

GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS AND FEDERATION OF WINDOW CLEANERS



WINDOW CLEANING COMPETITION RULES AND FORMAT

The following rules and format will need to be adhered to in order for the winning time to be eligible as a world record.

1. Eligibility

The contest is open to any and all professional window cleaners. A minimum of two contestants are required in order for the competition to be valid and any record attempts verified. All contestants must be properly dressed.

2. Entry Fee

No fee will be charged to contestants.

3. Equipment and Sponsors

Contestants must only use the equipment and materials supplied by the sponsors of the contest.

No other equipment or materials will be permitted.

No specifically designed equipment or materials will be allowed.

Equipment should be of the following sizes.

- a) A standard 12" or 300 mm Squeegee with fixed handle.
- b) A standard 14" or 350 mm applicator (T.Bar) with fixed handle
- c) A standard 14" Applicator cover.
- d) A water bucket of 2.5 gal or 9 litre capacity.
- e) One litre of neutral window cleaning detergent
- f) One scrim - : 3ft square or 1 square metre.

4. Contestant equipment and materials.

- 4.1 Contestants can only use equipment and material provided by the contest sponsors.
- 4.2 All equipment and materials defined in paragraph 3 of these rules will be available for each contestant.
- 4.3 A replacement squeegee blade can be used by each contestant if requested or required.
- 4.4 Equipment must not be altered.
- 4.5 In the event of more than one sponsor each sponsor will provide the equipment and materials as listed in paragraph 3. Equipment and materials need not be from the same sponsor.
- 4.6 The bucket will contain a maximum of 2.5 gallons or 9 litres of water.
- 4.7 Detergent will be added to the water in accordance with the detergent manufacture's instructions under the supervision of the competition referee.
- 4.8 The scrim provided by the sponsors will only be used by the contestants for removing residues from the window sill or ledge.

5. Competition Windows

Windows will be those provided by the sponsors, and shall conform to the following structure and sizes.

- 5.1 There must be THREE windows.
- 5.2 Each window shall be so constructed that each has a pane of exposed glass measuring 45" x 45" or 1143 mm x 1143mm within the frame of the window with not less than 0.5. or 13 mm of rebate exposed to all four sides, and, to Both front and rear of the window. Each window must have a bottom sill or ledge protruding not less than 2.0" or 50 mm to the face which is being cleaned.

- 5.3 The three windows frames may be separate, or joined, but shall be so designed to stand in a straight row, and that the exposed glass to each window can be reached from a standing position.

6. Practice

Contestants may practice prior to the competition

- 6.1 Contestants may practice on the day of the competition using the competition windows, but only at times permitted by the sponsors.
- 6.2 Contestants may practice during the permitted times using their own equipment and materials, or, those provided by the sponsors, but on the understanding that only those provided by the sponsors will be used in the actual competition. New squeegee rubbers will be provided by the sponsors for the actual competition.
- .3 No alcoholic beverages will be allowed at practice sessions.
- 6.4 Practice sessions, using the competition windows, will not be officially timed and therefore cannot be ratified for record purposes.

7. Format

- 7.1 There will only be one round to the competition with the winner being that contestant who assembles the fastest time, that time to include the addition of penalty points accrued and subject to the Referees final decision.
- 7.2. Each contestant will complete the official entry form which will be received by the organisers/referee at the time specified by before the competition starts.
- 7.3 Contestants will be called at random by the referee
- 7.4 Should a contestant not be in a position to proceed with the competition when they are called they will automatically go to the end of the list of contestants. Should they not be able to proceed at that time they will automatically be disqualified.

8. Contestant Methodology

- 8.1 The windows are to start as clean, with water and detergent residues removed from the glass, frames and sills by the organisers and checked by the Referee and judge, to ensure each contestant starts of the same footing.
- 8.2 Contestants will ensure they are content with the equipment and materials chosen from those provided by the sponsors, prior to starting the competition. Any false starts will lead to automatic disqualification.
- 8.3 Contestants start with the applicator in one hand, and the squeegee in the other, and they shall remain so during the competition except when contestant may be wiping the sills. Neither the applicator nor the squeegee shall be touching the glass prior to start.
- 8.4 During the competition each contestant will ensure that the entire area of exposed glass to each window is wetted. Failure to do so in the opinion of the referee will lead to automatic disqualification.
- 8.5. The contestant will indicate to the referee that they are 'ready'.
- 8.6 The referee will call 3,2,1, 'go'.
- 8.7. The contestant will call 'finish'/stop or something similar when he/she has cleaned the three windows and wiped the three sills.
- 8.8 Each contestant has to 'finish' all three windows so that smears, streaks and water residues are not in evidence on each pane of glass and the sills to each window have had excess moisture removed.
- 8.9 The referee will ask a minimum of two judges for times recorded, and they will jointly inspect each window to ascertain It is correctly 'finished'. Smears, streak and water residues and excess moisture on sills will be penalised and time penalties added to the contestants correctly recorded cleaning time.

9. Judging

- 9.1 The competition will be judged by an expert referee from the window cleaning industry, approved by the Sponsors.
- 9.2. The referee will be supported by at least two other sponsors approved judges, who all additionally act as time keepers.
- 9.3. The Sponsors shall provide at least two "stop watches" calibrated to 100th of a second.
- 9.4. The referee will, once each contestant has indicated 'ready' call 3,2,1, 'go' in order to start each contestant.

- 9.5. The two judges will start their "stop watches" at the referee's call of 'go' and stop the "stop watches" when the contestant call 'finish'/stop or something similar.
- 9.6. Both judges will report recorded times to the Referee. In the event of any discrepancy between the times recorded, the slower of the two times is recorded as the cleaning time, to which will be added any penalties.
- 9.7. The referee and two judges will then check each window to ensure they are clean, dry and free from smears, streaks and water residues, and that excess moisture has been removed from the sill. Each agreed discrepancy will be allocated a time penalty in accordance with the time penalty chart and accrued time penalties added to the cleaning time, by the referee, who will determine the officially recorded time.
- 9.8. The referee will announce the winner, and other awards should there be any, at the end of the competition, together with their respective cleaning time, penalty times (if any) and the officially recorded time.
- 9.9. All contestants will be allowed access to their individual times recorded at end of the competition, following announcement of the winner and any other awards.
- 9.10. The referee's decision is final and the referee and judges will not enter any discussions with contestants or observers.

10. Time Penalties

- 10.1. For leaving a smear, streak or water residue on the glass:
- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Penalty incurred | 0.5 second each |
|------------------|-----------------|
- 10.2. For not wiping sill
- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Penalty incurred | 1.0. second each |
|------------------|------------------|

11. Disqualification

- 11.1. Altering equipment
- 11.2. Failing to wet all of the exposed glass surfaces to all three windows.
- 11.3. Unsportsmanlike conduct
- 11.4. False start
- 11.5. Large, intentional errors
- 11.6. Throwing equipment
- 11.7. Failing to appear for the competition at the allocated time

12. Authentication for Guinness book of records

- 12.1. Any attempts to beat the records published by Guinness Book of Records shall comply with the above competition rules except that the F.W.C. may be replaced by any other recognised trade association or organisation.
- 12.2. Signed statements of authentication by the referee and two judges including their contact address and telephone numbers, confirming that all the rules of the competition have been adhered to.
- 12.3. Independent corroboration in the form of local or national newspaper cuttings
- 12.4. Photographs or transparencies of the event, if possible of reproducible quality and preferably in colour.

13. Guinness Book of Records Advice

- 13.1. You are advised to check with them just before your attempt to make sure that the record has not been beaten.
- 13.2. Guinness Book of Records cannot provide personnel to invigilate record attempts, there are far too many.
- 13.3. Guinness book of records cannot take responsibility for any accidents or illnesses that may come about during or as a result of record attempts.
- Medical attention should be available at all times.