



2010 *American Homebrewers Association® 32nd Annual* **NATIONAL HOMEBREW COMPETITION**



Special thanks to Ninkasi Sponsor Boston Beer

In 2009, the National Homebrew Competition (NHC) had 5,166 entries to remain the largest beer competition in the world. With the recent growth in homebrewing, we expect even more entries for the 2010 NHC. A total of 74,213 homebrews have been judged in the 31 years of this competition. The competition is an enormous undertaking, which would be impossible without the tremendous support we get from the competition sponsors, volunteers, judges, and stewards whose hard work and enthusiasm for homebrewing has made the competition a success year after year.

New For 2010

Shortly after the conclusion of the 2009 NHC, the American Homebrewers Association (AHA) Governing Committee's Competition Sub-Committee (visit [AHA Governing Committee](#)) began evaluating the competition in an effort to improve it. Based on input received from NHC entrants, judges, and organizers, the sub-committee has enacted this rule change for 2010:

- **Online Payment Receipt** – Entrants are not required to include a copy of their online payment receipt with their shipped entries. Each bottle must have an entry label attached with a rubber band.

Important Web Addresses

Listed alphabetically, these are the links embedded within this document.

- AHA Governing Committee
www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/membership/aha-governing-committee
- AHA Membership
www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/membership/renew-or-join
- AHA Registered Club List
www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/directories/find-a-club
- Beer Judge Certification Program
www.bjcp.org
- California Regional Map
www.homebrewersassociation.org/attachments/0000/2826/2010_california_map.pdf

- Canada ALES Competition
www.alesclub.com
- NHC Entry Shipping/Drop-off
www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/competitions/national-homebrew-competition/participate/entry-shipping-drop-off
- NHC Regional Site Map
www.homebrewersassociation.org/attachments/0000/2851/NHC_Map2010_web.pdf
- NHC Sponsors
<http://www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/competitions/national-homebrew-competition/competition-sponsors>
- Online Entry Registration
www.brewingcompetition.com/NHC/nhc.php
- Volunteering to Help
www.homebrewersassociation.org/pages/competitions/national-homebrew-competition/participate/volunteering

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 14 ounces in volume. MEAD and CIDER entries must be in bottles that are brown, green, or clear glass, 10 to 14 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.

Bottles with Grölsch-type swing tops are not allowed.

Corked bottles are acceptable with the following conditions: the bottle must be 10 to 14 ounces; flush corks must have a crown cap crimped over the cork; bottles corked with a stopper and wire cage are also acceptable.

Odd-shaped bottles are acceptable if they meet the above requirements. Bottles not meeting the above requirements will be **disqualified**.

2. How many bottles do I need?

Send one (1) bottle for each entry competing in the First Round. Three (3) additional bottles will be required for each entry that advances to the Final Round competition in June.

3. What are the entry fees?

For **U.S. and international entries** (except Canada), AHA members pay \$9 per entry; non-members pay \$14 per entry.

- **Online Payment:** Entry fees (and if applicable, AHA membership dues) **must** be paid online using a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express card at the time you register your entries online.

- There is no additional fee for entries advancing to the Final Round.

Canadian entries are submitted to the [2010 ALES Home Brew Open](#)/NHC Canadian Regional Qualifier competition, hosted by the Ales & Lagers Enthusiasts of Saskatchewan (ALES Club) for which the fees are \$5 per entry.

- Make checks out to **ALES Club**. Canadian entries advancing to the NHC Final Round will require additional fees. Canadian entrants advancing to the Final Round will receive entry instructions via email.

4. When are the entry deadlines?

- **U.S. and International First Round entries** must be received at the appropriate site between **Monday, March 22 and 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 1, 2010**.
- **First Round CANADIAN entries** are due by **Thursday, April 8, 2010**.
- **Final Round entries** must be received at the appropriate site between **Monday, May 24, and 5 p.m. on Monday, June 7, 2010**. If your entry advances to the Final Round, additional instructions will be mailed to you by the third week of May.

5. How do I enter?

U.S. and International Entries

- (a) **Register** each entry online using the [Online Entry Registration](#) system, creating a login, and entering the information about your entries.
- (b) **Entry Cap Set** – To ensure the integrity of the judging, each region is capped at a maximum of 750 entries. If the cap is reached in a region, there will be no more entries accepted in that region. It will not be possible for entries to be registered in a region once the cap has been reached. (**NOTE:** No NHC region has ever had 750 entries.)
- (c) **Pay for your entries (and, if applicable, membership).**
Pay online for AHA membership and your entries when you have registered the entries you are sending to the competition. If you are joining the AHA or renewing your membership, pay online when you check out.
- (d) **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.
- (e) **Pack your bottles carefully.** (See [Part III, Section I](#) for Packing and Shipping hints.)
- (f) **Drop Off or Ship your entries** to the appropriate address given on the [Site Locator Map](#) found in the March/April 2010 *Zymurgy*. California entrants please see the [CA map](#) for shipping information. **Entries sent to the wrong site will be DISQUALIFIED.** No one may send entries to a regional site other than that designated by the Site Locator Map regardless of whether or not the entry cap for the region has been reached. Sites 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.

Canadian Entrants: Please see [ALES club](#) for entry details.

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 on the [BJCP website](#).

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 Brewers Association may enter.
- (e) Judges may not judge a category they have entered, and stewards may not steward a category they have entered.
- (f) An entry cap of 750 per region was established in 2009. The entry cap will be applied again this year to ensure the integrity of the judging. If the cap is reached in a region, there will be no further entries accepted in that region. (**NOTE:** No region has ever had 750 entries.)

PART II – Instructions for Registering Your Entry

Registering Your Entry Online

The National Homebrew Competition requires entrants to register their entries online using the [Online Entry Registration](#) system. You can find the link for online entry and the shipping information at [NHC Shipping Information](#), as well.

There is no paper entry form; **ALL** entries must use the online registration program.

Special Ingredients Instructions

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 of 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 First Round sites April 3-April 25, 2010. (Canadian entries will be judged April 14-17, 2010.)
- (2) The regional site directors will strive to mail score sheets with judges' comments to entrants by May 28, 2010. If any of your entries qualify for the Final Round judging, the AHA will mail you notice by the third week of May with instructions on how, when and where to send entries [three (3) bottles per qualifying entry] for Final Round judging. Contestants are advised to refrigerate or properly store potential Final Round entries to minimize changes in character. **RE-BREWING** recipes of entries advancing from First Round **IS PERMITTED**.
- (3) Final Round judging of qualifying entries will be done at the AHA National Homebrewers Conference in Minneapolis, MN, on June 17, 2010.
- (4) Judges and stewards are needed for First and Final Rounds. Qualified and interested individuals are encouraged to volunteer by contacting the appropriate Competition Organizer, visit [Volunteering](#).
- (5) All decisions by competition organizers are final.

B. First Round Awards

- (1) **Ribbons** will be awarded to the first, second, and third place finishers scoring 30 or higher in each category from the U.S. First Round sites. 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. If there are not three entries scoring 30 or better in a given category, judges will advance fewer than three entries for that category.

- (2) **Certificates** will be awarded to First Round brewers based on judges' scoring and the following standards: Gold-Certificate winners have scores of 38-50, Silver-Certificate winners have scores of 30 to 37; Bronze-Certificate winners have scores of 25 to 29. **Certificates are awarded separately from the ribbons and DO NOT indicate winning first, second or third place within a category or advancement to the Final Round.**

C. Final Round Awards

- (1) First-, second- and third-place winners in each category will receive gold, silver or bronze medals, respectively.
- (2) First-place winning entries in each of the 23 beer categories will compete in a best-of-show judging. The winner will be awarded **Homebrewer of the Year**.
- (3) First-place winning entries in each of the 3 mead categories will compete in a best-of-show judging. The winner will be awarded **Meadmaker of the Year**.
- (4) First-place winning entries in each of the 2 cider categories will compete in a best-of-show judging. The winner will be awarded **Cidermaker of the Year**.
- (5) The **Ninkasi Award** will be given to the entrant who accumulates the most points in the Final Round of this competition. To be eligible for the award, entrants must have at least one entry place in the 23 beer categories. Six points are awarded for a first place, four points for a second place and two points for a third place. Individual members of a group of brewers earn points as a group and do not earn points on an individual basis.

There will be only one Ninkasi Award winner. In the event of a tie, points will be calculated for tying brewers' entries that placed in the First Round of the NHC based on the same scale as used in the Final Round. The tying entrant with the most number of points in the First Round will then be determined the winner.

- (6) **Homebrew Club of the Year** will be awarded to the club that accumulates the most total points in all categories of beer, mead and cider in the First and Final Rounds, as well as the AHA Club-Only Competitions. In the First and Final Rounds, six points are awarded for a first place, four points for a second place and two points for a third place. In the First Round, a club may only receive points for a maximum of three awards per category, the highest three awards shall be counted, not to exceed a 12-point maximum. In the AHA Club-Only Competitions, points are awarded on a twelve-eight-four basis for each of the six AHA Club-Only Competitions in the August to May cycle. For your club to receive points the club must be registered with the AHA and you must have included the club name when you registered your entries online. Please check the [AHA Club List](#) to be sure your club's AHA registration is up to date.
- (7) **Gambrinus Club Award** will be awarded to the club garnering the most Final Round points per total club entries (Final Round points / # of NHC entries from club). To be eligible, clubs must have a minimum of 5 club members entering the First Round, and a minimum of

2 club members advancing to and at least one entry placing in the Final Round of the competition. Six points are awarded for a first place, four points for a second place and two points for a third place.

There will be only one Gambrinus Club Award winner. In the event of a tie, the tying club's points/entry will be calculated using the points from both the First and Final Rounds of the NHC ($[\text{First Round points} + \text{Final Round points}] / \# \text{ of NHC entries from club}$). Points for the First Round of the NHC are based on the same scale as used in the Final Round. The tying club with the higher points/entry value over both the First and Final Round will then be determined the winner.

For your club to receive points, the club must be registered with the AHA before February 5, 2010 and you must have included the club name when you registered your entries online. Please check the [AHA Club List](#) to be sure your club's AHA registration is up to date. New clubs registered between February 5th and April 1, 2010 will not appear in the drop-down club list of the online registration program. If this is the case, select "Other" from the drop-down menu, and type in your club's name in the field provided.

- (8) 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. AHA Membership

Non-members or expired AHA members can qualify for discounted entry fees by [joining or renewing their membership](#) to the AHA today or by calling toll free 888.U.CAN.BREW (888.822.6273). Memberships may also be purchased via the online registration program when you register your entries.

E. Recipe Requirement

A recipe is not required to enter the First Round; however, if your entry advances to the Final Round, you must submit a recipe. Upon entering this competition, entrants agree to allow (at no cost) publication of their recipe by the Brewers Association or any of its divisions in any Brewers Association publication. Entrants will receive all due credit.

F. Return Policy

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

G. 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.

I. 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

See the [Site Locator Guide](#) for the nine competition regions; this is also published in the March/April issue of *Zymurgy*. In addition, your specific regional shipping information is included on the page with your bottle labels from the [online registration program](#).

- **California residents** should carefully examine the [map of California](#) to determine if their entries should be sent to the West Region or the Southwest Region. It is the responsibility of the entrant to send their entries to the correct regional shipping/drop-off address.

PART V – SPONSORS

There are many fine companies who support homebrewing and homebrewers by donating resources to the AHA National Homebrew Competition. Special thanks go to **Ninkasi Award Sponsor Boston Beer Co.** Please support the businesses that support homebrewing!

The AHA thanks the following award and category sponsors of the 2009 NHC who made last year’s competition possible. The category and award sponsors for 2010 will be updated as we get closer to the competition, visit [Competition Sponsors](#).

2009 NHC AWARD SPONSORS

Samuel Adams (Boston Beer Co)—Ninkasi Award
Coopers Brew Products—Homebrew Club of the Year
Muntons P.L.C.—Homebrewer of the Year
Redstone Meadery—Meadmaker of the Year
Woodchuck Draft Cider—Cidermaker of the Year

2009 NHC CATEGORY SPONSORS

1. Light Lager—Five Star Products & Services, LLC
2. Pilsner— Beer & Wine Makers Warehouse
3. European Amber Lager—*How to Brew* by John Palmer
4. Dark Lager—Briess Malt & Ingredients Co
5. Bock—Washington Hop Commission
6. Light Hybrid Beer—Cargill World Select c/o Cargill Malt
7. Amber Hybrid Beer—Grape & Granary
8. English Pale Ale—St Louis Wine & Beer Making
9. Scottish and Irish Ale
10. American Ale—BJ's Restaurant & Brewery
11. English Brown Ale—Alternative Beverage
12. Porter—Deschutes Brewery
13. Stout—Brew & Grow
14. India Pale Ale—Anderson Valley Brewing Co
15. German Wheat and Rye Beer—Widmer Brothers Brewing Co
16. Belgian and French Ale
17. Sour Ale—Captain Lawrence Brewing Co
18. Belgian Strong Ale—Dingemans c/o Cargill Malt
19. Strong Ale—Northern Brewer
20. Fruit Beer
21. Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer—High Gravity Homebrewing & Winemaking Supplies
22. Smoke-Flavored and Wood-Aged Beer—Alaskan Brewing Co
23. Specialty Beer—The Beverage People
24. Traditional Mead
25. Melomel (Fruit Mead)—Bacchus and Barleycorn
26. Other Mead
27. Standard Cider and Perry—Woodchuck Draft Cider
28. Specialty Cider and Perry—Woodchuck Draft Cider

2010 NHC SITE SPONSORS

AleSmith Brewing Co., San Diego, CA
Atlanta Brewing Co., Atlanta, GA
Beer, Beer, & More Beer, Concord, CA
Breckenridge Brewery, Denver, CO
Brew Depot, Alpharetta, GA
Bushwacker Brew Pub, Regina, SK, Canada
Capital Brewery, Middleton, WI
Home Sweet Homebrew, Philadelphia, PA
Lodi Beer Co., Lodi, CA
Pyramid Alehouse Brewery, Seattle, WA
Sun King Brewery, Indianapolis, IN
Weasel Boy Brewing Co., Zanesville, OH

Yards Brewery, Philadelphia, PA

PART VI – CATEGORY LISTINGS

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 on the [BJCP website](#).

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