ONDNH 2027 – Terms and Conditions

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By submitting an entry to the Olio Nuovo Days Northern Hemisphere International Olive Oil Competition (ONDNH 2027), each contestant agrees to be bound by these Terms and Conditions. Please read them carefully: an application is not accepted or processed until the contestant ticks the box confirming that these Terms and Conditions have been read, understood and accepted.

1. Eligibility, categories and entries

Eligibility. Individual olive oil producers, producers' associations and authorized distributors may enter. Only olive oils produced in the Northern Hemisphere, harvest 2026, are eligible. By entering an oil, the contestant represents and warrants that they have full ownership of the oil and of all associated intellectual property, including the brand name and the packaging.

Categories. The ONDNH 2027 comprises four categories. Each category is judged separately and each oil competes only within its own category.

- **EVOO (Extra Virgin Olive Oil):** extra virgin olive oil of the current harvest, judged on freshness, cleanness, harmony and persistence.
- **VOO (Virgin Olive Oil, matured olives):** virgin olive oil obtained from matured olives that have undergone a controlled fermentation ("black fruity" or old-style taste), judged on typicity by a dedicated jury. This category exists in the Northern Hemisphere edition only. It is intended in particular for French oils, whose producers have developed this process as a know-how, and it is open to matured-olive oils from all countries. One VOO entry is offered free of charge when an EVOO is entered.
- **High Phenolic:** extra virgin olive oil containing at least 250 mg/kg of hydroxytyrosol and its derivatives, the level corresponding to the health claim of EU Regulation No 432/2012 (5 mg per 20 g of oil). A laboratory analysis of the 2026 harvest must be provided with the entry, stating the result in mg/kg, the method used (HPLC, COI method), the laboratory and the date. The organisation does not carry out counter-analyses.
- **Flavoured:** products based on olive oil that are infused, co-pressed (co-extracted) or flavoured, judged on the base oil, the accuracy of the aroma and the balance.

Design competition. A Design competition is included in every entry at no extra charge. Its rules and distinctions will be published separately on the Olio Nuovo Days website.

Number of entries. Each contestant may enter up to twelve (12) oils. An oil is entered either as EVOO or as High Phenolic, never in both.

2. Registration, entry fees and payment

Online registration. Registration opens on 6 November 2026 and closes on 10 March 2027 at 23:59 (website time). Each contestant creates a producer account on the Olio Nuovo Days website, then completes and submits an online entry form for each oil entered, with all mandatory information and attachments: bottle and label photos, the certificate of the certification body for organic oils, and the laboratory analysis for High Phenolic oils. An incomplete entry cannot be submitted. Once an entry is submitted and paid, it can no longer be modified. On submission, the contestant receives an email with the entry confirmation and the packing instructions to include with the samples. The shipping address is communicated only after the entry is validated.

Entry fees. Fees are payable online for each oil entered. The same fee applies in each category, and the Design competition is included.

Oil entered	Standard fee	Early Bird (until 18 December 2026)
1st oil	360 €	310 €
2nd oil	210 €	210 €
3rd and 4th oils	180 € each	180 € each
5th and 6th oils	150 € each	150 € each
7th oil and following	90 € each	90 € each

The Early Bird fee applies to the first oil only. Amounts are stated exclusive of VAT; VAT is applied in accordance with applicable law (reverse charge for contestants with a valid EU VAT number). An invoice is issued upon payment.

Refunds. Entry fees are not refunded once an entry is paid, except where the organisation cancels the competition under the clause on cancellation below.

3. Samples, deadlines and shipping

Samples. Each contestant provides separate samples of each oil entered, as stated in the registration confirmation: three (3) bottles of 500 ml each, or four (4) bottles of 250 ml each, per oil. These samples serve both the Quality and the Design competitions. Once received, samples are assigned a random code so that anonymity is ensured during judging.

Deadline. Samples must be received by the organisation before 18 March 2027. Samples received after this date are not eligible for judging and are not returned. The pre-tastings take place in Paris on 5 and 6 April 2027, and the final on 8 April 2027.

Broken samples. Contestants are responsible for packing their samples so as to prevent breakage in transit. If a sample arrives broken, the organisation makes reasonable efforts to notify the contestant promptly. The contestant must re-send any broken sample at their own expense, and the deadline above applies to the re-sent sample as if the first had never been received. The organisation is not liable for a failure to notify a contestant of a broken sample.

The organisation is not liable for any loss of or damage to a sample, whether before, during or after the competition. If a sample is lost or damaged for any reason, the contestant submits a replacement sample at their own expense.

Shipping and receiving. The organisation is not responsible for customs charges or for compliance with laws and regulations on international shipping. Contestants bear the risk of loss of samples in transit and are solely responsible for ensuring that samples arrive on time. Shipping costs are not refunded under any circumstances. The organisation makes reasonable efforts to confirm receipt of samples.

4. Judging, medals and distinctions

Judging. Each oil in the EVOO, VOO, High Phenolic and Flavoured categories is tasted anonymously by a jury of industry professionals, who meet in person in Paris. The jury is led by a panel leader, who also holds the title of President of the jury. Oils are scored out of 100, in whole points, without decimals.

Medals. The same scale applies to the four categories. An oil scoring below 75 points receives no medal.

Medal	Score
Silver Medal	75 to 84 points
Gold Medal	85 to 90 points
Premium Gold Medal	91 to 94 points
Supreme Gold Medal	95 to 100 points

Final and Top 10. The EVOO and VOO categories each have their own final. Up to ten samples, the best of those that obtained at least a Premium Gold Medal, go through to the final. The final jury is chaired by the President of the competition, who invites ten guests from their field or from the world of taste, and includes the panel leader. In the final, the

oils are tasted and scored out of 100 in whole points. The finalists are ranked from 1 to 10 and receive the mention TOP 10; the best of them is awarded The Best Of Show. A tie for tenth place is decided by the President of the competition. The High Phenolic and Flavoured categories have no final: the scores given by the jury of professional tasters are final.

Best of. A "Best of" may be awarded for each group of oils (country of the grove, cultivar, organic, blend, PDO/PGI) as soon as the group includes at least five (5) entries. A Best of is not a score level: it goes to the best oil of the group on the basis of the scores, provided it has obtained at least a Premium Gold Medal. It is awarded separately within each category, only between oils of the same category, and carries the name of its category (for example, Best of Bio Flavoured or Best of Morocco Flavoured). A Best of High Phenolic and a Best of Flavoured are awarded to the best oil of their category from five (5) oils. Flavoured oils do not compete for the Best of cultivar, blend or PDO/PGI. Outside the final, a tie is decided by the panel leader.

Distinction of consistency. From the 2027 editions, a producer whose oils have entered the EVOO Top 10 three times receives a lasting distinction [name to be confirmed]. Only the EVOO Top 10 counts, and the count starts with the 2027 edition: earlier results are not taken into account.

Judges' decisions are final. The decisions of the judging panel and of the President of the ONDNH 2027 are final. Contestants do not need to attend to win. Judges are independent industry experts. At its discretion, the organisation may send a contestant a summary of the judges' assessment of an entry. The organisation does not provide consultations to improve the quality of products.

5. Results, publicity, samples and awards

Publication of results. Results are announced and certified only by the President of the ONDNH 2027. They are published on the Olio Nuovo Days website on 13 April 2027 at 12:00. The awards ceremony common to both hemispheres takes place in Paris on 4 June 2027. The organisation makes reasonable efforts to avoid disclosing the scores of non-winning samples but does not guarantee their confidentiality. All results are final.

Certificates and award labels. For each awarded oil, the official certificate (PDF) and the medal kit (logos to apply) are available in the contestant's producer account from 13 April 2027. Winners may mention their distinction only on bottles of the same oil (same harvest, olive varieties and production batch) and in the same packaging as the winning sample. Any other use of the ONDNH 2027 logos or intellectual property is strictly prohibited.

Publicity and education. By submitting an entry, each contestant grants the organisation, Olio Nuovo Days Master Class and their affiliates [legal entities to be listed] a perpetual, royalty-free licence to use the names, likenesses, recordings (audio or visual) and other information submitted for winners, together with images and information about the winning oils, for advertising, promotional and educational purposes, without compensation. By ticking the corresponding box in the entry form, the contestant consents to the publication of the profile data of an oil that is awarded. Analysis reports and technical sheets provided by the contestant are not public.

Ownership and return of samples. Each contestant assigns ownership of all submitted samples, and the associated right to publicise them, to the organisation. The organisation does not claim any intellectual property in the products themselves. Contestants are solely liable for any claim relating to the samples they submit. Samples are not returned before, during or after the competition, except at the organisation's sole discretion.

Trophies. Trophies are not included in the entry fee. Verified winners may order them at north@olio-nuovo.com for ninety (90) days following the competition. Contestants bear all costs of obtaining, publicising or using a trophy or award, including taxes and fees.

6. Liability, data protection, law and contact

Limitation of liability. The organisation is not responsible for lost, interrupted or unavailable communications, network servers or connections, failed transmissions, or any human, mechanical or electronic error, nor for any error, defect, delay, theft or unauthorised access to or alteration of entries. The organisation makes no representation or warranty as to the quality, suitability or merchantability of the goods or services offered as awards or submitted to the competition.

To the extent permitted by law, the organisation is not liable for any loss or damage suffered by a contestant or a third party as a result of participation in the competition, the use of an award or the failure to win one, including consequential loss, loss of revenue or profit. Nothing in these Terms excludes liability for fraud, wilful misconduct, gross negligence or personal injury.

Indemnity. Each contestant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the organisation against any claim, cost or damage arising from the contestant's breach of these Terms, from the samples submitted or from the contestant's use of an award.

Release. A contestant, or its employee or agent, may be asked to sign a liability release provided by the organisation as a condition of participating. Failure to return a signed release results in disqualification.

Disqualification. The organisation may disqualify a contestant in case of breach of these Terms, non-compliant samples, or inaccurate or incomplete information. A disqualified contestant has no claim for loss, cost or damage.

Cancellation and force majeure. If events beyond the organisation's reasonable control (war, terrorism, civil unrest, government action, labour disputes or similar) prevent the competition from taking place as planned, the organisation may modify, postpone, suspend or cancel it. In the event of cancellation, entry fees are refunded; no other compensation is due.

Data protection. Personal data collected through registration is processed to run the competition and to publish results, in accordance with applicable data protection law. Contestants may exercise their rights of access, rectification and erasure by writing to the contact address below. [Link to the privacy policy to be added.]

Governing law. These Terms are governed by French law. Any dispute is submitted to the competent courts of Paris. [Name and address of the organising legal entity to be added.]

Contact. For any question about the ONDNH 2027, contact north@olio-nuovo.com.