Stichting Nederlandse Olijfolie/AIOOC (hereafter *AIOOC*)

Rules and Regulations 2026

1. *AIOOC* is part of the nonprofit foundation: "*Stichting Olijfolie Nederland"* and organizes an olive oil competition in The Netherlands. Its aim is to give producers the possibility to increase their brand awareness on the Dutch market and to help actively producers to promote their olive oil(s).

2. Categories - The categories in which the olive oils can compete are delicate, medium and intense and delicate, medium, intense for certified organic olive oils. The *AIOOC* is allowed to take out a category, add a new category or combine categories.

3. Eligibility – Companies that want to compete in the *AIOOC* can be individual olive oil producers, olive oil associations, milling companies, distributors, wholesalers etcetera. Only extra virgin olive oils are allowed to compete. When competing the contestant states that it is the legal entity/representative for the company and has full ownership of the product, brand name and any other intellectual property. Ecological/organic/biological olive oils need to be valid organic certified for the batch that is admitted to the competition. *AIOOC* determines whether the certification is sufficient. If this is not the case the organic olive oil will be judges as a non-organic olive oil.

4. Entry Fee – The entry fee per olive oil (not per brand) is €269, - if admitted before January 1st 2026. After this date the entrance fee is €299, - Payments must be made online in the shop by Eurocard, Mastercard, Visa or American Express.

5. Registration – Registration is only valid and must be done online with the form on the website of *AIOOC*. Once the registration is done AND the fee is received, the contestant will receive an email with confirmation. After this confirmation there is no refund of the fee under any circumstances. When registered, the contestant agrees with the rules and conditions of the *AIOOC* as mentioned on the website www.aiooc.org. Participation in the competition implies acceptance of the present rules and conditions. Registration in steps:

    a. Download rules and regulation from website and sign the pages. Return by mail to contact@aiooc.org
    b. Pay the fee by clicking on register.
    c. Send in the samples between april 1 and april 30st 2026

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6. Olive oil – The olive oil must be of the harvest 2025/2026. Every olive oil needs to be of 1 batch of at least 750 liter.

7. Samples
    a. Deadline – Samples must be received between April 1st and April 30th. Samples before, or after this date will not be allowed in the competition. Entry fees will not be returned.
    b. Broken Samples – The *AIOOC* is not responsible for any broken packaging/samples. If this occurs the contestant must send new samples at its own expense. Once the samples are received, *AIOOC* is responsible for the packaging/samples.
    c. Address – Samples should be sent to:
    Stichting Olijfolie Nederland (*Amsterdam International Olive Oil Competition*)
    Hector Treubstraat 21,
    1402 CK Bussum,The Netherlands.
    (If needed for import/customs EORI number is (NL) 863139528)
    d. The contestant must have a copy of chemical analysis per olive oil sample (free fatty acids, peroxide, acid, spectrophotometry etcetera), a minimum reporting standard.
    e. Each contestant must send 3 bottles/tins of 0,5 liter or 3 bottles /tins of 750 ml or 3 bottles/tins of 1 liter (or a combination as long as it is 3 bottles). All samples must be in their normal retail packaging, including all legal information on the label. The samples must be accompanied by a legal formal laboratory test of the olive oil.
    f. Each type/packaging that participates in the competition must be send together with the relevant signed documents (rules and regulations and clearly readable), participation form, chemical analysis by a laboratory or a copy of minimum reporting standards for chemical analysis of the sample with prove of the classification 'extra virgin' and a copy of proof of payment for participation in the event. A copy off all the above mentioned as well be send to: contact@aiooc.org
    g. The judges will classify the olive oils in the category's delicate, medium and intense.
    h. Samples will not be returned before, during or after the competition.
    i. Samples are only accepted after the fee is paid, contestant agreed with the rules and regulations and after the registration is accepted by the *AIOOC*.
    j. Samples will be kept from award winners for 45 days in order to be controlled if *AIOOC* needs any kind of validation. The *AIOOC* reserves any rights to change the awards already given if results vary from the claim given in the entry form.

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8. Shipping
    a. *AIOOC* is not responsible for and will not pay any costs for shipping including customs, custom charges, taxes, or other costs related to national/international law. It is not responsible for clearance of samples nor is it responsible for shipping documents of any kind. Contestant is responsible for all taxes and other handling costs. Samples must be declared with "sample, no commercial value, not for sale" The samples must be shipped properly to the address in article 6. *AIOOC* never collects samples from anywhere. If a situation occurs that *AIOOC* needs to pay any costs related to shipping/delivery etcetera, the samples will not be excepted. We will inform the contestant to pay those costs. These costs need to be paid within a week notice or the contestant can be eliminated for the competition. In that case there will be no refund of fee or any other (shipping) costs.

9. Prizes/Awards
    a. The Award ceremony will take place approximately withing 3-5 weeks after the judging of the olive oils in The Netherlands. If there are any changes of the timetable, contestants will be notified.
    b. Winners will be published on the website www.aiooc.org
    c. Winners can use these prizes/awards to promote their products in any way they see fit.
    d. Contestants can use the logo of the award they won in pdf/jpg/png file. They can use it for marketing purposes on websites etcetera and use it for example for printing of stickers for bottles. They are only allowed to use for the specific olive oil that has received an award on the declared volumes upon registration for the competition. It is not allowed to use the logos for labels/stickers in any other way.

10. Other
    a. Decisions made by the panel (judges) are final. There will be no possibility to change that or appeal. *AIOOC* does not need to explain why an olive oil did or did not win an award and why it is classified in one of the categories.
    b. *AIOOC* uses the methods of the *International Olive Council (IOC)* to evaluate the olive oils.
    c. *AIOOC* is allowed to send samples for analyzing to a laboratory for testing.
    d. There will be, under any circumstance, no second testing (organoleptic or laboratory tests).
    e. If in any case the *AIOOC* does not take place due to circumstances of any kind, the *AIOOC* will inform the contestants and returns the entry fee (no other costs like shipping costs etcetera) minus administration costs within 3 months of the announcement.

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11. Marketing
    a. *AIOOC* will be allowed to use all brand names, pictures, and other marketing related images before, during and after the competition.
12. Time line
    a. October – December 31st: early bird registration €269,- per olive oil
    b. January 1st 2026 – april 30th: registration €299,- per olive oil
    c. Send in samples: april 1st – April 30th
    d. Judging: 4-7th May
    e. Award ceremony: June 4th

13. Legal
    a. *AIOOC* is not responsible or liable for any reason, any loss of credibility, profit, economic loss for a contestant or any other third party as a result for participating in the contest. This also includes personal injury and property damaged.
    b. Each contestant will not hold *AIOOC* responsible for any liability whatsoever. This also include false or incorrect statements given during entering the competition, completing the forms and sending samples.
    c. In case of a dispute arising or legal claims, this will be resolved under Dutch law, regardless of the nationality of the contestant.
    d. *AIOOC* is not responsible for any loss or damages for the contestants in any way due to the competitions results.
    e. Any participation not in accordance with the regulations of the competition will be excluded.

We do hereby acknowledge that we have read and we fully accept the above rules and regulations.

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DATE PLACE

_____ _____ _____

NAME COMPANY SIGNATURE