

American Cheese Society Judging & Competition Reimbursement and Refund Policy

Purpose: The American Cheese Society (ACS) recognizes the importance of reimbursing its members who have submitted and paid for cheese entries for Judging & Competition (J&C) which, upon committee review, are determined as not eligible to be judged. The purpose of this policy is to outline the reimbursement process for eligible expenses incurred by ACS members.

Eligibility:

To be eligible for reimbursement, the following criteria must be met:

- The company must be a member of ACS.
- The member must have submitted cheese entries during the entry period for review.
- The entry has been reviewed by the J&C Committee and determined to be:
 1. a duplicate entry
 2. disqualified based on category or contest parameters

(<https://www.cheesesociety.org/competition-eligibility-requirements/>)

Entries that are not eligible for reimburse are:

1. submitted but not shipped to the contest.
2. damaged during shipping.
3. deemed unsafe or unjudgeable onsite by the J&C committee and technical liaison.

Expenses:

Eligible expenses for reimbursement will include:

- Entry Fees at Early Bird or Regular Rates

Reimbursement/Refund Process:

Entrant will receive the refund within 5-7 business days to the original form of payment.

Policy Review:

This policy will be reviewed periodically by the ACS to ensure that it remains current and effective. Any revisions to the policy will be communicated to members in a timely and transparent manner.

Conclusion:

The ACS values the contributions of its members and recognizes the importance of supporting them in their efforts to submit cheese entries for review and judging. This reimbursement policy is intended to provide members with the necessary support to participate in the judging process and to continue to advance the quality and diversity of American-made cheeses.