

PART I – How to Enter This Competition

1. What kind of bottle is required?

BEER entries must be in bottles that are brown or green glass only, 10 to 22 ounces in volume. MEAD and CIDER entries must be in bottles that are brown, green, or clear glass, 10 to 22 ounces in volume. All bottles must be free of ink, paint, or paper labeling other than competition entry labels. Obliterate any lettering or graphics on the cap with a permanent black marker. Corked bottles meeting the above restrictions are acceptable; however, you must crimp a crown cap over the cork. Bottles with a stopper and wire cage are acceptable. Bottles not meeting these requirements will be disqualified.

2. How many bottles do I need?

Send three (3) bottles for each entry. One to two bottles will be used to compete in the First Round (depending on the number of flights to be judged), and another bottle is required in case your entry advances to the Final Round.

3. What are the entry fees?

For all **U.S. and international entries**, a tax deductible donation of \$11 (US) for a brewer's first entry, and \$9 (US) for additional entries from the same brewer is required.

Fee Payment: Entry fees should be paid by check, made out to **Suncoast Animal League**, and the check should be attached to one of the bottles with a rubber band.

4. When are the entry deadlines?

U.S. and International entries must be received by October 1, 2009.

5. How do I enter?

U.S. and International Entries

(a) **Register** each entry online after the beginning of September by going to www.ProfitToolBelt.com/Homebrew_competition and entering the information about your entries. The Online registration program will not be active until the September 1, 2009.

(b) **Pay for your entries.**

Attach a check to one of the bottles with a rubber band, made out to Suncoast Animal League, and submit with your entry.

(c) **Print the labels** for your entries. Attach the labels to each bottle using a rubber band; **do not attach the bottle label with glue or tape.** Your entry will be **disqualified** if you use glue or tape to secure the label to the bottle.

(d) **Pack your bottles carefully.** (See [Part III, Section I](#) for Packing and Shipping hints.)

(e) **Ship your entries** to the SAL Homebrew Competition at 6936 W Linebaugh Ave, Tampa, FL 33625 or make arrangements to drop off your entries to one of the locations listed in Part IV below. The Suncoast Animal League cannot acknowledge receipt of entries – arrange for a return receipt with your shipping company, if you wish to confirm delivery of your package. Packages with postage due or C.O.D. charges will be returned to sender.

DO NOT SHIP YOUR ENTRIES VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE.

6. Which category do I enter?

Enter your brew in the category and subcategory where you feel it will perform best. Judges do not see your entry form. Judges or organizers will not classify or reclassify your entry. The AHA National Homebrew Competition uses the **Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) Style Guidelines for Beer, Mead and Cider 2008 Edition**. A downloadable version of the complete style descriptions is available at www.bjcp.org.

7. Are there entry limitations?

(a) Entrants may only submit one entry per subcategory. **For categories that have no subcategories (Categories 20 and 23), you may only submit one entry. An entrant may be an Additional Brewer for an entry in a subcategory they have already entered as the main brewer (e.g. John Doe enters an American Pale Ale, Category 10A, and is also the Additional Brewer on an American Pale Ale submitted by Jane Smith).**

(b) Your homebrew cannot have been brewed on equipment used to brew beverages for any commercial purpose, whether for commercial research, production or any other purpose, including equipment at brew-on-premises establishments.

(c) You must give the names of all brewers who helped in the brewing.

(d) No employee of the Suncoast Animal League may enter.

(e) Judges may not judge a category they have entered, and stewards may not steward a category they have entered.

PART II – Instructions for Registering Your Entry Registering Your Entry Online

The SAL/OktoBrewFest Homebrew Competition requires entrants to register their entries online using www.ProfitToolBelt.com/homebrew-competition/competition-entry. You can find the link for online entry and the shipping information on www.ProfitToolBelt.com/homebrew-competition web page as well. There is no paper entry form to use this year; **ALL** entries must use the online registration program.

Special Ingredients Instructions

Note: Since we dropped the recipe requirement, **we're not going to disqualify entries based on this section.** We do recommend, however, that you include special ingredient info in the Additional Info section where appropriate.

Entries in categories 6D, 16E, 17F, 20, 21A, 21B, 22B, 22C, 23, 25C, 26A, 26C, 27E, 28A, 28B, and 28D **require Style and/or Special Ingredients information.** As a general rule, these ingredients must play a role in the overall flavor/aroma/mouthfeel of the homebrew. Conversely, a homebrew listed in a category not requiring special ingredients, should not have any special ingredients listed.

All MEAD entries (categories 24, 25, 26) **must** include sweetness, carbonation, and strength information.

All CIDER entries (categories 27, 28) **must** include sweetness, and carbonation information.

If the required information is not provided, the entry will be **disqualified.**

Please do not use brand names, or geographic names, or any other proper names of special ingredients. For example, if you used Premier malt extract, Briess pale malt, Washington apples, Colorado clover honey, or Sitka spruce tips, only enter malt extract, pale malt, apples, clover honey, or spruce tips, respectively.

If you have special instructions for the judges (e.g. request that the judges roll a bottle of Belgian Wit before serving), such instructions should also be included in the Special Ingredients section.

Entries in 6D American Wheat or Rye Beer

Specify if rye was used; otherwise, wheat will be assumed.

Entries in 16E Belgian Specialty Ale

Specify the beer being cloned, the new style being produced, or the special ingredients or processes used. Additional background information on the style and /or beer may be provided to judges to assist in the judging, including style parameters or detailed descriptions of the beer.

Entries in 17F Fruit Lambic-Style Ale

You **must** specify the types of fruit used in making the lambic.

Entries in 20 Fruit Beer

You **must** specify the underlying beer style as well as the type of fruit used. You **must** specify the beer style, whether it is a classic style (e.g. Robust Porter) or a general style (e.g. "porter"). The types of fruit **must** also be specified.

Entries in 21A Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer

You **must** specify the underlying beer style as well as the type of spices, herbs, or vegetables used. You **must** specify the beer style, whether it is a classic style (e.g.

American Wheat) or a general style (e.g. “wheat ale”). The type of spices, herbs, or vegetables **must** also be specified.

Entries in 21B Christmas/Winter Specialty Spiced Beer

You are not required to, but you **may** declare an underlying beer style as well as the special ingredients used. The base style, spices, or other ingredients need not be identified. The beer **must** include spices and **may** include other fermentables (sugars, honey, maple syrup, molasses, treacle, etc.) or fruit.

Entries in 22B Other Smoked Beer

You **must** specify the beer style, whether it is a classic style (e.g. Robust Porter) or a general style (e.g. “porter”). Specify the type of wood or other source of smoke only if a varietal character is noticeable.

Entries in 22C Wood-Aged Beer

You **must** specify the beer style, whether it is a classic style (e.g. Robust Porter) or a general style (e.g. “porter”). Specify the type of wood only if a varietal character is noticeable.

Entries in 23 Specialty Beer

You **must** specify the experimental nature of the beer (e.g. type of special ingredients used, process utilized or historical style being brewed), or why the beer doesn't fit an established style. You **may** specify an underlying beer style. For historical styles or unusual ingredients/techniques that may not be known to beer judges, you should provide descriptions of the styles, ingredients and/or techniques used.

Entries in 24-26 Mead

All mead entries **must** specify level of sweetness (dry, semi-sweet, sweet), carbonation (sparkling, petillant, still), and strength (hydromel, standard, sack). If a specific honey variety was used and the varietal character is noticeable, you **may** specify this in the Special Ingredients field as well.

Entries in 25C Other Fruit Melomel

You **must** also specify the varieties of fruit used.

Entries in 26A Metheglin

You **must** also specify the types of spices used.

Entries in 26B Braggot

You **may** also specify the base style or beer or types of malt used.

Entries in 26C Open Category Mead

You **must** also specify the special nature of the mead, whether it is a combination of existing styles, experimental mead, historical mead, or some other creation.

Entries in 27-28 Ciders

All cider entries **must** specify level of sweetness (dry, semi-sweet, sweet) and carbonation (sparkling, petillant, still).

Entries in 27E Traditional Perry

You **must** also specify the varieties of pear used.

Entries in 28A New England Cider

You **must** also specify if the cider was barrel-fermented or aged.

Entries in 28B Fruit Cider

You **must** also specify what fruit and/or fruit juices were added.

Entries in 28D Other Specialty Cider/Perry

You **must** also specify all major ingredients and adjuncts.

PART III – The Fine Print

A. Judging

(1) First Round judging of all entries will be done at the Judging site October 3, 2009.

(2) The directors will strive to mail score sheets with judges' comments to entrants by October 31, 2009.

(3) Final Round judging of qualifying entries will be done at the Judging site on October 4, 2009.

(4) Winners will be announced from the main stage (around 7:00 pm) at the Safety Harbor Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 10, 2009 in Safety Harbor, FL, and posted to ProfitToolBelt.com/Homebrew-competition afterwards.

(5) Judges and stewards are needed for First and Final Rounds. Qualified and interested individuals are encouraged to contact the Competition Organizers (see <http://www.ProfitToolBelt.com/homebrew-competition>).

(6) All decisions by competition organizers are final.

B. First Round Awards

Awards and prizes to be determined. Entries must score 30 or better to place in the First Round and advance to the Final Round, although scoring a 30 or better does not guarantee advancement to the Final Round.

First-place winning entries in each of the categories will compete in a best-of-show judging. The winner will be awarded an invitation to brew his or her beer with Franz Rothschild at the Lagerhaus in Palm Harbor. The beer will be available for sale to the public, and the winning brewer will get bragging rights, public adoration, and drink for free until it runs out.

At the discretion of competition organizers and/or judges, awards may not be given if the quality of an entry is deemed undeserving of an award.

D. Recipe Requirement

The recipe requirement has been waived. However, a recipe will be required from the best of show winner to receive the award. Upon entering this competition, entrants agree to allow (at no cost) publication of their recipe by the Suncoast Animal League or any of its divisions in any publication. Entrants will receive all due credit.

E. Return Policy

No entries will be returned whether received late or otherwise. All entries become property of the SAL.

F. Disqualifications

Entries failing to meet requirements listed in these Rules and Regulations will be disqualified. Disqualified entries may still be judged, but will not be eligible for awards or prizes.

G. Packing and Shipping Hints

Carefully pack your entries in a sturdy box. Line the inside of your package with a plastic trash bag. Partition and pack each bottle with adequate packaging material. Do not over pack! Your package should weigh less than 25 pounds.

Every reasonable effort will be made to contact entrants whose bottles have broken to make arrangements for sending replacement bottles. Please refrain from using packing "peanuts" if possible. Use bubble wrap or newspaper instead. Sites make efforts to recycle packaging material whenever possible.

Refer to the article titled "How to Pack Your Beer," in *Zymurgy* Spring 1991 (Vol. 14, No. 1) for excellent advice on how to save time, money and avoid broken bottles. Also refer to an article about entering competitions in *Zymurgy* Spring 1996 (Vol. 19, No. 1).

Copies of these articles are available for free upon request if accompanied with a self-addressed stamped envelope or call the AHA at 888.U.CAN.BREW, (303) 447-0816.

It is not against any federal laws to ship your entries via a privately owned shipping company for analytical purposes. However, **IT IS ILLEGAL TO SHIP ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE.** Private shipping carrier rules and regulations concerning the shipment of beer or alcoholic beverages vary. We strongly encourage you to check with your shipping carrier prior to shipping your entry. Be aware that entries shipped internationally are often required by customs to have proper documentation. These packages might be opened and/or returned to the shipper by Customs Officials at their discretion. It is solely the entrant's responsibility to follow all applicable laws and regulations.

PART IV – ENTRY LOCATION INFORMATION

Entries may be dropped off to one of the following sites, or shipped to our shipping site, as follows:

- 1) **The Lagerhaus**, located at 3438 East Lake Rd in Palm Harbor, will be receiving entries between 3pm – 6pm, or 9pm – midnight, starting on September 15, and continuing through Friday, October 2nd. Note this is the only location accepting entries after October 1st!!
- 2) Bring entries to the September 17 meeting of the **Dunedin Brewers Guild**.
- 3) Bring entries to the Tampa BEERS club, c/o Dunderbaks, 14929 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa.
- 4) Ship entries to the SAL Homebrew Competition, 6936 W. Linebaugh Ave, Tampa, FL 33625

PART V – CATEGORY LISTINGS

The SAL OctoBREWfest Homebrew Competition uses the **Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) Style Guidelines for Beer, Mead and Cider 2008 Edition**. A downloadable version of the complete style descriptions is available at www.bjcp.org.

The following is a listing of categories and subcategories.

1. LIGHT LAGER
 - A. Lite American Lager
 - B. Standard American Lager
 - C. Premium American Lager
 - D. Munich Helles
 - E. Dortmunder Export
2. PILSNER
 - A. German Pilsner (Pils)
 - B. Bohemian Pilsner
 - C. Classic American Pilsner
3. EUROPEAN AMBER LAGER
 - A. Vienna Lager
 - B. Oktoberfest/Märzen
4. DARK LAGER
 - A. Dark American Lager
 - B. Munich Dunkel
 - C. Schwarzbier (Black Beer)
5. BOCK
 - A. Maibock/Helles Bock
 - B. Traditional Bock
 - C. Doplebock
 - D. Eisbock
6. LIGHT HYBRID BEER
 - A. Cream Ale
 - B. Blonde Ale
 - C. Kölsch
 - D. American Wheat or Rye Beer
7. AMBER HYBRID BEER
 - A. Northern German Altbier
 - B. California Common Beer

- C. Düsseldorf Altbier
- 8. ENGLISH PALE ALE
 - A. Standard/Ordinary Bitter
 - B. Special/Best/Premium Bitter
 - C. Extra Special/Strong Bitter (English Pale Ale)
- 9. SCOTTISH AND IRISH ALE
 - A. Scottish Light 60/-
 - B. Scottish Heavy 70/-
 - C. Scottish Export 80/-
 - D. Irish Red Ale
 - E. Strong Scotch Ale
- 10. AMERICAN ALE
 - A. American Pale Ale
 - B. American Amber Ale
 - C. American Brown Ale
- 11. ENGLISH BROWN ALE
 - A. Mild
 - B. Southern English Brown Ale
 - C. Northern English Brown Ale
- 12. PORTER
 - A. Brown Porter
 - B. Robust Porter
 - C. Baltic Porter
- 13. STOUT
 - A. Dry Stout
 - B. Sweet Stout
 - C. Oatmeal Stout
 - D. Foreign Extra Stout
 - E. American Stout
 - F. Russian Imperial Stout
- 14. INDIA PALE ALE (IPA)
 - A. English IPA
 - B. American IPA
 - C. Imperial IPA
- 15. GERMAN WHEAT AND RYE BEER
 - A. Weizen/Weissbier
 - B. Dunkelweizen
 - C. Weizenbock
 - D. Roggenbier (German Rye Beer)
- 16. BELGIAN AND FRENCH ALE
 - A. Witbier
 - B. Belgian Pale Ale
 - C. Saison
 - D. Bière de Garde
 - E. Belgian Specialty Ale
- 17. SOUR ALE

- A. Berliner Weisse
 - B. Flanders Red Ale
 - C. Flanders Brown Ale/Oud Bruin
 - D. Straight (Unblended) Lambic
 - E. Gueuze
 - F. Fruit Lambic
18. STRONG BELGIAN ALE
- A. Belgian Blond Ale
 - B. Belgian Dubbel
 - C. Belgian Tripel
 - D. Belgian Golden Strong Ale
 - E. Belgian Dark Strong Ale
19. STRONG ALE
- A. Old Ale
 - B. English Barleywine
 - C. American Barleywine
20. FRUIT BEER
21. SPICE/HERB/VEGETABLE BEER
- A. Spice, Herb, or Vegetable Beer
 - B. Christmas/Winter Specialty Spiced Beer
22. SMOKE-FLAVORED AND WOOD-AGED BEER
- A. Classic Rauchbier
 - B. Other Smoked Beer
 - C. Wood-Aged Beer
23. SPECIALTY BEER
24. TRADITIONAL MEAD
- A. Dry Mead
 - B. Semi-sweet Mead
 - C. Sweet Mead
25. MELOMEL (FRUIT MEAD)
- A. Cyser (Apple Melomel)
 - B. Pyment (Grape Melomel)
 - C. Other Fruit Melomel
26. OTHER MEAD
- A. Metheglin
 - B. Braggot
 - C. Open Category Mead
27. STANDARD CIDER AND PERRY
- A. Common Cider
 - B. English Cider
 - C. French Cider
 - D. Common Perry
 - E. Traditional Perry
28. SPECIALTY CIDER AND PERRY
- A. New England Cider
 - B. Fruit Cider

- C. Apple Wine
- D. Other Specialty Cider/Perry