



The Australian Culinary Federation S.A. held the state heat for the Secondary School Culinary Competition on Monday 25th June. All of the teams met at Regency International Centre at Regency TAFE SA, with their ingredients, bright and early. The meat that was used for the day was a number 12 chicken, kindly donated by Holco Fine Foods.

A chocolate demonstration was held on arrival by our guest chef Gunawan, who showed the students how to make a chocolate garden. Everyone got to eat one, too; a nice little sugar hit before the competition.



In the kitchen, the students were all calm and well organized, and the standard was extremely high. Our head judge, Michael Strautmanis, commented on the professional appearance of all the students, this year. Credit must be given to their teachers, who obviously worked very hard to ensure their teams were well prepared for the day.

After the students had presented their dishes to the judges for assessment they were treated to a cheese demonstration and tasting by TAFE SA lecturer Gina Dal Santo, who showed them how to identify three different types of cheeses, by taste, texture and appearance. She also explained how the different cheeses are made and their origins.



The competition dishes were beautifully presented and the judges enjoyed tasting them. Many students were awarded bronze medals, but a team from Southern Vales Christian College took the win with silver medals. Stellene Romano and Olivia Evans presented a dish of chicken pancetta roulade with bocconcini and spinach, potato puree, zucchini noodles, roast cherry tomatoes, balsamic, olive oil and pine nuts. They will now represent South Australia in the upcoming National Final. In addition to their medals, they also each took home a Nestle Chef knife case with a beautiful pastry knife inside.

In a tight finish, the second silver medals were awarded to Jarome Tucci and Samara Al Jassar from Brighton High School. Their dish was a smoked chicken breast, chicken and mushroom dumpling, fennel slaw, spicy sauce.

Congratulations to all who competed! It was a great day for all. Thank you to all who contributed to make this competition possible once more.





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