

HOME BREW COMPETITION

Competitive Exhibits Office
Phone: 716-649-3900 ext. 6407
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BJCP Sanctioned Competition!

ONLINE ENTRY REGISTRATION STARTS MARCH 1st, 2023
ENTRY DEADLINE APRIL 28th, 2023

Entry Fee: \$23.00 allows entries throughout the Erie County Fair. A promo code redeemable for three (3) admission passes will be emailed to the exhibitor on Tuesday, August 1st.

Judging: Sunday, May 21st at Hamburg Brewing Company

Drop Off: Entries must be dropped off by April 29th at either of the following locations:

Hamburg Brewing Company during business hours (Please check availability ahead of time) at 6553 Boston State Rd, Hamburg

Erie County Fairgrounds Main Offices (9:30 AM – 4:30 PM) at 5600 McKinley Pkwy, Hamburg

Blackbird Cider Hall during business hours (Please check availability ahead of time) at 155 Chandler St, Buffalo

General Home Brew Competition Department Rules

1. Open to any amateur home brewer, 21 years or older, who is a resident of New York State.
2. No exhibitor shall be involved in commercial beer making or use the services of a commercial beer making facility.
3. All beers must be produced and bottled in New York State by the exhibitor. Any beer entered in competition becomes the property of the Erie County Agricultural Society.
4. Each brewer will be limited to 5 entries.
5. Two (2) bottles per entry. 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: (1) name of beer, (2) class number, (3) variety, (4) beer maker's name, (5) beer maker's address. (One bottle will be used for the first pour of the competition. The second bottle will be used for Best of Show) A fillable template can be found along with class list.
6. The decision of the judges shall be final.
7. All exhibitors will receive a standard BJCP score sheet for each beer entered from at least two judges (with at least one BJCP Certified or higher).
8. Some recipes are more challenging to make commercially, the Erie County Fair reserves the right to bypass the Best of Show based upon recipe. Beer must be dropped off for judging **NO LATER THAN** April 29th If you are mailing your entry you must mail the entry to: The Erie County Fair, Attn: Home Brew Competition, 5600 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg, NY 14075.

****Please give as much detail as possible to assist in judging properly****

For Your Information:

- We prefer 12-16 ounce brown bottles, but will accept 11-22 ounce bottles of any color (all bottles must be free of paper labels). Obliterate any lettering or graphics on the cap with a permanent black marker. Bottles not meeting these requirements may be disqualified. Our primary concern is to ensure the anonymity of the entries when they are being judged.
- We would like to emphasize that the 2021 BJCP guidelines listed in the style chart are just that – guidelines. We have provided the chart so you can decide the category in which your brew will perform best because judges will use these guidelines when evaluating your entry. You will not be disqualified if your beer falls somewhat outside of the category guidelines listed, but your overall score may suffer. If you wish to see written guidelines explaining the categories in greater detail, please refer to the Beer Judge Certification Program website at: <http://www.bjcp.org/stylecenter.php>.
- The <http://www.homebrewersassociation.org> website is also a good source of information.

The Erie County Fair would like to thank Hamburg Brewing Company and Try-It Distributing for their support of the Erie County Fair



Medallions - Gold, Silver, Bronze

1 Standard American Beer

- 1A. American Light Lager
- 1B. American Lager
- 1C. Cream Ale
- 1D. American Wheat Beer

2 International Lager

- 2A. International Pale Lager
- 2B. International Amber Lager
- 2C. International Dark Lager

3 Czech Lager

- 3A. Czech Pale Lager
- 3B. Czech Premium Pale Lager
- 3C. Czech Amber Lager
- 3D. Czech Dark Lager

4 Pale Malty European Lager

- 4A. Munich Helles
- 4B. Festbier
- 4C. Helles Bock

5 Pale Bitter European Beer

- 5B. Kölsch
- 5C. German Helles Exportbier
- 5D. German Pils

6 Amber Malty European Lager

- 6A. Märzen

7 Amber Bitter European Beer

- 7A. Vienna Lager
- 7B. Altbier

10 German Wheat Beer

- 10A. Weissbier
- 10B. Dunkles Weissbier
- 10C. Weizenbock

11 British Bitter

- 11A. Ordinary Bitter
- 11B. Best Bitter
- 11C. Strong Bitter

12 Pale Commonwealth Beer

- 12A. British Golden Ale
- 12B. Australian Sparkling Ale
- 12C. English IPA

13 Brown British Beer

- 13A. Dark Mild
- 13B. British Brown Ale
- 13C. English Porter

14 Scottish Ale

- 14A. Scottish Light
- 14B. Scottish Heavy
- 14C. Scottish Export

15 Irish Beer

- 15A. Irish Red Ale
- 15B. Irish Stout
- 15C. Irish Extra Stout

16 Dark British Beer

- 16A. Sweet Stout
- 16B. Oatmeal Stout
- 16C. Tropical Stout
- 16D. Foreign Extra Stout

18 Pale American Ale

- 18A. Blonde Ale
- 18B. American Pale Ale

19 Amber and Brown American Beer

- 19A. American Amber Ale
- 19B. California Common
- 19C. American Brown Ale

20 American Porter and Stout

- 20A. American Porter
- 20B. American Stout

21 IPA

- 21A. American IPA

29 Fruit Beer

- 29A. Fruit Beer
- 29B. Fruit and Spice Beer
- 29C. Specialty Fruit Beer

BEST OF SHOW

Will be awarded for overall outstanding beer**

Some categories require more detailed information in order to be judged properly. For example, special ingredients, sweet vs. dry, level of carbonation, and/or classic style may be required. When placing your entries online use the description field that pops up after you add your class to give this information. Always feel free to call or e-mail with any questions.

**For the 2023 Erie County Fair Homebrew Competition, we have decided to spice things up. While we all love classic styles, we know the fair is about having some fun. This year the judging for the competition will be based on creativity and not necessarily by style. All BJCP styles can be entered and will be judged, but the “best of show” beer main criteria will be “creative relevancy” or the most fun beer to enjoy while being at the fair. The winning beer for this contest will be commercially brewed and available at the fair AND will be canned for the masses. More to come!

Continued →