

Appendix C – East Kingdom Brewers’ Guild Standard Competition

Setting Up A Competition

To run a competition, you will need competitors with beverages, scoresheets (next page), and probably a calculator. Beverages are entered in categories and judged one at a time in any order you choose.

Categories: All entries must be placed in one of the categories defined by the East Kingdom Brewers’ Guild. Note this on the scoresheet.

Minimum Documentation: All entries must include an ingredients list at a minimum. No allergic reactions during competition please! Entries must also be identified in some way to permit scoring.

Judges: **Everyone who enters the competition also judges the competition.** This includes their own entry! Judges may use any evaluation method they choose; a suggested method is supplied, but you are not required to use it.

Regardless of the evaluation method used, each judge shall be **fair** and **self-consistent** in the way they apply their method.

How to Run: Judge each beverage separately and openly. There is no closed judging. Everyone, including the competitor, can discuss the entry all they want, sort of like a roundtable but with numbers at the end. **Everyone** scores the beverage and records their numbers on their own scoresheet. ~5 minutes per beverage oughta do.

Scores and Winners: Once all beverages have been judged, the scores for each beverage are averaged. The highest score in each category wins the category, and the highest overall score is the overall winner!

Evaluating a Beverage

These are some things to consider for each characteristic to be judged.

Documentation (20 pts): original recipe, redaction, bibliography, brewing notes, historical notes, readability, structure

Presentation (10 pts): type of vessel, closure, air space, label, other accoutrements (serving vessels etc)

Appearance (15 pts): color, clarity, head retention, particulate, flaws

Aroma (15 pts): aromatic characteristics [i.e. malt, hops, etc], relative strength of aroma, flaws

Flavor (15 pts): taste balance, after taste, individual ingredient expression, flaws

Body (10 pts): “legs,” mouthfeel, thinness or fullness, carbonation if appropriate, flaws

Overall impression (15 pts): Drinkability, palatability, overall success

Suggested Method of Assigning a Score

Each characteristic has a “weight” assigned to it, from 1 – 6. This indicates the relative importance of that factor in the competition. To assign a score, rate and record your reaction to that element on a scale of 0 – 5 as indicated below:

- 0 – Bad**
- 1 – Mediocre**
- 2 – Alright**
- 3 – Good**
- 4 – Excellent**
- 5 – Outstanding**

These are left intentionally vague, to guide you in thinking about your assessment of each element. Keep it centered on **your personal reaction** to that quality of the beverage. The final score of an element is equal to its weight multiplied by your reaction score. Simple and straightforward!

Judging Documentation

Documentation is probably the trickiest thing to judge. What constitutes “good?” Everyone has a different opinion!

If you are running the competition, publish some guidance about what you expect from documentation. What things should people try to explain? How much detail do you want?

No matter who you are, documentation should try to answer the basic questions (Who, What, etc) and give enough information about your process that readers can figure out what you’re doing and what it’s about.

In general, documentation for an EKBG competition should be no more than 1 page long. If you’re doing more research than that, you should submit your item to a Panel, because you’ll get much more in-depth feedback there.

Documentation need not be entirely written. Verbal documentation can count, but it might count for less.

Changing it Up

If you’re running a competition, you can deviate from the standard model and still have it “count” – talk to the Guildmaster and go over what you want to do.

The Recommended Method gives you an easy way to mix up a competition. Change the weights assigned to various categories, and you emphasize different things! You can even make up new categories – as long as you have 20 total “points” of weight across your categories, it’ll work!

Element (Weight)	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:	Category: Entry:
Documentation (4)	/20	/20	/20	/20	/20	/20	/20	/20	/20	/20
Presentation (2)	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10
Appearance (3)	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15
Aroma (3)	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15
Flavor (3)	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15
Body (2)	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10	/10
Overall Impression (3)	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15	/15
Total										

Judge Name: _____

Event: _____