



FLAIR Masters 2023

COMPETITION RULES

#FlairMasters #WFAGrandSlam

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VIP
BARTENDERS

INTRODUCTION

Welcome back to the legendary Flair Masters competition! This year it will be taking place on the **23rd of April** in **Helsinki, Finland**. This competition has lots of history and it has already been 13 years since last time.

Now it's time to pull it back into the game after all these years! Some of our past winners from 2009 include Mr Dario Doimo and 2010 Mr Tomek Malek.

The competition will be held at a nightclub called **Maxine**, in Helsinki.

WFA GRAND SLAM

This competition will be a Grand Slam competition. The Top 10 competitors will score valuable points and the Top 6 will earn WFA grades (1st-3rd Black) and (4th-6th Purple). Please make sure you are registered on the WFA website and make sure to email andy@worldflairassociation.com if you have any problems.

TIMINGS FOR QUALIFIERS

- **BRIEFING** – 1pm – Nightclub Maxine, – Urho Kekkosen katu 1, 00100 Helsinki. EVERYONE MUST be at the briefing. If you do not make it to the briefing you do not compete! No exceptions.
- **QUALIFICATION ROUND** – 3pm – 7pm - In this round every bartender will have 4 minutes to make 1 set cocktail (TBA). The scoring system will be the WFA scoring system.
- **FINAL ROUND** – 9pm – 11.30pm
Bartenders will have 6 minutes to make a minimum of 1 set cocktail (TBA).

SCHEDULE

Qualification Round

The running order will be pre-selected before the competition, so you will know the running order before briefing. Everyone needs to be at Maxine for 1pm anyway, but you must be in the practice room or near to the stage 20 minutes before your scheduled time.

COMPETITORS ONLY.

The results from the qualification round will be announced 15 mins after the last competitor in the heats.

Once you have finished on stage, please tidy up your bottles and belongings and put them away and put your bag in the warm up area so that others still have room to prepare and practice. Respect your fellow bartenders!

Final Round

The Top 8 highest scoring competitors from the qualification round will feature in the final round. The highest scoring will go on last with the next highest scoring going second to last, and so on. **Finals start at 9pm.**

For those not in the final, you will be asked to pack your bags and put them aside in the warm up area. The lucky 8 will have the warm up area to themselves to prepare for their final rounds.

Further Details

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 receive your prize.

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT

- The participation fee is **€20** which is paid to Nightclub Maxine on arrival. You will be given a receipt and a wristband, which gives you discount for drinks and free soft drinks. Keep the wristband as you will not be given another one. .
- Those bringing supporters down with you, you will have one person you can add to the guest list. Please tell **Nico** who this is as soon as possible. This person does NOT get access to the practice area. Anyone who is not a competitor will be asked to leave the practice room immediately.
- All competing bartenders as well as their supporters must be at least 18 years of age.

ON STAGE

- The organiser will provide every competitor with a T-shirt, which you have to wear at all time whilst on stage. If you are bar-backing for your friend, make sure you are wearing a competition T-shirt too.

- **IMPORTANT - MUSIC:**

NO YOUTUBE downloads!

Make sure your music is of good quality, being a high quality WAV or MP3 file.

Buy your music, don't waste time copying it!

Bring it on CD, USB and your PHONE!

Email it to yourself!

- The WFA scoring system will be used which is explained on the WFA website.
- 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.
- Only competitors and staff are allowed back stage. NO ONE ELSE! Anyone else will be asked to leave immediately. Please respect this and let your supporters know.
- Use bar backs that are going to assist in your routine. That are going to smile and cheer you on. It makes a big difference to your show!
- 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.
- If your music doesn't work, the DJ will play something else. You will NOT have the chance to start again.
- No fire flair allowed.

STATION SETUP

- To ensure the competition can run on time so that we can all enjoy ourselves afterwards, you will have **4 minutes to setup the bar.**
- All bottles used for working flair must be set in at least **half full**. Bottles will be randomly checked by the judges.
- All bottles used for exhibition flair must be set in **at least 15ml (1/2oz / 1.5cl) of liquid**. Bottles will be randomly checked by the judges.
- Any bottles can be used on stage with labels removed.
- Only WFA stickers are allowed on your bottles.
- **ONLY insulation/electrical tape** can be used on your bottles. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- No empty bottles can be included in the competition bar setup.
- 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!
- 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.
- **You must bring the bottles & equipment you need with you! Maxine will provide only mandatory products. Water can be used instead of clear spirits. Mandatory products will be announced later.**
- Maxine will not supply any bartending equipment for you. You must bring it yourself.
- Bartenders can set up the Doimo portable bar station any way they choose.
- The Top 8 from Qualifying Rounds advance to the Finals. The points from qualification are NOT added to the final.
- 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.
- The competitors code of conduct must be followed and honoured throughout the whole event!

COMPETITION DETAILS

VENUE

For Qualifiers and Finals:

Nightclub Maxine, – Urho Kekkosen katu 1, 00100 Helsinki.

PRIZE MONEY:

1st – €2000 + Trophy

2nd – €1200+ Trophy

3rd – €800 + Trophy

4th – €500

5th – €300

6th €200

There will also be extra prizes donated by the sponsors, but these are TBA.

HOTEL

There are plenty of hotels around Helsinki that you can choose from.

There will be a **Hotel Discount** available.

If you need any assistance with finding accommodation, please DM **Nico** or drop us an email to: nico@vipbartenders.fi and we'll happily help you out.

WFA SCORING SYSTEM

Originality - 60

Difficulty - 60

Choreography – 60

For explanations of the above categories, please see the WFA website:

worldflairassociation.com/wfa/competitions/wfa-scoring-system

Miscellaneous

-2 points marked down.

Missing Drink

-20 points

Make sure you finish your drinks.

Why have we removed drops and spills?

After speaking to the judges and longtime competitors, it is clear that bartenders are being deducted twice with drops and spills. For example, when you make a routine with a lot of drops, you will be marked down on originality, difficulty, and choreography. It is inevitable. Plus, you would then be deducted the points you lose for each drop and spill. So, you are losing points twice. Taking away drops and spills doesn't mean you are not going to lose points. You will, but only once. The judges will mark you down in certain categories if you make a lot of drops, but at least you won't be marked down twice.