

# Competitive Vaping and Vape Cloud Competitions

## What is competitive vaping?

Competitive vaping is a competition to blow creative, large vapor clouds. This is a relatively new trend, and while the exact origins of it are unknown, people who participate in these contests estimate that it started sometime around 2012 on the West Coast of the United States. Today, vaping competitions have created an incredible group of vapers around the planet—competitions can draw massive crowds of thousands of fans, all trying to make the best cloud. With competitions happening everywhere, from huge venues in big cities to vape shops in small towns, you're likely to find friends in the vaping community no matter where you are.

Vaping competitions are also extremely important for smaller, locally-owned vape shops and smoke shops alike. They can be a great method to drive business and sales, and they draw a lot of interest in the vaping industry. Local competitions are also a great way to meet fellow competitors to compare builds and juices so that you can find the ideal one for you.

If you're interested in participating in contest vaping, we've compiled a handy list of 10 of the most important things you must know about it to make sure that you're a huge success!

## Do some research

If you're going to participate in competitive vaping, you need to ensure you know your stuff. Blowing the perfect vape cloud depends on a view different factors like the type of juice you're using, the type of mod you're using, and even the airflow of the room you're in. To make sure you'll be able to produce a large, dense vape cloud, you should use a mod with a battery output that will not negatively affect it. Your mod should be made of a conductive material like silver, copper, or stainless steel to ensure that you can produce a dense cloud.

If you're ever unsure of your build and what mods you should be using, get in contact with someone who has experience with competitive vaping. Past competitors may share the builds that worked best for them, which could clue you in on what you should be doing to make the best possible build. Seasoned competitors may also be able to tell you what types of mods are best for specific kinds of vape clouds. If you're using certain materials or types of vapes, you may create a cloud that might be smaller but better for tricks, or one that is very large but can't be easily manipulated for tricks. A veteran vaper could point you in the right direction, so you know exactly what you need for what you're going to accomplish.

You also have to ensure you're using a high-quality vape juice if you are shooting for a dense cloud. You may want to experiment with several different ones to find one that works best for

you, but if you have the chance to choose the juice you're using to compete (most competitions require that everyone have the same juice), you should use one with a very high VG solution base with the lowest possible PG. The higher the VG content compared to PG, the better your cloud production will be. Top-level vapers always take the time to create many blowing techniques for any cloud chasing contest.

## **Learn the lingo**

If you want to get into competitive vaping, it's crucial to get a handle on some of the specific language used by many cloud chasing competitors. Vaping contests can go by several names, with the most common being "cloud-chasing." Participants are called cloud-chasers, with some choosing to call themselves professional vapers, and fans who come to watch competitions are called cloud-gazers. If you're participating in a competition of vape tricks rather than of vape cloud size and density, you're then known as a "vaping trickster."

## **Practice makes perfect**

If you want to succeed in competitive vaping, you'll need to practice a lot. To work on getting your competition cloud chasing just right, you'll need to find a room with limited airflow to get a thick cloud that is easy to manipulate. You should start by learning some basic tricks that you can gain from the Internet, and also work on a good breathing technique. To maximize how much vapor you can inhale, you should exhale and straighten your back before you draw from your vape. Then, when you're exhaling, lean forward to produce a better cloud.

Once you've mastered some basic tricks and your breathing technique, it's time to move on to more advanced stuff. You can try basic tricks that you've taught yourself to push yourself to do more and more complicated tricks for your displays, and you can even use them throughout your displays to break up your more complicated cloud chasing. As you keep going, you'll, of course, learn even better ways to produce vape clouds with e-cigarettes, and you'll get more comfortable trying out some complicated tricks and even prepare for cloud contests.

## **Get creative**

Besides the obvious importance of the size and density of your cloud, you have to be creative as well. Once you've mastered some basic cloud chasing, you can start to experiment and come up with something of your own. Judges at vaping competitions don't want to see the same old boring vapor tricks that everyone else has already done before, so ensure that you're coming up with something truly original that the judges will be impressed by.

## **Know the rules**

Before you compete, you should know what kind of competition you're signing up for. In a typical competition, cloud-chasers stand back-to-back and blow vape clouds in opposite directions while the clouds are measured by an assistant. The vaper with the larger cloud moves on in the competition, while the other is disqualified from further competition.

Other competitions are drastically different. These competitions focus on cloud chasing and trying to impress judges with a unique and complicated trick that requires a lot of practice and research into what mods and juices produce the vape clouds that are easiest to manipulate.

## **Vaping around the world**

Despite its uncertain origins in the West Coast of the United States, competitive vapor cloud contests have managed to spread across the world. Global competitors are drawn to California's International Cloud Championship. The championship is held yearly and is known for its unique format that challenges competitors by having them do things like preparing their builds ten minutes before the competition!

Another well-known vape competition is the World Series of Vaping, which most recently took place in Moscow in 2019. The World Series of Vaping boasts much more than just a competition, with an impressive array of vendors that sell a wide range of vaping products. This event also takes place in a massive venue that distinguishes it from other vaping events.

Perhaps one of the most significant vape competitions in the world is the Vape Capitol Cloud Chasing Championships. These competitions take place in cities all across the United States in big cities in states like Texas, California, Washington, and New Jersey. Competitors in this competition can leave with a prize of up to \$10,000 along with sponsorships and some custom mods.

Recently, other vaping events have started to become popular as well, such as the World Series of Cloud Chasing in the United Kingdom, the Canadian Cloud Circuit, and the Vape Olympics, which began in 2015. It has also become popular for vape shops to host their own local vaping competitions as a way to boost sales and popularity.

Participating in these competitions comes with some pretty nice prizes. Participants can expect to win between \$250 and \$2000, with the World Vaping Championship paying out a total of \$100,000 to its competitors. Along with the cash, you can expect to walk away with some of the newest and best vaping mods and juices.

## **Skip the nicotine**

Most participants in vaping competitions choose not to use e-liquids with nicotine. When training for competitions or when you're taking in a lot of vapor to pull off one of your new tricks, it can be unpleasant to inhale so much nicotine all at once. So, to make it easier to keep practicing and winning competitions, try using e juice without nicotine.

## **Stick to regulated mods**

Unless you have specific knowledge of electronics and how to safely modify them, it's best to only use regulated mods for your vape. If you modify your atomizer with a heating coil that heats with a resistance lower than 1 ohm, you'll be able to produce really big vape clouds, but at the

same time, you can risk causing a serious battery failure that could harm you and the people near you.

## **Take to social media**

Vaping is wildly popular on social media, so using it to follow vape accounts or professional vapers can keep you updated and in-the-loop about the latest trends in vapor trick contests. This is also a good way to stay on top of the tricks that other people are doing so that you can learn and improve on what you find. You can also use social media to get in contact with other people who participate in or are interested in competitive vaping to get firsthand knowledge about what works best to be successful in a vaping competition.

YouTube can also be a really valuable source for people who are just starting to get into vaping. You can discover thousands of videos on YouTube that talk about various vape mods, juices, or batteries, which can help you get informed on the massive range of different products that you might like to attempt. Watching YouTube videos is a good way to familiarize yourself with these products, so you have some idea of what you're using before you use it.

## **Plan your tricks**

It's important to go into a competition knowing exactly the kinds of tricks that you want to do to impress your judges. Some classic tricks that are always a fan favorite are things like blowing O's, tornado-like funnels, and the dragon. You should use these relatively simple tricks to launch yourself into performing more complicated ones, and you can use them to break up a series of similar tricks to add a bit more variety to your display.

An important aspect to remember is a successful competitive vape display is the overall aesthetic of your performance. While it might not be a category that is explicitly scored as a part of a competition, it is important nonetheless that your clouds are visually appealing to your judges and your audience. Basically, you want your cloud to be as dense as you can get it while still being able to shape it for tricks. That way, the tricks that you're doing can be easily seen by everyone watching, and they will look much more impressive to the judges.

## **Conclusion**

Vaping cloud competitions and their international presence demonstrate the spread of vaping around the world. The vaping community is filled with opportunities to have fun and earn money—and even travel the world!

Vapers who may still be smoking their hourly cigarette, if not for the hobby, are the first to be thankful for cloud chasing. Traveling to various competitions and events can be a fun way to meet other people in the vaping community and to attempt cool new products that can help make you even more successful in the vapor trick contest circuit. The vaping and e-cigarettes community is extremely open and inviting, and it is very easy to find friends who share your interest in competitive vaping.

