



# 2024 WBC Summary of Rule Changes

2023 Rule	2024 Rule	Reason for Change	Impact on Competition Bodies
1.4.1 Judging			
<p>B. WBC Judges must not coach and judge at a WBC event. If a registered judge has acted as a coach for any competitor (either as the primary coach, supporting coach, or consultant) they must declare that conflict of interest prior to the event and during calibration. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest may result in disqualification of the competitor. If a judge has coached a competitor in any capacity prior to the WBC in that competition year (which includes events in any previous calendar year that have been qualifiers to the current WBC) no communication, consultation, or judging can take place in any form for the duration of the competition. Failure to comply during the event will result in the disqualification of the competitor and the judge's removal from judging this competition.</p>	<p>B. WBC judges must not coach and judge at a WBC event. If a registered <b>judge has coached or provided feedback to any competitor in any capacity</b> (either as the primary coach, supporting coach, or consultant) they must declare that conflict of interest prior to the event and during calibration. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest may result in the disqualification of the competitor. <b>Once the competition event has begun or judges have started their calibration (whichever is earlier),</b> no communication or consultation in any form can take place between judges and competitors for the duration of the competition. Failure to comply during the event will result in the disqualification of the competitor and the removal of the judge from judging the competition.</p>	<p>Added for clarity. No formal differences to current practice.</p>	<p>N/A.</p>
<p>D. In any given year, coordinators or individuals who are involved in the management of their Competition Body Competition should not compete. A year is considered to begin from the time the Competition Body starts planning their event. If an individual would like to submit an exception to this rule, they must declare their position via email to WCE</p>	<p>D. In any given year, coordinators or individuals who are involved in the management of their Competition Body Competition cannot compete. A year is considered to begin from the time the Competition Body starts planning their event.</p>	<p>It is preferable that Competition Bodies focus on supporting their communities, competitions, and events without potential conflicts of interest.</p>	<p>It is preferable that Competition Bodies focus on supporting their communities, competitions, and events without potential conflicts of interest.</p>

outlining their areas of involvement.			
3.1 Espresso			
<p>B. Coffee is the accumulation of roasted product of the seed of the fruit of a plant of the genus Coffea. Coffee may not have any additives, flavorings, colorings, perfumes, aromatic substances, liquids, powders, etc. of any kind added at any point between the time the coffee is picked (as cherry) to when it is extracted into beverage. Substances utilized during growing, cultivation, and primary processing of the coffee are permitted (fertilizers, etc.).</p>	<p>B. Coffee is the accumulation of roasted product of the seed of the fruit of a plant of the genus Coffea. For the purposes of this competition, no additives of any kind may be added to coffee after it reaches the "green coffee" stage, i.e., seeds of the Coffea genus, dried as a part of the post-harvest process, and free from all pericarp layers. This includes exposure to aromatic substances, flavorings, perfumes, liquids, powders, etc.</p>	<p>Added for clarity. No formal differences to current practice.</p>	<p>Competition Bodies may take up these changes to the 2024 season or wait until the 2025 season.</p>
3.2 Milk Beverage			
<p>A. A milk beverage is a combination of 1 single shot of espresso (per the definition of espresso in the "Espresso" section) and steamed milk, which should produce a harmonious balance of rich, sweet milk and espresso.</p> <p>B. Plain (sweetened or unsweetened) plant-based milks may be used. Animal milks are not restricted to cow's milk. All milks must be commercially available and unflavored. No human milk will be accepted, or a competitor will receive zero in that category.</p> <p>C. No additions may be made to milk, though all commercially available milks will be accepted.</p>	<p>A. A milk beverage is a combination of 1 single shot of espresso (per the definition of espresso in the "Espresso" section) and milk steamed with the WBC-provided espresso machine, which should produce a harmonious balance of rich, sweet milk and espresso.</p> <p>B. All commercially available unflavored milks can be used. Plain (sweetened or unsweetened) plant-based milks and animal milks can be used. No human milk will be accepted, or a competitor will receive zero in that category.</p> <p>C. Combining and blending commercially available milks is allowed, provided all milks are commercially available and prepared as directed, if required (e.g., commercially available milk powders may be used, if prepared as directed on the package). Outside of combining milks, no additions may be made to milk, regardless of the type of milk chosen. Competitors can remove elements from commercially available milks (e.g., through freeze-distillation) provided that no ingredients or additives are used in the process of distillation.</p>	<p>Added for clarity. No formal differences to current practice.</p>	<p>Competition Bodies may take up these changes to the 2024 season or wait until the 2025 season.</p>

15.1.5 Tactile Experience

(...)

(...) The tactile experience that is present after the coffee has left the mouth will be taken into consideration in the Tactile Experience (e.g., astringent, or silky).

The tactile experience observed after the coffee has been swallowed is now separated from the aftertaste evaluation.

Competition Bodies may take up these changes to the 2024 season or wait until the 2025 season.