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August 2017

NZ NATIONAL AMATEUR WINEMAKERS & BREWERS FEDERATION

Competition Newsletter 2



A LITTLE HISTORY...

It's been drawn to our attention that there are quite a few 'newbies' participating in this year's competition. For this reason, I've been asked to give a run-down on what this competition is all about, including a little history.

This year will be the 21st running of the national competition by the federation. As the event is run every 2nd year, that makes the federation 42 years old.

In the alternating years, affiliated clubs in the three regions (South, Central North & North) hold regional competitions.

The hosting duties of the national competition are rotated around the country with the host club trying to bring a little local flavour to their event. This usually happens in a Saturday afternoon event while the hosts are busy preparing certificates, trophies and Best In Class medals.

The last competition in 2015 was held in Hawkes Bay with a trip to a pair of their local breweries /wineries. In 2013, Dunedin had their tartan on display with haggis and bellydancers (don't ask me but it was fun!).

The federation is a grass roots organisation, so we try to keep things affordable with the biggest expense usually being travel and accommodation. Bottle entry fees have been \$1.50 per bottle for at least a decade but we continue to raise the stakes on prizes.

As with any competition, there are bragging rights at stake and certificates issued with feedback on the judging sheets. But, the ultimate bragging rights come with a 'Best In Class' (BIC) medal Best In Show or other trophy.

The function on Saturday night, also very affordable, is always one to remember. We're still working on the entertainment but the food is excellent and the drink is, of course, outstanding with an opportunity to taste all of the BIC winners.

What makes this even more exciting is our sponsors. They are truly coming to the party! 'Best In Class' Beer award for class 1-12 will receive a 25 kg sack of grain supplied by **Gladfield Malt**. We are currently working through options for the BIC wine classes.

Cryers Malt are sponsoring our bar with beers being supplied by the prestigious beer makers of the Auckland Guild and a couple from the Manukau club. Expect something special here!

TWO MORE WEEKS FOR EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT REGISTRATIONS

Once again you will find the registration, bottle entry forms, and our special raffle entry form for you to fill out. Don't miss out on the early bird \$10 discount – It's up in a couple weeks!

And, while you're at it, get in on the Braumeister Draw. You can enter even if you're not attending the function.



Click
this
logo.

Their excellent prizes are listed on the entry form

ON TOUR

The details of the Saturday afternoon event is still being worked out. One thing for sure is there will be delicious food beer and wine from our sponsors to sample.

We're still adding to the participants and are very close to locking in a unique venue for the afternoon. Register and stay tuned! You won't regret it.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT BEER CLASS 13!

It's a sponsored class from **Hauraki Brewing Company** with special prizes available – see the specifications for their contact details. You still have time if you hurry.



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A LITTLE GUIDANCE

With many of this year's entrants submitting for the first time, this page is aimed at you. For the rest, have a read and consider this a 'refresher.'

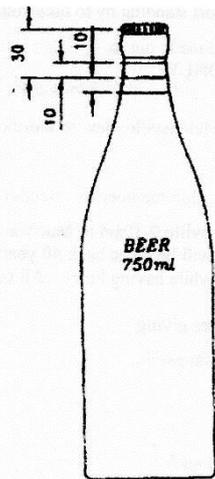
All wine entries must have plastic shrink caps fitted for transit. Sparkling wines should have a 'cage' holding cork in place. Clubs typically sort transport out with the delivery location as noted in the bottle entry sheet.

Corks should be clean, competition style (synthetic is acceptable but not the hollow type).

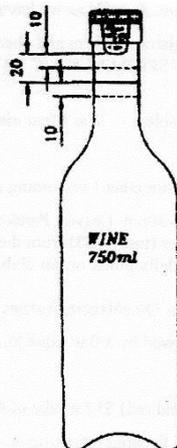
Labels for all entries should be in the designated colour of the club (recommendation, not a requirement) and the label should be secured with a rubber band.

The class, entrant, entrant's club and main ingredient should be listed on the label. For beers, we recommend noting if

Presentation is important. It can cost you a point. And, with tight competition this can be critical.



All beer entries should be in label free brown glass 750mm bottles with plain crown or swing caps. Scratches on the bottle are permitted but the recommendation is to save your best bottles for the competition, making sure they cleaned of any residual glue. The fill level should be to 30mm from the top +/- 10mm.



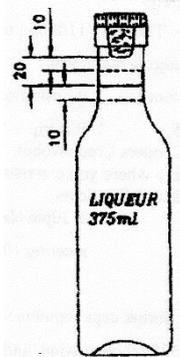
All wine entries should be submitted in clear glass 750mm bottles with competition corks – your brew supplier will have these in stock.

The wine bottles should be straight necked with rounded shoulders. Make sure you have removed any remnants of glue left from the label. Screw top bottles with competition corks are not

acceptable for national competition - sorry. The fill level should be 20mm from the bottom of the cork, +/- 10mm.

Wines or liqueurs with sediment, cloudiness or 'floaties' will be marked down. Judges should not turn your bottle upside down but may spin or twist to check for sediment. Members of your club or your local brew shop will give you advice on how to avoid this.

Liqueur entries should be submitted in clear glass 375mm bottles. These too should be straight necked with rounded shoulders. The fill level should be 20mm from the bottom of the cork, +/- 10mm.



Sparkling wine entries should be submitted in conventional sparkling wine bottles, fully punted, 800 gram weight. The fill level should be 70mm from the bottom of the cork, +/- 10mm. Judges tend to be a bit more forgiving of sediment in sparkling wines. But, by no means does that mean you can get away without de-gorging. If submitted in the wrong bottle, judges will not even open your entry.

NZ'S FIRST BJCP EVENT IN NZ

We now have an influx of recently accredited beer judges from the Auckland and Manukau clubs. This means we'll have a lot of talent involved in the beer judging to allow our wine judges to focus on their key talents. All beer judging will be reported back through to the BJCP to ensure participants get their credits.

We'll surely be discussing this and further opportunities in the biennial general meeting.

The Agenda:

Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm: Judging of Wine & Beer
Judge's Guild Wrap Up on Completion.

Friday Welcome nibbles and drinks: 7:00 – 9:00pm

Saturday Tour: 12:30 – 4:00pm

Awards Dinner and Entertainment: 5:30pm – Midnight

Sunday Biennial General Meeting 10:00am – noon.



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SHOW YOUR COLOURS

To make it easy for everyone to separate entries by club, we use colours to separate the bottles according to club.

Maurice Gray of the National Judges Guild has forwarded on the following information to use for guidance:

The idea of this is to make it easier for the host club to group entries by club at during the competition and get them back to the clubs. The colours can be by stick on dots, glued on coloured light card or felt pen and should be attached to the back of the tie on bottle label for each bottle.

They should be big enough for the hosts of a competition to easily identify the colours.

The colours are to be true to their name not shades of them that will confuse e.g. yellow that may look orange etc.

The colouring should be done at club level rather than individuals for consistency as follows:

Northern Region:

Auckland Guild	Cream
The Cork Club	Orange
Kaitia Homebrewers	Pale Green
Manukau	Green
River Valley	Blue
Whangarei	Purple

Central Region:

Kawerau	Red & Silver
Gisborne	Blue & Gold
Hawkes Bay	Green & Black
Central Hawkes Bay	Orange & Purple
River City	Yellow & Red
Manawatu	Red
Stokes Valley	Yellow
Levin	Black

Southern Region:

Pegasus	Gold
Dunedin	Silver
Wakatu 91	Red, Purple & Yellow
Nelson	Green, Orange & Silver
Cellar Club	Blue, Black & Gold

Thank you to our sponsors – A few more have joined us. We can all thank them by buying more of their products:



All pictures are hyperlinked – just click on them!

THE BEER SPOT

A touch of





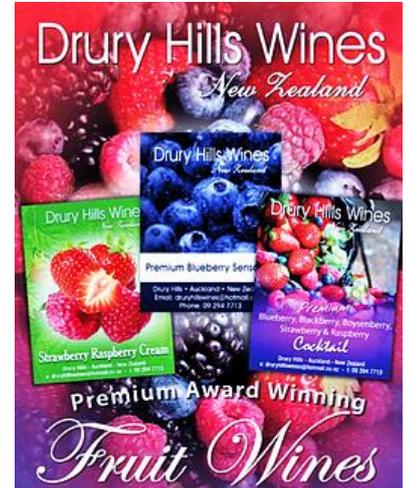
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You will see their banners and products in the raffles and endorsements of key awards.



But, for now – click on 'em!



October 13-15, 2017 See you there!!