



Scoring Process and Mechanism for CompBBQUK Champion Series

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Summary

This scoring mechanism has been designed to be flexible enough to use with numerous different contest and round types, while providing enough structure and guidance to be consistently applied. Scoring for each round will be conducted in the same way regardless of the entry requirements. Scoring is and should be subjective and differences of opinion are expected.

Judging Numbers and Tables

- Judging in groups provides for a result which is fairer, minimises the subjectivity and reduced the impact of outlier scores.
- Where multiple judging groups are being used, they must be equal in size. Where possible, judges should judge in groups of six, if this is not possible, they should be no less than four and no more than eight.
- Where multiple judging groups are being used, each group will be known as a “Table” and will be numbered from 1 up to the number of groups.
- Where a single group of judges will conduct the scoring for all entries in a round. There should be a minimum of four judges, but no maximum is prescribed. Common sense should be used to determine the maximum number dependent on the type of round being judged and the number of entries.
- In each judging group, each judge will be known as a “Seat” and will be numbered from 1 up to the number of judges in the group.
- Each Judge will need to know their “Table” and “Seat” number before the judging of the round commences.
- Judging groups must remain the same for the duration of a round, and any changes between rounds should be minimised and happens only at the direction and discretion of the contest liaison.
- All judges in a judging group **must taste and score** each entry their judging group is judging. Judges may not refuse to taste and score an entry. The only circumstance where an entry can not be tasted and scored is if the Contest liaison has agreed that the entry is subject to disqualification.
- Each “Table” must have a designated “Table Captain” for each round, this maybe one of the judges, or someone separate to the judges. The “Table Captain” may be changed for different rounds but must remain the same for the duration of each round.

Entries / Turn-In

- The organiser must stipulate how many portions each team must turn-in and if the portions should be individual and self-contained (such as a burger) or can be portioned from a whole (such as a pie).
- Common sense must be used towards requirements on competitors in terms of turn-in and number or portions.
- Consideration should also be given to portions being suitable to be split between judges to minimise the requirement on competitors.



• If on turn-in it is clear that the entry does not meet the requirements on portions laid out by the contest organiser. The team have the option to adjust their turn-in to meet the requirements, but their final turn-in must be within their turn-in window. If the team is not able to adjust their turn-in, in conjunction with agreement from the CompBBQ UK Contest Liaison, the entry will be disqualified and not taken to the judging group / table. This can be highlighted by either the turn-in table or the judge's assignment table.

Scoring

- All scoring in each category will be on a 1 to 9 scale with only whole numbers used, although a 1 is only possible in two categories. The following is a score guide:
 - Disqualified / Not Scored**
 - Inedible**
 - Very Poor**
 - Poor**
 - Below Average**
 - Average**
 - Good**
 - Very Good**
 - Excellent**
- Judges should score each entry on its own merits and not compare it to other entries for scoring purposes. Judges should consider their scoring against what they think is possible given the rules and constraints of the rounds and contest.
- Judges should assess and score each entry based on what the turn-in is intended to be. An example of this is a "beef" round where one team produces a burger and the other a beef wellington. The burger should be judged as a burger and evaluated on how good a burger it is, the beef wellington should be judged as a beef wellington and how good a wellington it is.
- If a table captain or judge identifies an issue with the turn-in being judged that they believe may warrant a disqualification, the table captain should pause the judging of the entry and discuss with the contest liaison for a final decision.
- Each judge will use a CompBBQ UK scoring sheet and score each entry on the following four categories:

Scoring Categories

Visual Appeal

Visual Appeal focusses on how the entry looks if it looks appetising and exciting. Judges are invited to consider the colour, appearance of texture, appearance of succulence, arrangement of components, relative proportion of components and any theme-based presentation.

- Scored 1 – 9
- Complete or partial disqualification on visual appeal must be done prior to tasting i.e. while judges are looking at the turn-in in its entirety or while the entry is in the process of being portioned
- Complete disqualification from the round may be given in conjunction with agreement from the CompBBQ UK Contest Liaison.
 - In the event of complete disqualification for the following reasons, all judges will mark a 1 in Visual Appeal if not yet scored and not score in the other categories. If judges have



already scored, they should cross out their scores for the turn-in on their score card and mark a 1 next to the visual appeal box. They should take care to ensure they are amending the correct turn-in score, and they should then have the amendments reviewed and initialled by the Contest Liaison prior to commencing judging.

- ☐ Visible foreign object - Foreign objects should only be considered if it is reasonable to assume they must have been present when entry left the cooking area.
- ☐ Visible prohibited component
- ☐ Visible absence of required component
- **Partial disqualification** from the round on a judge-by-judge basis may be given in conjunction with agreement from the CompBBQUK Contest Liaison.
 - ☐ In the event of **partial disqualification** for the following reasons, **all judges** will mark a 1 in Visual Appeal if not yet scored. If judges have already scored for Visual Appeal, they should cross out their score for Visual Appeal for the turn-in and mark a 1 next to the visual appeal box. They should take care to ensure they are amending the correct turn-in scores and they should then have the amendments reviewed and initialled by the Contest Liaison prior to commencing judging.
 - ☐ Any judges not impacted by the **partial disqualification** reason, may continue to taste and score in the remaining three categories.
 - ☐ Insufficient entry portions – Judges who do not receive an entry portion will score 1 in Visual Appeal and not score in the other three categories.
 - ☐ Inedible entry (raw, uncooked, dangerous to eat only) – Judges who's entry portion is impacted (this may be a number or all of the judges) will score a 1 in Visual Appeal and not score in the other three categories.

Flavour

Flavour focusses on the taste of the entry and the combination of flavours in the entry to the exclusion of other scoring categories. Judges are invited to consider the balance of individual flavours, seasoning, harmony of combined flavours and depth and intensity of flavour.

- Scored 2 – 9
- Disqualification is not possible based on flavour.

Mouth Feel

Mouth Feel includes texture and tenderness of the entry when eaten. Judges are invited to consider the texture and the combination of textures present, if textures complement each other, the tenderness of the entry or components of it and the appropriateness of the mouth feel for the entry.

- Scored 1 – 9
- **Partial disqualification** from the round may be given in conjunction with agreement from the CompBBQUK Contest Liaison.
 - ☐ In the event of **partial disqualification** for the following reasons, **only the impacted judge(s)** will mark a 1 in Mouth Feel if not yet scored. If appropriate at the judge's discretion they may continue to taste and mark in the other categories, if they don't wish to, they will not score for any remaining categories. If They choose not to provide a score for any remaining categories, they must cross out any Flavour and Creativity scores already provided, but Visual Appeal must remain. If the impacted judge(s) have already scored in Mouth Feel, they should cross out their score for Mouth Feel on their score card



and mark a 1 next to the mouth feel box. They should take care to ensure they are amending the correct turn-in scores, and they should then have the amendments reviewed and initialled by the Contest Liaison prior to commencing judging.

- ☐ Foreign object discovered during eating - Foreign objects should only be considered if it is reasonable to assume they must have been present when entry left the cooking area.
- ☐ Prohibited component discovered while eating
- ☐ Absence of required component discovered while eating
- ☐ Inedible entry (raw, uncooked, dangerous to eat only)

Creativity

Creativity is judged against the dish and the presentation of it. Judges are invited to consider the creativity of the interpretation of the brief by the team, the use of ingredients and cooking methods, and how the dish has been constructed and presented to be judged.

- **Scored 3 – 9**
- **Disqualification is not possible based on creativity.**

Weightings and Outliers

Scores for each entry, round and judges' group will be tabulated and calculated as follows.

- For each entry score per judge, the scores will be weighted as follows to produce an overall score for the entry for each judge. (*See fig. 1.*)
 - ☐ Visual Appeal **x 0.75**
 - ☐ Flavour **x 2.0**
 - ☐ Mouth Feel **x 1.5** ☐ Creativity **x 0.75**

fig. 1.

Judge 1			
Category	Score	Weighting	Final score
<i>Visual Appeal</i>	7	0.75	5.25
<i>Flavour</i>	6	2.00	12.00
<i>Mouth Feel</i>	8	1.50	12.00
<i>Creativity</i>	9	0.75	6.75
Total			36.00

- **Maximum score is 45 per entry**
- For judging groups of four (or four or less scores in the event of voided scores), all judges scores for each entry will be combined and averaged (mean) to 2 decimal place to give the final score for that entry. (*See fig. 2.*)
- For judging groups of five (or five scores in the event of voided scores), the highest individual judges score should be discarded, and an average (mean) taken of the remainder. (*See fig. 2.*)
- For judging groups of six or more (or six or more scores), the highest and lowest individual judges scores should be discarded, and an average (mean) taken of the remainder. (*See fig. 2.*)

fig. 2.

Four Judges		Five Judges		Six Judges		Seven Judges	
Judge Seat	Team X	Judge Seat	Team X	Judge Seat	Team X	Judge Seat	Team X
1	36.00	1	36.00	1	36.00	1	36.00
2	38.75	2	38.75	2	38.75	2	38.75
3	41.00	3	41.00	3	41.00	3	41.00
4	32.00	4	32.00	4	32.00	4	32.00
Total from 4 judges		Total from 4 judges		Total from 4 judges		Total from 5 judges	
147.75		146.00		150.00		182.00	
Average & Final Score		Average & Final Score		Average & Final Score		Average & Final Score	
36.94		36.50		37.50		36.40	

- In the event of a scorecard not being reasonably able to be attributed to a judge, every effort should be made by the Contest Liaison to identify the judge so the scorecard can be counted in the score tabulation process. In the event it cannot, the whole scorecard will be considered void.
- In the event there is uncertainty around a specific score or scores on a scorecard, every effort should be made by the Contest Liaison to confirm with the judge what the score is, although the Contest Liaison must be satisfied that there is no remaining uncertainty. In the event the uncertainty cannot be resolved, the score for that turn in will be voided, but the remaining scores on the score card will be counted.
- If a scorecard is voided, the scores for the impacted table using the remaining cards will be calculated using the principles outlined in fig. 2.
- If a score is voided, the impacted entries overall score for the table will be calculated using the remaining scores and the principles outlined in fig. 2. While the unaffected entries will continue to also follow the same principles, even if a different number of judges scores are used for entries judged on the same table.
- Every effort should be made by the CompBBQUK Contest Liaison to resolve any scorecard issue before declaring them void. But they must be satisfied any added or corrected information is correct.

Round Tie Resolving

In the event of a tie between teams in their final overall score for the round, a process will take place where each tied teams lowest counting score will be removed, and a new average calculated and used to determine the final position.

- Counting scores exclude the lowest score already removed to calculate the final score if there are five scores, and both the lowest and highest scores removed if there are six or more scores.
- If ties remain after the lowest counting score has been removed, the process will continue with the next lowest being removed only from the teams that continue to be tied until either all tied teams have been ordered, or the two highest counting scores for each teams remain, and these are equal. (*See fig. 3.*)
- If tied teams have been judged by a differing number of judges (or counting scores), the same process will apply with the lowest score removed and new average calculated, but the recalculations will stop once one of the tied teams has two scores remaining.
- In the event one or more teams remain tied when recalculations cannot proceed further, it will be considered a tie in the final scores unless the tie impacts the top three teams.



- If after recalculation ties remain that impact the top three teams in the round, the tied teams will be ordered by their highest individual counting scores, then second highest etc until teams have been ordered.
- Any recalculated scores during this process will not impact the standings of the non-tied teams
- Any recalculated scored during this process are considered for the purpose of resolving the tie only and are not to be considered the team's final score for the round. Final official scores will reflect the tie although the ranking position will be considered the one calculated following the resolving of the tie.
- No ties within aggregated (i.e. overall contest results) standings will be resolved with the exception of ties that impact the Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion positions (1st and 2nd). In this instance, the teams within the tie with the highest individual round score will be considered the winner of the tie, in the event these scores are the same, the process will continue back to the 2nd highest individual round score and so on until either a winner of the tie is identifiable, or the tie cannot be broken and a final tie recorded as the final aggregated result.
- Tie resolving within the aggregated standings will only impact the classification of Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion. Final tied positions will still stand, for example: In resolving a tie for two teams that have the same second highest aggregated score in the final standings, the team with the highest individual round score will be the Reserve Grand Champion, but both teams will be considered to have finished in 2nd position.

fig. 3.

Final Scores								
Team	Judge						Score	Possition
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	X	34	41	37	41	29		
	Y	36	29	41	38	36		
	Z	29	38	39	38	36		
							37.75	tied 1st
							37.75	tied 1st
							37.75	tied 1st

Recalculation 1								
Team	Judge						Score	Possition
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	X	34	39	41	37	41	29	
	Y	36	41	38	41	38	36	
	Z	29	44	38	39	38	36	
							39.00	3rd
							38.33	tied 1st
							38.33	tied 1st

Recalculation 2								
Team	Judge						Score	Possition
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
	X	34	39	41	37	41	29	
	Y	36	41	38	41	38	36	
	Z	29	44	38	39	38	36	
							39.50	1st
							38.50	2nd

Disqualification

- Disqualification from the round outside of the scoring process will take place under the following circumstances:
 - ☐ The team entry is not turned in within the turn-in window (see rules for more details)
 - ☐ A foreign object is visible in/on the turn-in when presented to the turn-in table or judges assignment table and it is reasonable to assume it must have been present when the entry left the cooking area.
 - ☐ An ingredient or object that has been prohibited by the organiser has been included in the turn-in and the turn in table or judges' assignment table identifies it.
 - ☐ Absence of a required element that has been stipulated by the organiser and the turn in table or judges' assignment table identifies it.
 - ☐ Contravening most recently published rules and procedures ☐ Contravening any stipulations made by the organiser.
- Any disqualification either as a result of the judging process or for reasons outside of the judging process must be agreed by the Contest Liaison, and their decision is final



- All reasonable effort should be made by the contest liaison to resolve and avoid a disqualification issue including but not limited to; asking teams at turn-in to adjust, add to or remove from their entries (any changes at turn in must be made prior to the end of the teams turn in window.