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# BRISBANE AMATEUR BEER BREWERS 2009 Competition Schedule

Draft Issued on January 14, 2009

#### Class No. 1: Wheat and Rye Beer

- 1a. Weizen/Weissbier
- 1b. Dunkelweizen
- 1c. Weizenbock
- 1d. Roggenbier

# Class No. 2: Lager and Pilsner

- 2a. Australian Lager
- 2b. German Pilsner
- 2c. Bohemian Pilsner
- 2d. Oktoberfest/Märzen

# Class No. 3: Pale Ales and Bitters

- 3a. Australian Pale Ale
- 3b. Standard/Ordinary Bitter
- 3c. Special/Best/Premium Bitter
- 3d. Extra Special/Strong Bitter (English Pale Ale)

# Class No. 4: American Ales

- 4a. American Pale Ale
- 4b. American Amber Ale
- 4c. American Brown Ale

# Class No. 5: Dark Ales

- 5a. Mild
- 5b. Northern English Brown Ale
- 5c. Australian Dark Ale
- 5d. Old Ale

# Class No. 6: Porter and Stout

- 6a. Brown Porter
- 6b. Robust Porter
- 6c. Dry Stout
- 6d. Foreign Extra Stout

## Class No. 7: Strong Ales

- 7a. Russian Imperial Stout
- 7b. English IPA
- 7c. Imperial IPA
- 7d. English Barleywine

### Class No. 8: Belgian Ales

- 8a. Belgian Blonde
- 8b. Belgian Dubbel
- 8c. Belgian Tripel
- 8d. Belgian Witbier

# Class No. 9: Specialty Beer

- 9a. Fruit Beer
- 9b. Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer
- 9c. Classic Rauchbier
- 9d. Wood-Aged Beer

# Class No. 1: Wheat and Rye Beer

#### 1a. Weizen/Weissbier.

Aroma: Moderate to strong phenols (usually clove) and fruity esters (usually banana). The balance and intensity of the phenol and ester components can vary but the best examples are reasonably balanced and fairly prominent. Noble hop character ranges from low to none. A light to moderate wheat aroma (which might be perceived as bready or grainy) may be present but other malt characteristics should not. No diacetyl or DMS. Optional, but acceptable, aromatics can include a light, citrusy tartness, a light to moderate vanilla character, and/or a low bubblegum aroma. None of these optional characteristics should be high or dominant, but often can add to the complexity and balance.

Appearance: Pale straw to very dark gold in color. A very thick, moussy, long-lasting white head is characteristic. The high protein content of wheat impairs clarity in an unfiltered beer, although the level of haze is somewhat variable. A beer "mit hefe" is also cloudy from suspended yeast sediment (which should be roused before drinking). The filtered Krystal version has no yeast and is brilliantly clear.

<u>Flavor</u>: Low to moderately strong banana and clove flavor. The balance and intensity of the phenol and ester components can vary but the best examples are reasonably balanced and fairly prominent. Optionally, a very light to moderate vanilla character and/or low bubblegum notes can accentuate the banana flavor, sweetness and roundness; neither should be dominant if present. The soft, somewhat bready or grainy flavor of wheat is complementary, as is a slightly sweet Pils malt character. Hop flavor is very low to none, and hop bitterness is very low to moderately low. A tart, citrusy character from yeast and high carbonation is often present. Well rounded, flavorful palate with a relatively dry finish. No diacetyl or DMS.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium body; never heavy. Suspended yeast may increase the perception of body. The texture of wheat imparts the sensation of a fluffy, creamy fullness that may progress to a light, spritzy finish aided by high carbonation. Always effervescent.

Overall Impression: A pale, spicy, fruity, refreshing wheat-based ale.

<u>History</u>: A traditional wheat-based ale originating in Southern Germany that is a specialty for summer consumption, but generally produced year-round.

<u>Comments</u>: These are refreshing, fast-maturing beers that are lightly hopped and show a unique banana-and-clove yeast character. These beers often don't age well and are best enjoyed while young and fresh. The version "mit hefe" is served with yeast sediment stirred in; the krystal version is filtered for excellent clarity. Bottles with yeast are traditionally swirled or gently rolled prior to serving. The character of a krystal weizen is generally fruitier and less phenolic than that of the hefe-weizen.

<u>Ingredients</u>: By German law, at least 50% of the grist must be malted wheat, although some versions use up to 70%; the remainder is Pilsner malt. A traditional decoction mash gives the appropriate body without cloying sweetness. Weizen ale yeasts produce the typical spicy and fruity character, although extreme fermentation temperatures can affect the balance and produce off-flavors. A small amount of noble hops are used only for bitterness.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.044 - 1.052	1.010 - 1.014	8 – 15	2 – 8	4.3 – 5.6%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Weihenstephaner Hefeweissbier, Erdinger Weissbier, Duke Hefeweizen, Schoefferhofer Kristallweizen.

#### 1b. Dunkelweizen.

Aroma: Moderate to strong phenols (usually clove) and fruity esters (usually banana). The balance and intensity of the phenol and ester components can vary but the best examples are reasonably balanced and fairly prominent. Optionally, a low to moderate vanilla character and/or low bubblegum notes may be present, but should not dominate. Noble hop character ranges from low to none. A light to moderate wheat aroma (which might be perceived as bready or grainy) may be present and is often accompanied by a caramel, bread crust, or richer malt aroma (e.g., from Vienna and/or Munich malt). Any malt character is supportive and does not overpower the yeast character. No diacetyl or DMS. A light tartness is optional but acceptable.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light copper to mahogany brown in color. A very thick, moussy, long-lasting off-white head is characteristic. The high protein content of wheat impairs

clarity in this traditionally unfiltered style, although the level of haze is somewhat variable. The suspended yeast sediment (which should be roused before drinking) also contributes to the cloudiness.

Flavor: Low to moderately strong banana and clove flavor. The balance and intensity of the phenol and ester components can vary but the best examples are reasonably balanced and fairly prominent. Optionally, a very light to moderate vanilla character and/or low bubblegum notes can accentuate the banana flavor, sweetness and roundness; neither should be dominant if present. The soft, somewhat bready or grainy flavor of wheat is complementary, as is a richer caramel and/or melanoidin character from Munich and/or Vienna malt. The malty richness can be low to medium-high, but shouldn't overpower the yeast character. A roasted malt character is inappropriate. Hop flavor is very low to none, and hop bitterness is very low to low. A tart, citrusy character from yeast and high carbonation is sometimes present, but typically muted. Well rounded, flavorful, often somewhat sweet palate with a relatively dry finish. No diacetyl or DMS.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium-full body. Texture of wheat as well as yeast in suspension imparts the sensation of a fluffy, creamy fullness that may progress to a lighter finish, aided by moderate to high carbonation. Presence of Munich/Vienna malts also provides an additional sense of richness and fullness. Effervescent.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A moderately dark, spicy, fruity, malty, refreshing wheat-based ale. Reflecting the best yeast and wheat character of a hefeweizen blended with the malty richness of a Munich dunkel.

<u>History</u>: Old-fashioned Bavarian wheat beer was often dark. In the 1950s and 1960s, wheat beers did not have a youthful image, since most older people drank them for their health-giving qualities. Today, the lighter hefeweizen is more common.

<u>Comments</u>: The presence of Munich and/or Vienna-type barley malts gives this style a deep, rich barley malt character not found in a hefeweizen. Bottles with yeast are traditionally swirled or gently rolled prior to serving.

<u>Ingredients</u>: By German law, at least 50% of the grist must be malted wheat, although some versions use up to 70%; the remainder is usually Munich and/or Vienna malt. A traditional decoction mash gives the appropriate body without cloying sweetness. Weizen ale yeasts produce the typical spicy and fruity character, although extreme fermentation temperatures can affect the balance and produce off-flavors. A small amount of noble hops are used only for bitterness.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.044 - 1056	1.010 - 1.014	10 – 18	14 – 23	4.3 – 5.6%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Weihenstephaner Hefeweissbier Dunkel, Franziskaner Dunkel Hefe-Weisse, Schneider Weisse (Original), Erdinger Weissbier Dunkel,

#### 1c. Weizenbock.

Aroma: Rich, bock-like melanoidins and bready malt combined with a powerful aroma of dark fruit (plums, prunes, raisins or grapes). Moderate to strong phenols (most commonly vanilla and/or clove) add complexity, and some banana esters may also be present. A moderate aroma of alcohol is common, although never solventy. No hop aroma, diacetyl or DMS.

<u>Appearance</u>: Dark amber to dark ruby brown in color. A very thick, moussy, long-lasting light tan head is characteristic. The high protein content of wheat impairs clarity in this traditionally unfiltered style, although the level of haze is somewhat variable. The suspended yeast sediment (which should be roused before drinking) also contributes to the cloudiness.

<u>Flavor</u>: A complex marriage of rich, bock-like melanoidins, dark fruit, spicy clove-like phenols, light banana and/or vanilla, and a moderate wheat flavor. The malty, bready flavor of wheat is further enhanced by the copious use of Munich and/or Vienna malts. May have a slightly sweet palate, and a light chocolate character is sometimes found (although a roasted character is inappropriate). A faintly tart character may optionally be present. Hop flavor is absent, and hop bitterness is low. The wheat, malt, and yeast character dominate the palate, and the alcohol helps balance the finish. Well-aged examples may show some sherry-like oxidation as a point of complexity. No diacetyl or DMS.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-full to full body. A creamy sensation is typical, as is the warming sensation of substantial alcohol content. The presence of Munich and/or

Vienna malts also provide an additional sense of richness and fullness. Moderate to high carbonation. Never hot or solventy.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A strong, malty, fruity, wheat-based ale combining the best flavors of a dunkelweizen and the rich strength and body of a bock.

<u>History</u>: Aventinus, the world's oldest top-fermented wheat doppelbock, was created in 1907 at the Weisse Brauhaus in Munich using the 'Méthode Champenoise' with fresh yeast sediment on the bottom. It was Schneider's creative response to bottom-fermenting doppelbocks that developed a strong following during these times.

<u>Comments</u>: A dunkel-weizen beer brewed to bock or doppelbock strength. Now also made in the Eisbock style as a specialty beer. Bottles may be gently rolled or swirled prior to serving to rouse the yeast.

<u>Ingredients</u>: A high percentage of malted wheat is used (by German law must be at least 50%, although it may contain up to 70%), with the remainder being Munichand/or Vienna-type barley malts. A traditional decoction mash gives the appropriate body without cloying sweetness. Weizen ale yeasts produce the typical spicy and fruity character. Too warm or too cold fermentation will cause the phenols and esters to be out of balance and may create off-flavors. A small amount of noble hops are used only for bitterness.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.064 - 1.090	1.015 - 1.022	15 – 30	12 – 25	6.5 - 8.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Schneider Aventinus, Schneider Aventinus Eisbock, Erdinger Pikantus

#### 1d. Roggenbier (German Rye Beer).

<u>Aroma</u>: Light to moderate spicy rye aroma intermingled with light to moderate weizen yeast aromatics (spicy clove and fruity esters, either banana or citrus). Light noble hops are acceptable. Can have a somewhat acidic aroma from rye and yeast. No diacetyl.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light coppery-orange to very dark reddish or coppery-brown color. Large creamy off-white to tan head, quite dense and persistent (often thick and rocky). Cloudy, hazy appearance.

<u>Flavor</u>: Grainy, moderately-low to moderately-strong spicy rye flavor, often having a hearty flavor reminiscent of rye or pumpernickel bread. Medium to medium-low bitterness allows an initial malt sweetness (sometimes with a bit of caramel) to be tasted before yeast and rye character takes over. Low to moderate weizen yeast character (banana, clove, and sometimes citrus), although the balance can vary. Medium-dry, grainy finish with a tangy, lightly bitter (from rye) aftertaste. Low to moderate noble hop flavor acceptable, and can persist into aftertaste. No diacetyl.

Mouthfeel: Medium to medium-full body. High carbonation. Light tartness optional.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A dunkelweizen made with rye rather than wheat, but with a greater body and light finishing hops.

<u>History</u>: A specialty beer originally brewed in Regensburg, Bavaria as a more distinctive variant of a dunkelweizen using malted rye instead of malted wheat.

<u>Comments</u>: Rye is a huskless grain and is difficult to mash, often resulting in a gummy mash texture that is prone to sticking. Rye has been characterized as having the most assertive flavor of all cereal grains. It is inappropriate to add caraway seeds to a roggenbier (as some American brewers do); the rye character is traditionally from the rye grain only.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Malted rye typically constitutes 50% or greater of the grist (some versions have 60-65% rye). Remainder of grist can include pale malt, Munich malt, wheat malt, crystal malt and/or small amounts of debittered dark malts for color adjustment. Weizen yeast provides distinctive banana esters and clove phenols. Light usage of noble hops in bitterness, flavor and aroma. Lower fermentation temperatures accentuate the clove character by suppressing ester formation. Decoction mash commonly used (as with weizenbiers).

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.046 - 1.056	1.010 - 1.014	10 – 20	14 – 19	4.5 – 6.0%

Commercial Examples: Paulaner Roggen.

## Class No. 2: Lager and Pilsner.

#### Class No. 2: 2a. Australian Lager.

<u>Aroma</u>: Little to no malt aroma. Hop aroma may range from low to none and may be flowery. Slight fruity aromas from yeast and hop varieties used may exist. No diacetyl.

<u>Appearance</u>: Very pale straw to pale gold colour. White head. Carbonation medium to high. Clarity good to excellent.

<u>Flavor</u>: Crisp and dry flavor with some low levels of sweetness. Hop flavour may range from low to medium. Hop bitterness low to medium. Balance can vary from slightly malty to slightly bitter, but is usually close to even. No diacetyl. No fruitiness. Finish tending dry.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Low to low medium. Well carbonated. Slight carbonic bite on tongue is acceptable.

Overall Impression: Light, refreshing and thirst quenching.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.040 - 1.050	1.004 - 1.010	10 – 20	-	4.2 – 5.1%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Fosters Lager, Carlton Draught, XXXX, Tooheys New.

#### 2b. German Pilsner (Pils).

<u>Aroma</u>: Typically features a light grainy pils malt character (sometimes Graham cracker-like) and distinctive flowery or spicy noble hops. Clean, no fruity esters, no diacetyl. May have an initial sulfury aroma (from water and/or yeast) and a low background note of DMS (from pils malt).

<u>Appearance</u>: Straw to light gold, brilliant to very clear, with a creamy, long-lasting white head.

<u>Flavor</u>: Crisp and bitter, with a dry to medium-dry finish. Moderate to moderately-low yet well attenuated maltiness, although some grainy flavors and slight pils malt sweetness are acceptable. Hop bitterness dominates taste and continues through the finish and lingers into the aftertaste. Hop flavor can range from low to high but should only be derived from German noble hops. Clean, no fruity esters, no diacetyl.

Mouthfeel: Medium-light body, medium to high carbonation.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: Crisp, clean, refreshing beer that prominently features noble German hop bitterness accentuated by sulfates in the water.

History: A copy of Bohemian Pilsener adapted to brewing conditions in Germany.

<u>Comments</u>: Drier and crisper than a Bohemian Pilsener with a bitterness that tends to linger more in the aftertaste due to higher attenuation and higher-sulfate water. Lighter in body and color, and with higher carbonation than a Bohemian Pilsener. Modern examples of German pilsners tend to become paler in color, drier in finish, and more bitter as you move from South to North in Germany.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pilsner malt, German hop varieties (especially noble varieties such as Hallertauer, Tettnanger and Spalt for taste and aroma), medium sulfate water, German lager yeast.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.044 - 1.050	1.008 - 1.013	25 – 45	2 – 5	4.4 – 5.2%

Commercial Examples: Bitburger, Warsteiner, Trumer Pils, König Pilsener

#### 2c. Bohemian Pilsener

<u>Aroma</u>: Rich with complex malt and a spicy, floral Saaz hop bouquet. Some pleasant, restrained diacetyl is acceptable, but need not be present. Otherwise clean, with no fruity esters.

<u>Appearance</u>: Very pale gold to deep burnished gold, brilliant to very clear, with a dense, long-lasting, creamy white head.

<u>Flavor</u>: Rich, complex maltiness combined with a pronounced yet soft and rounded bitterness and spicy flavor from Saaz hops. Some diacetyl is acceptable, but need not be present. Bitterness is prominent but never harsh, and does not linger. The aftertaste is balanced between malt and hops. Clean, no fruity esters.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-bodied (although diacetyl, if present, may make it seem medium-full), medium carbonation.

Overall Impression: Crisp, complex and well-rounded, yet refreshing.

History: First brewed in 1842, this style was the original clear, light-colored beer.

<u>Comments</u>: Uses Moravian malted barley and a decoction mash for rich, malt character. Saaz hops and low sulfate, low carbonate water provide a distinctively soft, rounded hop profile. Traditional yeast sometimes can provide a background diacetyl note. Dextrins provide additional body, and diacetyl enhances the perception of a fuller palate.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Soft water with low mineral content, Saaz hops, Moravian malted barley, Czech lager yeast.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.044 - 1.056	1.013 - 1.017	35 – 45	3.5 - 6	4.2 – 5.4%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Pilsner Urquell, Budweiser Budvar (Czechvar in the US), Staropramen, Matilda Bay Bohemian Pilsner

#### 2d. Oktoberfest/Märzen.

<u>Aroma</u>: Rich German malt aroma (of Vienna and/or Munich malt). A light to moderate toasted malt aroma is often present. Clean lager aroma with no fruity esters or diacetyl. No hop aroma. Caramel aroma is inappropriate.

<u>Appearance</u>: Dark gold to deep orange-red color. Bright clarity, with solid, off-white, foam stand.

<u>Flavor</u>: Initial malty sweetness, but finish is moderately dry. Distinctive and complex maltiness often includes a toasted aspect. Hop bitterness is moderate, and noble hop flavor is low to none. Balance is toward malt, though the finish is not sweet. Noticeable caramel or roasted flavors are inappropriate. Clean lager character with no diacetyl or fruity esters.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium body, with a creamy texture and medium carbonation. Smooth. Fully fermented, without a cloying finish.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: Smooth, clean, and rather rich, with a depth of malt character. This is one of the classic malty styles, with a maltiness that is often described as soft, complex, and elegant but never cloying.

<u>History</u>: Origin is credited to Gabriel Sedlmayr, based on an adaptation of the Vienna style developed by Anton Dreher around 1840, shortly after lager yeast was first isolated. Typically brewed in the spring, signaling the end of the traditional brewing season and stored in cold caves or cellars during the warm summer months. Served in autumn amidst traditional celebrations.

<u>Comments</u>: Domestic German versions tend to be golden, like a strong pilsdominated Helles. Export German versions are typically orange-amber in color, and have a distinctive toasty malt character. German beer tax law limits the OG of the style at 14°P since it is a vollbier, although American versions can be stronger. "Fest" type beers are special occasion beers that are usually stronger than their everyday counterparts.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Grist varies, although German Vienna malt is often the backbone of the grain bill, with some Munich malt, Pils malt, and possibly some crystal malt. All malt should derive from the finest quality two-row barley. Continental hops, especially noble varieties, are most authentic. Somewhat alkaline water (up to 300 PPM), with significant carbonate content is welcome. A decoction mash can help develop the rich malt profile.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.050 - 1.057	1.012 - 1.016	20 – 28	7 – 14	4.8 – 5.7%

Commercial Examples: Paulaner Oktoberfest, Hofbräu Oktoberfest, Gosser Marzen

# Class No. 3: Pale Ale and Bitter.

#### 3a. Australian Pale Ale.

<u>Aroma</u>: Medium to high fruitiness from high primary fermentation temperature, supported by a light malt aroma. Hop aroma low to none. Distinctive fruity ester profile – especially pear. No diacetyl. No DMS.

<u>Appearance</u>: Gold to deep amber. Traditionally cloudy from chill haze and/or suspended yeast, but not dark and murky. Moderately high to high carbonation. Head retention reasonable to very good.

<u>Flavor</u>: Initial light, sweet, or bready malt flavor. Caramel malt flavors absent. Medium to high fruitiness. Even malt/hop balance. A mild but distinctive peppery, herbaceous flavour from Pride of Ringwood hops is desirable. (English or German hop character acceptable for historical versions). Medium to high bitterness, which should never be crude or harsh. Dry finish from high attenuation and sulphate water. Bitterness may linger, but should not completely overpower the malt flavor. The best examples will display a long dry finish with a balanced aftertaste. No diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Light to medium body from high attenuation. Suspended yeast and/or protein may give an impression of substance, but heaviness of body or syrupiness from residual dextrins should be penalized.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: Similarities to IPA, but more even malt/hop balance from absence of late or dry hopping. Always a fruity, full-flavored session beer, with a dry finish well suited to a hot climate, but open to some interpretation by brewers: historical versions may give an impression of wholesome sustenance - modern versions may be of a lighter, more refreshing nature.

<u>Comments</u>: An early Australian style which has evolved very little, but stood the test of time owing to its uniqueness and depth of character. The cloudy appearance, light bready flavour of Australian malt, distinctive yeast signature, and peppery character of Australian Pride of Ringwood hops, combine to produce a unique pale ale of substantial flavor and character. Bland examples, particularly those lacking fruitiness, should be penalized.

History: Brewed in Australia from the early 1800's by British immigrants to the new colony, as an alternative to the expensive imported Burton pale ale of the day. Distinctive in its use of local ingredients, and high temperature yeast strains, which generate a unique ester profile. In the hotter climate, these high attenuating, low flocculating strains may have evolved from powdery Burton yeasts through top-cropping over time. The style itself is not well documented, but fortunately an original example has survived in the form of Coopers Sparkling Ale. Founded in 1862 in Adelaide, the family owned Coopers Brewery is Australia's only surviving independent brewery from colonial times. Coopers have steadfastly resisted the trend to lager brewing – their distinctive ale yeast strain has been in continuous use for almost a century. As recently as the 1980's Coopers ales were still brewed in open fermenters of native jarrah wood, and matured in oak casks. Something of a misnomer, Coopers Sparkling Ale is traditionally cloudy. A lighter version, brewed since the late 1800's, was re-released in 1988 as Coopers Original Pale Ale. Both are unfiltered and bottle conditioned using the same yeast as the primary fermentation.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Lightly kilned Australian two-row malt, eg. Schooner, infusion mashed. Judicious use of crystal malt may add some colour. No adjuncts, cane sugar for bottle priming only. Originally a proportion of cane sugar was used to dilute excessive protein levels of early colonial malt. Early versions used English, German or locally grown hops - nowadays Pride of Ringwood, bred in Australia from English Pride of Kent in 1965, is used exclusively in Coopers beers. Coopers yeast, readily cultured from the bottle sediment. (Whitelabs WLP009 Australian Ale Yeast may be similar). Moderately carbonate water, high in sulphate. Note: Carbonate (alkaline) water may impair clarity, but excess levels can lead to astringency, or inappropriate coarseness in flavour and/or harsh bitterness in aftertaste.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.040 - 1.060	1.006 - 1.012	30 – 45	-	4.2 – 6.2%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Coopers Sparkling Ale, Coopers Original Pale Ale, Bridge Rd Brewers Australian Ale

### 3b. Standard/Ordinary Bitter.

<u>Aroma</u>: The best examples have some malt aroma, often (but not always) with a caramel quality. Mild to moderate fruitiness is common. Hop aroma can range from moderate to none (UK). Generally no diacetyl, although very low levels are allowed.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light yellow to light copper. Good to brilliant clarity. Low to moderate white to off-white head. May have very little head due to low carbonation.

<u>Flavor</u>: Medium to high bitterness. Most have moderately low to moderately high fruity esters. Moderate to low hop flavor (earthy, resiny, and/or floral UK varieties typically). Low to medium maltiness with a dry finish. Caramel flavors are common but not required. Balance is often decidedly bitter, although the bitterness should not completely overpower the malt flavor, esters and hop flavor. Generally no diacetyl, although very low levels are allowed.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Light to medium-light body. Carbonation low, although bottled and canned examples can have moderate carbonation.

Overall Impression: Low gravity, low alcohol levels and low carbonation make this an easy-drinking beer. Some examples can be more malt balanced, but this should not override the overall bitter impression. Drinkability is a critical component of the style; emphasis is still on the bittering hop addition as opposed to the aggressive middle and late hopping seen in American ales.

<u>History</u>: Originally a draught ale served very fresh under no pressure (gravity or hand pump only) at cellar temperatures (i.e., "real ale"). Bitter was created as a draught alternative (i.e., running beer) to country-brewed pale ale around the start of the 20th century and became widespread once brewers understood how to "Burtonize" their water to successfully brew pale beers and to use crystal malts to add a fullness and roundness of palate.

<u>Comments</u>: The lightest of the bitters. Also known as just "bitter." Some modern variants are brewed exclusively with pale malt and are known as golden or summer bitters. Most bottled or kegged versions of UK-produced bitters are higher-alcohol versions of their cask (draught) products produced specifically for export. This style guideline reflects the "real ale" version of the style, not the export formulations of commercial products.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale, amber, and/or crystal malts, may use a touch of black malt for color adjustment. May use sugar adjuncts, corn or wheat. English hops. Characterful English yeast. Often medium sulfate water is used.

OG	Fg	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.032 - 1.040	1.007 - 1.011	25 – 35	4 – 14	3.2 – 3.8%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Wells John Bull, Fuller's Chiswick Bitter, Adnams Bitter, Tetley's Original Bitter, Boddington's Pub Draught

#### 3c. Special/Best/Premium Bitter.

<u>Aroma</u>: The best examples have some malt aroma, often (but not always) with a caramel quality. Mild to moderate fruitiness. Hop aroma can range from moderate to none. Generally no diacetyl, although very low levels are allowed.

<u>Appearance</u>: Medium gold to medium copper. Good to brilliant clarity. Low to moderate white to off-white head. May have very little head due to low carbonation.

<u>Flavor</u>: Medium to high bitterness. Most have moderately low to moderately high fruity esters. Moderate to low hop flavor (earthy, resiny, and/or floral UK varieties typically). Low to medium maltiness with a dry finish. Caramel flavors are common but not required. Balance is often decidedly bitter, although the bitterness should not completely overpower the malt flavor, esters and hop flavor. Generally no diacetyl, although very low levels are allowed.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium body. Carbonation low, although bottled and canned commercial examples can have moderate carbonation.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A flavorful, yet refreshing, session beer. Some examples can be more malt balanced, but this should not override the overall bitter impression. Drinkability is a critical component of the style; emphasis is still on the bittering hop addition as opposed to the aggressive middle and late hopping seen in American ales.

<u>History</u>: Originally a draught ale served very fresh under no pressure (gravity or hand pump only) at cellar temperatures (i.e., "real ale"). Bitter was created as a draught alternative (i.e., running beer) to country-brewed pale ale around the start of the 20th century and became widespread once brewers understood how to "Burtonize" their water to successfully brew pale beers and to use crystal malts to add a fullness and roundness of palate.

<u>Comments</u>: More evident malt flavor than in an ordinary bitter, this is a stronger, session-strength ale. Some modern variants are brewed exclusively with pale malt and are known as golden or summer bitters. Most bottled or kegged versions of UK-produced bitters are higher-alcohol versions of their cask (draught) products produced specifically for export. This style guideline reflects the "real ale" version of the style, not the export formulations of commercial products.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale, amber, and/or crystal malts, may use a touch of black malt for color adjustment. May use sugar adjuncts, corn or wheat. English hops. Characterful English yeast. Often medium sulfate water is used.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.040 - 1.048	1.008 – 1.012	25 – 40	5 – 16	3.8 – 4.6%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Fuller's London Pride, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Greene King Ruddles County Bitter, Gage Roads London Best

#### 3d. Extra Special/Strong Bitter.

<u>Aroma</u>: Hop aroma moderately-high to moderately-low, and can use any variety of UK hops. Medium to medium-high malt aroma, often with a low to moderately strong caramel component (although this character will be more subtle in paler versions). Medium-low to medium-high fruity esters. Generally no diacetyl, although very low levels are allowed. May have light, secondary notes of sulfur and/or alcohol in some examples (optional).

<u>Appearance</u>: Golden to deep copper. Good to brilliant clarity. Low to moderate white to off-white head. A low head is acceptable when carbonation is also low.

Flavor: Medium-high to medium bitterness with supporting malt flavors evident. Normally has a moderately low to somewhat strong caramelly malt sweetness. Hop flavor moderate to moderately high. Hop bitterness and flavor should be noticeable, but should not totally dominate malt flavors. May have low levels of secondary malt flavors (e.g., nutty, biscuity) adding complexity. Moderately-low to high fruity esters. Optionally may have low amounts of alcohol, and up to a moderate minerally/sulfury flavor. Medium-dry to dry finish (particularly if sulfate water is used). Generally no diacetyl, although very low levels are allowed.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium-full body. Low to moderate carbonation, although bottled commercial versions will be higher. Stronger versions may have a slight alcohol warmth but this character should not be too high.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: An average-strength to moderately-strong English ale. The balance may be fairly even between malt and hops to somewhat bitter. Drinkability is a critical component of the style; emphasis is still on the bittering hop addition as opposed to the aggressive middle and late hopping seen in American ales. A rather broad style that allows for considerable interpretation by the brewer.

<u>History</u>: Strong bitters can be seen as higher-gravity versions of best bitters (although not necessarily "more premium" since best bitters are traditionally the brewer's finest product). Since beer is sold by strength in the UK, these beers often have some alcohol flavor (perhaps to let the consumer know they are getting their due).

<u>Comments</u>: More evident malt and hop flavors than in a special or best bitter. Stronger versions may overlap somewhat with old ales, although strong bitters will tend to be paler and more bitter. Fuller's ESB is a unique beer with a very large, complex malt profile not found in other examples; most strong bitters are fruitier and hoppier. Judges should not judge all beers in this style as if they were Fuller's ESB clones. Most bottled or kegged versions of UK-produced bitters are higher-alcohol versions of their cask (draught) products produced specifically for export.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale, amber, and/or crystal malts, may use a touch of black malt for color adjustment. May use sugar adjuncts, corn or wheat. English hops most typical, although American and European varieties are becoming more common (particularly in the paler examples). Characterful English yeast. "Burton" versions use medium to high sulfate water.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.048 - 1.060	1.010 - 1.016	30 – 50	6 – 18	4.6 – 6.2%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Fullers ESB, Adnams Broadside, Shepherd Neame Bishop's Finger, Shepherd Neame Spitfire, Morland Old Speckled Hen, Greene King Abbot Ale, Baron's ESB

# Class No. 4: American

#### Class No. 4: 4a. American Pale Ale.

<u>Aroma</u>: Usually moderate to strong hop aroma from dry hopping or late kettle additions of American hop varieties. A citrusy hop character is very common, but not required. Low to moderate maltiness supports the hop presentation, and may optionally show small amounts of specialty malt character (bready, toasty, biscuity). Fruity esters vary from moderate to none. No diacetyl. Dry hopping (if used) may add grassy notes, although this character should not be excessive.

<u>Appearance</u>: Pale golden to deep amber. Moderately large white to off-white head with good retention. Generally quite clear, although dry-hopped versions may be slightly hazy.

<u>Flavor</u>: Usually a moderate to high hop flavor, often showing a citrusy American hop character (although other hop varieties may be used). Low to moderately high clean malt character supports the hop presentation, and may optionally show small amounts of specialty malt character (bready, toasty, biscuity). The balance is typically towards the late hops and bitterness, but the malt presence can be substantial. Caramel flavors are usually restrained or absent. Fruity esters can be moderate to none. Moderate to high hop bitterness with a medium to dry finish. Hop flavor and bitterness often lingers into the finish. No diacetyl. Dry hopping (if used) may add grassy notes, although this character should not be excessive.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium body. Carbonation moderate to high. Overall smooth finish without astringency often associated with high hopping rates.

Overall Impression: Refreshing and hoppy, yet with sufficient supporting malt.

<u>History</u>: An American adaptation of English pale ale, reflecting indigenous ingredients (hops, malt, yeast, and water). Often lighter in color, cleaner in fermentation by-products, and having less caramel flavors than English counterparts.

<u>Comments</u>: There is some overlap in color between American pale ale and American amber ale. The American pale ale will generally be cleaner, have a less caramelly malt profile, less body, and often more finishing hops.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale malt, typically American two-row. American hops, often but not always ones with a citrusy character. American ale yeast. Water can vary in sulfate content, but carbonate content should be relatively low. Specialty grains may add character and complexity, but generally make up a relatively small portion of the grist. Grains that add malt flavor and richness, light sweetness, and toasty or bready notes are often used (along with late hops) to differentiate brands.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.045 - 1.060	1.010 - 1.015	30 – 45	5 – 14	4.5 – 6.2%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Little Creatures Pale Ale, Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, 3 Ravens 55, Bridge Road Beechworth Pale Ale

#### 4b. American Amber Ale.

Aroma: Low to moderate hop aroma from dry hopping or late kettle additions of American hop varieties. A citrusy hop character is common, but not required. Moderately low to moderately high maltiness balances and sometimes masks the hop presentation, and usually shows a moderate caramel character. Esters vary from moderate to none. No diacetyl.

<u>Appearance</u>: Amber to coppery brown. Moderately large off-white head with good retention. Generally quite clear, although dry-hopped versions may be slightly hazy.

<u>Flavor</u>: Moderate to high hop flavor from American hop varieties, which often but not always has a citrusy quality. Malt flavors are moderate to strong, and usually show an initial malty sweetness followed by a moderate caramel flavor (and sometimes other character malts in lesser amounts). Malt and hop bitterness are usually balanced and mutually supportive. Fruity esters can be moderate to none. Caramel sweetness and hop flavor/bitterness can linger somewhat into the medium to full finish. No diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium to medium-full body. Carbonation moderate to high. Overall smooth finish without astringency often associated with high hopping rates. Stronger versions may have a slight alcohol warmth.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: Like an American pale ale with more body, more caramel richness, and a balance more towards malt than hops (although hop rates can be significant).

<u>History</u>: Known simply as Red Ales in some regions, these beers were popularized in the hop-loving Northern California and the Pacific Northwest areas before spreading nationwide.

<u>Comments</u>: Can overlap in color with American pale ales. However, American amber ales differ from American pale ales not only by being usually darker in color, but also by having more caramel flavor, more body, and usually being balanced more evenly between malt and bitterness. Should not have a strong chocolate or roast character that might suggest an American brown ale (although small amounts are OK).

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale malt, typically American two-row. Medium to dark crystal malts. May also contain specialty grains which add additional character and uniqueness. American hops, often with citrusy flavors, are common but others may also be used. Water can vary in sulfate and carbonate content.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.045 - 1.060	1.010 - 1.015	25 – 40	10 – 17	4.5 - 6.2%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: North Coast Red Seal Ale, Tröegs HopBack Amber Ale, Deschutes Cinder Cone Red, Pyramid Broken Rake, St. Rogue Red Ale, Anderson Valley Boont Amber Ale, Lagunitas Censored Ale, Avery Redpoint Ale, McNeill's Firehouse Amber Ale, Mendocino Red Tail Ale, Bell's Amber

#### 4c. American Brown Ale.

Aroma: Malty, sweet and rich, which often has a chocolate, caramel, nutty and/or toasty quality. Hop aroma is typically low to moderate. Some interpretations of the style may feature a stronger hop aroma, a citrusy American hop character, and/or a fresh dry-hopped aroma (all are optional). Fruity esters are moderate to very low. The dark malt character is more robust than other brown ales, yet stops short of being overly porter-like. The malt and hops are generally balanced. Moderately low to no diacetyl.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light to very dark brown color. Clear. Low to moderate off-white to light tan head.

<u>Flavor</u>: Medium to high malty flavor (often with caramel, toasty and/or chocolate flavors), with medium to medium-high bitterness. The medium to medium-dry finish provides an aftertaste having both malt and hops. Hop flavor can be light to moderate, and may optionally have a citrusy character. Very low to moderate fruity esters. Moderately low to no diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium to medium-full body. More bitter versions may have a dry, resiny impression. Moderate to moderately high carbonation. Stronger versions may have some alcohol warmth in the finish.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: Can be considered a bigger, maltier, hoppier interpretation of Northern English brown ale or a hoppier, less malty Brown Porter, often including the citrus-accented hop presence that is characteristic of American hop varieties.

<u>History/Comments</u>: A strongly flavored, hoppy brown beer, originated by American home brewers. Related to American Pale and American Amber Ales, although with more of a caramel and chocolate character, which tends to balance the hop bitterness and finish. Most commercial American Browns are not as aggressive as the original homebrewed versions, and some modern craft brewed examples.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Well-modified pale malt, either American or Continental, plus crystal and darker malts should complete the malt bill. American hops are typical, but UK or noble hops can also be used. Moderate carbonate water would appropriately balance the dark malt acidity.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.045 - 1.060	1.010 - 1.016	20 – 40	18 – 35	4.3 – 6.2%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Bell's Best Brown, Smuttynose Old Brown Dog Ale, Big Sky Moose Drool Brown Ale, North Coast Acme Brown, Brooklyn Brown Ale

#### Class No. 5: 5a. Mild.

#### Dark Ales.

Aroma: Low to moderate malt aroma, and may have some fruitiness. The malt expression can take on a wide range of character, which can include caramelly, grainy, toasted, nutty, chocolate, or lightly roasted. Little to no hop aroma. Very low to no diacetyl.

Appearance: Copper to dark brown or mahogany color. A few paler examples (medium amber to light brown) exist. Generally clear, although is traditionally unfiltered. Low to moderate off-white to tan head. Retention may be poor due to low carbonation, adjunct use and low gravity.

Flavor: Generally a malty beer, although may have a very wide range of malt- and yeast-based flavors (e.g., malty, sweet, caramel, toffee, toast, nutty, chocolate, coffee, roast, vinous, fruit, licorice, molasses, plum, raisin). Can finish sweet or dry. Versions with darker malts may have a dry, roasted finish. Low to moderate bitterness, enough to provide some balance but not enough to overpower the malt. Fruity esters moderate to none. Diacetyl and hop flavor low to none.

Mouthfeel: Light to medium body, Generally low to medium-low carbonation, Roastbased versions may have a light astringency. Sweeter versions may seem to have a rather full mouthfeel for the gravity.

Overall Impression: A light-flavored, malt-accented beer that is readily suited to drinking in quantity. Refreshing, yet flavorful. Some versions may seem like lower gravity brown porters.

History: May have evolved as one of the elements of early porters. In modern terms, the name "mild" refers to the relative lack of hop bitterness (i.e., less hoppy than a pale ale, and not so strong). Originally, the "mildness" may have referred to the fact that this beer was young and did not yet have the moderate sourness that aged batches had. Somewhat rare in England, good versions may still be found in the Midlands around Birmingham.

Comments: Most are low-gravity session beers in the range 3.1-3.8%, although some versions may be made in the stronger (4%+) range for export, festivals, seasonal and/ or special occasions. Generally served on cask; session-strength bottled versions don't often travel well. A wide range of interpretations are possible.

Ingredients: Pale English base malts (often fairly dextrinous), crystal and darker malts should comprise the grist. May use sugar adjuncts. English hop varieties would be most suitable, though their character is muted. Characterful English ale yeast.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.030 - 1.038	1.008 - 1.013	10 – 25	12 – 25	2.8 – 4.5%

Commercial Examples: Moorhouse Black Cat, Gale's Festival Mild, Highgate Mild, Banks's Mild

#### 5b. Northern English Brown Ale.

Aroma: Light, sweet malt aroma with toffee, nutty and/or caramel notes. A light but appealing fresh hop aroma (UK varieties) may also be noticed. A light fruity ester aroma may be evident in these beers, but should not dominate. Very low to no diacetyl.

Appearance: Dark amber to reddish-brown color. Clear. Low to moderate off-white to light tan head.

<u>Flavor</u>: Gentle to moderate malt sweetness, with a nutty, lightly caramelly character and a medium-dry to dry finish. Malt may also have a toasted, biscuity, or toffee-like character. Medium to medium-low bitterness. Malt-hop balance is nearly even, with hop flavor low to none (UK varieties). Some fruity esters can be present; low diacetyl (especially butterscotch) is optional but acceptable.

Mouthfeel: Medium-light to medium body. Medium to medium-high carbonation.

Overall Impression: Drier and more hop-oriented that southern English brown ale, with a nutty character rather than caramel.

History/Comments: English brown ales are generally split into sub-styles along geographic lines.

<u>Ingredients</u>: English mild ale or pale ale malt base with caramel malts. May also have small amounts darker malts (e.g., chocolate) to provide color and the nutty character. English hop varieties are most authentic. Moderate carbonate water.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.040 - 1.052	1.008 - 1.013	20 – 30	12 – 22	4.2 – 5.4%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Newcastle Brown Ale, Samuel Smith's Nut Brown Ale, Rigqwelter Yorkshire Ale, Wychwood Hobgoblin

#### 5c. Australian Dark Ale.

<u>Aroma</u>: Mild malt aroma, with low to moderate fruitiness and toasty or light roasty notes. No to low hop aroma, caramel or diacetyl. Any yeasty notes or phenolics should be penalized, as should any excessive fruitiness or sweet caramel characters. Slight chocolate is acceptable. Clean aroma is essential.

<u>Appearance</u>: Mid-brown to dark brown, sometimes almost black and opaque. Low to medium carbonation. Excessive carbonation or flatness should be penalized.

<u>Flavor</u>: Mild maltiness with no hop flavor or diacetyl. Low to moderate fruitiness, light roastiness can be evident. Dry maltiness on the finish. Clean and quaffable. Low to medium carbonation. Any phenolics, diacetyl, yeasty flavours, astringency, harshness, or noticeable sweetness or alcohol, should be penalized.

Mouthfeel: Light to medium body. Low to medium carbonation.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A dry, mildly flavored session beer. Malt evident but evenly balanced by hop bitterness.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale and chocolate malt, clean bittering hop such as Pride of Ringwood.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.040 - 1.050	1.010 - 1.016	15 – 25	-	4.5 – 5.3%

Commercial Examples: Tooheys Old Ale, Kent Old Brown

#### 5d. Old Ale.

<u>Aroma</u>: Malty-sweet with fruity esters, often with a complex blend of dried-fruit, vinous, caramelly, molasses, nutty, toffee, treacle, and/or other specialty malt aromas. Some alcohol and oxidative notes are acceptable, akin to those found in Sherry or Port. Hop aromas not usually present due to extended aging.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light amber to very dark reddish-brown color (most are fairly dark). Age and oxidation may darken the beer further. May be almost opaque (if not, should be clear). Moderate to low cream- to light tan-colored head; may be adversely affected by alcohol and age.

Flavor: Medium to high malt character with a luscious malt complexity, often with nutty, caramelly and/or molasses-like flavors. Light chocolate or roasted malt flavors are optional, but should never be prominent. Balance is often malty-sweet, but may be well hopped (the impression of bitterness often depends on amount of aging). Moderate to high fruity esters are common, and may take on a dried-fruit or vinous character. The finish may vary from dry to somewhat sweet. Extended aging may contribute oxidative flavors similar to a fine old Sherry, Port or Madeira. Alcoholic strength should be evident, though not overwhelming. Diacetyl low to none. Some wood-aged or blended versions may have a lactic or Brettanomyces character; but this is optional and should not be too strong (enter as a specialty beer if it is).

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium to full, chewy body, although older examples may be lower in body due to continued attenuation during conditioning. Alcohol warmth is often evident and always welcome. Low to moderate carbonation, depending on age and conditioning.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: An ale of significant alcoholic strength, bigger than strong bitters and brown porters, though usually not as strong or rich as barleywine. Usually tilted toward a sweeter, maltier balance. "It should be a warming beer of the type that is best drunk in half pints by a warm fire on a cold winter's night" – Michael Jackson.

<u>History</u>: A traditional English ale style, mashed at higher temperatures than strong ales to reduce attenuation, then aged after primary fermentation (similar to the process used for historical porters). Often had age-related character (lactic, Brett, oxidation, leather) associated with "stale" beers. Used as stock ales for blending or enjoyed at full strength (stale or stock refers to beers aged or stored for a significant period of time). Winter warmers are a more modern style that are maltier, fuller-bodied, often darker beers that may be a brewery's winter seasonal special offering.

<u>Comments</u>: Strength and character varies widely. Fits in the style space between normal gravity beers (strong bitters, brown porters) and barleywines. Can include winter warmers, strong dark milds, strong (and perhaps darker) bitters, blended strong beers (stock ale blended with a mild or bitter), and lower gravity versions of English barleywines. Many English examples, particularly winter warmers, are lower than 6% ABV.

Ingredients: Generous quantities of well-modified pale malt (generally English in origin, though not necessarily so), along with judicious quantities of caramel malts and other specialty character malts. Some darker examples suggest that dark malts (e.g., chocolate, black malt) may be appropriate, though sparingly so as to avoid an overly roasted character. Adjuncts (such as molasses, treacle, invert sugar or dark sugar) are often used, as are starchy adjuncts (maize, flaked barley, wheat) and malt extracts. Hop variety is not as important, as the relative balance and aging process negate much of the varietal character. British ale yeast that has low attenuation, but can handle higher alcohol levels, is traditional.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.060 - 1.090	1.015 - 1.022	30 – 60	10 – 22	6.0 - 9.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Greene King Olde Suffolk Ale, Harviestoun Old Engine Oil, Fuller's Vintage Ale, Theakston Old Peculier (peculiar at OG 1.057), Fuller's 1845.

# Class No. 6: **Porter and Stout.**

#### 6a. Brown Porter.

<u>Aroma</u>: Malt aroma with mild roastiness should be evident, and may have a chocolaty quality. May also show some non-roasted malt character in support (caramelly, grainy, bready, nutty, toffee-like and/or sweet). English hop aroma moderate to none. Fruity esters moderate to none. Diacetyl low to none.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light brown to dark brown in color, often with ruby highlights when held up to light. Good clarity, although may approach being opaque. Moderate offwhite to light tan head with good to fair retention.

<u>Flavor</u>: Malt flavor includes a mild to moderate roastiness (frequently with a chocolate character) and often a significant caramel, nutty, and/or toffee character. May have other secondary flavors such as coffee, licorice, biscuits or toast in support. Should not have a significant black malt character (acrid, burnt, or harsh roasted flavors), although small amounts may contribute a bitter chocolate complexity. English hop flavor moderate to none. Medium-low to medium hop bitterness will vary the balance from slightly malty to slightly bitter. Usually fairly well attenuated, although somewhat sweet versions exist. Diacetyl should be moderately low to none. Moderate to low fruity esters.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium body. Moderately low to moderately high carbonation.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A fairly substantial English dark ale with restrained roasty characteristics.

<u>History</u>: Originating in England, porter evolved from a blend of beers or gyles known as "Entire." A precursor to stout. Said to have been favored by porters and other physical laborers.

<u>Comments</u>: Differs from a robust porter in that it usually has softer, sweeter and more caramelly flavors, lower gravities, and usually less alcohol. More substance and roast than a brown ale. Higher in gravity than a dark mild. Some versions are fermented with lager yeast. Balance tends toward malt more than hops. Usually has an "English" character.

Ingredients: English ingredients are most common. May contain several malts, including chocolate and/or other dark roasted malts and caramel-type malts. Historical versions use a significant amount of brown malt. Usually does not contain large amounts of black patent or roasted barley. English hops are most common, but are usually subdued. London or Dublin-type water (moderate carbonate hardness) is traditional. English or Irish ale yeast, or occasionally lager yeast, is used. May contain a moderate amount of adjuncts (sugars, maize, molasses, treacle, etc.).

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.040 - 1.052	1.008 - 1.014	18 – 35	20 – 30	4.0 – 5.4%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Fuller's London Porter, Hambleton Nightmare Porter, James Squire Porter.

#### 6b. Robust Porter.

<u>Aroma</u>: Roasty aroma (often with a lightly burnt, black malt character) should be noticeable and may be moderately strong. Optionally may also show some additional malt character in support (grainy, bready, toffee-like, caramelly, chocolate, coffee, rich, and/or sweet). Hop aroma low to high (US or UK varieties). Some American versions may be dry-hopped. Fruity esters are moderate to none. Diacetyl low to none.

<u>Appearance</u>: Medium brown to very dark brown, often with ruby- or garnet-like highlights. Can approach black in color. Clarity may be difficult to discern in such a dark beer, but when not opaque will be clear (particularly when held up to the light). Full, tan-colored head with moderately good head retention.

<u>Flavor</u>: Moderately strong malt flavor usually features a lightly burnt, black malt character (and sometimes chocolate and/or coffee flavors) with a bit of roasty dryness in the finish. Overall flavor may finish from dry to medium-sweet, depending on grist composition, hop bittering level, and attenuation. May have a sharp character from dark roasted grains, although should not be overly acrid, burnt or harsh. Medium to high bitterness, which can be accentuated by the roasted malt. Hop flavor can vary from low to moderately high (US or UK varieties, typically), and balances the roasted malt flavors. Diacetyl low to none. Fruity esters moderate to none.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium to medium-full body. Moderately low to moderately high carbonation. Stronger versions may have a slight alcohol warmth. May have a slight astringency from roasted grains, although this character should not be strong.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A substantial, malty dark ale with a complex and flavorful roasty character.

<u>History</u>: Stronger, hoppier and/or roastier version of porter designed as either a historical throwback or an American interpretation of the style. Traditional versions will have a more subtle hop character (often English), while modern versions may be considerably more aggressive. Both types are equally valid.

<u>Comments</u>: Although a rather broad style open to brewer interpretation, it may be distinguished from Stout as lacking a strong roasted barley character. It differs from a brown porter in that a black patent or roasted grain character is usually present, and it can be stronger in alcohol. Roast intensity and malt flavors can also vary significantly. May or may not have a strong hop character, and may or may not have significant fermentation by-products; thus may seem to have an "American" or "English" character.

<u>Ingredients</u>: May contain several malts, prominently dark roasted malts and grains, which often include black patent malt (chocolate malt and/or roasted barley may also be used in some versions). Hops are used for bittering, flavor and/or aroma, and are frequently UK or US varieties. Water with moderate to high carbonate hardness is typical. Ale yeast can either be clean US versions or characterful English varieties.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.048 - 1.065	1.012 - 1.016	25 – 50	22 – 35	4.8 – 6.5%

Commercial Examples: Meantime London Porter, Rogue Mocha Porter

### 6c. Dry Stout.

<u>Aroma</u>: Coffee-like roasted barley and roasted malt aromas are prominent; may have slight chocolate, cocoa and/or grainy secondary notes. Esters medium-low to none. No diacetyl. Hop aroma low to none.

<u>Appearance</u>: Jet black to deep brown with garnet highlights in color. Can be opaque (if not, it should be clear). A thick, creamy, long-lasting, tan- to brown-colored head is characteristic.

<u>Flavor</u>: Moderate roasted, grainy sharpness, optionally with light to moderate acidic sourness, and medium to high hop bitterness. Dry, coffee-like finish from roasted grains. May have a bittersweet or unsweetened chocolate character in the palate, lasting into the finish. Balancing factors may include some creaminess, medium-low to no fruitiness, and medium to no hop flavor. No diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium-full body, with a creamy character. Low to moderate carbonation. For the high hop bitterness and significant proportion of dark grains present, this beer is remarkably smooth. The perception of body can be affected by the overall gravity with smaller beers being lighter in body. May have a light astringency from the roasted grains, although harshness is undesirable.

Overall Impression: A very dark, roasty, bitter, creamy ale.

<u>History</u>: The style evolved from attempts to capitalize on the success of London porters, but originally reflected a fuller, creamier, more "stout" body and strength. When a brewery offered a stout and a porter, the stout was always the stronger beer (it was originally called a "Stout Porter"). Modern versions are brewed from a lower OG and no longer reflect a higher strength than porters.

<u>Comments</u>: This is the draught version of what is otherwise known as Irish stout or Irish dry stout. Bottled versions are typically brewed from a significantly higher OG and may be designated as foreign extra stouts (if sufficiently strong). While most commercial versions rely primarily on roasted barley as the dark grain, others use chocolate malt, black malt or combinations of the three. The level of bitterness is somewhat variable, as is the roasted character and the dryness of the finish; allow for interpretation by brewers.

<u>Ingredients</u>: The dryness comes from the use of roasted unmalted barley in addition to pale malt, moderate to high hop bitterness, and good attenuation. Flaked unmalted barley may be used to add creaminess. A small percentage (e.g. 3%) of soured beer is sometimes added for complexity (generally by Guinness only). Water typically has moderate carbonate hardness – high levels will not give the classic dry finish.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.036 - 1.050	1.007 - 1.011	30 – 45	25 – 40	4.0 – 5.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Guinness Draught Stout (also canned), Murphy's Stout, Orkney Dragonhead Stout, Northern Rivers Stout

#### 6d. Foreign Extra Stout.

<u>Aroma</u>: Roasted grain aromas moderate to high, and can have coffee, chocolate and/ or lightly burnt notes. Fruitiness medium to high. Some versions may have a sweet aroma, or molasses, licorice, dried fruit, and/or vinous aromatics. Stronger versions can have the aroma of alcohol (never sharp, hot, or solventy). Hop aroma low to none. Diacetyl low to none.

<u>Appearance</u>: Very deep brown to black in color. Clarity usually obscured by deep color (if not opaque, should be clear). Large tan to brown head with good retention.

<u>Flavor</u>: Tropical versions can be quite sweet without much roast or bitterness, while export versions can be moderately dry (reflecting impression of a scaled-up version of either sweet stout or dry stout). Roasted grain and malt character can be moderate to high, although sharpness of dry stout will not be present in any example. Tropical versions can have high fruity esters, smooth dark grain flavors, and restrained bitterness; they often have a sweet, rum-like quality. Export versions tend to have lower esters, more assertive roast flavors, and higher bitterness. The roasted flavors of either version may taste of coffee, chocolate, or lightly burnt grain. Little to no hop flavor. Very low to no diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-full to full body, often with a smooth, creamy character. May give a warming (but never hot) impression from alcohol presence. Moderate to moderately-high carbonation.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A very dark, moderately strong, roasty ale. Tropical varieties can be quite sweet, while export versions can be drier and fairly robust.

<u>History</u>: Originally high-gravity stouts brewed for tropical markets (and hence, sometimes known as "Tropical Stouts"). Some bottled export (i.e., stronger) versions of dry or sweet stout also fit this profile. Guinness Foreign Extra Stout has been made since the early 1800s.

<u>Comments</u>: A rather broad class of stouts, these can be either fruity and sweet, dry and bitter. Think of the style as either a scaled-up dry and/or sweet stout, or a scaled-down Imperial stout without the late hops.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Similar to dry or sweet stout, but with more gravity. Pale and dark roasted malts and grains. Hops mostly for bitterness. May use adjuncts and sugar to boost gravity. Ale yeast (although some tropical stouts are brewed with lager yeast).

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.056 - 1.075	1.010 - 1.018	30 – 70	30 – 40	5.5 - 8.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Tropical-Type: Lion Stout (Sri Lanka), Export-Type: Guinness Foreign Extra Stout (bottled), Coopers Best Extra Stout, Sheaf Stout

# Class No. 7: **Strong Ale.**

### Class No. 7: 7a. Russian Imperial Stout.

Aroma: Rich and complex, with variable amounts of roasted grains, maltiness, fruity esters, hops, and alcohol. The roasted malt character can take on coffee, dark chocolate, or slightly burnt tones and can be light to moderately strong. The malt aroma can be subtle to rich and barleywine-like, depending on the gravity and grain bill. May optionally show a slight specialty malt character (e.g., caramel), but this should only add complexity and not dominate. Fruity esters may be low to moderately strong, and may take on a complex, dark fruit (e.g., plums, prunes, raisins) character. Hop aroma can be very low to quite aggressive, and may contain any hop variety. An alcohol character may be present, but shouldn't be sharp, hot or solventy. Aged versions may have a slight vinous or port-like quality, but shouldn't be sour. No diacetyl. The balance can vary with any of the aroma elements taking center stage. Not all possible aromas described need be present; many interpretations are possible. Aging affects the intensity, balance and smoothness of aromatics.

<u>Appearance</u>: Color may range from very dark reddish-brown to jet black. Opaque. Deep tan to dark brown head. Generally has a well-formed head, although head retention may be low to moderate. High alcohol and viscosity may be visible in "legs" when beer is swirled in a glass.

Flavor: Rich, deep, complex and frequently quite intense, with variable amounts of roasted malt/grains, maltiness, fruity esters, hop bitterness and flavor, and alcohol. Medium to aggressively high bitterness. Medium-low to high hop flavor (any variety). Moderate to aggressively high roasted malt/grain flavors can suggest bittersweet or unsweetened chocolate, cocoa, and/or strong coffee. A slightly burnt grain, burnt currant or tarry character may be evident. Fruity esters may be low to intense, and can take on a dark fruit character (raisins, plums, or prunes). Malt backbone can be balanced and supportive to rich and barleywine-like, and may optionally show some supporting caramel, bready or toasty flavors. Alcohol strength should be evident, but not hot, sharp, or solventy. No diacetyl. The palate and finish can vary from relatively dry to moderately sweet, usually with some lingering roastiness, hop bitterness and warming character. The balance and intensity of flavors can be affected by aging, with some flavors becoming more subdued over time and some aged, vinous or port-like qualities developing.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Full to very full-bodied and chewy, with a velvety, luscious texture (although the body may decline with long conditioning). Gentle smooth warmth from alcohol should be present and noticeable. Should not be syrupy and underattenuated. Carbonation may be low to moderate, depending on age and conditioning.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: An intensely flavored, big, dark ale. Roasty, fruity, and bittersweet, with a noticeable alcohol presence. Dark fruit flavors meld with roasty, burnt, or almost tar-like sensations. Like a black barleywine with every dimension of flavor coming into play.

<u>History</u>: Brewed to high gravity and hopping level in England for export to the Baltic States and Russia. Said to be popular with the Russian Imperial Court. Today is even more popular with American craft brewers, who have extended the style with unique American characteristics.

<u>Comments</u>: Variations exist, with English and American interpretations (predictably, the American versions have more bitterness, roasted character, and finishing hops, while the English varieties reflect a more complex specialty malt character and a more forward ester profile). The wide range of allowable characteristics allow for maximum brewer creativity.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Well-modified pale malt, with generous quantities of roasted malts and/ or grain. May have a complex grain bill using virtually any variety of malt. Any type of hops may be used. Alkaline water balances the abundance of acidic roasted grain in the grist. American or English ale yeast.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.075 – 1.115	1.018 - 1.030	50 – 90	30 – 40	8.0 – 12.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: *MT Brewing Katya*, *Samuel Smith Imperial Stout*, *Great Divide Yeti*, *Rogue Imperial Stout*.

#### 7b. English India Pale Ale (IPA).

<u>Aroma</u>: A moderate to moderately high hop aroma of floral, earthy or fruity nature is typical, although the intensity of hop character is usually lower than American

versions. A slightly grassy dry-hop aroma is acceptable, but not required. A moderate caramel-like or toasty malt presence is common. Low to moderate fruitiness, either from esters or hops, can be present. Some versions may have a sulfury note, although this character is not mandatory.

<u>Appearance</u>: Color ranges from golden amber to light copper, but most are pale to medium amber with an orange-ish tint. Should be clear, although unfiltered dryhopped versions may be a bit hazy. Good head stand with off-white color should persist.

Flavor: Hop flavor is medium to high, with a moderate to assertive hop bitterness. The hop flavor should be similar to the aroma (floral, earthy, fruity, and/or slightly grassy). Malt flavor should be medium-low to medium-high, but should be noticeable, pleasant, and support the hop aspect. The malt should show an English character and be somewhat bready, biscuit-like, toasty, toffee-like and/or caramelly. Despite the substantial hop character typical of these beers, sufficient malt flavor, body and complexity to support the hops will provide the best balance. Very low levels of diacetyl are acceptable, and fruitiness from the fermentation or hops adds to the overall complexity. Finish is medium to dry, and bitterness may linger into the aftertaste but should not be harsh. If high sulfate water is used, a distinctively minerally, dry finish, some sulfur flavor, and a lingering bitterness are usually present. Some clean alcohol flavor can be noted in stronger versions. Oak is inappropriate in this style.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Smooth, medium-light to medium-bodied mouthfeel without hop-derived astringency, although moderate to medium-high carbonation can combine to render an overall dry sensation in the presence of malt sweetness. Some smooth alcohol warming can and should be sensed in stronger (but not all) versions.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A hoppy, moderately strong pale ale that features characteristics consistent with the use of English malt, hops and yeast. Has less hop character and a more pronounced malt flavor than American versions.

<u>History</u>: Brewed to survive the voyage from England to India. The temperature extremes and rolling of the seas resulted in a highly attenuated beer upon arrival. English pale ales were derived from India Pale Ales.

<u>Comments</u>: A pale ale brewed to an increased gravity and hop rate. Modern versions of English IPAs are generally pale in comparison (pun intended) to their ancestors. The term "IPA" is loosely applied in commercial English beers today, and has been (incorrectly) used in beers below 4% ABV. Generally will have more finish hops and less fruitiness and/or caramel than English pale ales and bitters. Fresher versions will obviously have a more significant finishing hop character.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale malt (well-modified and suitable for single-temperature infusion mashing); English hops; English yeast that can give a fruity or sulfury/minerally profile. Refined sugar may be used in some versions. High sulfate and low carbonate water is essential to achieving a pleasant hop bitterness in authentic Burton versions, although not all examples will exhibit the strong sulfate character.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.050 - 1.075	1.010 - 1.018	40 – 60	8 – 14	5.0 – 7.5%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Meantime India Pale Ale, Worthington White Shield, Gage Roads IPA.

#### 7c. Imperial IPA.

<u>Aroma</u>: A prominent to intense hop aroma that can be derived from American, English and/or noble varieties (although a citrusy hop character is almost always present). Most versions are dry hopped and can have an additional resinous or grassy aroma, although this is not absolutely required. Some clean malty sweetness may be found in the background. Fruitiness, either from esters or hops, may also be detected in some versions, although a neutral fermentation character is typical. Some alcohol can usually be noted, but it should not have a "hot" character.

<u>Appearance</u>: Color ranges from golden amber to medium reddish copper; some versions can have an orange-ish tint. Should be clear, although unfiltered dry-hopped versions may be a bit hazy. Good head stand with off-white color should persist.

<u>Flavor</u>: Hop flavor is strong and complex, and can reflect the use of American, English and/or noble hop varieties. High to absurdly high hop bitterness, although the malt backbone will generally support the strong hop character and provide the

best balance. Malt flavor should be low to medium, and is generally clean and malty although some caramel or toasty flavors are acceptable at low levels. No diacetyl. Low fruitiness is acceptable but not required. A long, lingering bitterness is usually present in the aftertaste but should not be harsh. Medium-dry to dry finish. A clean, smooth alcohol flavor is usually present. Oak is inappropriate in this style. May be slightly sulfury, but most examples do not exhibit this character.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Smooth, medium-light to medium body. No harsh hop-derived astringency, although moderate to medium-high carbonation can combine to render an overall dry sensation in the presence of malt sweetness. Smooth alcohol warming.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: An intensely hoppy, very strong pale ale without the big maltiness and/or deeper malt flavors of an American barleywine. Strongly hopped, but clean, lacking harshness, and a tribute to historical IPAs. Drinkability is an important characteristic; this should not be a heavy, sipping beer. It should also not have much residual sweetness or a heavy character grain profile.

<u>History</u>: A recent American innovation reflecting the trend of American craft brewers "pushing the envelope" to satisfy the need of hop aficionados for increasingly intense products. The adjective "Imperial" is arbitrary and simply implies a stronger version of an IPA; "double," "extra," "extreme," or any other variety of adjectives would be equally valid.

<u>Comments</u>: Bigger than either an English or American IPA in both alcohol strength and overall hop level (bittering and finish). Less malty, lower body, less rich and a greater overall hop intensity than an American Barleywine. Typically not as high in gravity/alcohol as a barleywine, since high alcohol and malt tend to limit drinkability. A showcase for hops.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Pale ale malt (well-modified and suitable for single-temperature infusion mashing); can use a complex variety of hops (English, American, noble). American yeast that can give a clean or slightly fruity profile. Generally all-malt, but mashed at lower temperatures for high attenuation. Water character varies from soft to moderately sulfate.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.070 - 1.090	1.010 - 1.020	60 – 120	8 – 15	7.5 – 10.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Murray's Icon 2IPA, Russian River Pliny the Elder, Stone Ruination IPA, Rogue I2PA.

### 7d. English Barleywine.

Aroma: Very rich and strongly malty, often with a caramel-like aroma. May have moderate to strong fruitiness, often with a dried-fruit character. English hop aroma may range from mild to assertive. Alcohol aromatics may be low to moderate, but never harsh, hot or solventy. The intensity of these aromatics often subsides with age. The aroma may have a rich character including bready, toasty, toffee, molasses, and/or treacle notes. Aged versions may have a sherry-like quality, possibly vinous or port-like aromatics, and generally more muted malt aromas. Low to no diacetyl.

Appearance: Color may range from rich gold to very dark amber or even dark brown. Often has ruby highlights, but should not be opaque. Low to moderate off-white head; may have low head retention. May be cloudy with chill haze at cooler temperatures, but generally clears to good to brilliant clarity as it warms. The color may appear to have great depth, as if viewed through a thick glass lens. High alcohol and viscosity may be visible in "legs" when beer is swirled in a glass.

<u>Flavor</u>: Strong, intense, complex, multi-layered malt flavors ranging from bready and biscuity through nutty, deep toast, dark caramel, toffee, and/or molasses. Moderate to high malty sweetness on the palate, although the finish may be moderately sweet to moderately dry (depending on aging). Some oxidative or vinous flavors may be present, and often complex alcohol flavors should be evident. Alcohol flavors shouldn't be harsh, hot or solventy. Moderate to fairly high fruitiness, often with a dried-fruit character. Hop bitterness may range from just enough for balance to a firm presence; balance therefore ranges from malty to somewhat bitter. Low to moderately high hop flavor (usually UK varieties). Low to no diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Full-bodied and chewy, with a velvety, luscious texture (although the body may decline with long conditioning). A smooth warmth from aged alcohol should be present, and should not be hot or harsh. Carbonation may be low to moderate, depending on age and conditioning.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: The richest and strongest of the English Ales. A showcase of malty richness and complex, intense flavors. The character of these ales can change significantly over time; both young and old versions should be appreciated for what they are. The malt profile can vary widely; not all examples will have all possible flavors or aromas.

<u>History</u>: Usually the strongest ale offered by a brewery, and in recent years many commercial examples are now vintage-dated. Normally aged significantly prior to release. Often associated with the winter or holiday season.

<u>Comments</u>: Although often a hoppy beer, the English Barleywine places less emphasis on hop character than the American Barleywine and features English hops. English versions can be darker, maltier, fruitier, and feature richer specialty malt flavors than American Barleywines.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Well-modified pale malt should form the backbone of the grist, with judicious amounts of caramel malts. Dark malts should be used with great restraint, if at all, as most of the color arises from a lengthy boil. English hops such as Northdown, Target, East Kent Goldings and Fuggles. Characterful English yeast.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.080 - 1.120	1.018 - 1.030	35 – 70	8 – 22	8.0 – 12.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Thomas Hardy's Ale, Burton Bridge Thomas Sykes Old Ale, J.W. Lee's Vintage Harvest Ale, Fuller's Golden Pride, Young's Old Nick (unusual in its 7.2% ABV), Murray's Anniversary Ale

# Class No. 8: Belgian Ale.

#### 8a. Belgian Blond Ale.

<u>Aroma</u>: Light earthy or spicy hop nose, along with a lightly sweet pils malt character. Shows a subtle yeast character that may include spicy phenolics, perfumy or honey-like alcohol, or yeasty, fruity esters (commonly orange-like or lemony). Light sweetness that may have a slightly sugar-like character. Subtle yet complex.

<u>Appearance</u>: Light to deep gold color. Generally very clear. Large, dense, and creamy white to off-white head. Good head retention with Belgian lace.

<u>Flavor</u>: Smooth, light to moderate pils malt sweetness initially, but finishes mediumdry to dry with some smooth alcohol becoming evident in the aftertaste. Medium hop and alcohol bitterness to balance. Light hop flavor, can be spicy or earthy. Very soft yeast character (esters and alcohols, which are sometimes perfumy or orange/lemonlike). Light spicy phenolics optional. Some lightly caramelized sugar or honey-like sweetness on palate.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-high to high carbonation, can give mouth-filling bubbly sensation. Medium body. Light to moderate alcohol warmth, but smooth. Can be somewhat creamy.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: A moderate-strength golden ale that has a subtle Belgian complexity, slightly sweet flavor, and dry finish.

<u>History</u>: Relatively recent development to further appeal to European Pils drinkers, becoming more popular as it is widely marketed and distributed.

<u>Comments</u>: Similar strength as a dubbel, similar character as a Belgian Strong Golden Ale or Tripel, although a bit sweeter and not as bitter. Often has an almost lager-like character, which gives it a cleaner profile in comparison to the other styles. Belgians use the term "Blond," while the French spell it "Blonde." Most commercial examples are in the 6.5 – 7% ABV range. Many Trappist table beers (singles or Enkels) are called "Blond" but these are not representative of this style.

<u>Ingredients</u>: Belgian pils malt, aromatic malts, sugar, Belgian yeast strains that produce complex alcohol, phenolics and perfumy esters, noble, Styrian Goldings or East Kent Goldings hops. No spices are traditionally used, although the ingredients and fermentation by-products may give an impression of spicing (often reminiscent of oranges or lemons).

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.062 - 1.075	1.008 - 1.018	15 – 30	4 – 7	6.0 – 7.5%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Leffe Blond, Affligem Blond, La Trappe (Koningshoeven) Blond, Grimbergen Blond

#### 8b. Belgian Dubbel.

Aroma: Complex, rich malty sweetness; malt may have hints of chocolate, caramel and/or toast (but never roasted or burnt aromas). Moderate fruity esters (usually including raisins and plums, sometimes also dried cherries). Esters sometimes include banana or apple. Spicy phenols and higher alcohols are common (may include light clove and spice, peppery, rose-like and/or perfumy notes). Spicy qualities can be moderate to very low. Alcohol, if present, is soft and never hot or solventy. A small number of examples may include a low noble hop aroma, but hops are usually absent. No diacetyl.

<u>Appearance</u>: Dark amber to copper in color, with an attractive reddish depth of color. Generally clear. Large, dense, and long-lasting creamy off-white head.

<u>Flavor</u>: Similar qualities as aroma. Rich, complex medium to medium-full malty sweetness on the palate yet finishes moderately dry. Complex malt, ester, alcohol and phenol interplay (raisiny flavors are common; dried fruit flavors are welcome; clovelike spiciness is optional). Balance is always toward the malt. Medium-low bitterness that doesn't persist into the finish. Low noble hop flavor is optional and not usually present. No diacetyl. Should not be as malty as a bock and should not have crystal malt-type sweetness. No spices.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-full body. Medium-high carbonation, which can influence the perception of body. Low alcohol warmth. Smooth, never hot or solventy.

Overall Impression: A deep reddish, moderately strong, malty, complex Belgian ale.

<u>History</u>: Originated at monasteries in the Middle Ages, and was revived in the mid-1800s after the Napoleonic era.

<u>Comments</u>: Most commercial examples are in the 6.5 - 7% ABV range. Traditionally bottle-conditioned ("referemented in the bottle").

Ingredients: Belgian yeast strains prone to production of higher alcohols, esters, and phenolics are commonly used. Water can be soft to hard. Impression of complex grain bill, although traditional versions are typically Belgian pils malt with caramelized sugar syrup or other unrefined sugars providing much of the character. Homebrewers may use Belgian pils or pale base malt, Munich-type malts for maltiness, Special B for raisin flavors, CaraVienne or CaraMunich for dried fruit flavors, other specialty grains for character. Dark caramelized sugar syrup or sugars for color and rum-raisin flavors. Noble-type, English-type or Styrian Goldings hops commonly used. No spices are traditionally used, although restrained use is allowable.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.062 - 1.075	1.008 - 1.018	15 – 25	10 – 17	6.0 - 7.6%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Westmalle Dubbel, La Trappe Dubbel, Grimbergen Double, Chimay Premiere (Red)

### 8c. Belgian Tripel.

Aroma: Complex with moderate to significant spiciness, moderate fruity esters and low alcohol and hop aromas. Generous spicy, peppery, sometimes clove-like phenols. Esters are often reminiscent of citrus fruits such as oranges, but may sometimes have a slight banana character. A low yet distinctive spicy, floral, sometimes perfumy hop character is usually found. Alcohols are soft, spicy and low in intensity. No hot alcohol or solventy aromas. The malt character is light. No diacetyl.

<u>Appearance</u>: Deep yellow to deep gold. Good clarity. Effervescent. Long-lasting, creamy, rocky, white head resulting in "Belgian lace" on the glass as it fades.

<u>Flavor</u>: Marriage of spicy, fruity and alcohol flavors supported by a soft malt character. Low to moderate phenols are peppery in character. Esters are reminiscent of citrus fruit such as orange or sometimes lemon. A low to moderate spicy hop character is usually found. Alcohols are soft, spicy, often a bit sweet and low in intensity. Bitterness is typically medium to high from a combination of hop bitterness and yeast-produced phenolics. Substantial carbonation and bitterness lends a dry finish with a moderately bitter aftertaste. No diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium body, although lighter than the substantial gravity would suggest (thanks to sugar and high carbonation). High alcohol content adds a pleasant creaminess but little to no obvious warming sensation. No hot alcohol or solventy character. Always effervescent. Never astringent.

<u>Overall Impression</u>: Strongly resembles a Strong Golden Ale, but slightly darker and somewhat fuller-bodied. Usually more rounded malt flavor but should not be sweet.

History: Originally popularized by the Trappist monastery at Westmalle.

<u>Comments</u>: High in alcohol but does not taste strongly of alcohol. The best examples are sneaky, not obvious. High carbonation and attenuation helps to bring out the many flavors and to increase the perception of a dry finish. Most Trappist versions have at least 30 IBUs and are very dry. Traditionally bottle-conditioned.

<u>Ingredients</u>: The light color and relatively light body for a beer of this strength are the result of using pilsner malt and up to 20% white sugar. Noble hops or Styrian Goldings are commonly used. Belgian yeast strains are used – those that produce fruity esters, spicy phenolics and higher alcohols – often aided by slightly warmer fermentation temperatures. Spice additions are generally not traditional, and if used, should not be recognizable as such. Fairly soft water.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.075 - 1.085	1.008 - 1.014	20 – 40	4.5 – 7	7.5 - 9.5%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Westmalle Tripel, Chimay Cinq Cents (White), La Trappe Tripel, Unibroue La Fin du Monde, Murray's Grand Cru

#### 8d. Witbier.

Aroma: Moderate sweetness (often with light notes of honey and/or vanilla) with light, grainy, spicy wheat aromatics, often with a bit of tartness. Moderate perfumy coriander, often with a complex herbal, spicy, or peppery note in the background. Moderate zesty, citrusy orangey fruitiness. A low spicy-herbal hop aroma is optional, but should never overpower the other characteristics. No diacetyl. Vegetal, celery-like, or ham-like aromas are inappropriate. Spices should blend in with fruity, floral and sweet aromas and should not be overly strong.

<u>Appearance</u>: Very pale straw to very light gold in color. The beer will be very cloudy from starch haze and/or yeast, which gives it a milky, whitish-yellow appearance. Dense, white, moussy head. Head retention should be quite good.

<u>Flavor</u>: Pleasant sweetness (often with a honey and/or vanilla character) and a zesty, orange-citrusy fruitiness. Refreshingly crisp with a dry, often tart, finish. Can have a low wheat flavor. Optionally has a very light lactic-tasting sourness. Herbal-spicy flavors, which may include coriander and other spices, are common should be subtle and balanced, not overpowering. A spicy-earthy hop flavor is low to none, and if noticeable, never gets in the way of the spices. Hop bitterness is low to medium-low (as with a Hefeweizen), and doesn't interfere with refreshing flavors of fruit and spice, nor does it persist into the finish. Bitterness from orange pith should not be present. Vegetal, celery-like, ham-like, or soapy flavors are inappropriate. No diacetyl.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium-light to medium body, often having a smoothness and light creaminess from unmalted wheat and the occasional oats. Despite body and creaminess, finishes dry and often a bit tart. Effervescent character from high carbonation. Refreshing, from carbonation, light acidity, and lack of bitterness in finish. No harshness or astringency from orange pith. Should not be overly dry and thin, nor should it be thick and heavy.

Overall Impression: A refreshing, elegant, tasty, moderate-strength wheat-based ale.

<u>History</u>: A 400-year-old beer style that died out in the 1950s; it was later revived by Pierre Celis at Hoegaarden, and has grown steadily in popularity over time.

<u>Comments</u>: The presence, character and degree of spicing and lactic sourness varies. Overly spiced and/or sour beers are not good examples of the style. Coriander of certain origins might give an inappropriate ham or celery character. The beer tends to be fragile and does not age well, so younger, fresher, properly handled examples are most desirable. Most examples seem to be approximately 5% ABV.

<u>Ingredients</u>: About 50% unmalted wheat (traditionally soft white winter wheat) and 50% pale barley malt (usually pils malt) constitute the grist. In some versions, up to 5-10% raw oats may be used. Spices of freshly-ground coriander and Curaçao or sometimes sweet orange peel complement the sweet aroma and are quite characteristic. Other spices (e.g., chamomile, cumin, cinnamon, Grains of Paradise) may be used for complexity but are much less prominent. Ale yeast prone to the production of mild, spicy flavors is very characteristic. In some instances a very limited lactic fermentation, or the actual addition of lactic acid, is done.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.044 - 1.052	1.008 - 1.012	10 – 20	2 – 4	4.5 – 5.5%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Hoegaarden Wit, Unibroue Blanche de Chambly, Feral White. La Trappe (Koningshoeven) Wit.

# Class No. 9: Specialty Beer.

#### 9a. Fruit Beer.

Aroma: The distinctive aromatics associated with the particular fruit(s) should be noticeable in the aroma; however, note that some fruit (e.g., raspberries, cherries) have stronger aromas and are more distinctive than others (e.g., blueberries, strawberries)—allow for a range of fruit character and intensity from subtle to aggressive. The fruit character should be pleasant and supportive, not artificial and inappropriately overpowering (considering the character of the fruit) nor should it have defects such as oxidation. As with all specialty beers, a proper fruit beer should be a harmonious balance of the featured fruit(s) with the underlying beer style. Aroma hops, yeast by-products and malt components of the underlying beer may not be as noticeable when fruit are present. These components (especially hops) may also be intentionally subdued to allow the fruit character to come through in the final presentation. If the base beer is an ale then a non-specific fruitiness and/or other fermentation by-products such as diacetyl may be present as appropriate for warmer fermentations. If the base beer is a lager, then overall less fermentation byproducts would be appropriate. Some malt aroma may be desirable, especially in dark styles. Hop aroma may be absent or balanced with fruit, depending on the style. The fruit should add an extra complexity to the beer, but not be so prominent as to unbalance the resulting presentation. Some tartness may be present if naturally occurring in the particular fruit(s), but should not be inappropriately intense.

<u>Appearance</u>: Appearance should be appropriate to the base beer being presented and will vary depending on the base beer. For lighter-colored beers with fruits that exhibit distinctive colors, the color should be noticeable. Note that the color of fruit in beer is often lighter than the flesh of the fruit itself and may take on slightly different shades. Fruit beers may have some haze or be clear, although haze is a generally undesirable. The head may take on some of the color of the fruit.

Flavor: As with aroma, the distinctive flavor character associated with the particular fruit(s) should be noticeable, and may range in intensity from subtle to aggressive. The balance of fruit with the underlying beer is vital, and the fruit character should not be so artificial and/or inappropriately overpowering as to suggest a fruit juice drink. Hop bitterness, flavor, malt flavors, alcohol content, and fermentation byproducts, such as esters or diacetyl, should be appropriate to the base beer and be harmonious and balanced with the distinctive fruit flavors present. Note that these components (especially hops) may be intentionally subdued to allow the fruit character to come through in the final presentation. Some tartness may be present if naturally occurring in the particular fruit(s), but should not be inappropriately intense. Remember that fruit generally add flavor not sweetness to fruit beers. The sugar found in fruit is usually fully fermented and contributes to lighter flavors and a drier finish than might be expected for the declared base style. However, residual sweetness is not necessarily a negative characteristic unless it has a raw, unfermented quality.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Mouthfeel may vary depending on the base beer selected and as appropriate to that base beer. Body and carbonation levels should be appropriate to the base beer style being presented. Fruit generally adds fermentables that tend to thin out the beer; the resulting beer may seem lighter than expected for the declared base style.

Overall Impression: A harmonious marriage of fruit and beer. The key attributes of the underlying style will be different with the addition of fruit; do not expect the base beer to taste the same as the unadulterated version. Judge the beer based on the pleasantness and balance of the resulting combination.

Comments: Overall balance is the key to presenting a well-made fruit beer. The fruit should complement the original style and not overwhelm it. The brewer should recognize that some combinations of base beer styles and fruits work well together while others do not make for harmonious combinations. THE ENTRANT MUST SPECIFY THE UNDERLYING BEER STYLE AS WELL AS THE TYPE OF FRUIT(S) USED. IF THIS BEER IS BASED ON A CLASSIC STYLE (E.G., BLONDE ALE) THEN THE SPECIFIC STYLE MUST BE SPECIFIED. CLASSIC STYLES DO NOT HAVE TO BE CITED (E.G., "PORTER" OR "WHEAT ALE" IS ACCEPTABLE). THE TYPE OF FRUIT(S) MUST ALWAYS BE SPECIFIED. If

the base beer is a classic style, the original style should come through in aroma and flavor. Aged fruit may sometimes have flavor and aroma characteristics similar to Sauternes, Sherry or Tokaj, but a beer with a quality such as this should make a special claim (e.g., amontillado, fino, botrytis). Beer with chile peppers should be entered in the Spice/Herb/Vegetable Beer category (21A).

OG, FG, IBUs, SRM and ABV will vary depending on the underlying base beer, but the fruit will often be reflected in the color.

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Meantime Rasberry Grand Cru, Jamieson's Rasberry Ale, James Squire Mad Brewer's Rasberry Wheat, Red Oak Blackberry Hefeweizen

#### 9b. Spice, Herb, or Vegetable Beer.

Aroma: The character of the particular spices, herbs and/or vegetables (SHV) should be noticeable in the aroma; however, note that some SHV (e.g., ginger, cinnamon) have stronger aromas and are more distinctive than others (e.g., some vegetables)allow for a range of SHV character and intensity from subtle to aggressive. The individual character of the SHV(s) may not always be identifiable when used in combination. The SHV character should be pleasant and supportive, not artificial and overpowering. As with all specialty beers, a proper SHV beer should be a harmonious balance of the featured SHV(s) with the underlying beer style. Aroma hops, yeast by-products and malt components of the underlying beer may not be as noticeable when SHV are present. These components (especially hops) may also be intentionally subdued to allow the SHV character to come through in the final presentation. If the base beer is an ale then a non-specific fruitiness and/or other fermentation by-products such as diacetyl may be present as appropriate for warmer fermentations. If the base beer is a lager, then overall less fermentation byproducts would be appropriate. Some malt aroma is preferable, especially in dark styles. Hop aroma may be absent or balanced with SHV, depending on the style. The SHV(s) should add an extra complexity to the beer, but not be so prominent as to unbalance the resulting presentation.

Appearance: Appearance should be appropriate to the base beer being presented and will vary depending on the base beer. For lighter-colored beers with spices, herbs or vegetables that exhibit distinctive colors, the colors may be noticeable in the beer and possibly the head. May have some haze or be clear. Head formation may be adversely affected by some ingredients, such as chocolate.

<u>Flavor</u>: As with aroma, the distinctive flavor character associated with the particular SHV(s) should be noticeable, and may range in intensity from subtle to aggressive. The individual character of the SHV(s) may not always be identifiable when used in combination. The balance of SHV with the underlying beer is vital, and the SHV character should not be so artificial and/or overpowering as to overwhelm the beer. Hop bitterness, flavor, malt flavors, alcohol content, and fermentation by-products, such as esters or diacetyl, should be appropriate to the base beer and be harmonious and balanced with the distinctive SHV flavors present. Note that these components (especially hops) may be intentionally subdued to allow the SHV character to come through in the final presentation. Some SHV(s) are inherently bitter and may result in a beer more bitter than the declared base style.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Mouthfeel may vary depending on the base beer selected and as appropriate to that base beer. Body and carbonation levels should be appropriate to the base beer style being presented. Some SHV(s) may add additional body and/or slickness, although fermentable additions may thin out the beer. Some SHV(s) may add a bit of astringency, although a "raw" spice character is undesirable.

Overall Impression: A harmonious marriage of spices, herbs and/or vegetables and beer. The key attributes of the underlying style will be different with the addition of spices, herbs and/or vegetables; do not expect the base beer to taste the same as the unadulterated version. Judge the beer based on the pleasantness and balance of the resulting combination.

Comments: Overall balance is the key to presenting a well-made spice, herb or vegetable (SHV) beer. The SHV(s) should complement the original style and not overwhelm it. The brewer should recognize that some combinations of base beer styles and SHV(s) work well together while others do not make for harmonious combinations. THE ENTRANT MUST SPECIFY THE UNDERLYING BEER STYLE AS WELL AS THE TYPE OF SPICES, HERBS, OR VEGETABLES USED. IF THIS BEER IS BASED ON A CLASSIC STYLE (E.G., BLONDE ALE) THEN THE SPECIFIC STYLE MUST BE SPECIFIED. CLASSIC STYLES DO NOT HAVE TO BE CITED (E.G., "PORTER" OR "WHEAT ALE" IS

ACCEPTABLE). THE TYPE OF SPICES, HERBS, OR VEGETABLES MUST ALWAYS BE SPECIFIED. If the base beer is a classic style, the original style should come through in aroma and flavor. The individual character of SHV(s) may not always be identifiable when used in combination. This category may also be used for chile pepper, coffee-, chocolate-, or nut-based beers (including combinations of these items).

OG, FG, IBUs, SRM and ABV will vary depending on the underlying base beer.

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: RedOak Christmas Cheer, Rogue Chipotle Ale, Young's Double Chocolate Stout, Rogue Chocolate Stout

#### 9c. Classic Rauchbier.

<u>Aroma</u>: Blend of smoke and malt, with a varying balance and intensity. The beechwood smoke character can range from subtle to fairly strong, and can seem smoky, bacon-like, woody, or rarely almost greasy. The malt character can be low to moderate, and be somewhat sweet, toasty, or malty. The malt and smoke components are often inversely proportional (i.e., when smoke increases, malt decreases, and vice versa). Hop aroma may be very low to none. Clean, lager character with no fruity esters, diacetyl or DMS.

<u>Appearance</u>: This should be a very clear beer, with a large, creamy, rich, tan- to cream-colored head. Medium amber/light copper to dark brown color.

<u>Flavor</u>: Generally follows the aroma profile, with a blend of smoke and malt in varying balance and intensity, yet always complementary. Märzen-like qualities should be noticeable, particularly a malty, toasty richness, but the beechwood smoke flavor can be low to high. The palate can be somewhat malty and sweet, yet the finish can reflect both malt and smoke. Moderate, balanced, hop bitterness, with a medium-dry to dry finish (the smoke character enhances the dryness of the finish). Noble hop flavor moderate to none. Clean lager character with no fruity esters, diacetyl or DMS. Harsh, bitter, burnt, charred, rubbery, sulfury or phenolic smoky characteristics are inappropriate.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Medium body. Medium to medium-high carbonation. Smooth lager character. Significant astringent, phenolic harshness is inappropriate.

Overall Impression: Märzen/Oktoberfest-style beer with a sweet, smoky aroma and flavor and a somewhat darker color.

<u>History</u>: A historical specialty of the city of Bamberg, in the Franconian region of Bavaria in Germany. Beechwood-smoked malt is used to make a Märzen-style amber lager. The smoke character of the malt varies by maltster; some breweries produce their own smoked malt (rauchmalz).

<u>Comments</u>: The intensity of smoke character can vary widely; not all examples are highly smoked. Allow for variation in the style when judging.

<u>Ingredients</u>: German Rauchmalz (beechwood-smoked Vienna-type malt) typically makes up 20-100% of the grain bill, with the remainder being German malts typically used in a Märzen. Some breweries adjust the color slightly with a bit of roasted malt. German lager yeast. German or Czech hops.

OG	FG	IBUs	SRM	ABV
1.050 - 1.057	1.012 - 1.016	20 – 30	12 – 22	4.8 - 6.0%

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Schlenkerla Rauchbier Märzen, Sunshine Coast RauchBier, Red Oak Rauch

## 9d. Wood-Aged Beer.

Aroma: Varies with base style. A low to moderate wood- or oak-based aroma is usually present. Fresh wood can occasionally impart raw "green" aromatics, although this character should never be too strong. Other optional aromatics include a low to moderate vanilla, caramel, toffee, toast, or cocoa character, as well as any aromatics associated with alcohol previously stored in the wood (if any). Any alcohol character should be smooth and balanced, not hot. Some background oxidation character is optional, and can take on a pleasant, sherry-like character and not be papery or cardboard-like.

<u>Appearance</u>: Varies with base style. Often darker than the unadulterated base beer style, particularly if toasted/charred oak and/or whiskey/bourbon barrels are used.

<u>Flavor</u>: Varies with base style. Wood usually contributes a woody or oaky flavor, which can occasionally take on a raw "green" flavor if new wood is used. Other flavors that may optionally be present include vanilla (from vanillin in the wood); caramel, butterscotch, toasted bread or almonds (from toasted wood); coffee, chocolate, cocoa (from charred wood or bourbon casks); and alcohol flavors from other products previously stored in the wood (if any). The wood and/or other cask-derived flavors should be balanced, supportive and noticeable, but should not overpower the base beer style. Occasionally there may be an optional lactic or acetic tartness or Brett funkiness in the beer, but this should not be higher than a background flavor (if present at all). Some background oxidation character is optional, although this should take on a pleasant, sherry-like character and not be papery or cardboard-like.

<u>Mouthfeel</u>: Varies with base style. Often fuller than the unadulterated base beer, and may exhibit additional alcohol warming if wood has previously been in contact with other alcoholic products. Higher alcohol levels should not result in "hot" beers; aged, smooth flavors are most desirable. Wood can also add tannins to the beer, depending on age of the cask. The tannins can lead to additional astringency (which should never be high), or simply a fuller mouthfeel. Tart or acidic characteristics should be low to none.

Overall Impression: A harmonious blend of the base beer style with characteristics from aging in contact with wood (including any alcoholic products previously in contact with the wood). The best examples will be smooth, flavorful, well-balanced and well-aged. Beers made using either limited wood aging or products that only provide a subtle background character may be entered in the base beer style categories as long as the wood character isn't prominently featured.

<u>History</u>: A traditional production method that is rarely used by major breweries, and usually only with specialty products. Becoming more popular with modern American craft breweries looking for new, distinctive products. Oak cask and barrels are traditional, although other woods can be used.

Comments: The base beer style should be apparent. The wood-based character should be evident, but not so dominant as to unbalance the beer. The intensity of the woodbased flavors is based on the contact time with the wood; the age, condition, and previous usage of the barrel; and the type of wood. Any additional alcoholic products previously stored in the wood should be evident (if declared as part of the entry), but should not be so dominant as to unbalance the beer. IF THIS BEER IS BASED ON A CLASSIC STYLE (E.G., ROBUST PORTER) THEN THE SPECIFIC STYLE MUST BE SPECIFIED. CLASSIC STYLES DO NOT HAVE TO BE CITED (E.G., "PORTER" OR "BROWN ALE" IS ACCEPTABLE). THE TYPE OF WOOD MUST BE SPECIFIED IF A "VARIETAL" CHARACTER IS NOTICEABLE. (e.g., English IPA with Oak Chips, Bourbon Barrel-aged Imperial Stout, American Barleywine in an Oak Whiskey Cask). The brewer should specify any unusual ingredients in either the base style or the wood if those characteristics are noticeable. Specialty or experimental base beer styles may be specified, as long as the other specialty ingredients are identified. THIS CATEGORY SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR BASE STYLES WHERE BARREL-AGING IS A FUNDAMENTAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE STYLE (e.g., Flanders Red, Lambic, etc.).

<u>Ingredients</u>: Varies with base style. Aged in wooden casks or barrels (often previously used to store whiskey, bourbon, port, sherry, Madeira, or wine), or using wood-based additives (wood chips, wood staves, oak essence). Fuller-bodied, higher-gravity base styles often are used since they can best stand up to the additional flavors, although experimentation is encouraged.

OG and FG vary with base style. IBUs and ABV: vary with base style, though typically above-average. SRM varies with base style, often darker than the unadulterated base style.

<u>Commercial Examples</u>: Moo Brew Oak Aged Imperial Stout, Great Divide Oak Aged Yeti Imperial Stout, Harviestoun Old Engine Oil Special Reserve, many microbreweries have specialty beers served only on premises often directly from the cask.

# **JUDGING**

- **1.** Entries will be judged chilled.
- **2.** Beers obviously entered out of class will be disqualified.
- **3.** If the number of entries in a Class is less than five (5), the awarding of prizes will be at the discretion of the Executive.
- **4.** Judges will award each entry a score out of 50 points, in accordance with BJCP judging guidelines.
- 5. All entries will be judged and comments either attached to or noted on entry forms, which will be returned to Entrants.
- **6.** Officiating Judges, Stewards, Scorers and the Arbitrator (Chief Steward) shall be the only persons present during the judging.
- **7.** No person shall judge any class wherein a member of his or her household has entered a beer.
- **8.** The decision of the Judges and Arbitrator (Chief Steward) are final and no discussion or correspondence will be entered into.

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# **AWARDS**

- 1 Certificates shall be awarded to the First, Second and Third place-getters in each class. Highly Commended Certificates shall be awarded for those entries earning a Gold, Silver or Bronze Medal Award but not being a First, Second or Third place-getter.
- 2 A Gold Medal shall be awarded to any beer scoring 45 points or more, a Silver Medal shall be awarded to any beer scoring 40 points or more but less than 45 points, and a Bronze Medal shall be awarded to any beer scoring 35 points or more but less than 40 points.
- **3** A trophy shall be awarded to each First place-getter subject to the decision of the Executive under Judging note 3.
- 4 Trophies:-

Replica trophies shall be awarded with the perpetual trophies for :-

Champion Novice Beer Champion Beer Champion Stoutmaker Champion Lager Champion Beermaker Champion Kit Beer

**5** Perpetual trophies :-

**Champion Novice Beer** - The Bill Hundertmark Memorial Trophy shall be awarded to

the entrant of the highest-scoring beer produced by an entrant who has never received a placing or a Gold, Silver or Bronze award in any previous annual BABB, Queensland State or

National competition.

**Champion Beer** - Shall be awarded for the best beer of the competition, as

decided in a best-of-show judging round.

**Champion Stoutmaker -** The Arthur Anderson Memorial Trophy shall be awarded to

the Entrant gaining the highest aggregate score in Class 6 (Porter and Stout) over two different subclasses. In the event of a tie the entrant with the highest scoring beer shall be declared

the winner.

**Champion Lager** - The Norman King Memorial Trophy shall be awarded to the

Entrant making the highest-scoring beer in Class 2 (Lager and

Pilsner).

**Champion Beermaker -** The Brewmaster's Trophy shall be awarded to the Entrant

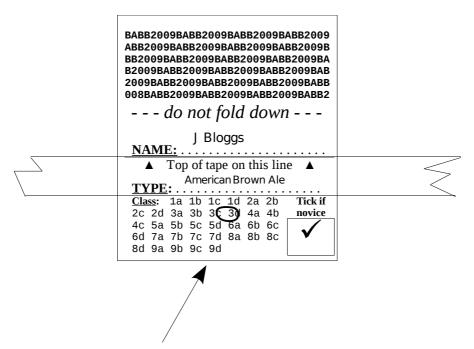
gaining the highest total place points for their four highest placing beers over four different classes – where beers are awarded three place points for a First Place, two points for a Second Place and one point for a Third Place. In the case of a tie, the winner shall be decided on total aggregate scores of each entrant's four highest placing beers over four different

classes.

**Champion Kit Beer** - Shall be awarded to the Entrant gaining the highest score for a

kit-based beer made with a hopped extract kit and any combination of extracts, sugars, steeped specialty grains or

partial mash.



Circle the class and sub-class as appropriate. See Rule 12.

Wrap 30cm of clear tape completely around the bottle.

#### **NOTES on PRESENTATION**

- **1.** Bottles and crown seals must conform to competition rules.
- 2. Bottles must be clean and polished, and free from scratches and flaws.
- **3.** Ensure correct air space in bottles.
- **4.** Position labels midway between seams of bottle with lower edge approximately 5cm above base of bottle. (*Hint: a standard matchbox is 5cm long.*)
- **5.** If using branded bottles, apply label on opposite side to brand.
- **6.** Attach labels as per above diagram.
- 7. Please do NOT fold the labels down.
- **8.** The reverse side of the label must be blank.
- **9.** Labels should not be attached to damp bottles doing so may cause the ink on the label to run and be visible through the label.

# RULES and CONDITIONS of ENTRY

- The competition will be judged according to the following conditions and the fact of entry implies acceptance of these conditions.
- 2. Entries must be the product of **the person(s) entering**, each of whom **must be a financial member of BABBs.** Persons may enter jointly or individually.
- **3.** Entries are restricted to a maximum of two per person per class and a maximum of six entries per person for the entire competition. Joint entries count toward the limit for each person, but will have points tallied separately.
- **4.** A particular batch of beer may only be entered once in the entire competition.
- **5.** For safety during judging, all bottles must be degassed (chilled, opened and recapped) a few days before entry.
- **6.** 750ml brown beer bottles (glass or PET plastic) or 500ml European-style bottles (glass only) are to be used. The bottles must be clean and free from chips, scratches, and/or flaws. Clear plastic PET bottles are not acceptable.
- **7.** Each bottle must be sealed with a new, clean, unbranded, gold coloured crown seal of good quality (if a glass bottle) or with an unbranded clean white or black plastic cap of good quality (if a PET bottle).
- **8.** There shall be no identifying marks on the bottle, the crown seal or plastic cap, or the reverse side of the label.
- **9.** The air space measured from the top of the bottle shall be between 50mm and 70mm.
- **10.** An entry form is provided to simplify administration and assist entrants. Each form, duly completed and signed, must accompany the entries to which it relates, and all entries must appear on the form.
- **11.** Special labels supplied by the Club are mandatory for acceptance of entries. The labels are to be attached to the bottles, using clear adhesive tape, and are to be set about 50mm up from the base of the bottle (see attached diagram.). Do NOT fold the label down.
- **12.** Labels shall have printed thereon the Entrant's Name; "N" for novice if applicable, Type of Beer, and Class Number and Sub Class (eg. 2a for Australian Lager, 6c for Dry Stout) are to be noted on the label as per attached example. If more than one bottle is entered in a Class, the entries shall be marked **A** and **B** if there are no other identifiers.
- **13.** A **Novice** entrant is one who has never received a placing or a Gold, Silver or Bronze award in any previous annual BABB, Queensland State or National competition.
- **14.** Details on the entry form should correspond to those on the label. The Stewards allocate the "Entry Number" randomly.
- **15.** Entries will be accepted at the following times:
  - Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009, between noon and 5pm: Deliver to Adrian Levi, 28 Springwood Road, Underwood.
  - Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009: July BABB's Meeting.
  - Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> July 2009, before 5pm: Deliver to Adrian Levi, 28 Springwood Road, Underwood.
- **16.** The executive determines the **Entry Fee**. (2009 **\$3 per bottle**)
- **17.** Every care will be taken of Entries, but no responsibility for loss or damage will be accepted.
- **18.** Serious infringement of these Rules and Conditions may subject the Entrant for disqualification from the competition and suspension from future BABB's competitions.
- **19.** Only beers marked with "K" for Kit beer in the appropriate column of the entry form shall be eligible to compete for the Champion Kit Beer trophy.

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# BRISBANE AMATEUR BEER BREWERS 2009 COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

2009 CO	MPETITION ENTRY	FORM					
					 ' <b>N</b> " if Novi		
All entries	must be de-gassed (chilled, oper	ned and recapped	before they	are submitted.	{Do not v	vrite or mark	in these columns }
CLASS	CLASS TITLE	SUB	"K" if	DESCRIPTION	<b>ENTRY</b>	<b>AWARD</b>	JUDGES
No.		CLASS	kit.		No.	(if any)	COMMENTS
1	Wheat and Rye Beer						
1	Wheat and Rye Beer						
2	Lager and Pilsner						
2	Lager and Pilsner						
3	Pale Ale and Bitter						
3	Pale Ale and Bitter						
4	American Ale						
4	American Ale						
5	Dark Ale						
5	Dark Ale						
6	Porter and Stout						
6	Porter and Stout						
7	Strong Ale						
7	Strong Ale						
8	Belgian Ale						
8	Belgian Ale						
9	Specialty Beer						
9	Specialty Beer						

I (We) hereby confirm my (our) acceptance of and compliance with the **Rules and Conditions of Entry** for the Competition as specified in the Schedule and in particular acknowledge that responsibility for the entries herewith remains mine (ours).

Signed:	•••••	
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NAME: .....