



## Introduction

The Roadhouse World Flair competition is the longest running competition in the world. Held in the world famous Roadhouse bar in Covent Garden, London. It is the comp that everyone wants to win. In 2017 there will be 10 qualification rounds and one Grand Final in November.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Every month the competition is open to ANYONE around the world (except UK Finals, (August) and Chicks with Flicks (September) Grand Finals (November)).

Each month there is a different qualifier for different bartenders to have the best chance to qualify for the November Finals. For example, any bartender from around the world can enter the Americas Open and win the prize money, but only the American based bartenders can earn a spot in the Grand Finals. So if the top placing American based bartender comes in 10th position, they still earn the spot in the November Grand Finals

The schedule for the year is as follows. Showing the date, format of the comp and how many and who goes through to the final in November.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Competition Format</b>	<b>Spots available for November</b>	<b>Who gets the November spots?</b>
<b>January 29th</b>	UK Open	3	UK based bartenders
<b>February 26th</b>	Freestyle	3	Anyone
<b>March 26th</b>	Asian Open	3	Asian bartenders
<b>April 23rd</b>	Battle	2	Anyone
<b>May 21st</b>	American Open	3	North & South Americans
<b>June 25th</b>	Bottle Tin Is King	3	Anyone
<b>July 30th</b>	UK Open	3	UK based bartenders
<b>August 20th</b>	UK Finals	3	UK based bartenders
<b>September 24th</b>	Chicks with Flicks	3	Females
<b>October 29th</b>	World Open	3	Anyone
<b>November 25th &amp; 26th</b>	Grand Finals	-	Invite only
<b>December</b>	No competition	-	-

## General Rules - Please read carefully. Rules are the same for qualification and finals

### Punctuality

1. All bartenders are required to be at Roadhouse by 5pm at the latest when the doors open.
2. All bartenders are required to attend the briefing which is going to be at 5:30pm
3. ALL competitors must be on time for the registration, briefing and Prize Giving. If you are late you may not be able to compete, or will not receive your prize.

### Registration & Payment

1. All participants must register for their entry at [www.worldflairassociation.com](http://www.worldflairassociation.com) - go to the competition page and fill out the registration form.
2. Participation fee is £20 which is paid to Roadhouse on the day of the competition. You will be given a receipt and a wristband, which gives you 50% off food, and free soft drinks.
3. All competing bartenders as well as their supporters must be at least 18 years of age.

### Drinks & Sponsors

1. The main sponsor of this event is **Stolichnaya Vodka**
2. Bartenders have **5 minutes** to make one working flair drink from the Roadhouse menu (see below). And one exhibition flair drink of your own creation. **The best cocktail of 2016 will go onto the Roadhouse Cocktail menu in 2018.** Fill out the form below for your own creation and bring it with you.
3. In **BOTH qualification and the finals** all bartenders must perform a **STOLI STALL**. Failure to do so will result “**No Sponsor Flair**” deduction of -50.

### On Stage

1. Each participant will have **5 minutes** on stage for qualification and finals.
2. There will be competition T-shirts provided for each participant. We recommend wearing this if you don't have a uniform or t-shirt to represent your bar, company or brand. **No casual clothing clothing allowed**
3. **IMPORTANT - NO MORE PHONES - ALL music should be supplied on CD in Audio format It is RECOMMENDED to have 2 CD's with your music on.**
4. Competition sponsor (products) include: **Stolichnaya**
5. The WFA scoring system will be used which is explained in detail below.
6. **ONLY** two bar backs are allowed on stage at any time for each competitor. **NO EXCEPTION!** No one else will be allowed on stage during the competition, unless they are a specific part of your performance.
7. Any acts that display low integrity, poor taste or disrespect for the competition, sponsors or the host facility are subject to disqualification from the competition.

8. If during the first 30 seconds of your routine your music fails, skips or stops working, you will be able to stop and start again. If it happens after 30 seconds, the DJ will attempt to continue playing your music or play something different.
9. No fire allowed.

## Station Setup

1. For the competition to run on time so we can all enjoy ourselves after the competition you will have **3 minutes to set-up the bar**.
2. All bottles used for working flair must be set in at least half full. Bottles will be checked by the judges!
3. All bottles used for exhibition flair must be set in at least 15ml (1/2oz / 1.5cl) of liquid. Bottles will be checked by the judges!
4. Any bottles can be used on stage! You do not have to remove labels, but you can if you want to. Any stickers can be used. You can put any ingredient into any bottle just as long as the judges are aware of what is in each bottle.
5. Only insulation/electrical tape can be used on your bottles. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. You can put as much or little tape on your bottles as you wish.
6. No empty bottles can be included in the competition bar set up.
7. A metal pour spout is required on the working flair bottles. Tapping (this means hitting in the pour spout to make it shorter) in pour spouts is **NOT** allowed!
8. Any free flowing pour spout can be used on all exhibition flair bottles. Pour spouts can be taped (using electrical tape only) in place, as long as they are not restricting the flow of liquid.
9. All the competitors' choice ingredients for their own cocktail (including garnishes) must be provided by the competitors themselves.
10. Roadhouse will not supply any bartending equipment for you. You must bring it yourself.
11. Bartenders can set up the **Doimo** portable bar station (*see the picture in the appendix 1*) any way they choose, but it is highly recommended that nothing starts on the upper bar surface to help with visibility for the audience.
12. The **Top 6** from qualifying advances to the Finals. The points from qualification are **NOT** added to the final.
13. Once you have finished your round and the lights have been switched off, please break down your bar quickly and let the next competitor start setting up.
14. The competitors code of conduct must be followed and honoured throughout the whole event!

## Other

1. All rules and guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the competition organisers.
2. Any violation of these rules may result in penalty or even disqualification from the competition.
3. Please write ALL questions on the WFA website for in the comments box for each competition page which can be found under "CALENDAR". For example, March competition page is here:
  - 3.1. <https://www.worldflairassociation.com/events/rwf-asian-open/>

## Recipe rules.

1. Each bartender has to make one of the cocktails from the list below and one of their own creation.
2. Only water and coloured water will be used on stage with a few exceptions.
3. When coming up with your own creation, it should be a drink YOU would be proud to serve to someone at a real working bar.
4. Your own creation **MUST** contain Stolichnaya.
5. We are looking for good presentable “COCKTAILS” to be made on stage! We reserve the right to ask you to change your recipe if we do not think it is worthy for going on to a Roadhouse menu. Stoli and juice is **NOT** what we’re looking for.

<b>Competitor name:</b>	
<b>(Working Flair) Roadhouse drink:</b>	
<b>Own creation Cocktail Name:</b>	
<b>INGREDIENTS:</b>	
<b>Glass:</b>	
<b>Garnish:</b>	
<b>Method:</b>	

## Roadhouse Working Flair Cocktails

### Raspberrylicious

**Ingredients:**

37.5ml Stolichnaya Raspberry

12.5ml Chambord

25ml ODK Raspberry

10ml fresh lime juice

Top with Lemonade

**Glass:** Hurricane

**Method:** Add all the ingredients into the glass, including the lemonade, THEN add the crushed ice and churn it all together, and cap with crushed ice.

**Garnish:** 1 raspberry and lime wedge

**Other:** 1 straw, 1 bevnap

### Nahstee

(the winning cocktail from 2016 courtesy of Vito Flair)

**Ingredients:**

25ml Stolichnaya Raspberry

25ml Stolichnaya

12.5ml Campari

15m Mandarin ODK

Top Ginger Ale

**Glass:** Hurricane

**Method:** Build and churn

**Garnish:** Lime Wheel?

**Other:** 1 straw, 1 bevnap

### Twisted Mojito

**Ingredients:**

50ml Stolichnaya Vanilla

6 mint leaves

4 lime wedges

25ml ODK White Sugar

50ml Apple Juice

**Glass:** Collins

**Method:** Muddle mint, sugar and lime together. Add Stoli, Apple Juice & crushed ice and churn. Cap with crushed ice.

**Garnish:** -

**Other:** 1 straw, 1 bevnap

## **Schedule:**

- 5pm - Doors Open
- 5:30pm - Briefing
- 6pm - First competitor on stage
- 10:30pm - Qualification rounds finished
- 11:00pm - First competitor in the finals
- 12:00am - Finals finished
- 12:20am - Prize giving
- 12:30am - After Party till 3am

## **Venue**

Roadhouse  
The Market At Covent Garden  
35 The Piazza  
London  
WC2E 8BE

## **Prize Money:**

1st - £700 + World Famous Roadhouse Glass Globe Trophy  
2nd - £200  
3rd - £100

## **Hotel**

There are plenty of hotels around London that you can choose from. If you need any assistance with finding accommodation, please drop us an email to [roadhouse@world-flairassociation.com](mailto:roadhouse@world-flairassociation.com) and we'll happily help you out.

# WFA SCORING SYSTEM

Over the years we have seen flair bartending grow to the extreme level it is at now. Competitions are becoming more and more difficult to judge between one person and another, which is why we have to stay up to date with the current trends in the bar trade and to encourage you as a competing bartender to have as much freedom on stage to do what YOU want to do.

With the inclusion of different styles of competitions coming out now, it is important that we structure the Grand Slam scoring system so that you as a bartender know what to expect from these types of competitions.

Grand Slam competitions are 100% Flair Bartending competitions, and so the new scoring system will focus on that, so you as a Bartender, are free to go on stage and show us what YOU think is the best way to flair.

You will still be required to make real drinks at some point during Grand Slam comps, but at the same time, we want to see YOUR best moves, YOUR style and YOUR ideas on flair bartending, not what everyone else is doing.

With all that in mind we are going back to the old school, but simplifying things to give you the freedom you need on stage. The categories are no longer split into FLAIR & ENTERTAINMENT. The four categories will be marked taking into account your WHOLE ROUTINE.

Please read the info about the categories carefully and let us know if you have any questions by emailing [tom@worldflairassociation.com](mailto:tom@worldflairassociation.com) for more details.

## **Originality - 60**

This is what flair bartending is all about. Showcasing your original moves, ideas and shows whilst making amazing drinks. Flair is so diverse and is constantly changing every year, so we want to see what you have to offer.

Do you have your own moves, your own style and type of music. What about the way you move, and how you present yourself. Are you bringing something new to the stage or just copying what you have seen other bartenders doing?

Being original, is showing us your character, personality and imagination through your flair and skills. It's not about doing everything that you have seen someone else doing.

## **Difficulty - 60**

We're sure many people will like to see this category come back into play. We do like to see "big" moves, and we like to see difficult moves as it helps progress the art of per-



formance flair bartending. This doesn't mean that being difficult means you are going to win the competition though.

Being difficult isn't the only part about your routine that you should focus on, and picking up multiple objects doesn't necessarily mean you are being more difficult.

Judges will be looking for your sequences, not just your moves. For example, a bottle and tin sequence can be a lot more difficult than a six tin bottle move.

Remember this is how difficult your who routine is this so it also comes down to how difficult is the show you are performing. For example, flairing to the music with difficult moves is much harder than just performing a hand stall, or dancing to the music.

### **Relevance - 30**

This a new category, and something that judges have been asking to put into the scoring system for a while. We see many moves and routines that are great, but have no link with the making of their drink, or no "relevance". This means, is what you are doing on stage important to the making of the drink, or are you just throwing bottles around.

The opposite of relevance is irrelevant and a perfect example of being irrelevant is flairing with 4 bottles and then not using them in the making of your drink.

You must think about this category when you are deciding on your big and difficult moves. If you pick up multiple objects and then don't use any of them towards the making of your drink then there is no relevance. If you are going to perform big moves, then think about how that move is important to the making of your drinks.

Essentially, this category should make you think more about your bartending technique and the objects you are using. Do you flair EVERYTHING you touch, or are you simply throwing bottles and tins around?

In the words of one fo the Co Founders of the WFA (Andy Collinson):

"If what you do on stage doesn't go towards making a drink, then you might as well be throwing around banana's"

### **Choreography - 60**

Many years ago flair routines were made up on the spot. Bartenders used to freestyle all the time, and sometimes this worked, but many times it didn't. We've reached an age of flair, where 95% of the bartenders are making a routine, to music.

The music is a large part of your routine, and something that should be unique to YOU. Flowing with that music and taking the crowd on a journey for 5 mins is what you need to think about. You have control over the audience for the time you are on stage, and a well choreographed routine will bring the best performance you can give.

In this category we will be looking at how balanced your routine is. The fumbles you make will bring your points down here, and the smoothness of your routine will effect your score.

### **Deductions**

Drop -5 (2% of total score)

Spill -2 (0.8% of total score)

Misc -4 (1.6% of total score)

Break -10 (4% of total score)

Missing drink -50 (20% of total score)

Sponsor -50 (20% of total score)

Side notes to put into rules an regulations:

- Judges are there to judge and to give the best possible scores they can. These judges have been chosen because of their experience in the flair bartending industry. More often than not, they have seen more flair than you have and no what they are talking about.
- Please remember that the judges are not there to mentor your on your routines, however, if you ask nicely we're sure they will give their advice. However, after they have been judging for several hours, looking at a lot of flair, it can be difficult to give their best advice after so many hours of judging.
- We advise you to seek help from previous professionals in flair bartending and get them to help you with your routines so you know where to improve and get better.
- If you have questions about your scores, please email them to [info@worldflairassociation.com](mailto:info@worldflairassociation.com)

## WFA COMPETITOR CODE OF CONDUCT

As a competitor in any Roadhouse competition you are required to behave with respect and decorum throughout the entirety of the competition. Sponsors pay a lot of money to give us the opportunity to have these great events all over the world, so let's treat them with respect so that they will want to repeat the competition the next year

### Dress Code

- During the competition you are required to dress accordingly to what is expected of you. In some cases you will have to wear the t-shirt provided by the sponsor on stage. In this case, make sure that it is clean and ironed and not all messy when on go on stage with it. If you require another t-shirt ask the organising staff to provide you with one
- You should treat the stage like you would any bar. So no open toe shoes, like flip flops or sandals, but trainers or shoes is fine.
- You are NOT allowed to wear shorts on stage.
- Please make sure your trousers are clean and tidy and not covered in rips and tears.
- In some cases you may want to wear a costume. This is fine, but nothing vulgar.
- No nudity of any kind is allowed during your performance.
- If the organiser, judge or sponsors are not happy with the way you have presented yourself you will be asked to change or get disqualified from the competition.

### Behaviour

- Competitions can be stressful times and everyone wants to do their best, but remember everyone is in the same boat so remember to treat EVERYONE with respect. Including the staff.
- The competition staff are there to help you. If you are rude or arrogant towards them, you may face disqualification, or refusal to enter the next Roadhouse competition.
- Any rudeness or disrespect towards other competitors can face disqualification. This can be anytime throughout the competition, in the practice area, on stage or where ever.
- Try and help out other competitors whenever you can.
- The judges have a difficult decision and are normally willing to answer your questions after a competition, but any rudeness or disrespect towards them could mean refusal to enter the next Roadhouse competition.

## **Announcements**

- This is a big moment for everyone, whether it is announcing the finalists or the overall winners. Everyone is nervous and everyone wants to win. If you are not happy with your placement, DO NOT walk off stage in disappointment. Collect your prize and wait for the all clear to get off the stage once all announcements are finished. Failure to do so can result in disqualification or being banned from the next Roadhouse comp.
- When it comes to announcements please wear either the competition t-shirt or your sponsor or representation's attire. Each competition is different and you will be briefed by the organisers. We do not want to see you in your shirt ready for a night out.
- It is also NOT allowed to be drunk when you are on stage collecting your prizes, and we do NOT want to see you with a drink in your hand on stage. Failure to follow these guidelines can mean you not receiving your prize and or being disqualified from the competition.

## **Bottles to be used**

As we have mentioned before the sponsor pay a lot of money to put on these competitions so they want to see their bottles used at competitions as much as possible. Anyone thought to be blatantly disregarding the sponsors bottles will be disqualified from the comp or incur a major deduction

## **Music**

This will always be down to the organiser as to when they want your music. Please make sure it is clearly labelled and is only on ONE CD!

## **After the competition**

Once the competition is over if you have any questions about your routine that you want to ask the judges we suggest that you email them rather than bothering them after a long day. If they are willing to speak to you about it after the competition, then that is up to them.

Any discrepancies in the scores should be put in writing to the World Flair Association, sent to [info@worldflairassociation.com](mailto:info@worldflairassociation.com) by the individual who is not happy.

The World Flair Association will try and solve any problems with scores or results in any way they can.

## **Overall**

Any competitor not respecting the rules of the competition, the judges, fellow competitors or the sponsors can face disqualification from the competition or be banned from the next Roadhouse competition.

# Appendix 1



# Appendix 2

