

2017 New England Growers Cup

The Official Rules, Regulations & FAQ

Please Note: Entries for the New England Growers Cannabis Cups are collected and distributed under the legal frameworks of each state's legal medical or recreational cannabis program guidelines. Out of state entries must be delivered by a registered MMJ patient.

13 Competition Categories:

Indica Flowers | Sativa Flowers | Hybrid Flowers | CBD Flowers

Indica Concentrates | Sativa Concentrates | Hybrid Concentrates | CBD Concentrates

Edibles | CBD Edibles | Non-Solvent Hash | Vape Pen Cartridges | Topicals

COST: \$150 per entry DEADLINE: March 17th, 2017
Online entries submitted without payment will not be registered.

Rules & Entry Instructions for Each Category

Flowers:

Category Description

Sativa and *Indica* flower entries must have genetic lineages that are greater than 70 percent in either species. Competitors will be required to provide proof of lineage of their entries (at least one generation) to ensure they are properly categorized. Hybrids can include any combination of *indica* or *sativa* below 70 percent (60/40, 50/50 and so on). CBD Flowers category entries require a minimum of 5% CBD.

Flower Packaging Details

Separate a two-ounce (56-grams) entry into fourteen (14) 4-gram increments in plastic bags, and put them all into one larger plastic bag. Label entry clearly with the name of the strain, category and company/entrant name. This should be done **ONLY ONCE** on the exterior of the bag that holds your entry—individual samples should not have any labels.

Judging and Scoring Info

Qualitative (75%): **Aroma; Taste; Visual Aesthetics; Stone/ High; and Burnability.**

NOTE: CBD entry judges will be patients with ailments which are treated with CBD medicine. Part of the qualitative scoring will be on symptomatic efficacy that rate the effects of the CBD product on the patient ailments (i.e., sleep aid, pain reduction, inflammation, etc.).

Quantitative (25%): Flowers will be tested and scored on: THC levels and CBD levels; for CBD categories, emphasis will be on the CBD values and the CBD:THC ratio, with more points being awarded for entries closest to a 1:1 ratio.

Concentrates & Non-Solvent Hash:

Category Description

Concentrate categories include all forms of solvent extractions, such as oils, waxes, budders and shatters.

Concentrate *indicas* must be made from only *indica* flowers, concentrate *sativas* must be made from only *sativa* flowers, and concentrate hybrids must be made from hybrid flowers or a combination of *indica* and *sativa* flowers.

NOTE: non-cannabis derived materials are not allowed to be infused into concentrate or hash entries, unless otherwise stated (for example, in the Vape Pen Cartridge category). Competitors found adulterating products with anything other than cannabis will be disqualified.

Competition Packaging Details

Please separate your half-ounce (14-grams) entry into fourteen (7) 2-gram increments. We recommend using small vials for oils, liquids or any other viscous concentrates and using small plastic containers or envelopes and parchment folds for wax or butter entries. Do not label the individual jars or envelopes of 2-gram increments. Label your outside carrying case, box or bag with strain, category, and company/entry names.

Judging and Scoring Info

Qualitative (75%): **Aroma; Taste; Visual Aesthetics; Stone/ High; and Burnability/ Flush.**

NOTE: CBD entry judges will be patients with ailments which are treated with CBD medicine. Part of the qualitative scoring will be on symptomatic efficacy that rate the effects of the CBD product on the patient ailments (i.e., sleep aid, pain reduction, inflammation, etc.).

Quantitative (25%): THC levels, CBD levels, and residual solvents (RS) will be measured and scored.

Non-Solvent Hash with detected chemical solvents will be disqualified. For CBD categories, the same criteria applies as above, however the weighting of this values changes, putting more emphasis on the CBD values.

CBD categories also are scored on their CBD:THC ratio, with more points being awarded for entries closest to a 1:1 ratio.

Edibles:

Category Description

The Edibles category encompasses any medically infused product that is eaten, including food, baked goods, tinctures, capsules and pills.

Competition Packaging Details

14 samples for each entry in the Edibles category. If your edible requires refrigeration, bring it in a cooler. You must denote what constitutes a single serving size/dose. (i.e. – if entry is a cookie, is does one cookie represent one dose, or multiple doses?). Label entry clearly with name of the strain, category and company/entrant name.

Judging and Scoring Info

Qualitative (75%): **Food Appearance; Taste; Strength/ Effects; Product Originality; Healthiness.**

NOTE: CBD entry judges will be patients with ailments which are treated with CBD medicine. Part of the qualitative scoring will be on symptomatic efficacy that rate the effects of the CBD product on the patient ailments (i.e., sleep aid, pain reduction, inflammation, etc.).

Quantitative (25%): THC levels, CBD levels and THC-A levels are measured and scored. THC-A is measured to see how well the chef decarboxylated their cannabis material. The more THC-A in the product, the less points it will receive. CBD is scored on levels reported by the lab. The more CBD the better; CBD:THC ratio also measured, with more points being awarded for entries closest to a 1:1 ratio.

Vape Pen Cartridge Entries:

Category Description

This category is for pre-filled vape pen cartridges only. Competitors in this category are required to submit 10 pre-filled hash oil cartridges. Competitors may not enter vape pens that require the manual loading of hash oil, dabs, shatter, wax, butter or similar. Additives such as PG or food-grade flavoring are allowable in the Vape Pen Cartridge category. Label entry clearly with the name of the strain, category and company/entrant name.

Judging and Scoring Info

Qualitative (75%): **Taste; Visual Aesthetics of Oil; Purge/ Cleanliness; and Overall Effects.**

Additional points will be also be rewarded for: **Stealthiness/ Security, Ease of Use, Convenience, Safety/ Healthiness of the Device** (includes chemical or factory tastes, types of heating element used, oils direct contact with heating element, etc.).

Quantitative (25%): For Hash Oil Cartridges: THC levels, CBD levels, and residual solvents (RS) will be measured and scored. Hash with high/ dangerous levels (over 1,500 PPM) of detected chemical solvents will be disqualified. This Quantitative scoring is based solely on lab results. Points are awarded in each category based on a scale that awards points (1 through 5) for the various ranges of lab values.

Topicals:

Category Description

cannabis infused, **non-edible** products such as salves, lotions, balms, patches and suppositories. Any infused product that is applied topically on the body may be entered in this category.

Competition Packaging Details

10 individually packaged samples per entry in the Topicals category. Label entry clearly with the name of the strain, category and company/entrant name.

Judging and Scoring Info

Qualitative (75%): **Visual Aesthetics** (appeal); **Aroma; Ease of Use; and Overall Effectiveness.**

Additionally, judges will be asked to score the products on the following criteria (Yes/

No question, with points awarded for positive results):

- Is there an ingredients list?
- Does this product provide adequate moisturization?
- Does this product help with muscle relaxation?
- Does this product aid in pain management?
- Does this product help with inflammation?

Quantitative (25%): Cannabinoid and terpene levels will be quantified, but not scored. Instead, these levels will be measured on a Pass/ Fail scale. Any Topical found to not have any cannabinoids in it will be disqualified.

NE Growers Cup Rules Page 4 of 4

The Judging Process: How It Works

The Qualitative score will account for approximately 75 percent of the total score. This may vary slightly by competition category. This score sheet will be scored by each Judge and will measure his or her professional opinions of each entry. Categories are scored 1-5 by each judge (5 being the highest score). The categories are weighted using a multiplier ranging from 1x to 5x, used in the final tally of each judging category. These values are not made public, meaning that both Judges and Competitors are not given the weighted values.

The Quantitative score will account for 25 percent of the total score. The results of this score will not be made available to Judges. NECANN will compile each Judge's score for each entry, and then take an average of the Judges' scores for each entry. Each entry score average will then be added to its correlated quantitative lab score. We then combines the Judges' average qualitative score with the quantitative lab score giving a final Total Score out of 100 possible points.

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions

How Many Judges Are There?

There will be a minimum of 5 judges per category. NECANN oversees all Judges and Lab work as well as the intake and processing of entries, the scoring process itself, score tabulations and finalizing of winners.

Who Are the Judges & How Are They Selected?

Judges are experts or professionals from the New England cannabis industry. If you would like to be considered as a judge (or would like to recommend someone), email marc@necann.com. NOTE: You cannot be a judge if you entering the competition.

What Are the Rules Regarding Number of Entries Per person/group?

A competitor may make multiple entries in a single category, but can only win ONE award per category, regardless of how many entries they have in that category. Entries will be limited to collaborations of three (3) names for any given entry across all categories. This allows for a grower, extract artist and/or chef to collaborate on an entry. No more than three names will be allowed on entry forms and no more than five people will be allowed up on stage to receive awards during the Awards Show.

What Are the Rules Regarding Disqualifications?

NECANN reserves the right to disqualify entries for any rules violation and in cases where NECANN deems the entry, or practices of the competitor therein, to be against the spirit of fair competition.

Entries that have been adulterated with non-cannabis derived products will be disqualified.

Entries that have high incidents of mold, bacteria, or pesticides as identified either by the competition committee or our partner labs will be privately disqualified and the competitors immediately notified. If entry is found to have been tampered with, adulterated or doctored in any way using any synthetic, artificial, or non-cannabis organic substances, that entry will be disqualified. This does NOT apply to entries in the "Edibles" category. DQ's will be privately handled between NECANN and competitors. No refunds.

Common Category Misplacements (Cannabis)

Chem Dawg is an *indica*. OG Kush is an *indica*, not a *sativa*. Sour Diesel is a Hybrid.

A Kush cross is an *indica* or hybrid. All Hazes are *sativas*.

COST: \$150 per entry

DEADLINE: March 17th, 2017

Please note: Entry forms submitted without payment will not be processed.
Thank You and Good Luck!