

New Exam Program Structure

as approved on 21 April 2011

- Web-based introductory exam.
 - Every new examinee will take this exam first.
 - Covers material on current written exam, same topic areas.
 - Approximately 200 questions, TBD time limit, TBD passing score, fee \$10, can retake after a one day wait. Details to be finalized after field testing.
 - Test scored on a pass/fail basis.
 - Pass = Provisional judge, score not provided.
 - Fail = not in the program, feedback on areas (section scores)
 - Pass introductory exam to allow registering for a tasting exam.
 - Must complete a tasting exam within one year or a retake required.
- New Tasting exam
 - 6 beers instead of 4, same format.
 - \$40 initial fee, \$15 retake fee.
 - Proctors must be selected from a pre-approved proctor list or a waiver granted in advance. Proctors must be identified when registering a tasting exam. Exams held outside of North America in areas with few existing judges will be allowed, but require special coordination with the Exam Directors in advance (this is not a change, but formalizes the existing situation).
 - Proctors are National+ judges or those with an 80+ tasting score and 10+ judging points.
 - At least one Master judge or 90+ tasting score on the panel is desired.
 - Tasting exam might be held less frequently, but without current quotas on number of examinees.
 - Score on tasting exam dictates rank for new examinees. Only allow Apprentice, Recognized and Certified ranks allowed as outcomes for those passing the introductory exam.
 - For existing judges, the new tasting exam provides the tasting score that can be used as it is today (i.e., combined with existing written scores from the traditional exam to allow advancement).
- Traditional written exam used for advancing to National ranks and above.
 - Tasting exam removed, held separately as above. Sequential section exams will be allowed, but treated as separate exams (written and tasting can be held on the same day, but this is not required).
 - Exam in current form would have a limit of 2.5 hours.
 - Revisions to the traditional exam to be considered by the Exam Directors, given the changes to the tasting exam. Shortening the exam (similar to the mead exam) will be considered.
 - To register for the traditional written exam, must be a BJCP judge with an 80+ tasting score, and have a minimum of 10 judging experience points.
 - \$15 retake fee.
- Apprentice judges
 - Current Apprentice judges with a score less than 60 on the written portion must retake the introductory exam. Existing tasting scores are retained.
 - The Apprentice status will have a 2 year lifetime. Apprentices must pass the exam within 2 years, or start over.
 - Further changes to the Apprentice status to be considered by the Board. This is not intended to be a long-term status, and not intended to have the full rights and privileges as a full member passing the exam.