

## TRASH 34 Rules and Guidelines

The TRASH Competition is AHA-sanctioned and open to any amateur homebrewer age 21 or older.

All mail-in entries must be received at the designated mailing location by April 8, 2026. Please allow adequate shipping time. Early arrivals may not be accepted. All drop-off entries will be collected from local drop-off locations on April 8, 2026. Please refer to the competition website for the most up-to-date list of drop-off locations.

All entries must be handcrafted products made using ingredients available to the general public and produced on private, non-commercial equipment by hobbyist brewers. Use of commercial brewing facilities, Brew-On-Premises operations, or commercial supplies is not permitted.

Competition organizers are not responsible for:

- Entries that are mis-categorized
- Mailed entries not received by the deadline
- Entries that arrive damaged

Entrants are encouraged to track shipped entries. If an entry is lost or damaged, notify the Competition Coordinator as soon as possible. Re-shipment may be allowed after the deadline if time permits.

### Hand-Carried Entries

Hand-carried entries are not permitted, except for judges who are judging on the day of the competition, are traveling from 55+ miles or approximately 90 minutes outside the Pittsburgh area, and have received prior approval from the Competition Coordinator.

## Local Member Drop-Off

Local members may drop off entries on **Bottle Sort Day** — Saturday, April 11, 2026, at 9:00 AM at Grist House Command.

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## Entry Guidelines

- Each individual entry must be submitted as **two bottles or cans** with no identifying marks on the container or cap. **Exception: Mead and Cider entries require only one (1) bottle**, as these entries do not advance to Best of Show (BOS).
- Preferred container size is **12-16 oz.** Caps with markings must be fully obscured.
- Each entry must be accompanied by a **completed entry form**, securely attached with rubber bands. Enclosing the form in a plastic bag and using two elastic bands is recommended.
- The BAP website allows entries to be registered without payment; however, **entries are not confirmed until payment is received.**
- Unconsumed entries will not be returned.

Brewers may enter **multiple categories**, but only **one entry per subcategory** is permitted. A maximum of **six (6) total entries per brewer** is allowed. Entries will be accepted on the competition site through **April 8, 2026**, but registration may close earlier if the maximum number of paid entries is reached.

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## Competition Categories, Judging, and Awards

Qualified judging of all entries is the primary goal of this competition. Judges will evaluate and score each entry using the electronic **AHA/BJCP structured scoresheet**. The average

score will determine ranking within each category. Each judging flight will include **at least one BJCP judge**.

The competition committee reserves the right to combine overall style categories into **judging tables** based on the number of entries. Every effort will be made to combine similar styles, and all entries will be judged according to their **declared style**. Entrants are responsible for completing all required information fields. Missing or incomplete information may negatively impact an entry's score or placement.

**Best of Show (BOS)** winners will be determined by a BOS panel through a second round of judging among **eligible beer category table winners**.

**Additional awards**, including collaboration opportunities with sponsoring breweries, may be selected at the discretion of participating breweries and are independent of BOS results. **Mead and Cider entries remain eligible for these additional awards**.

**Medals** will be awarded during the ceremony immediately following the competition. For non-local clubs with multiple winners, entrants are encouraged to designate a club member to collect medals. Winners not in attendance will be contacted to arrange shipping. Winners outside the United States are responsible for any shipping fees or taxes.

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## Mead & Cider Categories

- Mead and Cider entries will be judged according to applicable BJCP Mead and Cider guidelines.
- Mead and Cider entries are limited to one (1) entry per entrant per subcategory, with style-specific entry caps based on judging capacity.
- Mead and Cider entries will be judged in a single round only.

- Mead and Cider entries do not advance to Best of Show (BOS).
- As a result, only one (1) bottle is required per Mead or Cider entry.
- Mead and Cider entries are eligible for category medals and any additional awards selected at the discretion of participating breweries.