

## *UPCA Fast Smoking Contest Rules*

**The Pipe:** Normally a Missouri Meerschaum Corn Cob Pipe will be provided. (Alternatively you can use a clay pipe. Briar or other wood pipe is not recommended, as the heat load may be too much for a briar to handle.)

**The Tobacco:** 3 grams of tobacco. All three grams must be used.

**The Fire:** The contestant may choose any method of fire they desire.

**The Accoutrements:** Each contestant will be provided with a sheet of tin foil and a cup for the resultant tsunami of saliva. Each contestant will be given an index card with their name and contestant number to be placed on the table in front of them, so they can be identified by the judges. Contestants may use their own tamper.

**The Personnel:** The Contest Master will oversee the contest, explain the rules, and announce who is out. A Contest Master Assistant will record times and assist the Contest Master when needed. Judges will determine if a contestant has burned through all smokable material in their bowl, and will declare if a contestant has gone out. It is recommended at least 1 judge for every 5 contestants.

**The Contest:** Each contestant will have 5 minutes to prepare their tobacco and load their pipes. When the time is up, the Contest Master will give the signal to light their pipes. Time will start then. The contestants will then smoke through all of the smokable material in their pipe.

If a contestant has a burn out (defined as a catastrophic failure of the integrity of the pipe because of ignition of the actual pipe) they are declared out at that point. If a contestant believes they have smoked through, they will raise their hand. The contestant will empty their bowl onto the foil. A judge will then inspect the contents.

If there is smokable material left, the judge will instruct the contestant to repack their pipe with the smokable material and relight. If the judge determines all smokable material has been smoked, they will declare clearly, and with sufficient volume “[contestant number] out” and the Contest Master Assistant will record the time. The discretion is entirely the

judges, and is not disputable. When all contestants are declared out by the judges, the contest master will declare the contest over.