



Rules and Regulations
updated August
2025

Eligibility

- ✓ Teams' members must be aged 21+, and at least one team member must also be under the age of 35. This team member must also be a member of the AIChE Early Career Community (ECC).
- ✓ Team members must be current AIChE Pro members (2025). Undergraduate students are not eligible and will not be allowed to compete
- ✓ Teams must be formed through an active AIChE entity such as a Local Section, Division, Forum, etc.
- ✓ AIChE entities may have more than one team participate
- ✓ Only teams from the continental United States can participate
- ✓ Teams must complete all [registration](#) and [liability](#) forms

Competition Requirements

- ✓ Teams must compete in both the tasting and poster competitions
- ✓ Teams may submit up to **three styles of beer** into the competition. Any beer style may be submitted into the competition so long as it is a [Beer Judge Certification Program official beer style](#)
- ✓ Teams submitting three styles MUST brew the specified Special Style as one of those three styles. The Special Style Category is only open to teams that submit three styles. Refer to the competition webpage for this year's Special Style.
- ✓ Each team's entry must be submitted in the form of 12-ounce bottles, **free of ink or labeling beyond competition entry labels**. Bottle caps that are non-plain in color must have any logo or lettering obliterated. Note that artistic beer label should only be on the poster entry
 - Eight (8) bottles are required for each beer submission
 - Alcohol content shall not exceed 15% by volume (ABV)
- ✓ Beers brewed on the premises on competition, or at a commercial brewery or brewpub are not eligible. Only beers made from non-professional equipment are allowed to be entered.
- ✓ At least one team member must be present on competition day
- ✓ No part of an entry will be returned to a team. Bottles will not be returned.
- ✓ It is the responsibility of each team to adequately pack and ship competition entries in sturdy packaging that will resist damage and in a manner that abides by relevant laws and regulations. AIChE is NOT responsible for transportation or handling of any team's beer submissions. (More information provided in Shipping Instructions document linked on competition webpage)
 - Temperature control is the responsibility of each team; competition coordinators will have ice and buckets onsite the morning of the event
- ✓ No alcoholic beverage shall be permitted except in the designated judging area and to the designated judges. Doing otherwise will be grounds for removal from the competition and conference, and violators will be subject to local laws.

Poster Guidelines

- Team posters shall include, but not limited to:
 - Beer recipe
 - Mass balances
 - % ABV calculations
 - Brewhouse efficiency calculations (click [here](#) for more information)
 - Process used to brew
 - Any other production information pertinent to the entrant and its style
- Optional: artistic beer label
- Each team shall conduct a 5-minute poster presentation during the scheduled event

See a sample poster score card [here](#)

Tasting Judging

Judging shall occur in accordance with [BJCP guidelines](#), including but not limited to the following:

- Blind tasting where judges shall not have the identity of the brewer or entrant team
- Entries shall be judged in accordance with published style guidelines
- Judging panels shall have a minimum of two judges

See a sample tasting score card [here](#)

Awards

Tasting Competition: 80% of overall score. Judged by the Beer Judge Certification (BJCP) Program official judges.

Poster Competition: 20% of overall score. Judged by AIChE professional members

Grand Prize: Best cumulative score of the tasting and poster competitions. Winning team members of the grand prize will receive a complimentary membership to AIChE for the 2026 dues year (up to \$199 value per person).

List of 2024 Competition Awards:

- Grand Prize: (1st place) – 80% tasting/20% poster
- 1st Runner-Up Grand Prize (2nd Place) – 80% tasting/20% poster
- 2nd Runner-Up Grand Prize (3rd place) – 80% tasting/20% poster
- Best of Show (BoS) – Tasting winner from BJCP judges
- Best Poster Presentation Winner – Best score from poster judges
- Best Beer Name – Voted on by guest judges
- People's Choice Tasting Award – Voted on by guest judges
- Most Efficient Brew – The team with the highest brewhouse efficiency value
- Biggest Beer – Beer with the highest starting gravity before fermentation
- Best Beer Label – Voted on by guest judges (to be shown only on poster, not bottles)
- Best New Team – BJCP Best of Show between teams of 1st time competitors
- Best of Special Style (BoSS) – BJCP Best of Show between teams competing with a special style entry

Additional notes:

Each team may only receive one grand prize award for their top performing entry – either Grand Prize, 1st Runner-Up Grand Prize, or 2nd Runner-Up Grand Prize. Special Style entries are not eligible for the Best of Show (BoS) award.

Contact - ABBC Coordinators: brewbeer@aiiche.org