free and implies acceptance of these regulations.

A project leader must be designated on the registration form and becomes the main contact for the festival.

Eligible films include **fiction films** produced in New Caledonia or elsewhere by a **director residing in New Caledonia or by a New Caledonian production company**. Fiction **animation films** are accepted.

Exceptional cases: if a film is produced without the support of a local production company and by a director who is no longer resident in New Caledonia, the filmmaker is invited to contact the festival. Participation in the competition will be assessed by the board of directors based on the filmmaker's ongoing connection with New Caledonia.

The maximum running time allowed is **5 minutes**.

Languages other than French must include French subtitles.

The film must not have been produced earlier than two years before this edition of the competition (November 2024).

The film must not have already been presented in the previous edition.

If the project is supported by a production company, the film must be submitted by the producer. The director's authorization is also required.

Only one submission per director is allowed, except in the case of co-direction, which allows both an individual film and a co-directed film.

The festival reserves the right to refuse one of the projects if co-direction appears to be used solely to allow double participation (same team and similar artistic direction).

A producer may submit several films.

A screening link must be provided to the festival at the time of registration, no later than September 21, 2026. The link must remain active at least until October 2, 2026.

Registration implies full compliance with these regulations as well as with the decisions of the jury. Any breach of these rules may result in the elimination of the short film from the competition at any time.

- **Technical Conditions and Film Submission**

The required format is **HD MPEG4 H264**.

Films must be sent to the festival no later than October 2, 2026 via a **WeTransfer** or **Dropbox** link. The online registration form available on www.recif.nc includes a field where the corresponding URL must be provided so that the organization can download the film.

Any film submitted late will not participate in the competition. The festival is not responsible for delivery errors.

Only one final version of the film may be submitted.

- **Preselection**

Film selection is the exclusive responsibility of the preselection committee appointed by the festival.

The committee will select films based on technical and artistic criteria. It reserves the right to refuse any film containing racist, defamatory, discriminatory content or content

that undermines human dignity. It also reserves the right to limit the number of films presented in competition and out of competition.

Applicants will be informed of the results of the selection no later than October 1, 2026.

Films not selected for competition may be screened “out of competition”, with the agreement of the producer or the director.

Once selected, no film may be withdrawn from the competition.

- **The Jury**

The jury may consist of audiovisual professionals, representatives of the artistic and cultural sector, and festival partners.

Anyone who participated in the creation of a film in competition may not serve as a member of the jury.

After the screening of the films, which may take place during a public session, the jury will meet in private to deliberate. Decisions are made by absolute majority and, in the event of a tie, the President’s vote is decisive.

- **Awards**

During the closing ceremony, scheduled for Saturday, November 7, 2026, the following prizes will be awarded:

- **Best Very Short Film Prize** – 100,000 CFP francs
- **Special Jury Prize** – 50,000 CFP francs

Additional prizes, including an Audience Award, may be created at the festival’s discretion.

Cash prizes are awarded to the producer when applicable, who may choose to share them with the director.

- **Screening Conditions**

Participants authorize the festival to use their image for promotional purposes, including photographic or audiovisual recordings related to their project.

They also authorize the festival and its partners to use excerpts from their film and two photos for non-commercial purposes.

The author/director guarantees that the work is original and that they hold the rights to it.

Participants undertake to complete all necessary procedures for the use of pre-existing works appearing in their films before submitting the film.

Participants must also complete all procedures necessary for the use of music. Before participating, they are encouraged to seek information from SACENC. Teams not residing in New Caledonia must contact equivalent organizations in their own country.

Film teams must obtain parental authorization if any actors are minors.

All participants accept that their film may be screened as part of the 2026 edition, between October 30 and December 20, 2026 in New Caledonia without financial compensation, during screenings attended by the jury, public screenings or school screenings.

If an award is received, directors and producers undertake to mention it in future screenings. A specific logo will be provided by the festival to be included at minimum on the film poster.

- **RECIF Festival Commitments**

The RECIF Festival commits to mentioning both the title of the work and the name of the project leader in all communications announcing the competition results and their promotion.

The RECIF Festival commits to welcoming one representative of each short film presented in competition during the screenings in the presence of the jury and during the awards ceremony.

A copy of the film may be kept for archival purposes. The main contact (provided during registration) will always be consulted in case of use.

- **In Case of Cancellation**

The RECIF Festival reserves the right to cancel or postpone the Even Shorter program or the festival itself in case of force majeure. Registered participants will be informed. No compensation claims may be made in this regard.

- **Disputes**

The implementation of the clauses of these regulations falls under the responsibility of the organizing committee, which is the only body authorized to address issues not mentioned in these regulations.

The President of the New Caledonia Film Festival Association, or their representative, has the authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation of these regulations.