

NATION

04 MUSCAT DAILY | TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012

# Al Bustan Palace Hotel wins first NHI chef competition

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Muscat

Al Bustan Palace Hotel has won the first National Hospitality Institute-organised (NHI) chef competition, which was held on Monday. The Al Bustan team was awarded a trophy and a cash prize of RO300.

The second prize was won by Shangri-La's Barr al Jissah Resort and Spa while Oman Hotels came third. Both the hotels were awarded medals.

Ten teams of two chefs each, one Omani and an expatriate, representing different establishments, participated in the competition. The teams were awarded points on several criteria, which included recipe, hygiene, preparation, creativity, wastage, presentation, taste and texture. The teams also presented portions of their dishes to guests, who were requested to give their feedback.



A trophy awarded to the winners of the NHI-organised competition on Monday (Muscat Daily)

Robert MacLean, principal, NHI, said, "Our students took a great interest in the competition. NHI wants to organise such competitions every three months. This will allow people in the industry to prepare for these competitions in advance."

According to one of the judges, Mark Dean McInnes, business development manager of hotel and catering, Oman Air, and president, Oman's Chef Guild, "The aim of the competition was to get people to stand up and try. It was the first com-

petition for most of the participating teams who were nervous at the start but as the competition went on, they gained confidence. It was fantastic to have ten teams representing different establishments participate in the competition."