

VALKYRIES HORN VIRTUAL MEAD COMPETITION

Thanks for agreeing to help with the Valkyries Horn Virtual Mead Competition! We have 250 entries, and over 40 volunteers and judges helping with the process. Below is the judging process we will use, as well as helpful references.

GETTING YOUR ENTRIES

You will need “be your own steward” and pick up the entries that you will be judging. Garrick Van Buren – our Cellarmaster, or one of his minions will meet you in the parking lot. Tell them your name (and the names of anyone else you might be picking up for,) and pop your trunk, and our masked volunteers will load the entries in your car. Flight Sheets will be included, as well as the judge name and contact info of your flight partner.

PICKUP DATE: Sunday, August 23, 2020

PICKUP TIME: Noon-4pm

PICKUP LOCATION: Broken Clock Brewery, 3134 NE California St, Minneapolis, MN 55418

COVID-19 protocols suggest that the virus cannot live beyond 3 days, so if you store your entries in a cool place until August 26, you should be safe from any viruses that may have been on the bottle.

JUDGING THE ENTRIES

1. CONTACT: The assigned Lead Judge for the flight should contact the Second Judge and set up a time for you to do your judging. If you are assigned a category that has two flights – every attempt should be made to judge both flights and the mini-BOS for that flight on the same day.
2. CHOOSE AN APP: The two judges should agree on which virtual connectivity application they are going to use. Keep in mind that some apps (Zoom, etc) may only allow a 45-minute connection if you are using it for free. The MHBA Virtual Competition document lists several potential apps that you can use. Once you decide, do a connectivity test before your judging date to assure the app will work for both of you.
3. RTFM: Valkyries Horn will be using web-based Score Sheets, Flight Summary Sheets, and Category Winner sheets, programmed by our DB Coordinator Dave Royer. We have created a manual that describes how these forms look and how to use them. Please take time to go to the Valkyries Horn Competition Manual to familiarize yourself with these forms.
4. TRY OUT THE PROCESS: Try out the scoresheet, flight summary and category result forms now until Saturday, August 22nd. After Saturday they will be LIVE and should only be used for judging competition entries.
5. JUDGING DAY:
 - Open your virtual connectivity app and get connected to your judging partner.
 - Open the BJCP Mead Style Guidelines.
 - Open and/or print-out the Ken Schramm Mead Description Terms document.
 - Open and login to the Valkyries Horn Judging Process website. Review the splash page overview.
 - Click on <https://valkyrieshorn.com/scoresheet/> to open the Competition Forms page.
 - Lead Judge should click on the FLIGHT SUMMARY SHEET and keep it open in a separate tab, adding to it as you complete each entry.
 - Lead Judge should click on CATEGORY RESULTS SHEET and keep it open in a separate tab.
 - Each judge should click on SCORESHEET, then click on START FILLING.

VALKYRIES HORN VIRTUAL MEAD COMPETITION

- Be sure to retain at least half the contents of each entry in the event that you need to do a mini-BOS for that category.
 - When done judging the entry, reach a consensus score within 5 points of your judging partner. Enter your consensus score on the form prior to clicking SUBMIT.
 - The Lead Judge should fill in the Flight Summary Sheet for the entry. Do NOT check the “Advance to Mini-BOS” box until the end of the flight, and both judges have agreed on the mini-BOS contestants.
 - When you’re ready, click on NEW SCORE SHEET to go on to the next entry.
 - At the end of the flight, if there is a mini-BOS round, both judges should agree on the entries to go forward to the mini-BOS. The Lead Judge should then check the “Advance to Mini-BOS” box in the Flight Summary Sheet. On a piece of paper, jot down the entry numbers that you have advanced, then click SUBMIT.
 - If there are two flights, repeat the process for the second flight in the category.
 - Once both flights are complete – conduct your mini-BOS. Since you conducted BOTH FLIGHTS leading to the mini-BOS, you should have the bottles at hand for the mini-BOS.
 - The Lead Judge should then fill out the CATEGORY RESULTS SHEET and click SUBMIT.
 - The Lead Judge should then send a TEXT to the DB COORDINATOR, and inform them of your name as the judge, the Category Name that has just been completed. Wait for a return text letting you know that all documents have been received.
6. **EMERGENCY!** If for some reason the Valkyries Horn Judging Site is not accessible – no worries! Download and print out BJCP Mead Score Sheets and a Flight Summary Sheet (links below) and judge your meads the old fashioned way. When you are done, contact the DB Coordinator for instructions for how to scan and submit your paperwork.
7. **CLEAN UP:** Any remaining mead is YOURS! Drink it up, and recycle the bottles.

BEST OF SHOW: The third bottle of the gold-medal winning entries for each category will be collected by our Cellarmaster, and they will be driven to Ferndale, Michigan to be judged by Ken Schramm of Schramm Meads. Ken will video-record his reaction to the top 3-5 entries, and that will be played back at the Valkyries Horn Awards Ceremony via YouTube on Saturday, Sept 19, 2020 at 6pm.

REFERENCES

- **Valkyries Horn Judge Training:**
Time: Aug 18, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81519390873?pwd=dGdXVlBmMmRGVlR5ZVUrTWm4bGNDdz09>
Meeting ID: 815 1939 0873
Passcode: 630245
Dial In : +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- **MHBA Virtual Competition document:** <https://mnbrewers.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Conducting-Virtual-Homebrew-Contests.pdf> (Appendices pg 42-61)
- **Valkyries Horn Competition Manual:** <https://valkyrieshorn.com/using-the-judging-process/>
Valkyries Horn Judging Site: <https://valkyrieshorn.com/judging-process/>
Password: “*meadisnice*” (case-sensitive)
- **BJCP Mead Style Guidelines:** https://www.bjcp.org/docs/2015_Guidelines_Mead.pdf
- **BJCP Mead Score Sheet:** https://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_MeadScoreSheet.pdf

VALKYRIES HORN VIRTUAL MEAD COMPETITION

- **BJCP Flight Summary Sheet:** https://www.bjcp.org/docs/SCP_FlightSummary.pdf
- **Ken Schramm Mead Description Terms:** <https://valkyrieshorn.com/ken-schramm-descriptor-list-2/>
- **Best of Show YouTube link:**
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi0o7SKv3RS0A0wjecOd4pg?view_as=subscriber
- **Schramm Lotowka The Statement mead order:**
<https://store.schrammsmead.com/lutowka-statement-batch-two-375ml-p537.aspx>

CONTACTS

- Cellarmaster Garrick Van Buren, CELL: 612-325-9110, EMAIL: garrick@fermentiki.com
- DB/Office Coordinator: Dave Royer, CELL: 612-363-0928 , EMAIL: dave@droyer.org
- Judge Coordinator: Al Boyce, CELL: 763-412-6836, EMAIL: alboyce@comcast.net
- Contest Coordinator: Kevin Meintsma, CELL: 612-723-3077, EMAIL: info@valkyrieshorn.com

DATES

- Entry Pickup** Saturday, August 23, 2020 – Noon-4pm
- Judging Dates** Sat, Aug 29-Wed, Sept 5, 2020
- Awards Ceremony** Saturday, Sept 19, 2020 – 7-9pm via YouTube
- Schramm Meadery tour - video
 - Schramm Mead Guided tasting video: Lutowka The Statement
 - Ken Schramm Q & A
 - Awards announcements
 - Best of Show Video