



2007 Rubik's World Speedcubing Championship



Fastest recorded time (10.59 seconds) at Rubik's World Speedcubing Championship is by Norfolk man

Over the weekend of 6th/7th October, 263 finger-twisting competitors, from 33 countries, took part in this year's bi-annual Rubik's World Speedcubing Championship, held in Budapest, home of inventor Erno Rubik - and the place where it all began back in 1980... **Yu Nakajima** defeated all-comers in the traditional 3x3x3 Cube competition - with an astounding average solving time of 12.46 seconds. Nakajima headed home with 5,000 Euros in hand, a trophy - and memories which can never be repeated, as the Championships Awards celebrations are said to have been Professor Rubik's last public appearance.



The fastest single solving time recorded at this year's Championship was by Englishman DAN HARRIS (22) – he solved the Cube in just 10.59 seconds. Dan lives in Great Yarmouth and recently graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Meteorology and Oceanography from the University of East Anglia. "To me the competition is as much about having fun, and getting together with my friends from the cubing community around the world, as it is about winning" says Dan, who pocketed a cheque for a cool 1,000 Euros for his fantastic performance.

Call Dan direct on 07810 108824

In second and third place respectively were **Andrew Kang** from the USA – 13.05 seconds and **Mitsuki Gunji** from Japan – 13.05 seconds. In addition to the top three finishers, the next three Finalists were Jean Pons (France - 13.18 seconds), Edouard Chambon (France - 13.34 seconds) and Joel van Noort (Netherlands - 13.39 seconds).



Erno Rubik with Yu Nakajima from Japan (*left*), the new Rubik's World Speedcubing Champion, and Mitsuki Gunji (*right*) – also from Japan – who came 3rd.

As well as standard 3x3x3, 4x4x4 and 5x5x5 events, over 100 Cube enthusiasts also participated in a series of unusual and timed challenges - including one-handed, blindfolded, and multiple blindfolded, fewest moves and foot-cubing.

For full results of all events, visit www.speedcubing.com

"The 2007 Rubik's World Championship was a very special event, since it marked the 25th Anniversary of the first Championship, also held in Budapest, at which 19 Cubing experts battled for the first Rubik's World Champion accolade" says **David Hedley Jones**, *Senior Vice President – Rubik Brand*. "The winner was Minh Thai from the US, with a best time of 22.95, with Guus Schultz from The Netherlands in second place at 24.32, and Zoltan Labas of Hungary third at 24.49."



"Things have moved on since then" continues David. "This year's Championship has been a fabulous occasion – and enormous fun for the many hundreds of spectators who attended, too. It proves that, in the iconic Rubik's puzzle, we have a phenomenal brand that has fantastic, never-ending potential! We are expecting to sell another 12 million Cubes this year alone."

Over almost thirty years, the fiendishly difficult puzzle invented by Professor Erno Rubik has achieved iconic status as the world's biggest-selling toy ever, with well over 300 million copies sold to date – and with over 43 quintillion configurations (exactly 43,252,003,274,489,856,000 degrees of difficulty, in fact) and only one solution, solving it ain't easy, period!

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Rubik's Cube got under your skin, as it has for hundreds of thousands of others from all walks of life? Many, many hints and tips – along with a plethora of information on all things Cubist – can be found at the **official Rubik's website** – www.rubiks.com.

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