



Judging Procedures

All beers will be judged in accordance with BJCP/ AHA guidelines, procedures, and documentation including:

- BJCP Beer Score Sheets (First Round)
 - http://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_BeerScoreSheet.pdf
- Competition Cover Sheets (First Round)
 - http://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_CoverSheet.pdf
- Flight Summary Sheets (First Round)
 - http://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_FlightSummary.pdf
- BJCP Beer Score Sheet Checklist (Best of Category and Best of Show Rounds)
 - http://www.bjcp.org/docs/Beer_checklist.pdf

Other required documentation includes:

- BJCP Judge Waiver form
 - http://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_JudgeRegistration_Waiver.pdf.
- BJCP Judge Evaluation form
 - http://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_JudgeEvaluation.pdf

First Round

Tables with more than two judges will utilize the queued judging method to keep the pace moving along. When a pair of judges finishes evaluating a beer, they should take the next beer from the queue until all beers have been evaluated.

Judges should agree and designate first, second, and third places to deserving beers in each subcategory (e.g. 16A: Witbier). For larger tables, this may involve a mini-best of show round conducted by two BJCP ranked judges.

If judges feel strongly that all three of the placing entries move on to the Best of Category Round, they must notify the Judge Coordinator and/or Head Judge of the competition. The same procedure applies if judges feel that only one entry advance instead of two.

Best of Category Round

The first and second place beers from each sub-category (if more than 20 beers entered in the overall category - if less than 20, the Round 1 places will be used) will advance to the Best of Category Round to be evaluated by a panel of judges who have attained at a BJCP rank of Recognized or higher. Essentially, this is a best of show round for each category, and is judged in the same manner as most best of show rounds.

These judges will evaluate the beers using the BJCP Beer Score Sheet Checklist document to determine the first, second, and third place winners in the *overall* category (e.g., Category 18: Belgian Strong Ale).

Best of Show Round

The first, second, and third place entries from each *overall* category will advance to the Best of Show Round.

A panel of judges who have attained the BJCP rank of Certified or higher will evaluate each of the nine beers to determine the best of show winner, the first runner up, and the second runner up.

Pro-Am Judging

The professional brewer who will be sponsoring the Pro-Am entry into the Great American Beer Festival will have access to all of the Best of Category and Best of Show round entries to evaluate. The brewer will select one beer based upon their personal criteria.