



2025 ENTRY HANDBOOK



The California Mid-State Fair Home Brew Competition is for amateur beer makers. Giving them the opportunity to showcase their beer and receive great feedback to better their hobby.

Chief Judge – Jason Affourtit
Lead Organization - California Mid-State Fair

2024 BEST OF AWARDS

Best of Show: Mike Meko, Arroyo Grande, Belgian Dark Strong Ale

Reserve Best of Show: Ryan Foster, Grover Beach, Hazy IPA

GENERAL RULES

1. This competition is American Homebrewers Association (AHA)/Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) sanctioned and open to amateur homebrewers age 21 or older, **who reside in either San Luis Obispo or Santa Barbara County.**
2. Please indicate the proper class when registering the style of beer to ensure proper judging.
3. Registration is to be done online <https://cmsfw.fairwire.com/>
4. Entries must be received between the dates allotted. Any entry received after the deadline will not be judged or returned.
5. This competition uses [BJCP Style Guidelines](#). Consult the guidelines to determine the best fit for each entry.
6. Please fill out the entry forms completely. Be meticulous about noting any special ingredients that must be specified per the guidelines. Failure to note such ingredients may impact the judges' scoring of your entry.
7. **Cider Entries:** Please disclose Carbonation, Sweetness and Any Special Ingredients in description Field. Specialty Ciders - Please add Gravity and Alcohol %.
8. Each entry consists of two (2) up to 12 oz. bottles that are devoid of all identifying information, including labels and embossing. Cans will also be accepted. Printed caps are allowed but must be blacked out completely.
9. 12oz brown glass bottles are preferred; however, green and clear glass will be accepted. 12- and 16-ounce cans will also be accepted. Large format bottles and swing-top bottles will not be accepted. Bottles will not be returned to contest entrants.
10. Print out entry receipt and rubber band around each bottle accordingly. NO LABELS or other distinctive markings (embossed bottles, etc.) may be used on bottles or cans. Non-compliant entries may be rejected.
11. Six (6) Entries maximum per Exhibitor, and no more than three (3) entries per class. Limited to the first 75 entries registered.
12. Due to health and safety regulations, upon submission to the contest, all entries become the property of the California Mid-State Fair and not returned to entrant.
13. The competition organizers are not responsible for mis-categorized entries, mailed entries that are not received by the entry deadline, or entries that arrived damaged.
14. The competition organizers reserve the right to combine styles for judging as needed depending upon the quantity and quality of entries.
15. Score sheets will be mailed to exhibitors with ribbons (if applicable) in a timely manner after judging.
16. Each exhibitor can purchase up to TWO (2) \$8 one-day admission tickets. They are to be purchased during registration. Tickets will be mailed to you in early July. They can be used by anyone and are non-refundable.
17. This competition will adhere to the State Rules of the California Department of Food & Agriculture Fairs & Expositions Branch. [State Rules for California Fairs](#)

ONLINE REGISTRATION DUE BY: FRIDAY, MAY 2

ENTRY FEE: \$7.00 PER ENTRY

Enter on-line at <http://cmsfw.fairwire.com/> Entry fees are non-refundable.

PHYSICAL BEER ENTRIES RECEIVED: MONDAY, MAY 5 - FRIDAY, MAY 9

DELIVERY DATES, LOCATIONS & TIMES

Monday, May 5 TO Friday, May 9

Paso Robles Event Center

2198 Riverside Ave

Paso Robles, CA 93446

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

OR

Tuesday, May 6 TO Sunday, May 11

Doc's Cellar

855 Capitolio Way #2

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

10:00 am – 5:00 pm

For questions, please contact:

California Mid-State Fair

exhibits@midstatefair.com

Special Thanks to Doc's Cellar for their support:



Divisions and Classes

- 1 - Standard American Beer
 - 1A - American Light Lager
 - 1B - American Lager
 - 1C - Cream Ale
 - 1D - American Wheat Beer
- 2 - International Lager
 - 2A - International Pale Lager
 - 2B - International Amber Lager
 - 2C - International Dark Lager
- 3 - Czech Lager
 - 3A - Czech Pale Lager
 - 3B - Czech Premium Pale Lager
 - 3C - Czech Amber Lager
 - 3D - Czech Dark Lager
- 4 - Pale Malt European Lager
 - 4A - Munich Helles
 - 4B - Festbier
 - 4C - Helles Bock
- 5 - Pale Bitter European Beer
 - 5A - German Leichtbier
 - 5B - Kolsch
 - 5C - German Helles Exportbier
 - 5D - German Pils
- 6 - Amber Malt European Lager
 - 6A - Marzen
 - 6B - Rauchbier
 - 6C - Dunkles Bock
- 7 - Amber Bitter European Beer
 - 7A - Vienna Lager
 - 7B - Altbier
- 8 - Dark European Lager
 - 8A - Munich Dunkel
 - 8B - Schwarzbier
- 9 - Strong European Beer
 - 9A - Doppelbock
 - 9B - Eisbock
 - 9C - Baltic Porter
- 10 - German Wheat Beer
 - 10A - Weissbier
 - 10B - Dunkles Weissbier
 - 10C - Weizenbock
- 11 - British Bitter
 - 11A - Ordinary Bitter
 - 11B - Best Bitter
 - 11C - Strong Bitter
- 12 - Pale Commonwealth Beer
 - 12A - British Golden Ale
 - 12B - Australian Sparkling Ale
 - 12C - English IPA
- 13 - Brown British Beer
 - 13A - Dark Mild
 - 13B - British Brown Ale
 - 13C - English Porter
- 14 - Scottish Ale
 - 14A - Scottish Light
 - 14B - Scottish Heavy
 - 14C - Scottish Export
- 15 - Irish Beer
 - 15A - Irish Red Ale
 - 15B - Irish Stout
 - 15C - Irish Extra Stout
- 16 - Dark British Beer
 - 16A - Sweet Stout
 - 16B - Oatmeal stout
 - 16C - Tropical stout
 - 16D - Foreign Extra Stout
- 17 - Strong British Ale
 - 17A - British Strong Ale
 - 17B - Old Ale
 - 17C - Wee Heavy
 - 17D - English Barleywine
- 18 - Pale American Ale
 - 18A - Blond Ale
 - 18B - American Pale Ale
- 19 - Amber and Brown American Beer
 - 19A - American Amber Ale
 - 19B - California Common
 - 19C - American Brown Ale
- 20 - American Porter and Stout
 - 20A - American Porter
 - 20B - American Stout
 - 20C - Imperial Stout
- 21 - IPA
 - 21A - American IPA
 - 21B - Specialty IPA
 - 21C - Hazy IPA
- 22 - Strong American Ale
 - 22A - Double IPA
 - 22B - American Strong Ale
 - 22C - American Barleywine
 - 22D - Wheatwine
- 23 - European Sour Ale
 - 23A - Berliner Weisse
 - 23B - Flanders Red Ale
 - 23C - Oud Bruin
 - 23D - Lambic
 - 23E - Gueuze
 - 23F - Fruit Lambic
 - 23G - Gose
- 24 - Belgian Ale
 - 24A - Witbier
 - 24B - Belgian Pale Ale
 - 24C - Biere de Garde
- 25 - Strong Belgian Ale
 - 25A - Belgian Blond Ale
 - 25B - Saison
 - 25C - Belgian Golden Strong Ale
- 26 - Monastic Ale
 - 26A - Belgian Single
 - 26B - Belgian Dubbel
 - 26C - Belgian Tripel
 - 26D - Belgian Dark Strong Ale
- 27 - Historical Beer
 - 27A - Kellerbier
 - 27B - Kentucky Common
 - 27C - Lichtenhainer
 - 27D - London Brown Ale
 - 27E - Piwo Grodziskie
 - 27F - Pre-Prohibition Lager
 - 27G - Pre-Prohibition Porter
 - 27H - Roggenbier
 - 27I - Sahti
- 28 - American Wild Ale
 - 28A - Brett Beer
 - 28B - Mixed-Fermentation Sour Beer
 - 28C - Wild Specialty Beer
 - 28D - Straight Sour Beer
- 29 - Fruit Beer
 - 29A - Fruit Beer
 - 29B - Fruit and Spice Beer
 - 29C - Specialty Fruit Beer
 - 29D - Grape Ale
- 30 - Spiced Beer
 - 30A - Spice, Herb or Vegetable Beer
 - 30B - Autumn Seasonal Beer
 - 30C - Winter Seasonal Beer
 - 30D - Specialty Spice Beer
- 31 - Alternative Fermentables Beer
 - 31A - Alternative Grain Beer
 - 31B - Alternative Sugar Beer
- 32 - Smoked Beer
 - 32A - Classic Style Smoked Beer
 - 32B - Specialty Smoked Beer
- 33 - Wood Beer
 - 33A - Wood-Aged Beer
 - 33B - Specialty Wood-Aged Beer
- 34 - Specialty Beer
 - 34A - Clone Beer
 - 34B - Mixed-Style Beer
 - 34C - Experimental Beer
- C1 - Traditional Cider
 - C1A - Common Cider
 - C1B - Heirloom Cider
 - C1C - English Cider
 - C1D - French Cider
 - C1E - Spanish Cider
- C2 - Strong Cider
 - C2A - New England Cider
 - C2B - Applewine
 - C2C - Ice Cider
 - C2D - Fire Cider
- C3 - Specialty Cider
 - C3A - Fruit Cider
 - C3B - Spiced Cider
 - C3C - Experimental Cider
- C4 - Perry
 - C4A - Common Perry
 - C4B - Heirloom Perry
 - C4C - Ice Perry
 - C4D - Experimental Perry