



2024 ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR HOMEBREW COMPETITION ENTRY GUIDE

Presented by:



Entry Fee:

\$10.00 per entry

Click [HERE](#) to enter!

Entry Deadline: Friday, May 3rd @ 4pm

Each exhibitor who submits an entry for judging will receive an e-ticket (one per exhibitor regardless of the number of entries) good for one admission to the 2024 Alameda County Fair. Tickets will be sent to the email on file prior to the opening date of the fair.



ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR
JUNE 14-JULY 7
PLEASANTON

ALAMEDA COUNTY FAIR HOMEBREW COMPETITION

Presented by



MZACFHomebrewComp@gmail.com

ALL STATE and LOCAL RULES APPLY
BJCP Sanctioned Competition
SEE CONTENTS FOR JUDGING STANDARDS

Delivery Information

Alameda County Fairgrounds
Saturday, May 4th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

OR

See next page for Drop-Off Locations accepting entries
Friday, April 19th thru Friday, May 3rd by 4pm

Thank you to our Homebrew Competition Drop-Off Locations!

Shadow Puppet Brewing Company - Livermore

More Beer! - Los Altos

More Beer! - Concord

Oak Barrel Winecraft - Berkeley

Clandestine Brewing - San Jose

Lodi Wine Labs - Lodi



Drop Off Locations*

Friday April 19th to Friday May 3rd	SHADOW PUPPET BREWING COMPANY www.shadowpuppetbrewing.com 4771 Arroyo Vista Suite B Livermore, CA 94551 925-453-6498	Sun-Wed Thurs-Sat	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday April 19th to Friday May 3rd	MORE BEER! Los Altos Showroom www.morebeer.com 991 N. San Antonio Rd. Los Altos, CA 94022 650-949-2739	Mon-Fri Sat & Sun	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday April 19th to Friday May 3rd	MORE BEER! Concord Showroom www.morebeer.com 995 Detroit Ave., Unit G Concord, CA 94518 925-771-7107	Mon-Fri Sat & Sun Mailed entries accepted at this location	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Must be received by May 3rd by 4:00pm
Friday April 19th to Friday May 3rd	Oak Barrel Winecraft www.oakbarrel.com 1443 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley, CA 94702 510-849-0400	Mon-Fri Sat Sun	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. CLOSED
Friday April 19th to Friday May 3rd	Clandestine Brewing www.clandestinebrewing.com 980 S. First St., Ste B San Jose, CA 95110 408-520-0220	Mon Tue Wed & Thurs Fri Sat Sun	4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. CLOSED 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday April 19th to Friday May 3rd	Lodi Wine Labs www.lodiwinelabs.com 710 S. Beckman Rd., Suite A Lodi, CA 95240 209-339-1990	Mon-Fri Sat & Sun	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. CLOSED
Saturday May 4th ONLY	Alameda County Fairgrounds 4501 Pleasanton Ave. Pleasanton, CA 94566	Saturday	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

***NOTE: MOREBEER, CONCORD IS A DROP-OFF AND SHIP-TO LOCATION. ALL OTHERS ARE DROP-OFF ONLY.**



Homebrew Department Rules

Submission of entry constitutes agreement to these rules.

1. ENTRY REGISTRATION:

- a. All homebrew entries must be pre-registered, with entry fees paid by 4:00pm on Friday, May 3rd at <https://beerawardsplatform.com/ACFHC2024> (case sensitive).
- b. With submission of entry registration, the exhibitor confirms their ability to deliver entry to the fair or drop off locations on the posted delivery date(s) and time(s). Entry fees will not be refunded.

2. DELIVERY:

- a. Bottles and/or Cans must be dropped off (or delivered) to an entry location on page 3, between April 19 - May 3 within their listed business hours -- see page 3 for specific location hours. If your entry is dropped off (or set to arrive) on May 3rd, it must arrive by 4:00pm. Do not ship entries via U.S. Mail.
- b. Entries may be dropped off to the Alameda County Fairgrounds only on Saturday, May 4th from 10 a.m. to Noon. **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

3. LIMITATIONS:

- a. Competition is open to all homebrewers over 21 years of age on May 3rd.
- b. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per BJCP Subcategory.
- c. Fair Management and/or competition organizer may consolidate classes into suitable flights, if warranted, due to low number of entries in a class (i.e. BJCP category).
- d. Greatest care will be exercised in handling entries, but the Fair Management, Alameda County Fair Association, and the County of Alameda will not be held liable for loss, theft, or damage of any kind from any cause.

4. PREPARING YOUR BEER, MEAD, OR CIDER HOMEBREW ENTRIES:

- a. Each exhibitor must submit THREE (3) clean, otherwise unmarked **12 oz bottles** or **12 - 16 oz cans**. Containers should be free of any identifying markings such as raised brand lettering on the neck. "Nip" **6 oz - 8 oz** bottles (rare) are discouraged, but may be submitted for Meads or Strong Ales, such as Barleywines. Due to the inconvenience of handling, no other size bottles or cans will be accepted.
- b. Any color or brand of caps is acceptable, including those denoting "Oxycap" or similar plain lettering. However if the caps have any logo or design please black them out with permanent black marker.
- c. Use the label generated during the entry process at: <https://beerawardsplatform.com/ACFHC2024>. Neatly attach label directly to each bottle or can using clear packaging tape, covering it in its entirety. Please ensure that the barcode, entry number, category, and style information are clearly visible.
- d. Please review the 2021 BJCP style guidelines at www.BJCP.org to determine best placement of entry.
 - i. Pay special attention to the Entry Instructions in the category and subcategory, to ensure any required or optional items, special ingredients, etc. are declared as needed for your entry. For meads and ciders this may include strength, sweetness, carbonation level, or varietal(s).
- e. Each homebrew entry qualifies the brewer for 1 entry in the homebrew label design competition.
- f. The competition organizer reserves the right to disqualify entries not meeting the documented rules.
- g. Entries become the property of the Alameda County Fair and will not be returned.

5. JUDGING:

- a. This homebrew competition is judged based on the current BJCP Judge Procedures Manual and in compliance with the current BJCP Competition Handbook (both found at BJCP.org).
- b. Beers will be ranked against one another to identify one 1st, 2nd and 3rd place entry in each flight.
- c. Judges will evaluate entries against the 2021 BJCP Guidelines at www.BJCP.org.
- d. Judging will be done digitally, by experienced and BJCP ranked judges. Judges' decisions are final.
- e. Judging is closed to entrants. Results will be shared digitally on the opening day of the Fair.

6. DISPLAY:

- a. Homebrew will be displayed in Building Q for the duration of the Alameda County Fair.



7. AWARDS:

- a. Special Rosettes awarded for Best of Show and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each class.
- b. Cash Awards: 1st Place: \$8.00, 2nd Place: \$6.00, 3rd Place: \$4.00
- c. Grand Prize: Best of Show beer will be brewed at **Shadow Puppet Brewing Co.** in Livermore, and the BoS winning entrant will also receive a \$75 gift certificate from **Oak Barrel Winecraft** in Berkeley.
- d. Gift Certificates and/or prizes will be awarded to winning entries from our sponsors:
 - **BottleTaps, Pleasanton**
 - **5 Star Chemicals**
 - **BSG**
- e. Results will not be shared by email, text, phone, or any other means before opening day of the Fair.

THANK YOU TO OUR PRIZE SPONSORS:





Homebrew - DIVISION 405

2021 BJCP Beer Styles Categories correspond to Fair Class Number

For detailed beer descriptions, see the 2021 Style Guidelines at <http://www.bjcp.org>

Class 1. STANDARD AMERICAN BEER

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

Class 2. INTERNATIONAL LAGER

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

Class 3. CZECH LAGER

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

Class 4. PALE MALTY EUROPEAN LAGER

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

Class 5. PALE BITTER EUROPEAN LAGER

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

Class 6. AMBER MALTY EUROPEAN LAGER

- 6A. Märzen
- 6B. Rauchbier
- 6C. Dunkles Bock

Class 7. AMBER BITTER EUROPEAN BEER

- 7A. Vienna Lager
- 7B. Altbier

Class 8. DARK EUROPEAN LAGER

- 8A. Munich Dunkel
- 8B. Schwarzbier

Class 9. STRONG EUROPEAN BEER

- 9A. Doppelbock
- 9B. Eisbock
- 9C. Baltic Porter

Class 10. GERMAN WHEAT BEER

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

Class 11. BRITISH BITTER

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

Class 12. PALE COMMONWEALTH BEER

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

Class 13. BROWN BRITISH BEER

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

Class 14. SCOTTISH ALE

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

Class 15. IRISH BEER

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

Class 16. DARK BRITISH BEER

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



Homebrew - DIVISION 405, cont'd.

Class 17. STRONG BRITISH ALE

- 17A. British Strong Ale
- 17B. Old Ale
- 17C. Wee Heavy
- 17D. English Barley Wine

Class 18. PALE AMERICAN ALE

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

Class 19. AMBER & BROWN AMERICAN

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

Class 20. AMERICAN PORTER & STOUT

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

Class 21. IPA

- 21A. American IPA
- 21B. Specialty IPA
 - Specialty IPA: Belgian IPA
 - Specialty IPA: Black IPA
 - Specialty IPA: Brown IPA
 - Specialty IPA: Red IPA
 - Specialty IPA: Rye IPA
 - Specialty IPA: White IPA
 - Specialty IPA: Brut IPA
- 21C. Hazy IPA

Class 22. STRONG AMERICAN ALE

- 22A. Double IPA
- 22B. American Strong Ale
- 22C. American Barleywine
- 22D. Wheatwine

Class 23. EUROPEAN SOUR ALE

- 23A. Berliner Weisse
- 23B. Flanders Red Ale
- 23C. Oud Bruin
- 23D. Lambic
- 23E. Gueuze
- 23F. Fruit Lambic
- 23G. Gose

Class 24. BELGIAN ALE

- 24A. Witbier
- 24B. Belgian Pale Ale
- 24C. Bière de Garde

Class 25. STRONG BELGIAN ALE

- 25A. Belgian Blond Ale
- 25B. Saison
- 25C. Belgian Golden Strong Ale

Class 26. MONASTIC ALE

- 26A. Belgian Single
- 26B. Belgian Dubbel
- 26C. Belgian Tripel
- 26D. Belgian Dark Strong Ale

Class 27. HISTORICAL BEER

- Historical Beer: Kellerbier
- Historical Beer: Kentucky Common
- Historical Beer: Lichtenhainer
- Historical Beer: London Brown Ale
- Historical Beer: Piwo Grodziskie
- Historical Beer: Pre-Prohibition Lager
- Historical Beer: Pre-Prohibition Porter
- Historical Beer: Roggenbier
- Historical Beer: Sahti



Homebrew - DIVISION 405, cont'd.

Class 28. AMERICAN WILD ALE

- 28A. Brett Beer
- 28B. Mixed- Fermentation Sour Beer
- 28C. Wild Specialty Beer
- 28D. Straight Sour Beer

Class 29. FRUIT BEER

- 29A. Fruit Beer
- 29B. Fruit & Spice Beer
- 29C. Specialty Fruit Beer
- 29D. Grape Ale

Class 30. SPICED BEER

- 30A. Spice, Herb, or Vegetable Beer
- 30B. Autumn Seasonal Beer
- 30C. Winter Seasonal Beer
- 30D. Specialty Spice Beer

Class 31. ALTERNATIVE FERMENTABLES

- 31A. Alternative Grain Beer
- 31B. Alternative Sugar Beer

Class 32. SMOKED BEER

- 32A. Classic Style Smoked Beer
- 32B. Specialty Smoked Beer

Class 33. WOOD BEER

- 33A. Wood-Aged Beer
- 33B. Specialty Wood-Aged Beer

Class 34. SPECIALTY BEER

- 34A. Clone Beer
- 34B. Mixed-Style Beer
- 34C. Experimental Beer

Class X. LOCAL STYLES

- X1. Pampas Golden Ale
- X2. Argentine IPA

X3. Italian Grape Ale

X4. Catharina Sour

X5. New Zealand Pilsner

Class M1. TRADITIONAL MEAD 2015

M1A. Dry Mead

M1B. Semi-Sweet Mead

M1C. Sweet Mead

Class M2. FRUIT MEAD 2015

M2A. Cyser

M2B. Pymment

M2C. Berry Mead

M2D. Stone Fruit Mead

M2E. Melomel

Class M3. SPICED MEAD 2015

M3A. Fruit & Spice Mead

M3B. Spice, Herb or Vegetable Mead

Class M4. SPECIALTY MEAD 2015

M4A. Braggot

M4B. Historical Mead

M4C. Experimental Mead

Class C1. STANDARD CIDER & PERRY 2015

C1A. New World Cider

C1B. English Cider

C1C. French Cider

C1D. New World Perry

C1E. Traditional Perry

Class C2. SPECIALTY CIDER & PERRY 2015

C2A. New England Cider

C2B. Cider with Other Fruit

C2C. Applewine

C2D. Ice Cider

C2E. Cider with Herbs/Spices

C2F. Specialty Cider/Perry



Homebrew Label Design - DIVISION 415

Exhibitors entering Homebrew Division 405 (see pages 6-8), may enter the Homebrew Label Design Division 415 for free.

1. ENTRY REGISTRATION:

- a. All homebrew label design entries must be pre-registered by 4:00 PM on Friday, May 3rd at <https://beerawardsplatform.com/ACFHC2024> (case sensitive).
- b. To enter the Label competition: when entering your homebrew entry at the above site, select “Yes” under Label Competition, along with your beer, cider, or mead entry details. There is no extra charge.
- c. Select the class of your entry - 1. That Summer Feeling (Fair theme), or 2. Best Homebrew Label.

2. DELIVERY:

- a. Please refer to pages 2 and 3 for delivery dates and drop off / ship-to locations.
- b. Homebrew label entries may be delivered to any entry location by May 3rd at 4:00 PM, or dropped off to the Fairgrounds from 10 a.m. until Noon on May 4th. **LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

3. LIMITATIONS:

- a. Only 1 Homebrew Label Design per class will be accepted (if multiples of either Class are submitted, staff reserves the right to omit the extras).
 - **Class 1. That Summer Feeling**
 - **Class 2. Best Homebrew Label**

4. PREPARING YOUR “HOMEBREW LABEL” BOTTLE/CAN ENTRIES:

- a. For each Homebrew Label Design entry, submit one empty, clean 12 to 22 oz bottle or 12 to 16 oz can only with the Homebrew Label design neatly affixed to the bottle or can. No other sizes of bottles or cans will be accepted. Water-resistant ink is recommended, as entries may be refrigerated.
- b. Attach an entry label to your (artwork-labeled) can or bottle via rubber band, by printing one extra copy of your automatically generated beer labels created during the entry process at BeerAwardsPlatform.com/ACFHC2024 (link is case sensitive).
 - i. Please ensure that the entry label you attach corresponds with the Label Class you designated (*for example, if you registered a Category 5D German Pils and selected “Class 2 – Best Homebrew Label” for the associated label entry, attach the “5D - Pils” label to your Class 2 label entry*). This label will be used by competition staff to track Homebrew Label entries.
- c. Entries become the property of the Alameda County Fair and will not be returned.

5. JUDGING:

- a. Homebrew label designs must reflect good taste.
- b. Judging criteria will be based on an exhibitor’s creativity and originality.
- c. Judges will be looking for an “*attention grabber*” that elicits further investigation based on use of color, design and composition.
- d. Judges’ decisions are final. Judging will be closed to exhibitors.
- e. Results will not be shared by email, text, phone, or any other means before opening day of the Fair.

6. DISPLAY:

- a. Homebrew Labels will be displayed in Building Q for the duration of the Alameda County Fair.

7. AWARDS:

- a. Special Rosettes awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each class
 - **Class 1. That Summer Feeling**
 - **Class 2. Best Homebrew Label**