



# CIDER COMPETITION

<b>ONLINE REGISTRATION DEADLINE &amp; DROP-OFF: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025</b>			
ENTRY FEE	AGES	SKILL LEVEL	
One-Time \$25 per Exhibitor	21 & Up	Amateur & Professionals	
Exhibitors will be allowed entries throughout all the Erie County Fair Competitions. A promo code redeemable for three (3) admission passes will be emailed to the exhibitor on Monday, July 28, 2025.			
The winner of the Cider Competition will be eligible to have their recipe reproduced and canned commercially.			
1 <sup>ST</sup> PLACE GOLD MEDALLION	2 <sup>ND</sup> PLACE SILVER MEDALLION	3 <sup>RD</sup> PLACE BRONZE MEDALLION	
Entries must be dropped off by April 30, 2025 at either of the following locations:	Erie County Fairgrounds Main Offices (9:30 AM – 4:30 PM) at 5600 McKinley Pkwy., Hamburg, NY	Hamburg Brewing Company during business hours (Please check availability ahead of time) at 6553 Boston State Rd., Hamburg, NY	Resurgence Brewing Company during business hours (Please check availability ahead of time) at 155 Chandler St., Buffalo, NY

**Please call the Competitive Exhibits office at 716-649-3900 ext. 6407 or email [ceoffice@ecfair.org](mailto:ceoffice@ecfair.org) with all questions.**

**Cider Competition Rules:**

1. Please read and abide by all The Erie County Fair and Creative Arts Department rules and regulations.
2. **All entries must be registered by Wednesday, April 30, 2025.** Entries not registered will not be accepted. For more information see the Important Entry Information page at [www.ecfair.org](http://www.ecfair.org).
3. Open to any amateur or professional home cider maker that is 21 years or older.
4. No amateur exhibitor shall be involved in commercial cider making or use the services of a commercial cider making facility.
5. All ciders must be produced and bottled by the exhibitor. Any cider entered in competition becomes the property of the Erie County Agricultural Society.
6. Two (2) bottles per entry, 12 oz., 22 oz. or 750ml. Each bottle must be labeled (paper label attached to the bottle with a rubber band, do **NOT** stick or tape labels to the bottles) with the following: One (1) name of cider, two (2) class number, three (3) variety, four (4) cider maker's name, five (5) cider maker's address, six (6) ABV of the Cider. (One (1) bottle will be used for the first pour of the competition. The 2<sup>nd</sup> bottle will be used for Best of Show). All ciders should have a creative name that does not infringe on any trademarks/copyright.
7. Fruit Ciders include any cider made with the addition of **any** fruit other than apples. (e.g. pear, grape juice, etc.)
8. The decision of the judges shall be final.
9. All exhibitors will receive a standard score sheet for each cider entered from at least two (2) judges.
10. Some recipes are more challenging to make commercially, the Erie County Fair reserves the right to bypass the Best of Show based upon recipe. Here is a short list of criteria for a cider to be reproduced by BlackBird Cider Works:
  - a. Cider must be at or below 7% abv
  - b. Contain ingredients that are legal for commercial production. (e.g. molasses is not allowed in commercial production of Cider)
  - c. No fortification
  - d. No beer or malt products
11. Cider must be dropped off **NO LATER THAN** April 30, 2025. If you are mailing your entry, you must mail the entry to: The Erie County Fair, **Attn:** Cider Competition, 5600 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg, NY 14075.

The Erie County Fair would like to extend its gratitude to BlackBird Cider Works for offering this great experience to our exhibitors. This will also be a great gluten-free beverage for our guests to enjoy during their visit to the 2025 Erie County Fair!





## CLASSES

### AMATEUR CIDER - 1

**Amateur** – someone not involved commercially with cider making. Does not sell cider.

1. Modern Cider
2. Fruit Cider (see rule #7)
3. Hop Cider
4. Spiced Cider
5. Wood- Aged Cider

### PROFESSIONAL CIDER - 2

**Professional** – someone who is involved commercially with cider making. Works for a cider maker or sells their own cider.

1. Any Style

### SPECIAL AWARDS

#### BEST OF SHOW AMATEUR

**\$100 & Banner & Reproduction of Winning Beer**

Will be awarded for overall outstanding amateur cider \*\*

#### BEST OF SHOW PROFESSIONAL

**\$75 & Banner**

Will be awarded for overall professional outstanding cider

#### MOST CREATIVE

**\$50 & Banner**

Will be awarded for overall most creative cider

\*\*If the recipe is too challenging, we reserve the right to reproduce another cider as deemed necessary.