

# Lunar Rendezbrew 29 Judging Guide

Prepared by: John Black, Head Judge



Dear BJCP Judges,



Thank you for interest in judging at Lunar Rendezbrew 29. Our volunteers are giving their absolute best efforts to put on an out of this world competition for the homebrewers that entered. We have 15 states represented from across the country. Let's make our region proud by providing some outstanding quality feedback on their entries.



## About Us

The Bay Area Mashtonauts are one of the largest homebrew clubs in the Greater Houston Area. Our membership reach spans from Baytown to El Campo to Galveston, Tx. Established in 1994, our club has hosted many years of homebrew competitions, produced a number of professional brewers, and continues to throw the best darn homebrew festival in town! The club's focus is on three primary areas: Education, Socialization, and Competition, and Lunar Rendezbrew is one way the club supports these functions.

## Judging Expectations

### Ethics

- All judging must be fair. We want to ensure all entries are judged in a fair and honest competition. In order to be a judge at Lunar Rendezbrew, you must agree to adhere to the following rules to preserve the integrity of our blind judging process:
  - Do not disclose the categories you are judging before the flight is complete and scoresheets are submitted.
  - Do not publish any information or photos that would identify an entry as there may still be Mini Best Of Show and Best Of Show to be completed.
  - If you find any conflict including the possible knowledge of who submitted a particular beer in your flight, please notify the Head Judge immediately for potential flight reassignment.

- If any participant tries to sway your opinion of how you will judge any beer, whether it is theirs or someone else, please report this activity to the Head Judge immediately. The incident will be evaluated for potential disqualification of that participant.
- If there is any suspicion about the integrity or ethics of a judge, we reserve the right to remove that judge and not assign any future flights at the discretion of the Head Judge.
- Please be respectful to all other judges and staff, and remember to be a great representative of our homebrew community. Our competition has zero tolerance for harassment of any kind.

## Expectations

- All judges whether BJCP certified or not are expected to provide good feedback on each beer. Brewers are paying for their entries and providing little to no feedback about what you are tasting is not fair to the brewer and reflects poorly on the competition.
- Ensure all administrative information is filled out including: judges info, entry info, descriptors, and overview checkboxes
- You should never start the judging process while intoxicated.
- Beer should be stored and judged at the appropriate temperatures for the style.
- Beer should be judged against 2021 BJCP guidelines, **not your personal preferences**.
- When in doubt about a declared ingredient or special style, please don't assume. Look it up.
- Scoresheets must be legible. Please write clearly and dark enough that a scan or picture will make it easy for the brewer to read your feedback.
- Be kind on your scoresheets. You are the judge and should score as you see fit. But please consider a courtesy score and not run someone's beer into the ground to emphasize how bad it was. That could be their first brew or competition and petty scores or comments may discourage them from continuing with the hobby.
- The judges working together on a flight should come to a consensus on scores that are generally within 5 points. If there is a conflict about scoring, please notify the Head Judge.

# In Person Judging Sessions

## What to Bring

- We will provide water, pencils, judging guidelines (limited supply), crackers, cups, bottle openers, SRM guides, napkins, and scoresheets to all judges.
- You have the option to bring any of the above items if you prefer to use your own.
- Some find it helpful to bring pre-printed stickers with their information like Name, Email, BJCP ID, Rank/Qualifications to apply to the scoresheets and save time filling out that information.
- Bring a positive attitude to evaluate and provide feedback on the beers.

## What to Expect

- You will be asked to sign the judges information sheet for reporting back to the BJCP.

- You will be assigned a flight based on availability that day, declared allergies, styles submitted in, etc.
- Stewards will give you one bottle at a time with only a judging ID number on it. They will tell you of any special declarations about the beer at that time.
- You will judge the beer and fill out the scoresheet completely. When finished, notify the steward.
- Scoresheets will be picked up and verified for completeness. The next beer in the flight will be provided to you.
- Once all beers in the flight have been judged, at least one judge (highest ranking) from each flight of the same category will run the Mini Best of Show for the category. Fresh bottles will be provided and medal placement will be determined.
- If a morning and afternoon judging session is scheduled, then lunch will be provided. For the safety of everyone, no more than 2 full flights will be judged by a person in the same day. Smaller flights may be granted an exception.

## Take Home Flights

### Initial Process

- Only BJCP certified judges may apply for take home flights.
- When registering through the Google Form, please indicate how many flights you want.
- After sorting day, the Head Judge will reach out to you to coordinate pickup of the flights.
- A waiver will be signed to acknowledge receipt of the flights and confirm acknowledgement of the rules and expectations for a take home flight.
- The judge will be given enough paper scoresheets and judge waiver forms for their flights.

### Ready to Judge

- The certified judge will select a qualified judging partner on their own. If you don't have anyone to assist, you may request the head judge to assist in finding a match.
- Only one bottle for each entry will be provided to the BJCP certified judge. This reduces the number of bottles each brewer needs to submit.
- The BJCP certified judge will coordinate the time and location to meet in person with their judging partner. This is NOT a virtual judging that can be done online.
- The BJCP certified judge is expected to be the expert on how a judging session should run and will need to provide their own glassware and supplies for the session. They should also collect the signed judge waiver form from their judging partner if they have not already filled one out.
- All beers are expected to be stored and served at the appropriate temperatures and conditions in order to maximize the potential scores of each beer.
- Any missing or broken bottles should be reported to the head judge no later than one week after receipt of all flights. This will maximize the time to resolve the issue.
- All take home flights need to be judged no later than May 7th. If you have uncompleted flights, the Head Judge will make arrangements to pick up the flight and reassign it. It is strongly encouraged to complete them as soon as possible.

- The flight sheet should be filled out thoroughly with the scores from each judge and which beers advanced to Mini Best Of Show.
- When a flight is complete, the scoresheets and flight sheet should be scanned immediately and emailed to LRscoresheets@gmail.com. This reduces the risk of problems or lost scoresheets. We highly recommend using the free Adobe Scan app on your phone to take a picture that will convert to PDF for emailing. It helps if you rename the scoresheet pdf as the judging number for that entry. That will make identification easier. In no event should scoresheets ever be sent more than 24 hours after a judging session.
- Mini Best of Show for the take home flights will be coordinated by the Head Judge in a separate judging session.

## Judging Gifts

As a thank you to all of our dedicated judges that make this competition a success, we have a couple of ways to thank you for helping us out. These are for all judges regardless of certification.

- Every judge will earn BJCP points for judging.
- Every judge will receive a custom event logo bottlecap magnet to proudly display.
- Every judge will be acknowledged in a social media post and in our online awards program.
- For every flight you judge, you will receive 1 entry into a raffle for some mystery prizes. The more flights you judge, the more chances you have to win.

Thank you so much for taking the time to volunteer as a judge for Lunar Rendezbrew 29. We hope to make this a great experience where you enjoy yourself and earn BJCP judging points as part of a qualified competition. If you have any questions or if there is a way we can make this an Out of this World experience for you, please reach out to the Head Judge. Contact information is below.

## Contact Details

Head Judge: John Black 832-671-9330 commander@mashtonauts.com

Submit Scoresheets to: LR Scoresheets@gmail.com