



BAVARIAN STRONG MAN CONTEST CHALLENGES AMERICAN BEER DRINKERS

Donauschwaben's German American Cultural Center (DGACC) in Olmsted Falls, Ohio holds qualifications for US Championship in "Masskrugstemmen" – Finals in New York City

When Germans celebrate, they do not only drink lots of beer – they also use it for all sorts of competition. Best known is "Masskrugstemmen", the quintessential Bavarian strong man contest. 2009 will see the first official US Championship in this fun sport, with finals to be held in New York City's Central Park and qualification rounds occurring all over the US.

The DGACC is proud to hold the official qualification for Ohio in cooperation with Hofbräu beer. All strong men (and women) are invited to participate in 3 qualifying rounds to determine final round participants. These will be held at 9pm on • Friday, June 19th • Friday, July 17th • and Friday, August 14th. The top 5 qualifiers in each of the 3 qualifying rounds will compete for the regional title in the final on Saturday, August 15th at 9pm, during Donauschwaben's "Sommer Oktoberfest" Weekend! The cost of entry is \$20.00 and entrants can keep the 1-liter stein.

Rules are as follows: "Masskrugstemmen" loosely translates into the lifting of a liter mug of beer. The giant Stein is to be held with one arm, completely stretched out in front of the contestant's body and absolutely parallel to the floor – the goal is simple: to hold the Stein up as long as possible. Sound easy? – You might want to try it at home.

The winner of the qualification at the DGACC receives a grand prize: A trip for two (2) to New York City to participate in the US finals, which will be held on September 19, 2009 as part of an Oktoberfest in Central Park immediately following the German-American Steuben Parade. Every year, this biggest celebration of German culture in the US brings together tens of thousands of people to watch music and dance groups in original German "Tracht" as well as German Mardi Gras groups in colorful costumes.

Every year, the Steuben Parade is led by celebrity Grand Marshals. Among recent honorees are former Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger, Las Vegas magicians Siegfried & Roy, New York billionaire Donald Trump, super model Carol Alt, Hollywood actors Eric Braeden and Ralf Möller, and many more great German-Americans. This year's Grand Marshals will be announced later in the year.

Hofbräu is the official beer of the German-American Steuben Parade. Germany's most traditional beer, served every day in the world-famous "Hofbräuhaus" in Munich and in select restaurants and bars across the United States and the entire world, will be on tap at the Parade and the Oktoberfest.

For more information about the DGACC "Masskrugstemmen", call 440-235-2646!

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

To participate in the Masskrugstemmen you must be able to hold "The Masskrug," a filled 1-liter stein to be held with one arm (left or right), stretched out in front of the body (not sideways!), and completely parallel to the floor. If the arm holding the Masskrug is not absolutely parallel to the floor, the contestant gets a warning – after two warnings follows disqualification. The regional winner of the DGACC qualifying final will be competing in the finals in New York for the title of "US Champion of Masskrugstemmen."

A regional winner must be available for media interviews before and after the finals. The German-American Steuben Parade Committee will organize and hold the finals of the US Championship in Masskrugstemmen on Saturday, September 19, 2009 at approximately 4pm. *NOTE: Please review the legal disclaimer below before participating in any stein-holding contest. Management reserves all rights.

STEIN HOLDING CONTEST LEGAL DISCLAIMER:

- Masskrugstemmen is NOT a drinking game. The competition is about holding a filled 1-liter mug on an outstretched arm in compliance with the rules set by the organizers.
- I am aware of the risks involved in Masskrugstemmen (e.g., cramps, muscle tension, or other injuries) that might occur.
- DGACC can not be held responsible for any injuries that occur in connection with the competition.
- DGACC does not encourage drinking. Even though Masskrugstemmen involves a filled 1-liter mug, DGACC strongly encourages all contests and the audience to drink safely and responsibly and not to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of alcohol.

EVERY CONTESTANT HEREBY AGREES THAT HE OR SHE IS PARTICIPATING IN THIS ACTIVITY WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT IT COULD RESULT IN INJURY AND SPECIFICALLY ABSOLVES DGACC FROM ANY LIABILITY RESULTING FROM PARTICIPATION IN THIS ACTIVITY.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Rules and Regulations and the Stein-Holding Contest Legal Disclaimer.

Contestant Name (Please Print)

Signature

Date