June 15, 2000

Dear BJCP Judge:

During the past year we have seen the retirement of Jay Hersh from the position of Eastern Exam Director (Thanks, Jay, for all the terrific work) and the appointment of Dan Hall to replace him. Elections have been held in the Mountain, Gulf and Northeast regions and it appears the incumbents (Alan Moen, Steve Moore and myself) are all re-elected. So we have our team of elected and appointed directors more or less intact and up to speed.

Also on a personnel note, we have doubled the community of Grand Master Judges with the promotions of Jay Hersh and Dave Houseman to that distinguished rank. Once again, I congratulate Jay and Dave on their notable achievement and thank them for their outstanding service to the BJCP.

As regards Grand Master Judges, we have expanded and clarified the rules for advancement to this rank, especially with regards to meeting the service requirement through activities other than, or in addition to, exam grading and proctoring. Details are on the website and are also available from your regional director.

After more than two years of diligent work, the Beer Styles Committee has completed, and the Board has approved, the new versions of the official BJCP Beer Style Guidelines. This is a significant piece of work on the part of the committee and a major contribution to the BJCP and its members. The guidelines are available on the web page and have been in use for some time now. Send us your comments so that they can be considered at the next revision.

The new database structure that Russ Wigglesworth and Gordon Strong have been working on will soon be sent to the Exam Directors for practical evaluation. This restructuring will allow distributed and simultaneous updating of the database and will alleviate the bottlenecks we have seen in the past in updating and querying the database. Also, Russ reports that as of this mailing, he is current on all point recordings and promotions that he has received to date. A list of 1999 competitions which have yet to file for points is included for your review. Please contact the organizers directly if you expect to get points any of these delinquent events.

We ended the last fiscal year on a healthy note and expenses and income since then have been pretty well balanced and the volume generally is in keeping with the
homebrew hobby as a whole (a little off peak). The Financial Statement is included in this mailing.

The web page has been revitalized since our last letter and webmaster Scott Bickham keeps everything as current as the reports he receives allow (exam and competition schedules).

Alan Moen has provided us with some excellent designs for official BJCP shirts. Separate versions are being considered for use by official judges and by the general public. The final designs, prices, shipping details, are still under review but should be available soon. We don't know if this is going to be a moneymaker but it will at least give us more public visibility.

Lastly, please look at the proposed changes to the bylaws that are included with this mailing. The Board will vote on this on August 1, 2000 prior to which you should make your feelings known to your Regional Representative. The motivation for the changes is to formally recognize those practices that have been found to be necessary or practical in the everyday operation of the BJCP. The founding fathers could not foresee all the practical details of the program and these changes are designed to bring them in line with reality. Most of the changes have to do with required number of meetings and reports and in the constitution and dissolution of committees. The changes you read have been endorsed by at least a majority of the Board by the time of this mailing.

Because of the enthusiastic participation of our members and the dedicated volunteers who work in the Program, we have had another stable and productive year and have every expectation of continuing to do so. I look forward to meeting and judging beer with all you at some competition in the near future.

Cheers,

Bill Slack
President and Representative for the Northeast Region
Beer Judge Certification Program, Inc.

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Important Notice

The BJCP would like to move almost exclusively to electronic means (e-mail, website, etc.) to communicate with the membership. The advantages are that it is orders of magnitude cheaper than US Mail and distribution is much faster. We recognize that some people cannot or will not use Internet facilities. If you object to the switch to electronic communication please let your Regional Representative know how you feel in the next 30 days. Some communication will remain hard copy, (e.g., promotion certificates will still be mailed). We can maintain mailings to those who absolutely cannot reasonably use electronic access. But we can use our funds much more efficiently if the great bulk of our communication is electronic. Please make sure your Regional Representative is aware of your needs and feelings on this matter.
Beer Judge Certification Program

Cash on hand at end of 1998 $29,267.56
Income 1999 8,014.87
Expenses 1999 8,058.01
Net profit (loss) 1999 (43.14)
Cash on hand at end of 1999 $29,224.42

Income is about one third from competition registrations and two thirds from exam fees.

Expenses are dominated by exam processing costs, mailing expenses, software and hardware purchases, National/Master pins, communications costs, office expenses and various miscellaneous items.

There were two people managing the accounts during 1999 and while the cash on hand and expense/income figures are completely accurate, it is difficult to break down the expenses more precisely due to differences in record keeping. More accountable procedures are in place for 2000.

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The following are judges for whom we do not have current addresses. If you know their whereabouts please let us know. They are listed by the last known location.

Jeb Sturmer, ?, ?
Jason Meyer, Edmonton, AB
Kent Meyer, Edmonton, AB
Trent Berg, Edmonton, AB
Jonathan C. Swersey, Gilbert, AZ
Paul Gunn, Glendale, AZ
Erik John Rasmussen, Mesa, AZ
Steve Jones, Phoenix, AZ
Gerald Pinard, Surrey, BC
Don Moore, Vernon, BC
Don Harms, Victoria, BC
Greg Houston, Victoria, BC
Andrew Clora, Huntington Beach, CA
Adam Walker, Long Beach, CA
Gerald Stoker, Los Alamitos, CA
Mike Stender, Oakland, CA
David Towne, Roseville, CA
Steven Peterson, San Diego, CA
Todd Thorsen, San Diego, CA
Mike Schwarzbart, San Leandro, CA
Robert J. Trent, San Mateo, CA
Jami Chism, Santa Rosa, CA
Joel Hyatt, Santa Rosa, CA
James Burrus, Boulder, CO
Chris Coldren, New Haven, CT
Jeffrey Shannon, New Haven, CT
Rob Martin, Atlanta, GA
Darrin Mark Tilton, Decatur, GA
Patrick Allaire, Boise, ID
Terry A. Dennis, Meridian, ID
James Bordner, Champaign, IL
Bryan Conry, Schaumburg, IL
Michael Stewart, Urbana, IL
Ryan Ashley, Wildwood, IL
Tim Rastetter, Alexandria, KY
Carol Kolb, Louisville, KY
Matthew Gould, Louisville, KY
Ed Greenlee, Baton Rouge, LA
Edward Hunter-Enserv, Belmont, MA
David P. Ruggiero, Roslindale, MA
Marty Johnson, Baltimore, MD
Karen McNulty, Silver Spring, MD
Jeff Parsons, Minneapolis, MN
Cushing Hamlen, St. Paul, MN
Tom Riker, Kansas City, MO
Eric Mitchell, Northwood, MO
Bill Rust, St. Louis, MO
Kyle Edwards, Huntersville, NC
Russell Albers, Omaha, NE
Shawn A. Wilson, Jersey City, NJ
Matt Hanley, Mount Laurel, NJ
Kirk Ellem, Reno, NV
Sean Crawford, Reno, NV
Jeff Curran, Albany, NY
Robert Levitt, Brooklyn, NY
Paul Healy, Catskill, NY
Bryan Green, Honeyeaf Falls, NY
John Lenz, Ithaca, NY
Chris Esposito, Lindenhurst, NY
Perry Gelb, Moravia, NY
Joanne Shortell, New York, NY
Keith Symonds, White Plains, NY
Brian C. Becker, Cincinnati, OH
Kurt Jensen, Cincinnati, OH
Joe Zaucha, Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Robert Gerrity, Fairview Park, OH
Ward Pond, Tulsa, OK
Phil Atkinson, Concord, Toronto, ON
Jim Macnaughton, North York, ON
David Suda, Ottawa, ON
Tim Chamberlain, Portland, OR
Glenn Tinselt, Silverton, OR
John D. Bucsek, Tigard, OR
Adam Cesnales, Murrysville, PA
Joseph Koloz, Natroma Heights, PA
Aran Maddren, Pittsburgh, PA
Christopher Solis, Pittsburgh, PA
Nora Breault, Trefose, PA
Greg Burns, Regina, SK
Kenneth J. Wieler, Regina, SK
Randy Rancer, Abilene, TX
John C. Spector, Austin, TX
Sean McGaughey, Austin, TX
Thomas Gentry, El Paso, TX
Ken Rich, Houston, TX
Robert Devine, Livingston, TX
Jim Pehkonen, Salt Lake City, UT
Robert McCallum, Alexandria, VA
Robert St. Cyr, Christiansburg, VA
Eric Payne, Fairfax, VA
Alex Vigil, Penn Laird, VA
Paul Eckhoff, Springfield, VA
Ken Dunaway, Virginia Beach, VA
Jonathan D. Kusmin, Burlington, VT
Paul Sayler, S. Royalton, VT
Eric Moreland, Middletown, WI
Doug Hutchins, Charlestown, WV