



## **Annual North American Tea Conference Gold Medal Tea Competition Rules**

The Gold Medal Tea Competition will judge teas from the same origin against each other in order to award a “Gold Medal.” Teas will be judged by origin regardless of production type or grade.

The number of origins open for entrants is limitless and shall be decided solely by the submitter’s producer.

Any and ALL origins entered will be judged!

It is up to you, the participating producer, to decide what style of manufacture your entry should be; we will not segregate these and will be judging purely on the “Best Cup per Origin” basis.

### **Categories to be judged:**

- **White**
- **Green**
- **Oolong**
- **Black**

## **Characteristics judged:**

**Leaf:** Dry leaf style and quality vs. depiction of the grade as displayed on the sample packet. An example would be a well-made and graded black CTC PF1 might score higher than an FBOP of poor make and some stalk.

**Infused Leaf:** Brightness (where appropriate), evenness and aroma

**Liquor:** Flavor, appropriate mouth feel, balance, thickness, overall impact and quality.

Teas will be tasted with or without milk, depending on the style of tea offered.

Characteristics will be scored from 1-10 with 10 being the highest. The combined scores will determine the winner.

If more than one tea ties the top score, an independent judge (not used on the category) shall determine the order of merit.

## **Judges Panel:**

The panel will comprise of 5 tasters, chosen from our Membership experts.

## **Sample preparation:**

All samples will be prepared using the Standard Tasting Method in the Industry: **5g tea brewed in 300ml (10.5oz) water.**

## **Entrance Rules/Fees:**

Each submission is required to be submitted to the address below by August 30<sup>th</sup> 2019 and must be accompanied by the registration fee of \$250 US Dollar per application and initial sample. Additional samples will be \$50 US Dollar/per sample- additional charge.

Your tea should be sent in **2 packages**: 1 of 50g and the 2<sup>nd</sup> of 100g each.

**Samples must be clearly marked (printed label) with the following:**

<b>“North American Tea Conference Tea Competition”</b>	
<b>Company:</b>	_____
<b>Origin:</b>	_____
<b>Region:</b>	_____
<b>Estate Name:</b>	_____
<b>Grade:</b>	_____
<b>Date of Manufacture:</b>	_____
<b>Invoice/Chop (optional):</b>	_____

Packing should be airtight and ensure against cross-contamination.

**We strongly advise that, that you take every precaution to ensure your samples arrive in a timely manner.**

*In the event that more than a manageable # of entrants are received from any one Origin, a prescreening taste panel will be assembled prior to the conference, to determine and select Finalists.*

**Payable to:**

Tea Association of the U.S.A., Inc.  
362 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Suite 1002  
New York, NY 10001  
Attn: Gold Medal Tea Competition

Tel: 212-986-9415

**Wire Transfer Information:**

**Bank Name:** JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (802)

**Bank Address:** 349 5th Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

**Branch Name:** Empire

**Account Name:** Tea Association of the U.S.A., Inc.

**Account Number:** 930-100750

**Routing Number:** 021000021 (Domestic Wires)

**SWIFT Code:** CHASUS33

*\*Please note that the domestic routing number may serve as reference on an international wire.*

**Deadline for Submission is August 30th, 2019**