Cider Program Overview

June 2015
Cider Judge Program

- Structured the same as the Mead Judge Program
- Cider Judge is a rank (non-BJCP judges)
- Cider Judge is an endorsement (BJCP judges)
- No prerequisites for rank
- Pass online exam first, then pass tasting exam (60 or higher)
- No experience points required
- Full BJCP member
- Can check Cider Judge box on score sheets
- Can wear Cider Judge pin
- Can’t advance in rank
- Can’t use exam as basis to advance in beer rank
- Passing the exam gives judges CEP credit
Cider Exam Proposed Format

online entrance exam
• Cider Judge program, judging procedures / ethics
• Cider style guideline questions
• Apple varietal questions
• Characteristics, faults
• Process control
• Etc.

90 minute tasting exam
6 Cider or Perry samples
• New World Cider
• New World or Traditional Perry
• English or French Cider
• Cider or Perry with Herbs / Spices
• Cider or Perry with Other Fruit
• New England, Applewine, or Ice Cider
What’s Been Done To Date

- Two trial tasting exams – Grand Rapids, MI & San Diego, CA
  - End to end testing – tasting exam with 6 ciders through grading
  - Grading and proctor pool building once tasters pass online exam
- Cider Exam Score & Cover Sheets
- Cider Exam RTP
- Cider Judge Administration Procedures Guide
- Proctors Guide
- Started building the online question pool
Trial Tasting Exam Findings

• Cider tasting knowledge good but needs improvement
• Home made ciders easier to find for Grand Rapids, harder for San Diego
• Exam cider & perry model (slide 3) works well
• 90 minute format & Cider Judge Administration Procedures Guide worked well
• Cider Exam Score & Cover Sheets and Proctors Guide also worked well
• Grading of exam plugged in nicely with existing BJCP grading infrastructure
• More cider educational materials are needed
• San Diego exam and results currently going through grading process
• Grand Rapids exam and results accepted by the exam directorate
• Once Grand Rapids examinees take the approved online exam and pass they will become Cider Judges
What Remains

• Cider exam resource web page – help build cider knowledge!
• Assemble / develop cider judging resources
• Complete grading of San Diego tasting exam
• Complete the online question pool
• Conduct online trial exam
• Evaluate online trial exam results
• Get Exam Directorate final approval of Cider Judge Program
• Prepare Cider Judge Program study guide & circulate for review
• Launch the Cider Judge Program
Questions or Comments?
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