

**Goal:** Guild members advance within the requirements of the guild both under “knowledge requirements” and “craft.”

**Problem** – We do not currently have an infrastructure that ensures that guild members are meeting the knowledge requirements of our craft.

**Proposal** – Brewers wishing to advance to the next level in the guild secure a “sponsor” prior to being advanced in the guild.

Additional information:

- Sponsors must be members of the EKBG and be of equal or higher ranking than the rank that the candidate will become upon completion of the panel criteria. (ex. Journeyman paneling to become a Craftsmen must have a sponsor that is Craftsmen or above.)
- Sponsors can change from level to level. (The sponsor/candidate agreement can be extended past the first advancement or end such that a new sponsor could be chosen.)  
*Guildmistress’ note: there are big advantages to both scenarios. Sometimes change may be a requirement, for example, if the sponsor is no longer at a higher level than the candidate.*
- Candidates should secure their own sponsors whenever possible.
- Candidates should notify the Guildmaster of their choice of sponsor.
- Candidates who are unable to secure a sponsor should first go to their Regional Guild Warden for assistance. If a sponsor can not be secured with the help of the RGW, the candidate should communicate with the Guildmaster regarding the need for a sponsor.

The sponsor’s responsibilities would include:

1. Conversations with the candidate prior to the final panel session that may lead to advancement. Conversations should include the content of “required knowledge” such that the sponsor is confident that the candidate has control over those knowledge requirements. This should also involve information regarding the candidate’s record keeping system (brewing journal)
2. Making a formal recommendation (in writing) to the Guildmaster of the EKBG that this candidate is ready for advancement upon completing the necessary panel requirements.

**Rationale** – We need a way to ensure that our guild members are advancing in their brewing and historical knowledge that will not require additional time during panels (which are already time consuming) and is easy to manage and track. Sponsors would help the Guildmaster by providing this service, add a level of networking that could be very healthy for the group, and place the responsibility for the conveyance of the knowledge requirements upon the candidate.