

PUTTING CONTEST

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Putting contest is to promote spirited and collegial competition among students by demonstrating their prowess in manufacturing a ceramic putter and ball possessing high strength, mechanical reliability, and aesthetics. The contest is organized by Keramos.

RULES:

1. All student members of Material Advantage are eligible to participate; entrants **DO NOT** have to be members of Keramos. All work on the putters and balls must be performed by students; Faculty members and non-students may only advise.
2. Each Institution may submit one team consisting of four members.
3. Each team member shall have his/her own putter and ball
4. Putters and balls must be made entirely from ceramic, glass, or glass ceramic materials; no metal, plastic, paint, organics, or non-ceramic materials are permitted.
5. Putters and balls must be monolithic, and have been processed at a temperature of at least 800°C; post processing anneals at lower temperatures are permitted.
6. No commercially made parts may be incorporated in the putters or balls. Raw materials such as powders, liquid precursors, chemicals, and fibers are legal to purchase, but any reinforcing components must be made by entirely by the students and can not be purchased.
7. All putters must have a serviceable shaft of at least 75 centimeters, and a blade of at least 5 centimeters in length at one end
8. Putters may not exceed 1.5 kg in weight.
9. Putters may have a leather, polymer, or cloth grip no greater than 23 centimeters in length
10. Putters and balls may be glazed, but may not be painted after high temperature processing
11. Balls must be nominally spherical, of dimension 4.3 ± 0.3 cm, and weigh no more than 50 gms.
12. The year of the contest shall be permanently inscribed into the surface of both the putter and ball; only putters and balls manufactured in the current academic year are eligible

JUDGING:

1. The judges of the contest will consist of at least 2 members of the Keramos National Executive Board
2. All entrants shall register for the competition one hour before the designated start of the competition. Each team shall submit their team roster to the judges at that time. Each team must have four members; no late arrivals shall be permitted.
3. All putters and balls shall be weighed, measured, and judged for aesthetic merit prior to the putting contest; only putters deemed eligible under the rules will be permitted in the competition.
3. Putting surface shall be carpet, nominally 7 meters by 2 meters, placed on a level surface with no barriers along the edges. A pin or practice cup shall be placed nominally 2 meters from the end of the putting surface. Putting will start within 1 meter of the opposite end of the putting surface. The putting surface shall be available for practice one hour before the start of the contest.
4. Putting order will be determined alphabetically by name of the institution.
5. Each team member may use only his/her designated putter and ball.
6. Each team will have one member putting in each of four rounds; all members must putt for the team to be eligible to win.
7. Each team member will putt one ball
8. The normal two handed-standing-beside-the-ball putting stance shall be used
9. The ball must be struck with the face of the putter, within one minute of the judge placing the ball on the putting surface, to constitute a legal putt
10. After each putt, the judge(s) will measure the distance from the center of the target to the ball to the nearest ½ centimeter
11. If the ball does not remain on the putting surface, then a penalty of 120 centimeters will be added to the student's score. The student will be allowed a second putt; if this ball also rolls out of bounds, the student is eliminated from the competition.
12. If a putter breaks during practice or competition, it may only be used if it still meets the criteria for eligibility
13. If a ball breaks during competition, the putting score will be determined by the distance from the target to the broken part of the ball farthest away from the target
14. The three best balls per team determine team score
15. The team with the smallest total distance will be declared winner
16. In the event of a tie, all four members of the tying teams shall putt a second ball, using the same order as in the formal competition; smallest total distance of three best balls per team determine tiebreaker.

PRIZES:

1. The winning team shall receive a \$100 award and a trophy
2. "Best Aesthetics" awards shall be given to the individuals deemed by the judges to have used the most aesthetically pleasing putter and ball in the competition; these prizes are awarded at the discretion of the judges.

CONTEST ADMINISTRATION

1. The contest will be held during MS&T each year.
2. Please register your intent to compete no later than one week before the meeting by contacting the Keramos National Vice President (see Keramos website at www.ceramics.org)
3. Late arrivals will not be eligible to compete.
4. Winners will be announced in the Keragram and forever recorded in the Keramos Record book; pictures of the winners are often included in the ceramic bulletin.