

**NATIONAL**

# **HOMEBREW COMPETITION**

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**2021 COMPETITION ENTRANT HANDBOOK**

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# NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION

## COMPETITION ENTRANT HANDBOOK

December 29, 2020

### Greetings AHA Members!

We're excited to invite you to be part of the largest homebrew competition in the world! The National Homebrew Competition celebrates the spirit of homebrewing and homebrewers. The field is tough, and to move on you must bring your best entries forward.

In this packet, you'll find all the information you need to know about the competition, from how to enter and shipping information to categories and awards.

It broke our hearts when we had to cancel the 2020 competition just as it was set to get underway. Not having the annual tradition for our hundreds of judges and thousands of members left a hole in the spring and summer.

With uncertainty forecasted for 2021, we are doing everything we can to ensure NHC happens. Our promise to you is to bring you the best NHC ever. Find out how we plan to do that in this packet.

We invite you to hone your recipes and enter next year. Online application, registration, and payment **opens February 17, 2021 and until 3 p.m. MST on March 3, 2021.**

Cheers!



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### WHAT IS NEW IN 2021

#### Entry Fee Change

The entry fee in 2021 will be \$29 per entry. Prior years had a first-round entry fee of \$16 per entry and a final round entry fee of \$9. To cover growing expenses and deliver the highest-quality competition, the new entry fee will offset expenses and allow for greater flexibility in the future. Growing expenses include space, meals for hundreds of judges and stewards, cold storage, truck and equipment rental, software and IT support, compensation, shipping space, supplies, and printing.

#### Single-Site Judge Center for Entire Competition

The 2021 NHC will see a major change with format and structure. **The competition will no longer have first round judge centers and a final round judge center format.** The competition will use a single-site judge center that moves entries through subsequent rounds until a final round is achieved, awarding first, second and third place in a category.

This new format will allow entries to be judged in parallel rather than over a six-week period and establish consistent, high-caliber judging at one location than over 13 first round locations. Entrants will only need to brew and ship once.

#### Competition Ban on Cannabis-Infused Entries

All and any cannabis-infused, or ingredient derivative of, beers are **strictly prohibited** from the National Homebrew Competition. Any entrant found in violation of this rule will be banned from the competition and subject to additional penalties.

#### Specialty IPA Split with New England IPA

New England IPA and Specialty IPA will now be split into their own categories. We made this change to benefit the entrant because of the growing entry count in New England IPA.

#### British & Irish Stout Split

British Stout and Irish Stout are now split out into their own categories. We made this change to benefit the entrant because of the uniqueness of each stout category and to be more in line with the 2015 Style Guidelines.

#### Pale European Beer Split

Pale European Beer is now split out into Pale Malty European and Pale Bitter European categories. We made this change to benefit the entrant because of the uniqueness of the categories and to be more in line with the 2015 Style Guidelines.

#### Spiced Beer Split

Spiced Beer and Seasonal Beer are now split out into their own categories. We made this change to benefit the entrant because of the uniqueness of each category and to be more in line with the 2015 Style Guidelines.

#### Competition Registration & Application

The Competition Registration & Application process will set a predetermined entry limit. If there is capacity to add more entries, we will let entrants know before March 3.



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### WHO CAN ENTER THE NHC?

#### Entry Eligibility

All National Homebrew Competition entries must be homebrewed beer, mead, and cider. “Homebrewed” means that entrants cannot use professional equipment or other means provided by professional brewers or breweries. The competition does not currently have categories for seltzer, hard soda, kombucha, and other alternative fermentations. Please refer to the 2015 Beer Judge Certification Program Beer, Mead, and Cider Style Guidelines

#### Homebrewer Eligibility

Homebrewers must meet each of the following conditions as of midnight on March 3, 2021:

1. You must be a current American Homebrewers Association (AHA) member when entering the competition. Join Now!
2. You must know your member number and email address associated with your membership.
3. You must be subscribed to receive emails from the National Homebrew Competition. If you are unsure, please log in to your account on HomebrewersAssociation.org and update your email preferences.
4. No employee of the Brewers Association may enter.
5. Open enrollment, beer registration, and beer payment is online only.

*NOTE: Homebrewers who are not members of the AHA may join the AHA up through March 3 and register and pay for the competition. Based on demand, there is no guarantee all applicants will receive their requested entry amount or be accepted to the competition.*



### Fees

A non-refundable fee of \$29 per entry is due upon entering the competition by March 3. This fee will cover each entry in for the entire competition.

The entry limit will be determined based on demand of the competition. Our goal is to accommodate as many AHA members as possible in an effort to host a robust competition; entry limit is determined by the number of entrants and entries over the course of the registration period. If there is additional space, we may allow AHA members to enter more entries beyond the original entry cap.

No refunds will be issued after March 17, 2021 and refunds will be issued on an extremely limited, case-by-case basis, upon request and pending review by the AHA. All regulatory and financial burdens associated with submitting and sending samples to the competition are the sole responsibility of the entering AHA member. In the event the competition is cancelled, the AHA will only refund entry fees and is incapable of reimbursing competition shipping fees.

### HOW TO ENTER THE NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION

#### Step 1: Competition Application/Payment: February 17 – March 3

AHA members must apply online only starting at 10 a.m. MST on February 17. **This first step is required.**



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**ENTRIES:** Entrants must indicate how many entries they would like to submit to the competition and pay for all entries. The number of entries per entrant limit will be predetermined by number of applications and demand of entries. You may enter more than one beer per category but not the same beer in the same category...that would be weird. *You will be able to edit specific beer entry details after payment.* **NOTE: The competition registration and payment system is an all-inclusive system.**

Fill out the application form in full. You will receive a confirmation email with your application.

**It is your responsibility to subscribe to our emails before the open enrollment window closes and monitor your email during this time.**

Beers may be edited after registration and payment up until the shipping window.

### Step 2: Entry Registration & Payment

**CONFIRMATION EMAIL:** Confirmation Emails are all sent by March 3. A \$29 per entry charge is due by credit card. **You will have to pay for entries upon registering for the competition.** Log into your brewing profile with the login credentials sent via email. **If you miss this window, you will lose your spot in the competition. This is where you tell us the entries you want to enter and which categories they will compete in!**

Once you pay for your entries, you are officially entered in the competition.

*Disclaimer: Failure to pay within the deadline window will result in dismissal from the competition and lower priority on acceptance to future competitions. You must pay for all entries.*

### Step 3: Beer Editing and Labeling

Log into your account at [BrewingCompetition.com](http://BrewingCompetition.com) and submit the entry information for each of your entries you paid for in the “**My Info and Entries**” tab. Make sure all the information is correct. Provide all full names (first and last) of your team (if applicable).

**NHC Tables:** Every year, the competition re-organizes the 2015 BJCP Style Guidelines in a meaningful and manageable way. Review the tables in this handbook carefully to know which subcategories fall within which NHC Tables. Be sure to include any additional information required for the entry by referencing the subcategory in the [BJCP 2015 Style Guidelines](#).

**SUBCATEGORY ENTRY LIMIT:** You may submit more than one entry per subcategory, but they cannot be the same entry...that would be weird. For NHC Tables that have no subcategories (e.g. American IPA), you may only submit one entry. An entrant may be a co-brewer for a different entry in a subcategory they have already entered as the main brewer.

**HOMEBREW CLUB:** Entrants may only choose **one** homebrew club total for the entirety of the competition. Changing a homebrew club is prohibited after the shipping window closes.



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**ENTRY LABELS:** Available after payment. Entry labels are found in your Brewer Profile and emailed to you.

1. Verify the information is accurate
2. Print labels for ALL entries and bottles
3. Place them vertically on EACH bottle before packaging
4. **Labels must be a minimum of 1" wide and 2.625" tall (Avery 5160)**

**Entries may be edited until April 9, 2021, at 7 p.m. PST (end of shipping window).**

### Step 4: Shipping Window: March 29 to April 9

All entries must be received during the shipping window at the designated shipping location. This information is shown on your Entry Labels, in the Rules & Regulations, and in your Brewer Profile. If you are unsure, please contact the competition organizer (nhc@brewersassociation.org).

### Step 5: Scoresheets & Results

Scoresheets are sent back via email to entrants. Scoresheets will be available after the Award Ceremony. All those advancing to the Final Round judging will receive instructions in their package. **IMPORTANT: All Final Round medal winners are required to provide recipe information.**

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

### January 31, 2021: Club Registration

Homebrew clubs must be [registered](#) with the AHA.

### February 17 to March 3, 2021: Competition Registration & Beer Payment

Entrant Application deadline. Beer registration and payment for eligible entrants. Entrants have until the deadline to apply to the competition and pay for their entries. Entries may be edited after payment.

### Through April 9, 2021: Update/Edit Entries

Entrants may log into the competition website and edit their entries. Any edits should be done **BEFORE** shipping entries.

### March 29 – April 9, 2021: Shipping/Drop-off Window

All competition entries must be received at the entrant's respected shipping or drop off location.

### April 11 to April 17, 2021: Entry Check-in & Sorting

Competition entry check-in and sorting. Issues and problems from shipment or other entry issues will be reported to entrants as they arise.

### April 27 to May 2, 2021: Competition Judging

All competition entries judged in parallel at a single-site location.

### June 19, 2021: Award Ceremony

National Homebrew Competition winners announced at Award Ceremony during Homebrew Con.



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### BEER BOTTLE QUANTITIES & APPEARANCE

All homebrewers entering the 2021 National Homebrew Competition are required to send the following quantities of beer for each entry.

**Bottles not meeting the requirements may be disqualified.**

The number of bottles/cans sent to the competitions depends on the bottle/can size. Please send no less than the state amount listed below. **Entrants sending less than the required amount for judging will not be issued a credit/refund for your competition entries.**

#### Container Size & Appearance Requirements

Bottle or Can size	Amount to ship
5.5 oz to 10.9 oz	5 bottles/cans
11 oz to 19.9 oz	5 bottles/cans
20 oz and larger	4 bottles/cans

- Bottles, cans, and caps must be free from all labels, tape or any identifying marks. Bottles with raised lettering are allowed.
- Grolsch/Flip Tops/22 oz. bombers are acceptable.
- Entry Labels for each entry **must be tapped on every bottle.**

*Entries not conforming to the prescribed requirements may be disqualified. Disqualified entries may be judged but will not be eligible to advance. All entries received become property of the AHA and any and all bottles are dealt with at the AHA's discretion.*

#### Labeling Your Beers

Clarity and accuracy are key, please use the barcode better labels emailed to you by the AHA – these print on Avery 5160 label size or you may print out, cut and tape.

Verify the information on the label matches the info registered for the competition *exactly*. If the information differs, it will cause a problem sorting and judging. NHC is not responsible for issues caused due to errors in labeling.

Print the official barcode labels and affix one label to each bottle (adhesive label, clear packaging tape, glue, etc.). **DO NOT RUBBER BAND.**

Place them vertically on the side of the bottle or can (not the neck).

#### DETERMINING THE CORRECT SUBCATEGORY FOR YOUR ENTRY

##### Important Entry Information

Homebrewers entering in the National Homebrew Competition should carefully review the NHC Tables and subcategory designations before registering an entry.



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Detailed descriptions of each subcategory are provided by the Beer Judge Certification Program 2015 Style Guidelines and available on PDF through the BJCP website, [bjcp.org](http://bjcp.org).

*Tip: keep it simple. When entering entries with ingredients such as fruit, vegetables, or spices, avoid words like extract, puree, fresh, all natural, or canned – just indicate the ingredient used.*

It is the entire responsibility of each entrant to enter their entries in the appropriate BJCP subcategory. The staff and volunteers of the National Homebrew Competition or the Brewers Association cannot aid entrants in this decision.

Judges and organizers will not classify or reclassify your entry. The competition uses the BJCP 2015 Style Guidelines and assigns BJCP subcategories to NHC Tables.

To eliminate the possibility of error, please reference the NHC's Tables list below. Here you will find the 2015 BJCP Subcategories listed below each NHC Table.

### Special Ingredients & Entry Instruction Information

For specific information on special ingredients and entry instructions in a subcategory, please reference the 2015 BJCP Style Guidelines, find your subcategory, and locate the subheading "Entry Instructions." This section identifies the required information necessary to judge an entry.

Do not use brand names, geographic names, or any other proper names of special ingredients. Adding regional information could compromise the anonymity of your entry and will be reviewed and altered at the competition director's discretion.

Entries not accompanied by this information will be at a disadvantage during judging.

All MEAD entries must include sweetness, carbonation, and strength information.

All CIDER entries must include sweetness and carbonation information.



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### SHIPPING INFORMATION

#### COMPETITION SHIPPING ADDRESS

NHC – AHA

587 S. Taylor Ave.

Louisville, CO 80027

\*Mandatory to use official barcode shipping labels

\*\*Deliveries allowed Mon-Fri | 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

#### Disclaimer:

All regulatory and financial burdens associated with submitting and sending samples to National Homebrew Competition are sole responsibility of the entrant. In the event the competition is cancelled, the competition will only refund entrants their competition entry fees and is unable to reimburse or pay for competition entry shipping fees or return competition entries to entrants.

#### UNITED STATES SHIPPING DETAILS

It is the entrant's responsibility to make sure **entries arrive on time and are labeled correctly. Please do not use the United States Postal Service (USPS).**

1. The AHA highly encourages using [Spirited Shipper](#) for easy-to-use, minimal waste containers. The packaging cuts down on waste materials and delays in unpacking and sorting.

2. Plan on using a private courier. It is best to schedule a pickup from home or place of business. Often shipments brought directly through UPS/FedEx store may get denied as shipping alcohol against policy. Indicate "glassware" or "samples" if asked to provide such information.

3. Beware of scrutiny with ground shipping.
4. Package **MUST** have "NHC – AHA" listed on package when delivered.
5. Deliver Direct (drop-off): Entrants may deliver their beers directly to their site's designated drop off or shipping location.
6. Arrange for a return receipt or tracking number. Shipping/drop-off locations cannot confirm delivery of your entries.
7. Pack it well (make it unbreakable).
8. Create a packing list/inventory each box in case of an incident
9. If more than one box of entries is being shipped, keep samples of each brand in the same box and label each box "box 1 of 2," "box 2 of 2."

*Cost Saving Tip: Entrants may consolidate shipments when sending competition beers. This saves time and money! Consider contacting your local [homebrew club](#), [homebrew shop](#), or [brewery](#) to discuss options.*

#### ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING DETAILS

Homebrewers located outside the US may ship their entries:

1. You may ship using a courier and customs clearance company of your choice (such as FedEx, UPS, DHL), but we recommend a national courier of your country.
2. Declare the package as "samples, glassware" with a \$0 or \$1 value as a gift. If you have questions about this, please contact [nhc@brewersassociation.org](mailto:nhc@brewersassociation.org) for assistance.

*Disclaimer: Some brewers have had trouble with US Customs. The AHA is not responsible for any confiscated, lost or damaged entries.*



GUIDE FOR REGISTERING ONLINE

Use this page to prepare your competition information for [online beer registration](#). Completing this form prior to online beer registration will ease your online registration process. Beer registrations will only be accepted online. Entries entered in the following the [2015 Beer Judge Certification Program \(BJCP\)](#) subcategories will require specialty information and instructions: 7C, 9A, 10C, 21B, 23F, 24C, 25B, 27J, 28A, 28B, 28C, 29A, 29B, 29C, 30A, 30B, 30C, 31A, 31B, 32A, 32B, 33A, 33B, 34A, 34B, 34C, Mead: 35A, 35B, 35C, 36A, 36B, 36C, 36D, 36E, 37A, 37B, 38A, 38B, 38C. Cider: 39A, 39B, 39C, 39D, 39E, 40A, 40B, 40C, 40D, 40E, 40F.

Entry #1 \_\_\_\_\_ NHC Table/BJCP Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Specialty Information Required (90 character limit)?: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #2 \_\_\_\_\_ NHC Table & BJCP Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Specialty Information Required (90 character limit)?: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #3: \_\_\_\_\_ NHC Table & BJCP Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Specialty Information Required (90 character limit)?: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #4: \_\_\_\_\_ NHC Table & BJCP Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Specialty Information Required (90 character limit)?: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #5: \_\_\_\_\_ NHC Table & BJCP Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Specialty Information Required (90 character limit)?: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #6: \_\_\_\_\_ NHC Table & BJCP Subcategory: \_\_\_\_\_  
Any Specialty Information Required (90 character limit)?: \_\_\_\_\_



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### JUDGING & AWARDS PHILOSOPHY

The National Homebrew Competition recognizes brewing excellence in 40 NHC Tables of beer, cider, and mead and does so over multiple rounds of judging within a category to reach a final table of entries that are awarded first, second and third place.

#### Judging Process

The National Homebrew Competition Director selects judges from a list of internationally recognized brewers, sensory experts, certified judges, and other experts within the beer industry. These individuals have been selected based on formal sensory training, experience evaluating beers on flavor panels and/or at competitions, judging demeanor, knowledge of beer styles and brewing process and industry/peer recognition.

Judges evaluate flights in panels (two or three) in parallel (not queued). The judge panels fill out scoresheets for each entry and identify up to three world class entries that best represent the beer style category described by the BJCP guidelines. **An entry must receive a score of 30 points or more** to be eligible to advance in a NHC table and place.

After the scoring round, entries are evaluated against one another and panels advance up to three entries to subsequent rounds.



Once a NHC table reaches 12 or fewer entries, a final table is assigned where a five-judge panel evaluates all finalist entries. The judge panel then determines first, second and third place winners in each of the NHC Tables and entries will receive gold, silver, and bronze medals, respectively.

First place entries in each NHC Table will move on to the Best-Of-Table round to determine the major award winners for beer, mead and cider.

### AWARDS FIRST ROUND

#### Entry Recognition Awards

**A recognition award does not signify an entry placed in a NHC Table.** It is a recognition of an entry's *quality* in relation to the style guidelines and not towards the competing entries within that category.

**Gold Recognition** – Earned by entries scoring 38-50 points in the First Round.

**Silver Recognition** – Earned by entries scoring 30-37 points in the First Round.



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**Bronze Recognition** – Earned by entries scoring 25-29 points in the First Round.

### Competition Certificates

Certificates – Entries advancing to the final table of the entry's respected table are awarded digital certificates for their excellence and great achievement in the competition.

### Competition Medals\*

**Gold Medal** – a world-class beer that accurately exemplifies the specified style, displaying the proper balance of taste, aroma, and appearance.

**Silver medal** – an excellent beer that may vary slightly from style parameters while maintaining close adherence to the style and displaying excellent taste, aroma, and appearance.

**Bronze medal** – a fine example of the style that may vary slightly from style parameters while still displaying quality taste, aroma, and appearance.

*\*Each entry that wins a medal will receive one medal. Additional medals may be acquired by the entrants. Email [nhc@brewersassociation.org](mailto:nhc@brewersassociation.org) for more information.*

## NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION MAJOR AWARDS

For more information on how awards are calculated and tiebreakers, please reference the competition's FAQ page.

### Homebrewer of the Year Award

First place winning entries in all of the beer NHC Tables will compete in a best-of-table (BOT) judging. The Best of Table beer determines this award

### Meadmaker of the Year Award

First placing winning entries in all the mead NHC Tables will compete in a best-of-table (BOT) judging. The Best of Table mead determines this award.

### Cidermaker of the Year Award

First place winning entries in all the cider NHC Tables will compete in a best-of-table (BOT) judging. The Best of Table cider determines this award.

### Ninkasi Award

Homebrewers are awarded points based on the number of gold (6 points), silver (5 points), and bronze (4 points) medals won in the competition. To be eligible for the award, entrants must have at least one entry place in the beer categories.



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### **NHC Homebrew Club Award**

Clubs are awarded points based on the number of gold (6 points), silver (5 points), and bronze (4 points) medals won in the competition. In the event of a tie, tiebreaker criteria will determine a winner.

### **Gambrinus Club Award**

Clubs are awarded points based on the number of gold (6 points), silver (5 points), and bronze (4 points) medals won in the competition. The winner is determined by total entry points awarded by total number of entrants. In the event of a tie, tiebreaker criteria will determine a winner.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

For any award or other honor, including the major awards, the homebrewer(s) identified on the registration application determines which person and which homebrew club is awarded points. Individual members of a group of brewers earn points as a group and do not earn points on individual basis. Points and awards are not transferable.

Entrants may choose only one homebrew club to affiliate themselves with. All points earned by the individual will go to the affiliated club for the major club awards.

By rule, NHC and Brewers Association employees cannot aid entrants in entry category decisions. The NHC reserves the right to combine categories with fewer than 12 entries with similar categories prior to and during any competition, and reserves the right to discontinue tables in future years to reflect changes in brewing interest and other conditions.

### **AWARDS CEREMONY**

The National Homebrew Competition Award Ceremony announces the award-winning entries at an awards ceremony during Homebrew Con. A list of winners will be available on [HomebrewersAssociation.org](http://HomebrewersAssociation.org).



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### 2021 NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION TABLES

The NHC tables are determined by the AHA Competition Subcommittee using the [Beer Judge Certification Program's 2015 Style Guidelines](#) and previous years' data. The following is a list of NHC Tables and the BJCP subcategories. **\*Special Ingredients Required**

#### **Pale American Beer**

- 1A. American Light Lager
- 1B. American Lager
- 1C. Cream Ale
- X1: Dorada Pampeana

#### **American Wheat & Blonde**

- 18A. Blonde Ale
- 1D. American Wheat Beer

#### **Pale Malty European Beer**

- 2A. International Pale Lager
- 4A. Munich Helles
- 4B. Festbier

#### **Pale Bitter European Beer**

- 5B. Kölsch
- 5A. German Leichtbier
- 5C. German Helles Exportbier

#### **Pilsner**

- 3A. Czech Pale Lager
- 3B. Czech Premium Pale Lager

- 5D. German Pils
- 27F. Pre-Prohibition Lager
- X5: New Zealand Pilsner

#### **Amber European Beer**

- 2B. International Amber Lager
- 3C. Czech Amber Lager
- 6A. Märzen
- 7A. Vienna Lager
- 7B. Altbier
- 7C. Kellerbier\*

#### **Dark European Lager**

- 2C. International Dark Lager
- 3D. Czech Dark Lager
- 8A. Munich Dunkel
- 8B. Schwarzbier

#### **Strong European Lager**

- 4C. Helles Bock
- 6C. Dunkels Bock
- 9A. Doppelbock\*



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9B. Eisbock

**German Wheat Beer**

10A. Weissbier

10B. Dunkels Weissbier

10C. Weizenbock\*

27H. Roggenbier

27I. Sahti

**Pale British Ale**

11A. Ordinary Bitter

11B. Best Bitter

11C. Strong Bitter

12A. British Golden Ale

12B. Australian Sparkling Ale

12C. English IPA

**Scottish & Irish Ale**

14A. Scottish Light

14B. Scottish Heavy

14C. Scottish Export

15A. Irish Red Ale

17C. Wee Heavy

**American Pale Ale (18B)**

**Amber & Brown American Ale**

19A. American Amber Ale

19B. California Common

19C. American Brown Ale

27B. Kentucky Common

**Brown British Beer**

13A. Dark Mild

13B. British Brown Ale

13C. English Porter

27D. London Brown Ale

**Irish Stout**

15B. Irish Stout

15C. Irish Extra Stout

**British Stout**

16A. Sweet Stout

16B. Oatmeal Stout

16C. Tropical Stout

16D. Foreign Extra Stout

**Imperial Porter & Stout**

9C. Baltic Porter

20C. Imperial Stout

**American IPA (21A)**

**Specialty IPA (21B)\***

**New England IPA (X2)\***



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**Strong American Ale**

- 22A. Double IPA
- 22B. American Strong Ale
- 22C. American Barleywine
- 22D. Wheatwine

**Strong UK Ale**

- 17A. English Strong Ale\*
- 17B. Old Ale
- 17D. English Barleywine

**Saison (25B)\***

**Belgian Ale**

- 24A. Witbier
- 24B. Belgian Pale Ale
- 24C. Biere de Garde\*
- 25A. Belgian Blond Ale
- 26A. Trappist Single
- 34D. Clone Beer (Belgian Styles only)\*

**Strong Belgian Ale**

- 25C. Belgian Golden Strong Ale
- 26B. Belgian Dubbel
- 26C. Belgian Tripel
- 26D. Belgian Dark Strong Ale

**European Sour Ale**

- 23A. Berliner Weisse

- 23B. Flanders red Ale

- 23C. Oud Bruin

- 23D. Lambic

- 23E. Gueuze

- 23F. Fruit Lambic\*

- 27A. Historical: Gose

**Fruit Beer\***

- 29A. Fruit Beer\*

- 29B. Fruit & Spice Beer\*

- 29C. Specialty Fruit Beer\*

- X3. Italian Grape Ale\*

- X4. Catharina Sour\*

**Spiced Beer (30A)\***

**Seasonal Spiced Beer\***

- 30B. Autumn Seasonal Beer\*

- 30C. Winter Seasonal Beer\*

**Smoke-Flavored Beer**

- 6B. Rauchbier

- 27C. Historical: Lichtenhainer

- 27E. Historical: Piwo Grodziskie

- 32A. Classic Style Smoked Beer\*

- 32B. Specialty Smoked Beer\*

**Wood-Aged Beer\***

- 33A. Wood-Aged Beer\*



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33B. Specialty Wood-Aged\*

**American Wild Ale\***

28A. Brett Beer\*

28B. Mixed Fermentation Sour Beer\*

28C. Soured Fruit Beer\*

**Specialty Beer\***

27J. Other Historical Beer\*

31A. Alternative Grain Beer\*

31B. Alternative Sugar Beer\*

34A. Clone Beer (non-Belgian Styles)\*

34B. Mixed-Style Beer\*

34C. Experimental Beer\*

**Traditional Mead\***

35A. Dry Mead\*

35B. Semi-Sweet Mead\*

35C. Sweet Mead\*

**Fruit Mead\***

36A. Cyser\*

36B. Pymment\*

36C. Berry Mead\*

36D. Stone Fruit Mead\*

36E. Melomel\*

**Spice Mead\***

37A. Fruit & Spice Mead\*

37B. Spice, Herb, Vegetable Mead\*

**Specialty Mead\***

38A. Braggot\*

38B. Historical Mead\*

38C. Experimental Mead\*

**Standard Cider & Perry\***

39A. New World Cider\*

39B. English Cider\*

39C. French Cider\*

39D. New World Perry\*

39E. Traditional Perry\*

**Specialty Cider & Perry\***

40A. New England Cider\*

40B. Cider with Other Fruit\*

40C. Applewine\*

40D. Ice Cider\*

40E. Cider with Herbs/Spices\*

40F. Specialty Cider/Perry



## COMMON ISSUES & WHO TO CONTACT

### Shipping Related Issues & Questions

Shipping information is found in this packet with the shipping location and address. Please read ALL information about shipping and drop-off locations (if applicable) for entries. Contact [National Homebrew Competition](#) for specific shipping inquiries.

### Missing Entry in Profile

If you paid for your entries and an entry is missing from your “Entry Table,” contact [National Homebrew Competition](#) to resolve the issue.

### Specialty Information for Entries

If an entry requires specialty information, you are required to provide that information when registering your entries. There is a 90-character limit. If you have questions about what information to include, please reference the 2015 BJCP Style Guidelines. Competition staff may not and will not assist entrants on determining specialty information. Do not include identifying information – this will be altered or removed prior to the judging.

### Judging Location

Entrants can sign up to judge/steward through their [First Round Brewer Profile](#). Non-entrants may sign up to judge/steward through the volunteer link on the competition software’s main page in the blue box. Questions about judging should be directed to the [National Homebrew Competition](#).

### Password Recover

If you have forgotten your password or need to reset it, please follow the RESET PASSWORD link on the competition software’s main page towards the bottom below the login boxes. If that option does not work, please contact [National Homebrew Competition](#).

### Entry Check-in

Do not contact the shipping location or anyone on staff about your entries. You will be notified if an entry did not arrive or was damaged and needs to be replaced once Entry Check-in is completed. Please be patient.

### Entry Showing as Unpaid

If you paid for your entry or entries and have a receipt, but the entries in your profile re showing as unpaid, please allow up to 48 hours to reflect payment. If they are still marked as unpaid after 48 hours, please contact [National Homebrew Competition](#).



# NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION

## COMPETITION ENTRANT HANDBOOK

### Club Listing in Drop-Down

If your club is not listed in the drop-down under “Club Affiliation” then your club did not register before the deadline of January 31, 2021 to be eligible for the competition club awards. We do not provide a write in for club affiliation.

### Shipping & Dropping Off Entries

Entrants either ship or drop-off entries to the shipping location found in this packet. Please make sure you read ALL the shipping information and check before packaging. If you have questions, please contact [National Homebrew Competition](#).

### Where are my scoresheets?

Scoresheets are emailed to entrants, not delivered to your Brewer Profile. Make sure to check your junk and spam mailboxes. The scoresheets go out to the email address we have on file in your Brewer Profile. Make sure it is up to date!

### How did my entry rank in category?

Rankings in categories are only for first, second and third place. If your entry has made it to the final round of a table, your entry had a chance to place in the category and will be awarded a certificate for achieving that level of excellence!



NATIONAL  
HOMEBREW  
COMPETITION

COMPETITION ENTRANT HANDBOOK

Your Competition Notes: