

Prairie Homebrewing Companions Award of Brewing Program 2015 Guidelines

December 9, 2015

Purpose and Goals

The Award of Brewing Program (AoB) has been established by the Prairie Homebrewing Companions (PHC) to promote an awareness of world beer, mead, and cider styles and the technical knowledge necessary to produce them.

The goals of the program are as follows:

1. To encourage program participants to produce a variety of styles with high quality.
2. To introduce PHC members to the large variety of world beer, mead, and cider styles through the sharing of samples.
3. To increase the knowledge of PHC members regarding styles, the technical knowledge to produce them, and the judging of them.

Relation to BJCP Style Guidelines

The AoB is based on the (Beer Judge Certification Program) BJCP Style Guidelines. The AoB Guidelines outlined in this document and references to BJCP categories are in relation to the version of the BJCP guidelines noted below. No other version of the BJCP Style Guidelines will be used by the AoB without proper notice being given to the PHC membership.

Current BJCP Guidelines: 2015 BJCP Style Guidelines.

Awards

A certificate will be presented to the program participant upon fulfillment of the requirements necessary to reach a given level in the program. These awards serve as the PHC's acknowledgement of the participant's achievement and as a means of thanking the participant for their involvement in the program. Special awards are given at various levels as noted below.

Program Levels

Recognized Brewer:

Requirements:

- Produce beverages from a total of 6 of the BJCP major categories.
- At least 1 of the beverages must be an ale.
- At least 1 of the beverages must be a lager, mead, or cider.

Awards:

- Recognized Brewer Certificate

Accomplished Brewer:

Requirements:

- Produce beverages from a total of 12 of the BJCP major categories.
- At least 2 of the beverages must be ales.
- At least 2 of the beverages must be a lager, mead, or cider.

Awards:

- Accomplished Brewer Certificate

Accomplished Brewer (Additional Levels):

Additional levels of Accomplished Brewer (Second Degree, Third Degree, etc.) may also be achieved.

Requirements:

- Produce beverages from an additional 12 of the BJCP major categories.
- At least 1 more ale must be produced beyond the requirements for the previous level.
- At least 1 more lager, mead, or cider must be produced beyond the requirements for the previous level.

Awards:

- Accomplished Brewer *Nth* Degree Certificate

Notes:

- The number of levels of Accomplished Brewer is a function of the total number of major BJCP categories. Levels of Accomplished Brewer will be awarded such that the number of categories brewed to move from one level to the next does not exceed 23 (one less than twice that to move up a level).

Master of Brewing:

Requirements:

- Produce beverages from every major BJCP category.
- Perform a club service component.

Awards:

- Master of Brewing Certificate
- Engraved Stein

Master of Brewing (Additional Levels):

Additional levels of Master of Brewing (Second Degree, Third Degree, etc.) may also be achieved.

Requirements:

- Produce beverages from an additional 25 BJCP subcategories.
- Perform a club service component.

Awards:

- Master of Brewing *Nth* Degree Certificate

Notes:

- The number of levels of Master of Brewing is a function of the total number of BJCP subcategories. Levels of Master of Brewing will be awarded such that the number of categories brewed to move from one level to the next does not exceed 49 (one less than twice that to move up a level).

Grand Master of Brewing:

Requirements:

- Produce beverages from every BJCP subcategory.
- Perform a club service component.

Awards:

- Grand Master of Brewing Certificate
- Engraved Mash Paddle

Dennis Reimer Brewer of the Year Award

The Dennis Reimer Brewer of the Year Award is given annually to the program participant that passes the most samples during a given Program Year. A participant will accrue credit for each unique BJCP subcategory that is passed within that Program Year. This award is given in honor of Dennis Reimer, one of the first AoB Grand Master of Brewing. It is intended to honor both Dennis's memory and the participant who embraces the program in the same manner that Dennis did.

Official Guidelines

- 1. Program Administration:** A Program Administrator will keep all records concerning program participation and will coordinate the beer evaluations.
- 2. Judges:** Each sample will be judged by at least two experienced judges, at least one of which has a BJCP status of Recognized or higher.
- 3. Judging Events:** Judging will be performed prior to the start of each of the club's regular monthly meetings. Judging may also be performed at other official club events at the discretion of the Program Administrator.
- 4. Sample Size:** A two-liter sample is required for beverages with an original gravity of less than 1.080. A one-liter sample is required for beverages with an original gravity of 1.080 or greater.
- 5. Sample Sharing:** After the sample has been judged it will be made available to everyone in attendance at the judging event.
- 6. Registration:** The sample should be presented and registered in advance of the judging event as designated by the Program Administrator.
- 7. Style Designation:** The program participant must indicate the target style before having the beer judged. Any additional information needed for the style as identified by the BJCP guidelines must also be provided. The judges will not assist the participant in determining the style.
- 8. Lager:** For the purpose of the AoB a *lager* is defined as a style that is both bottom-fermented and lagered as specified in the BJCP Guidelines.
- 9. Reference BJCP Score and Credit:** The judges will assign a Reference BJCP Score to the sample if it is determined to have a score of 25 or more. Reference BJCP Scores will not be assigned to the sample if it is determined to have a score below 25. A participant will receive credit for samples scoring 25 or more.
- 10. Alternate Credit:** A sample scoring 30 or more at an officially BJCP sanctioned competition will be credited to the brewer if both the scoresheet and sample of appropriate size are presented at an official AoB judging event within 3 months of the date of the competition.
- 11. Cumulative Credit:** Samples credited toward a given program level's requirement always count toward the next program level's requirements.
- 12. Feedback:** The participant will be notified if the sample passed as well as the Reference BJCP Score for passing samples. At the participant's request, the judges may give their opinions of the sample and offer suggestions for improvements.
- 13. Credited Participants:** No more than two program participants may receive credit for a given sample. Each program participant should be involved in all aspects of the brewing process from recipe development through packaging. A program participant is any *individual participant* or *couple participant* that has entered the program (see below).
- 14. Individual Participants:** Any club member may enter the program as an *individual participant*.
- 15. Couple Participants:** Two club members may enter the program as a *couple participant*. They will be considered as one program participant for the purposes of the AoB. Upon achieving a given level of accomplishment a single award will be presented in the name of the *couple participant*.

16. **Merging AoB Records:** Two *individual participant* records may be merged into a *couple participant* record by one of the following means:
 - a. Selecting the record of one of the *individual participants* and forfeiting the record of the other *individual participant*.
 - b. Receiving credit for only those subcategories which are present in both of the *individual participant's* records.
17. **Dissolving of Couple Participant Records:** The AoB does not allow for the dissolving of a *couple participant* record into two separate *individual participant* records. In the event of the death or permanent disability of one member of a *couple participant*, the remaining participant would be allowed to inherit the brewing record and continue on as an *individual participant*.
18. **Club Service Component:** The club service component required for various program levels may include, but not be restricted to, a demonstration of the participant's knowledge of world beer styles and/or technical aspects of homebrewing. Club service components completed more than 12 months prior to completing the brewing portion of a level will not be considered for that level.
19. **Corrections:** A participant has 6 months from the date of an update to their AoB record to notify the Program Administrator of any errors in regard to that update.
20. **Appeals:** If a participant does not agree with the Program Administrator's interpretation of these guidelines, they may appeal to the Executive Committee of the PHC. If the issue is still unresolved it may be resolved by vote of the membership of the PHC.
21. **Modifications to the AoB Guidelines:** Any modifications to the AoB and its guidelines must be voted on by the membership of the PHC with the following exceptions:
 - a. Adjustment to program levels by adding or contracting the number of Accomplished Brewer or Master of Brewing levels as described in this document.
 - b. Minor clarifications to the rules at the discretion of the Program Administrator with proper notification to the PHC membership.
22. **Grandfathering:** No participant shall ever lose recognition for any program level achieved due to the modification of the AoB Guidelines.
23. **Advancement:** To advance to a higher program level, all requirements of the participant's current program level (and all lower program levels) must be met in accordance with the current AoB Guidelines.
24. **BJCP Style Guidelines:** Only the BJCP Style Guidelines noted in this document will be used for the purposes of the AoB. No other version of the BJCP Style Guidelines will be used without proper notice being given to the PHC membership.
25. **Program Year:** A program year is defined as the period of time beginning at the PHC's annual Holiday Party and ending at the last Judging Event prior to the next year's annual Holiday Party. In the event that the PHC discontinues the celebration of the annual Holiday Party, the standard calendar year will be used.

Summary of Current Levels:

The current program levels as determined by the current BJCP Style Guidelines are summarized in the table below for quick reference:

Title	Total Beverages	Increase from Previous Level	Additional Requirements
Recognized Brewer	6	6	1 ale; 1 lager/mead/cider

Accomplished Brewer	12	6	2 ales; 2 lager/mead/cider
Accomplished Brewer Second Degree	24	12	3 ales; 3 lager/mead/cider
Master of Brewing	40	16	1 of each major BJCP category; club service component
Master of Brewing Second Degree	65	25	25 additional subcategories; club service component
Master of Brewing Third Degree	90	25	25 additional subcategories; club service component
Grand Master of Brewing	128	38	all BJCP subcategories; club service component

Additional Notes:

This section details additional information related to the AoB but which is not directly an official part of the program.

Example Club Service Components:

All Club Service Components must be approved by the Program Administrator. The following list serves to give examples of club service components:

1. Giving a “Nuts & Bolts” presentation at a regular club meeting.
2. Serving as an Officer of the PHC.
3. Serving as the Organizer of the Hoppy Halloween Challenge, the PHC’s annual BJCP sanctioned competition.

Judging Event Awards:

Awards for *People’s Choice* and *Random Selection* will be given at each judging event held prior to a regular club meeting based on the samples submitted at that event. *People’s Choice* will be determined by popular vote, and *Random Selection* will be determined by choosing a sample at random with each sample having the same chance of winning. This is done to encourage participation and sharing and to recognize those who provided samples at each meeting. The awarding of Judging Event Awards at non-meeting judging events is at the discretion of the Program Administrator.

History of the Program

To be added...

Revision History

December 9, 2015: Approved for use at the December 9, 2015 Club meeting. To be used to administer the AoB beginning with the 2016 Program Year.