

2019 Chronometry Contest Change in the programme of the award ceremony

The December 16, 2019 award ceremony will take place at the Le Locle Musée des Beaux-Arts. Instead of the expected announcement of results, it will celebrate Swiss watchmaking precision with conviction and panache. Program to be available soon.

At the current time, the 80-day precision tour that began at the deadline for the submission of watches (August 30, 2019) is being carried out in complete confidentiality, in compliance with the statutes. The two surprise guest watches, the witness timepieces provided by the *Ecole d'Horlogerie du Locle (ET-CIFOM)*, make it possible to follow this route from the inside, which is full of pitfalls.

Participants shortage

The law of mathematics technically precludes any announcement ceremony. Because, since the first round, which is an elimination round, has passed, only one watch is still in the competition! The first reaction of the organizers, including professionals from industry as well as from the Major Control Laboratories, is to wonder about the perhaps too high severity of the rules.

Despite the intentions and keen interest from the brands, the 2019 harvest of the participating watches was particularly modest. At the beginning, there was nevertheless a real enthusiasm for these chronometric challenges, which were relaunched in 2009 by the City of Le Locle and its Watchmaking Museum, the Château des Monts. This dynamic, due to the proximity of the Baselworld calendar, had prompted the Organizers to extend the registration deadline by one month.

An unusual combination of other factors seems to have killed good intentions. There were this time when for intellectual property reasons such registration has been impossible because the watch were still in the field of ongoing protected research at that time. Or a technical impossibility preventing a candidate from being measurable in the same way as others, for example because of the absence of the hands of the seconds. Finally, there is the case of this registered watch that did not appear, or the one that, at the last moment, made the choice, without explanation, to withdraw.

Chronometric precision, a true value to be celebrated

The Chronometry Contest remains the only competition that rejects any subjective assessment and focuses on the only controlled, fair and verifiable measure. Confronted with a rather well-stocked catalogue of reluctances, its new by-laws ruled out any risk of damage to the image, after having been the subject of a vast consultation. Within brands and factories, in the technical departments, there was no doubt about it. On the decision-making level, these values should have been even more broadly communicated.

Out of respect for the full mobilization of competent and accredited laboratories for the tests, out of respect for the encouraging and concrete commitments received from private and public sponsors, the December 6, 2019 ceremony is being maintained. It will transform the announcement of the results into a vibrant event

press release

tribute to this Swiss precision, of international renown, which, from the point of view of watch lovers around the world, continues to be highly on demand. This is the same accuracy that Swiss watch brands relentlessly profess as an incomparable value. A precision sometimes labelled Concours de Chronométrie that former winners do not hesitate to use throughout their entrepreneurial life.

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www.concourschronometrie.org

HD photo gallery
<http://bit.ly/2n9DTgf>

(((additional text, in brief)))

2019 Chronometry Awards Ceremony, a tribute to precision

Scheduled for 16 December 2019 at the Musée des Beaux-Arts (Le Locle)

A tribute to the preciseness of timepieces, renowned personalities, historical and technical legitimacy and developments, challenges and labels. Program follows.

80 days of testing, 4 Institutes accredited by the Swiss Confederation: METAS, COSC, Timelab Foundation, Dubois Laboratory (Chronofiable@)

Download the regulations,
<https://bit.ly/2QmZLP1>

(((additional historical text)))

Precision and reliability, the power of History

Under the motto "precision and reliability", the Chronometry Awards remain the most objective competition in the entire watchmaking galaxy. Indeed, it is impossible to insert any human judgment or subjective appreciation into the results. It is all about measures controlled by a

Notary Public and conducted in a strictly fair manner. Re-launched in 2009 by the City of Le Locle in tribute to the most prestigious and high-profile historical pages in watchmaking history, this competition is supported by a host of partners, such as the FHH, Fondation de la Haute Horlogerie.



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