



The BJCPTM Reporter

Issue Number 3

January, 1998

From The Chair

Welcome aboard to Jay Hersh! Jay, who has served the BJCP well for many years, both as an exam grader and with continuous input, has been elected as Co-Exam Director. We now have two exam directors: Scott Bickham, who recently moved west (and had a future beer judge), was finding it difficult to manage all the duties. Jay will control exams east of the Mississippi, while Scott will continue in the west.

With Jay's moving to Co-Director, that left an opening for an Associate. Dave Sapsis has now been elevated to Associate Exam Director, filling Jay's old shoes.

Committees

Currently the Beer Style and Beer Scoresheet committees are hashing out final details. The Scoresheet committee has almost finished, so look for a new score sheet in 1998. With a tip of the old judge wig to Amahl Turczyn of the AHA, we're also proud to announce that the AHA is adopting our new scoresheet as well. A few changes have already been made to the 1998 beer style guidelines. The committee is trying to refine both the wording and the substance. This is no easy task, and I would like to personally extend my appreciation to those on the committee that have taken on this task. Once the rewording is done then they can move onto the real nitty gritty of truly analyzing the styles, and having them reflect the true characters of the beers.

The Competition Committee, in its continuing effort to develop a new and independent competition packet and program, recommended that the BJCP adopt as a starting point the New England Homebrew Competition Guidelines. These guidelines were originally developed by Steve Stroud and others, and are available in their most current form at:

<http://www.bjcp.org/style-guide.html>

Steve has given his enthusiastic consent to the proposed adoption.

Apprentice and Novice ranks

The Board formally approved the definition of the Apprentice rank: One who has taken, but not yet passed the BJCP exam, and is making an effort to improve his or her judging skills. Those who have taken the exam are accorded full membership privileges and may retake the exam at a reduced rate.

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Fresh Meat!

Election time is again upon us, and the BJCP Board is looking for new blood. Regional BJCP directors from the following regions are up for election this year:

- Northeast
- Northwest
- Gulf Coast

Here's your chance to make a difference. Last year only the incumbents ran. OK, you were busy, and the BJCP was still getting organized. This year we'd really like to get more new faces to energize the program. The term of office is two years.

Qualifications:

To be eligible for the BJCP board of directors, you need only have a desire to bring the BJCP into the 21st century, and a nomination letter stating your candidacy, with the signatures of 5 other BJCP judges.

Nominations must be received by February 15.

A bio or statement for publication (your campaign "platform") must be in by the end of February.

Due to the lateness of this announcement, we can extend the nomination letter deadline slightly, provided you contact Russ Wigglesworth by phone or e-mail by the 15th with your intent.

We also need a few individuals willing to serve on the election committee. Your duties would simply be to receive and count the ballots. If you can help out, that would be great, and you don't even have to live in one of the regions holding elections.

To volunteer as a member of the election committee, simply notify the Program Administrator (Russ).

How to become a candidate

Nominations for representatives in the above mentioned states are now open. Those seeking to hold office must submit a petition containing signatures of five or more Regu-



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How to become a candidate (continued from Page 1)

lar Members of the BJCP from their region. You have until February 15, 1998 to forward these petitions to the Program Administrator.

Each candidate is allowed a 500 word (maximum length) biography or campaign statement, which must be submitted (along with the petition), for publication to the region in which you're seeking office.

Though it's not mandatory, e-mail access is very helpful, and highly preferred.



From the Chair (continued from Page 1)

Novice is defined as: Any individual who has not taken the BJCP exam and who judges beer in preparation of taking the exam.

Trademark

You'll start seeing the TM symbol appearing next to BJCP from now on. The Board decided that it's in our best interests to trademark the name in order to protect it.



How Many Points Do You Have?

If you're a fairly active judge, you may not know exactly where you stand in terms of experience points. Competition organizers don't always get the points recorded in the most expeditious manner, so please be on the watch for your annual point report. It should be mailed by April, and you should receive it by the end of that month. The report will contain instructions for how to report errors in your record, so you'll be able to match your own records with your "official" report.

Missing, Presumed Lost

If you know the current whereabouts of any of these beer judges, please let us know how to reach them. Contact the Program Administrator (Russ).

Dwight Beebe, Montreal, PQ
Trent Berg, Edmonton, AB
David Bryant, Houston, TX
David Buffam, Calgary, AB
James Burrus, Boulder, CO
Jami Chism, Santa Rosa, CA
Perry Geib, Moravia, NY
Marty Johnson, Baltimore, MD
Brian Lewis, Calgary, AB
Rick LLOYD, Edmond, OK
James Macnaughton, North York, ON
John Mason, Oneonta, NY
Kevin Mayes, Evanston, IL
Jason Meyer, Edmonton, AB
Eric Moreland, Middelton, WI
Richard Nilles, Fargo, ND
Calvin Perilloux, Bondi Junction, NSW
Steven Peterson, Janesville, WI
Gerald Pinard, Surrey, BC
Ward Pond, Pine Mountain Club, CA
Erik John Rasmussen, Mesa, AZ
Ken Rich, Houston, TX
David Jolyon Ringwood, Canoga Park, CA
B. Scott Robertson, Regina, SK
Jeb Sturmer, ?, ?
Todd Thorsen, San Diego, CA
Doug Warren, Toronto, ON
Alan Lee Williamson, Lynchburg, VA



JudgeNet

What's being discussed on JudgeNet? Anything and everything related to beer judging. A few of the topics discussed recently include:

- Three bottles or two?
- Large categories and "mini-BOS" rounds
- Flavor description words on scoresheets
- Returning score sheets and prizes
- Quality of judging comments on scoresheets
- Master Championship of Amateur Brewing (MCAB)

Any thoughts on these? Any other topics you'd like to discuss with other judges around the world?

If you have Internet e-mail access, you should subscribe to JudgeNet Digest. Send an e-mail message to judge-request@synchro.com. You'll automatically receive a help message with details about subscribing.

Who's Who in the BJCP:

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Upcoming Exams

The current exam schedule is listed below. There are several exams in the works, but the dates have not been firmly set. If you have any questions, please get in touch with either Scott Bickham (western U.S.), Jay Hersh (eastern U.S.), or the contact person listed.

Scheduled

Date	Contact Person	Location	Phone Number
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1/11	Anchorage, AK	
Shane Docherty	907/345-4099	
1/18	Omaha, NE	
Frank Sobetski	402/593-9171	
1/31	.....	Santa Rosa, CA	
Byron Burch	.....	800/544-1867	
1/31	.....	West Lebanon, NH	
Tom Ayres	.....	tom@unitedwaycc.org	
1/31	.....	Destin, FL	
Gary Essex	.....	brewer@beachlife.net	
2/7	.....	Brighton, MI	
Bill Pfeiffer	.....	810/229-0727	
2/28	.....	Hilo, Hawaii	
Cindy Goldstein	.....	Icti2468@aol.com	
2/28	.....	Burlington, VT	
Tom Ayres	.....	tom@unitedwaycc.org	
3/3	.....	Boise, ID	
Loren Carter	.....	lcarter@claven.idbsu.edu	
3/8	.....	Boston, MA	
Jay Hersh	.....	drbeer@doctorbeer.com	
3/14	.....	Sacramento, CA	
Martin Lodahl	.....	lodahl@foothill.net	
3/29	.....	Kansas City, MO	
Alberta Rager	.....	913/962-2501	
3/?	.....	Idaho Falls, ID	
Gregg Smith	GSMITHBEER@aol.com	
3/?	Washington, DC	
Jay Hersh	drbeer@doctorbeer.com	
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5/23	Chicago, IL	
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The BJCP web page (<http://www.bjcp.org/>) has competition information, and is linked to the most current exam schedule on Scott Bickham's web page (<http://www.trail.com/~bickham/>).

Please pass the information in this newsletter on to your friends, fellow club members, local suppliers, and anyone else you think might be interested in taking the exam. Consider making a photocopy or two for your club's competition organizer, and another to pass around.



Exam Directors

The BJCP Board appointed Jay Hersh as exam director of the Eastern portion of the US and Canada. Scott Bickham will continue as exam director of the western portion of North America. The primary reason for this split is the tremendous growth in the number of exams, from less than 200 per year prior to 1996, nearly 300 in 1996 and over 400 in 1997. This is way too many for a single person to handle, but the workload should be manageable for both directors. The same set of exams, graders and associate directors will be used on a rotating basis, so there will be no regional biases that were a problem when there were two exam directors in the past.

There will be one contact e-mail address that will be aliased to both addresses. All mail sent to:

exam_director@bjcp.org

will be automatically sent to both Scott and Jay. Voicemail will be forwarded to both as well.

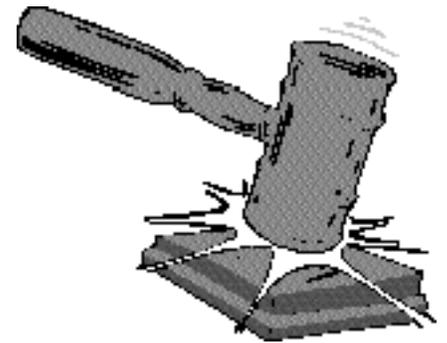
Exam Graders Needed

We make a continuous effort to increase the number of exam scorers, and we had a very nice response to a call for new graders last year. We would like to extend another invitation to those who have scored above 80 on the exam, particularly those who are already National level or higher.

Brewing Techniques will also be devoting a page to the BJCP in each issue, so the current exam and competition schedules can also be found there.

For information about the exam, please send e-mail to exam_director@bjcp.org. This ensures that both Scott and Jay receive the message.

In early 1998, look for the new study guide, examples of scoresheets and the outline of the exam study class that recently appeared in Brewing Techniques on Scott's web page.



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