



WCTC-Rules

6th World Cuptasters Championship 2009 26.–28. June 2009 in Cologne, Germany

The rules and procedures for the National Championships should be the same as for the World Championship.

The competition as such is organised as a number of triangular tests. 3 cups are set up. 2 of which are identical. The aim of the competition is for the participant to identify the odd cup out. This can be achieved any way the competitor prefers. We are only testing the cupper's ability to discriminate between coffees not to identify them. This is done because the ability to identify will depend on the tasters coffee cultural background.

In the competition 8 triangular tests are set up and the competitor who singles out the most correct cups from the 8 sets, wins. If there is a tie where more than one competitor has the same score, then the one that completed the task in the shortest time wins. During the competition the cup tasters start off in pairs facing the audience.

The coffees selected for all 8 tests must be the same for all cuppers. They should be selected by a jury (this can be as large or as small as is practical) and we recommend that they represent the most common coffees in the world speciality coffee community.

All coffees should be medium roasted to the same degree and colour of roast, and ground identically. They should be prepared in a standard 1.8 litre good quality drip filter brewer with a brewing temperature between 92 to 96 degrees Celsius. The brewing cycle should be 4 to 6 minutes, and the temperature of the finished brew should be between 80 to 85 degrees when stored in a thermos flask. The brew strength should be 60 grams per. litre Celsius in thermo flasks.

Standard tap water should be used providing it is of a good quality without any detectable taints. The jury should decide if it is necessary to use filtered or purified water.

The size of each cup or glass used in the tests should be between 12.5 to 25 centilitres and the coffee volume presented to the contestants should be between 7.5 centilitres to 15 centilitres.

The 8 sets of cups should be placed in front of the competitors at the same time. The sets should be identical, but should not be placed out in the same order for the two cuppers. Furthermore, each pair should have a different set up as this will avoid those who follow trying to cheat by following what a previous contestant chose.

The cupper can use any sense to identify the odd cup. The cupper can use what is available on the table, and if preferred their own tasting spoon.

Each pair of contestants will start the testing simultaneously after a signal from the head judge. The test is over when both competitors have stepped back from the table and signalled that their test is over or after a maximum of 8 minutes. The head judge will signal when half the time has elapsed, and thereafter each minute.

The cupper must identify the odd cup by pushing it distinctly to the side or forward completely clear of its previous position.

The results should be controlled and registered by the competition jury of 2.

The winner is the contestant that has the most correct number of cups pushed aside. In the event of a tie, the contestant who completed the test with the shortest time wins.

If there are more than 8 contestants, then qualifying heats should be held with the aim of identifying the 8 best contestants who will then go on to compete in the quarterfinal.

In the quarterfinal and onwards the winner from each individual pairs competition goes on to the next round. Before the final there should be competition between the two losing semi finalists in order to determine the third or bronze place position. The final is between the two winning semi finalists.

In the world championship final there will be 3 competitors in each heat. In national finals the organizers can decide.

In the world championship final the 6 best from the qualification rounds go directly to the semifinal. The 3 best results from the semifinal go to the final and in the final 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be decided.

The 4th, 5th and 6th place will be decided by the results reached in the semifinal.