

Yakima Valley Hop Heads Fresh Hop Competition Guidelines

This a fresh hop beer competition and all entries must contain fresh hops. Any 2015 Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) beer style may be submitted, but it must contain some fresh hops. This competition is open to all homebrewers.

For the purposes of this competition, a “fresh hop” is a hop that has very recently been picked from a growing bine before adding it to a beer. Fresh hops are often added to a beer within 48 hours of being picked. These hops are sometimes called “wet hops” because they have not been dried. A fresh hopped beer may include other hops during the brewing or conditioning process, but the beer must contain at least some fresh hops. The judges will be looking for unique hop aromas and flavors derived from fresh hops that make the beer stand out from standard examples of the beer style. Other characteristics of the beer should be in keeping with the BJCP style submitted, however for this competition the hop character may be outside the acceptable range for that style.

Entry Deadline: October 10, 2020

Competition Date: October 17, 2020

Entry Drop-off

All entries must be dropped off at one of the locations listed below or mailed to the mail-in address. The drop-off locations are not setup to receive mail-in entries. Entries will only be accepted during normal business hours. Check with the location to verify their hours before heading out. We cannot guarantee that all locations will be open on 10/10/20, so plan ahead. All received entries will be kept cold until judged.

Drop-off entries will be accepted from September 25, 2020 through October 10, 2020.

Mail-in entries can be sent in anytime but must be received by October 10th.

Drop-off only

Wandering Hop Brewery
508 N. 20th Avenue
Yakima, WA 98902
(509) 426-2739

Drop-off only

Ice Harbor Brewing Co.
206 N. Benton St. Ste C
Kennewick, WA 99336
(509) 582-5340

Mail-in

Cole Provence
5010 Richey Road
Yakima, WA 98908

Entry Fee: \$7.00 per entry.

Payment will be collected during registration through PayPal. If you are unable to pay by PayPal, you can contact the competition organizer to make other arrangements. Unpaid entries at the time of judging will be disqualified.

Entry limit per brewer: 3

Bottles needed per entry: 3

You must submit 3 bottles for each entry. Two bottles are used for the initial judging and one bottle is used for Best of Show (BOS) judging.

12oz brown glass bottles are preferred; however, green and clear glass will be accepted, as will swing top bottles, corked bottles, 16 and 22 ounce bottles.

Bottles must be free of any markings or labels. Common craft beer bottles that are embossed (e.g Sam Adams or Widmer) are allowed. Printed caps are allowed, but must be blacked out completely. Entries that violate this rule may be disqualified. Entries will still be judged and feedback returned to the entrant. Bottles will not be returned to contest entrants.

Print out bottle labels from the registration website and attach the label with rubber bands. Bottles with the labels taped or glued to them may be disqualified. You do not need to enter an entry list or recipe.

Judging

This competition is registered with the BJCP and will be run in conformance with the BJCP competition guidelines. At least one BJCP certified judge will be involved in evaluating each entry. All entries will be evaluated by at least two judges. In conformance with social distancing requirements, judging will occur virtually with judges communicating with each other over the telephone or through a web based communication program.

The competition committee reserves the right to combine styles into award categories based on the number of entries. An effort will be made to combine similar styles. All entries will be judged according to the style they were originally entered in. The number of entries per style may be limited on the registration site due to judging capacity. The Best of Show (BOS) judging will be determined by at least three BJCP judges based on a second judging of the top winners.

Awards

First, second, and third place awards will be issued in each award category grouping. We anticipate grouping the entries into two or three award categories, depending on the number of entries. The first place winner of each medal category will advance to the Best of Show judging and one BOS award will be issued.

Registration Process

All entries must be registered through the online registration site. When you're ready, click on the registration link below or go to the Yakima Valley Hop Heads Brew Club website to find the registration link.

[Registration link](#)

[Yakima Valley Hop Heads Brew Club](#)