

## Mike Winnie Biography/Position Statement

I have been an active member of the BJCP for 16 years and homebrewing for 19 years. I became interested in judging by volunteering to be a steward at the Real Ale Festival in Chicago in the fall of 1996. It was a great experience and I made up my mind to take the next BJCP exam offered in Michigan at Bill Pfeiffer's house in February of 1997. I passed the exam with a 67 but was sure I could better so I asked Bill when the next exam will be given. He scheduled another exam for October that same year and I studied more and signed up to judge at every competition in the area. The second time I passed with an 80 and was content with that for a while. As I learned more about brewing and judging I decided that I wanted to get to the rank of Master which meant I needed a 90 on the exam. As soon as I had enough points to advance to the National rank I volunteered to grade exams. Grading exams is a great way to reinforce your style and brewing knowledge as well as learn even more. At the same time I volunteered to be a proctor for exams given by Rex Halfpenny. These two things helped me get a 90 on the written portion but I was still short on the tasting score so I kept on judging and proctoring to improve my judging ability. In 2008 I took the BJCP exam for a 4<sup>th</sup> time (tasting only) and earned a 91 and a promotion to Master. Through my continued judging, grading and proctoring activities I earned enough GMSR points to advance to Grand Master last year. I continue to homebrew beer and mead. Last year I was quite proud to have one of my meads chosen as Best of Show at the Michigan Beer Cup competition.

### Other Personal Background Info:

Hometown: Davisburg, Michigan

48 years old

Married, one daughter and one grandson

CAD software expert at Ford

Marine Corps veteran

5<sup>th</sup> degree Black Belt Master in Tang Soo Do

It is my hope that those of you that don't personally know me, now have a good feel for how I would perform as your representative for the BJCP North region. I am very responsive. I will answer your emails and phone calls. This is a member driven organization and should I be elected I will make your voice heard.

