

WELSH INTERNATIONAL CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

FEATURING

NATIONAL CHEF OF WALES

JUNIOR CHEF OF WALES

WELSH BUTCHER OF THE YEAR

VEGAN CHEF OF THE YEAR



YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE

International Convention Centre Wales

Monday 20th - Wednesday 22nd January 2025



Bwyd a Diod Cymru
Food & Drink Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Welcome

WELCOME TO THE WELSH INTERNATIONAL CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS 20TH – 22ND JANUARY 2025 AT THE ICC WALES, NEWPORT

Firstly a very big thank you to all sponsors, chefs and colleagues that made the 2024 Welsh International Culinary Championships such a great success. Hosting the finals of the hospitality skills competition Wales competitions certainly added value for all involved and I am honoured to announce that in 2025 these competition finals will also feature in our Welsh International Culinary Championships.

As an association that is run by volunteers to organise and deliver such a showcase in Wales would not be possible without our sponsors and partners. If you are reading this and would like to know more about our sponsorship packages ([Hyper Link](#))

Alongside hosting the finals of skills competition Wales we will be featuring our National and Junior Chef of Wales Final as well as our Vegan Chef of Wales Final and there will be an opportunity to purchase a ticket to dine at the competition so that you can enjoy first hand the menus of or National, Junior and Vegan Chef of Wales tickets are extremely limited and are always in great demand more details on how to secure these premium dining opportunities are set out within this essential guide.

We will also be featuring a Welsh Food and Drink Showcase. This event is open to the public FREE of charge so it really is an event not to be missed so get it in your diary today. To finish off the 3 day event we will be hosting the Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony which can be purchased as individual tickets or as a table of 10 where the winners of the Vegan, Junior and National Chef of Wales will be crowned as well as presenting the awards for the Training Provider / College of the Year and the Apprentice Butcher of Wales.

We look forward to receiving your entries and catching up with you all in the New Year. This is a great event to kick off 2025 working together to bring the talent and the industry into one place, the Welsh International Culinary Championships 2024 at the ICC Newport.

To keep up to date please visit www.culinaryassociation.wales

Remember you have to be in it to win it.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

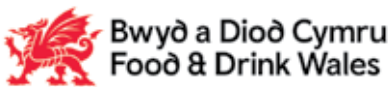


Kind regards,
Arwyn Watkins OBE
President of the Culinary Association of Wales



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President of The Culinary Association of Wales

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CULINARY CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION

To avoid disqualification please read these carefully

Professional Honesty

It is the responsibility of competitors to assure the Judges that their work is unaided and is completed within the spirit of fair Competition. Canvassing of Judges will disqualify a competitor.

Deliveries of Exhibitions

All exhibits must be presented at the time stated, on the day Specified. Competitors must arrange for their entries to be placed for judging in the position allocated.

Live Competitions Registration

Competitors for live classes must register at the registration desk at least ONE HOUR prior to the start time of their first class with the exception of the first class of the day when ½ hour is accepted. All equipment and ingredients must be in the allocated place as quickly as possible and cleaned when instructed.

Competitors Reference (Static Display)

Labels will be issued to be attached to the top and visual side of each entry.

Security of Dishes

Whilst all reasonable care will be taken for the security of dishes and equipment, the Culinary Championship Committee WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE TO ANY exhibits, dishes, equipment or personal effects. Competitors are advised to suitably insure dishes for display. It is the competitor's responsibility to cover this personal risk.

Results

Results will be announced at the discretion of the Chairman of Judges. Competitors are then encouraged to seek the advice and guidance of the Chairman of the Judges. Any dish deemed Not to Schedule will be marked "No award made".

Award of Prizes

Awards will be made to the standard achieved. Where a standard is not reached, no award will be made.

GOLD AWARD 90% or more

SILVER AWARD 75% or more

BRONZE AWARD 65% or more

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT 55% or more

For example: If the best entry in one Class is awarded 76% (or a Silver award), then no Gold award will be presented for that Class. However, it will qualify as the Winner of the Class.

Best in Class

Best in Class commemorative Churchill plates will be awarded for gold or silver medal winners only. Award Ceremony Live Class

Competitors who will be attending to collect their awards, should ensure that they are dressed in CLEAN CHEFS WHITES. This is important for presentation and photographic purposes and for the sake of Sponsors.

Winners will be awarded at The Presentation Dinner - Wednesday 22nd January at The ICC Wales, Newport. Tickets (£30 each) are

Available to book directly: office@culinaryassociation.wales

Best College Award

Best overall college will be awarded on a point system where only the two best awards per college per class are taken into account, to be awarded at presentation dinner.

Overall Salon Awards

BEST COLLEGE AWARD
BEST JUNIOR / LEARNER LIVE
BEST OPEN LIVE

BEST HYGIENE - "Ecolab are extremely pleased to be able to support this prestigious event. The purpose of our judging part is to promote good hygiene practices demonstrated during the individual competitions. Ecolab work closely within the Hospitality industry to ensure all areas are clean and sanitized to keep our customers' premises to highest achievable hygiene standards".

All Best in Class and Overall Salon Awards will be announced and presented at the Presentation Dinner.

Important Notes for Live Class Entrants

1. It is an essential requirement that competitors provide a brief dish description that will be displayed on the table for judging purposes. It would also be helpful if you would list brief details about yourself, i.e. age, present position etc.
2. You are required to clean and vacate your working area within five (5) minutes in order to allow the next heat to start on time.
3. A four ring induction stove, oven, small salamander and workstation will be provided.
4. If more entries than places are received for each live Competition class, the panel of Judges will select the final Entrants for each class, based on the information supplied by the competitor as required in the schedule.
5. Mise-en-place: ONLY washed vegetables, basic stocks and basic doughs/pastes will be allowed (unless stated otherwise), excessive mise-en-place will lose marks





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Presentation / Innovation

Appetising, appealing, modern, correct portion size, clean and neat presentation.

Composition

Nutritionally well balanced, textures, colours and flavours that will complement each other.

Professional Preparation

Correct cooking methods, food at correct temperatures. Classic name to correspond to original recipes, mastery of basic skills, application of knowledge and practices. Service practical, not over elaborate, no impractical or irrelevant garnish, stylish and clean.

HOT & COLD TASTED CLASSES

Presentation / Innovation

Appetising, tasteful, appealing, modern, correct portion size.

Flavour / Taste

Good discernible flavours, correct seasoning, good combination of tastes and flavours that complement each other.

Composition

Nutritionally well balanced, complementary textures and Colours that enhance each other.

Professional Preparation


Classic name to correspond to original recipes, mastery of basic skills, application of correct cooking methods, food at correct temperatures. Up to date display of hygiene knowledge and practices.

Service

Practical, not over elaborate, no impractical or irrelevant Garnish, stylish and clean.



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COMPETITIONS

COLD CLASSES

CLASS NO.	CLASS	TIME	CLASS TYPE
C1a	Prepare Chicken for Sauté	15 minutes	Junior/Learner Class
C2	Knife Skills - Veg Cuts	25 minutes	Open
C3	Knife Skills - Fruit Cuts	15 minutes	Open
C4	Caesar Salad Challenge	20 minutes	Open
C5	Cocktail Mixology	20 minutes	Open
C6	Modern Cold Desserts	25 minutes	Open

HOT CLASSES

CLASS NO.	CLASS	TIME	CLASS TYPE
H1a	Cook Chicken for sauté	45 minutes	Junior/Learner Class
H2	Glazed Grilled Fish Dish	3.5 hours	Open
H3	Omelettes	10 minutes	Open
H4	Welsh Beef Main Course	30 minutes	Open
H5	Welsh Lamb Main Course	30 minutes	Open
H6	Game Class	30 minutes	Open
H7	Risso Gallo Risotto Challenge	45 minutes	Open
H8	Risso Gallo Young Risotto Challenge - Under 23	2 hours	Junior/Learner Class



TECHNICAL PRODUCTS

MCS TECHNICAL PRODUCTS was formed in 1997 by our founder, owner and MD Steve Snow, who with many years' experience in the catering industry, spotted the potential of INDUCTION as a cooking medium. With access to the product range from the American company, CookTek, Steve secured exclusive rights to import and distribute CookTek products into the UK and Ireland. The range at that time included counter top and drop in cooking units, the innovative Induction buffet systems, (Incogneeto and Silenzcio) and the food delivery system (PTDS). These early products, with their design, innovation and reliability soon established CookTek as a premium product, and with MCS adding a 5 year parts and labour warranty to the products, the industry recognised the value of dealing with a responsible company. The products were soon being used by companies such as Dominoes, Papa Johns, hotel groups Thistle, Hilton, Holiday In and many independent hotels and pizza shops.

MCS developed fabricated units using CookTek induction including fully suited kitchen units, an Asian style Cooking station and a fully self-ventilating work station.

CookTek's range has increased since the early days to include three phase units, including free standing and built in Stockpot burner, and an Induction plancha.

With the increased awareness of green issues and the fast growing Induction market, MCS have invested in product, still with the company's core values of ENERGY SAVING, and FOOD SAFETY .we now import into UK and Ireland product from the Italian company ZERNIKE, these include a unique and patented GRIDDLE/PLANCHA, FLASHGRILL, and a range of meat ageing cabinets, KLIMA again with several USP's for the catering industry.

MCS are proud to have been supporting the Welsh Culinary Association for over 12 years, supplying CookTek induction units for use in culinary competitions and salons. And look forward to continuing our association long into the future.



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COLD CLASSES

PREPARE CHICKEN FOR SAUTÉ (PART 1 OUT OF 2)

This is a two part challenge: Part 1 = Class C1a, Part 2 - H1a.

Part ONE - C06a Fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed for team

Member 1 to butcher/cut and present a 1¼ - 1½ kilo (2½ - 3lb)

Chicken for sauté in the classical manner. This end product is then used for class H06a for the 2nd team member to use.

Part TWO - Explained on H1a on "Hot Classes"

KNIFE SKILLS - VEG CUTS

TWENTY FIVE (25) MINUTES

Produce 60 grams (approximately) of each of the following;

A) Carrots cut into Julienne

B) Swede into Jardinière

C) Carrots into Paysanné

D) Swede into Brunoisé

E) TWO (2) Chateau & TWO (2) Cocotte Potatoes To be prepared in the above order = A to E Competitors to supply all their ingredients and equipment

KNIFE SKILLS - FRUIT CUTS

FIFTEEN (15) minutes will be allowed to complete the following - order of work and presentation as listed below;

2 Oranges, peeled and segmented using only conventional knives

2 Apples, peeled, cored and quartered cut into slices lengthwise, suitable for fresh fruit salad. No peelers or corers to be used.

1 Banana, remove skin and thinly slice, using only a knife.

2 Kiwi fruit, peel and thinly slice using only a knife.

The prepared fruit and waste is to be presented separately without garnish or dressing. Competitors to supply all ingredients and equipment

NOTE: Judges are looking at the competitor's knife skill and consistency of cutting. No mandolin or cutting aids to be used.

Although awards will be posted, no Best in Class will be announced until after the last heat on Thursday has taken place.

CAESAR SALAD CHALLENGE

TWENTY (20) minutes will be allowed to prepare and produce a

Traditional Caesar salad to the competitor's choice of recipe.

Dressing and salad to be prepared in front of the judges as this will be a tasted class. All ingredients are to be provided by the competitor.

COCKTAIL MIXOLOGY - SPONSORED BY CYGNET GIN

TWENTY (20) minutes will be allowed to make 2 Gin based cocktails of their choice. The competitor should provide a recipe card to accompany the cocktails.

The Gin will be provided to the competitor by Cygnet Gin, competitor should bring all other ingredients and equipment with them.

MODERN COLD DESSERTS - SPONSORED BY TERRY'S PATISSERIE

TWENTY FIVE (25) minutes will be allowed to prepare and present TWO (2) portions of a modern cold dessert suitable for a restaurant. The plates must include appropriate accompaniments, garnishes and sauces.

The dessert must incorporate an element of chocolate which will be provided by the class sponsor Terry's patisserie.

Advanced preparation is limited to basic sauces, washed & peeled fruits, cooked meringue, pastries and baked doughs. No pre-set mousses or cheesecakes will be allowed.

Competitors to supply all ingredients and equipment except for the chocolate. This is a cold class so no cooking or refrigeration facilities will be available.

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HOT CLASSES

COOK CHICKEN FOR SAUTÉ (PART 1 OUT OF 2)

This is a two part challenge: Part 1 = Class C1a, Part 2 - H1a.

Part ONE - Explained on C1a on "Hot Classes"

Part TWO - H06a Team member 2 to produce a Chicken Chasseur in the classic style, using a pre-prepared Chasseur sauce. Teams to supply their own food and equipment.

GLAZED GRILLED FISH DISH - SPONSORED BY ROLLER GRILL

TWENTY (20) minutes

2 portions of a fish or seafood dish to the competitors own choice. The finished dish MUST be glazed or gratinated under the electric Roller-Grill provided on each work station. Ideally a modern twist on a classic glazed fish dish is what the judges will be looking for. Competitors to provide all ingredients

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OMELETTES

TEN (10) minutes

Prepare, cook and present THREE (3) omelettes.

One folded, one flat and one sweet.

Fillings/toppings to competitor's choice. Judges will be looking for the competitor's knowledge and skills in omelette making.

Competitors to provide all ingredients and equipment. Please be aware we are using Induction technology only this year.

WELSH BEEF MAIN COURSE

THIRTY (30) minutes

Prepare cook and present TWO (2) plated main course portions using Welsh Beef. The plates must include substantial appropriate accompaniments, garnishes and sauces. This class is focussing on creative and Imaginative use of Welsh Beef.

Advanced preparation is limited to basic stocks, sauces, washed & peeled vegetables and basic pastry/dough. Competitors to supply all ingredients and equipment. Please be aware we are using Induction technology only this year.

WELSH LAMB MAIN COURSE

THIRTY (30) minutes

Prepare, cook and

Present a garnished dish of Welsh Lamb for TWO (2) covers to the competitor's own choice.

Advanced preparation is limited to basic stocks, sauces, washed & peeled vegetables and basic pastry/dough. Basic preparation of meat will be allowed however the judges will be looking for the best use of the time available. Competitors must provide all ingredients and small equipment. Please be aware we are using Induction technology only this year.

GAME CLASS SPONSORED BY WILD & GAME

THIRTY (30) minutes will be allowed to prepare, cook and present a garnished main course dish of Welsh Venison Loin for TWO (2) covers to the competitors own choice.

Advanced preparation is limited to basic stocks, sauces, washed & peeled vegetables (not cut/trimmed), basic pastry doughs.

Competitors must provide all ingredients (except for the Venison loin) and small equipment. Please be aware we are using induction technology only this year.

RISSO GALLO I RISOTTO CHALLENGE – UNDER 23

FORTY FIVE (45) Minutes

15 minutes of prep time and 30 minutes of cook time will be allowed to produce TWO identical portions of a stunning, imaginative, and perfectly cooked risotto starter course which showcases your skill, versatility, and presentation skills. Your risotto should feature at least one ingredient native to Wales, and this can be cheese, meat or vegetables - whichever best suits your recipe. Riso Gallo will supply rice and olive oil from Filippo Berio for each competitor, and various stocks from Essential Cuisine can be made available as required. Please advise at least 3 weeks prior to the event if needed. Please note you can bring pre-made stocks if you wish. All other ingredients and equipment for the dish will need to be supplied by the competitor.

The presentation is totally up to the competitor and you can use a bowl / plate of your own choice to help make the dish as exciting as possible. Please write a maximum of 150 words on why you have chosen your dish and why you would like to win this competition and bring this along with you on the day. Keep the title of your dish simple - don't overcomplicate. Tell us your story, is there a personal connection with the dish? Remember to focus on local Welsh ingredients. Please provide the right quantity of ingredients for a starter dish for 2 people - Don't cook more than you need to, try to have as little waste as possible.

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RISSO GALLO I YOUNG RISOTTO CHALLENGE – UNDER 23

TWO (2) hours

15 minutes of prep time and 30 minutes of cook time will be allowed to produce TWO identical portions of a stunning, imaginative, and perfectly cooked risotto starter course which showcases your skill, versatility, and presentation skills. Your risotto should feature at least one ingredient native to Wales, and this can be cheese, meat or vegetables - whichever best suits your recipe. Riso Gallo will supply rice and olive oil from Filippo Berio for each competitor, and various stocks from Essential Cuisine can be made available as required. Please advise at least 3 weeks prior to the event if needed. Please note you can bring pre-made stocks if you wish. All other ingredients and equipment for the dish will need to be supplied by the competitor.

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Take your experience at the Welsh International Culinary Championships to the next level, and enjoy the food prepared & cooked by competitors!

Opportunities include:

Monday	National Chef of Wales	Lunch	£25p/p
Wednesday	Junior Chef of Wales	Lunch	£20p/p
	Vegan Chef of the Year	Late Lunch	£20p/p

Times TBC nearer the time

Please email office@culinaryassociation.wales to make a reservation

GALA DINNER & AWARDS CEREMONY 2025 FROM 7PM | WEDNESDAY 22ND JANUARY

Join us at our annual Gala Dinner & Awards Ceremony, as we celebrate all the hospitality skills & talent showcased throughout the week of the Welsh International Culinary Championships!

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(ICC Wales), Newport

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