The following recipe is compulsory for all entrants and must be printed in all schedules.

INGREDIENTS:

250g (8 oz) sultanas

250 g (8 oz) chopped raisins

250 g (8 oz) currants

125 g (4 oz) chopped mixed peel

90 g (3oz) chopped red glace cherries

90 g (3 oz) chopped blanched almonds

1/3 cup sherry or brandy

250 g (8 oz) plain flour

60 g (2 oz) self-raising flour

1/4 teaspoon grated nutmeg

1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

250g (8 oz) butter

250g (8 oz) soft brown sugar

½ teaspoon lemon essence OR finely grated lemon rind

½ teaspoon almond essence

½ teaspoon vanilla essence

4 large eggs.

RECOMMENDED METHOD:

Mix together all the fruits and nuts and sprinkle with the sherry or brandy. Cover and leave for at least 1 hour, but preferably overnight. Sift together the flours and spices Cream together the butter and sugar with the essences. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after, each addition, then alternately add the fruit and flour mixtures. Mix thoroughly. The mixture should be stiff enough to support a wooden spoon. Place the mixture into a prepared square 20cm x 20cm (8" x 8") tin and bake in a slow oven for approximately 3 ½ - 4 hours. Allow the cake to cool in the tin.

Note: To ensure uniformity and depending upon the size it is suggested the raisins be snipped into 2 or 3 pieces, cherries into 4-6 pieces and almonds crosswise into 3-4 pieces.

Judge Note: The height of the cake should not exceed 5.7cm (57mm)