

## WELSH NATIONAL CULINARY TEAM

# SEARCH BEGINS FOR NEW CAPTAIN TO LEAD WALES IN CULINARY OLYMPICS

**Immediate: July 1, 2007**

The search is on for a new captain to lead the Welsh National Culinary Team into next year's Culinary Olympics in Erfurt, Germany.

Current captain Lee Jaynes, 40, is standing down as he is emigrating with his family to Australia from their home in Bowness on Windermere in the Lake District. A native of Barry, Jaynes has been captain for four years, a team member for nine years and has competed in two Culinary Olympics.



**Lee Jaynes standing down as captain**

Team manager Graham Tinsley, co-owner of the Castle Hotel, Conwy and Nant Hall, Prestatyn, is now seeking nominations from chefs who feel they have the dedication, commitment and skills to lead the team to continuing success. To qualify they must either be Welsh or work in Wales.

Wales is currently ranked seventh in the world and Mr Tinsley believes it will take extra dedication and commitment to break into the top six countries. Wales recently won silver and bronze medals at the American Culinary Classic in Chicago, which convinced him that the team needs to step up a gear.

“The judges commended our teamwork but it was clear that if we want to break into the world's top six we seriously need to strengthen by recruiting more senior members and practicing a lot more,” he said. “Chicago demonstrated the standard we need to reach to compete with the world's best. “

Mr Tinsley wants the new captain to help him recruit new members with passion for food and a commitment to achieve the highest possible standards in international competitions.

The new captain will also be required to help organise team practices, fundraising and sponsorship events, high profile dinners, luncheons and competitions. He or she will also help select teams and dishes for competitions and events and delegate duties to other team members.

The talented Welsh chefs regularly cook for royal and senior politicians. They recently prepared a three course meal for the Queen at the reopening of the Welsh Assembly in Cardiff and also catered for a reception at Clarence House for the Prince of Wales, their patron, to celebrate St David's Day.

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For more information about the Welsh team and the Welsh International Culinary Championships visit the Welsh Culinary Association's website at [www.welshculinaryassociation.com](http://www.welshculinaryassociation.com).

The Welsh team is sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government, C&C Catering Equipment Ltd, Brakes, Unilever Foodsolutions UK, Catering Engineers (N.W.) Ltd, Hybu Cig Cymru/ Meat Promotion Wales, Gourmet Classic Ltd, Villeroy and Boch, Friedr. Dick, Germany and Snowdonia Cheese Company.

Ends

**For more information please contact Graham Tinsley, Welsh National Culinary Team manager, on 07765 404950 or Duncan Foulkes, public relations consultant, on 01686 650818.**