

RULES & REGULATIONS: 3 – 5 November 2023 NEC Show competition

General Rules – Applies to *ALL categories*

You are reminded that entries must not be shown on any social media sites until the results are announced on our website

Show opening times: Friday: 0930 – 1700 Saturday: 0930 – 1700 and Sunday: 0930 - 1630

- a) Your competition entry gives you free entry to the show for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. You only receive the free entry if you exhibit your competition piece at the show.
- b) Please be aware that these rules are subject to change after the schedule release, you are advised to refer to our website for up to date changes and subscribe to our newsletter
- c) Entry to the competition and/or individual categories may close earlier than stated due to limited spaces at the show. Please remember to check the website frequently for updates.
- d) Queries/questions must be submitted to questions@ichf.co.uk before 18th September 2023. No queries will be answered after this date. Queries/questions should only relate to the rules and not individual designs. Advice will not be given on individual designs or on suitable categories.
- e) Cakes/entries/exhibits must not be entered into any other competition worldwide at shows or online prior to judging (including Cake International). If proven, the entry will be disqualified. This applies to previous competitions, simultaneous competitions or future competitions prior to judging.
- f) Entries that do not comply with the schedule will be marked as NTS/Not To Schedule/Disqualified
- g) The area allowed is for the entire exhibit. Everything in your display **must** fit within the allowed area including the board and any notes you are providing.
- h) No part of the display must overhang the allowed area. If your display is bigger than the allowed space it will be disqualified. It can however, be smaller.
- i) The exhibit must fit within the designated area as stated in your category. If your exhibit overhangs the cake board, marks will be deducted as this could be damaged whilst in transit. There are exceptions to this ruling overhang of the board, if the style and theme of the exhibit fits e.g. jungle theme foliage etc.
- j) Bare wires - When bare wires are used in sugar flowers, all wires must be taped
- k) When bare wires are used on a cake as decoration - if wires are penetrating the cake, they must be in a posy pick, marks will be deducted for wires left bare.
- l) Any wire penetrating a cake will be disqualified and deemed not to schedule (NTS)
- m) Ribbon is not permitted on the exhibit itself unless specified in the category.
- n) Only mediums/materials that are specified in each schedule are permitted
- o) Cold Porcelain and Artista Soft **must not** be used in the competition apart from the Cold Porcelain category.
- p) Artificial Decoration: Commercial cake toppers e.g. Plastic/porcelain bride/groom, non-edible 'Happy Birthday' signs, lights, decorative wire, are not permitted in the competition unless specified in the category, if you do use these your exhibit will not be marked and will be disqualified.
- q) Posy picks, sealed straws, food safe dowels etc. must be fully inserted into the cake or dummy, so that the top edge of the pick/straw/dowel is level with the icing and visible.
- r) Where dummies are allowed/permitted they must be treated as real cake, using food safe products and posy picks or a suitable food safe barrier. This is with the exception of Decorative Exhibit categories and Head Judge's Wild Card categories, as these categories are not intended for consumption but to display the skills and techniques using edible mediums.
- s) Entries into incorrect classes and therefore **Not To Schedule** will be disqualified and **will not** be moved into the correct category.
- t) If your exhibit has writing or inscription in a language other than english then a full translation must be provided to the organisers noting the competition number it relates to. This must be handed to a member of the ICHF team at exhibit check-in **BEFORE** your piece is placed in the competition area. The organiser reserves

the right to remove any entries that contain inappropriate language or that will cause offense. Your entry will still be judged in line with the competition schedule but **may not** be displayed in the cake competition area

u) If an exhibit is removed from the competition display area for whatever reason the organisers/judges deem fit (including complaints or deemed offensive) , this is not the same as being disqualified, you will only receive a Not To Schedule card if you are disqualified. All entries will receive certificates and associated prize money if they are awarded by the judges.

Tips

- Be careful of fingerprints, glue marks, nail marks, even covering, thickness of sugarpaste, pencil and tool marks.
- Make sure your work is clean.
- Non-edible decoration means any decoration made wholly or in part from any non-edible material.
- Artificial decoration means lights, soundcards etc.,
- If a height restriction applies, include the board, measure from the table upwards.
- If you have damaged your piece during transportation you may request a “Damaged in Transport” card from the registration desk. You may note the damage on the card if you wish. (Please note this may **not** be taken into consideration by the judges as transportation to the competition is your responsibility and is considered part of the competition process.)
- If using a vase in the floral section it is a good idea to place weight in the bottom of it, e.g. a stone or some damp sand (you can place this in a bag) to ensure stability
- Remember your exhibit will be viewed from every angle.
- It is better to ask a question rather than risk NTS or disqualification.

Entry Process

Complete a form for EACH ENTRY at www.cakeinternational.co.uk

Early Entry £20 - **closes 1600hrs Uk time 10th September 2023**

Late Entry £24 - **closes 1600hrs Uk time 8th October 2023**

There are no refunds or changes of categories. Entries can not be ‘carried over’.

Should the unlikely happen and the show is cancelled, you will be given the option of transferring your competition entry to the next available show.

Delivery of Exhibits

Exhibits must be delivered **to Hall 17 door 17.4 from 0700 UK time until 0900am on Friday 3rd November 2023**
Late entries will not be accepted ***unless in exceptional circumstances.***

On arrival show your entry acknowledgment. You will be given a competitor badge and instructions on how to place your exhibit(s). Competitors only become eligible to receive their badges on delivery of their exhibit(s).

Once you have placed your exhibit(s) on the competition table/s you must leave the hall and re-enter at show opening time through the public entrance.

Badges must be worn at all times, including Prize Giving.

- U-16's are not permitted in the registration/set up area unless they are competitors.
- Competitors may have **one** helper in the set-up area.
- Once you have placed your exhibit(s) leave the hall until the show opens.
- Helpers will need to purchase a ticket to visit the show.
- A repair area will be available to mend damage incurred in transit.
- You must bring your own repair kit.
- Travelling boxes **must** be removed after delivery and brought back for collection.
- There are no storage facilities.

Exhibit labels

Two numbered labels will be issued per exhibit. Stick one to your exhibit so that it is visible to the judges and the other to the base for security purposes.

Displaying Exhibits

Place your exhibit where indicated by the class and exhibit number.

- Please do not place products of any type near your exhibit. They will be automatically disposed of.
- You can leave a brief note listing products used or details about your exhibit e.g. the concept or inspiration (one or two sentences only). The note should be no bigger than 6" x 4" – one side only and placed in front of your exhibit. Do NOT include your name or any reference to you, the competitor. (some categories must leave details, see your relevant category)
- No business cards or names to be left next to your exhibit before judging.
- The organisers/judges reserve the right to move exhibits as necessary.

Security

Whilst reasonable care will be taken with the security of the exhibits, the organisers will not be responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits, equipment or personal effects. All entries are displayed in the competition area at the competitor's own risk.

Intellectual Property Rights

By entering Cake International **BE AWARE** that photographs or copies may be taken by any person or visitor and realise that your designs/work may be reproduced but you will not hold ICHF Events or its employees liable in any way should this happen.

Behaviour and conduct of competitors

We expect everyone to act in a respectful manner before during and after the cake competition – the following is an example of behaviour that will not be tolerated and could result in the following action being taken:

- Removed from the show with no re-entry or refund.
- Banned from attending Cake International or entering the competition for a minimum of 2 years.

- All threats towards any members of the Cake International team including the judges or other participants at the show will be referred to the police.
1. Any competitor who interferes or threatens to interfere with the operation of the judging process or the competition
 2. Aggressive behaviour, foul language or shouting will not be tolerated.
 3. All defamatory, offensive or derogatory comments, either verbal or written (including emails, text/voicemail/phone messages, social media or other written communication) to a member of the judging team or a member of ICHF Events.
 4. If you damage or interfere with another cake competition exhibit.

Copyright

You may take inspiration from movies, books, fashion etc, but we encourage you to use your own creativity, you will lose marks for lack of originality.

Photographs

Photographs of competition pieces may be used online by ICHF Events or printed in future relevant publications as agreed with ICHF management team.

Results

Judging takes place on Friday 3rd November 2023. Results will be available Saturday 4th November 2023 from 1400hrs UK time at www.cakeinternational.co.uk with placements announced at Prize Giving on Sunday 5th November 2023 publicised online from 1400hrs UK time.

Not To Schedule/Disqualified and No awards will not be shown on the results website.

Score sheets / Feedback

The judges will only remark an exhibit if there is an error with the calculation and/or an error with the rules. The judges will not enter into any discussions regarding a disagreement with grading of awards. The judges' decision is final. No feedback can be given after the show.

Removal of Exhibits

Exhibits can **only** be removed from 1630hrs UK time Sunday 5th November 2023. Please be aware of this when organising your travel plans and please do not request to remove your exhibit earlier than stated time. The organisers reserve the right to remove and destroy any exhibit not taken by 1700hrs UK time on Sunday 5th November 2023.

Awards

Gold, Silver, Bronze or Merit may be awarded. Each class may have 1st, 2nd, or 3rd awarded. Where the highest award in a class is bronze, no 1st, 2nd, or 3rd places will be awarded.

Not all entries are guaranteed an award.

Prize Giving 1300hrs UK time on Sunday 5th November in the Cake International Theatre.



Trophies and first, second and third prize only certificates will be presented. Cash prizes (if applicable) must be signed for and collected from the Competition Office.

Certificate collection

We will email your certificate to you. Please allow up to 28 days to receive these.

Complaints

All complaints must be emailed to melanieu@ichf.co.uk by 14th November 2023. Judges decision is final and no judging results will be discussed after the show closes unless there is an error in calculation and/or an error with the rules. Judges will not re-mark any disagreement with grading of awards. Please allow a minimum of 28 days for complaints to be processed.

By entering Cake International you agree to abide by the rules and regulations herein