



Lone Star Circuit Tip Sheet for Quality Scoresheets

Why is QUALITY judging important? Quality judging is important because the primary purpose of this competition is to provide accurate and detailed feedback from the judges to the entrants. Quality feedback from judges is a key factor in attracting entrants, thus ensuring the continued success of this competition. Entrants receiving poorly written and/or incomplete scoresheets may choose to not enter this competition in the future

What are the EXPECTATIONS for a scoresheet? First and foremost, scoresheets should provide feedback in a respectful manner. Avoid disrespectful comments; keep in mind that while the entrant's identity is blind; your name is clearly identified. Scoresheets are expected to be fairly complete. While every line does not need to be filled, a nearly empty scoresheet is always poorly received by entrants and also reflects poorly on your judging skills. Vague descriptions are not very helpful to the entrants such as "nice hops and good malt". Tips are included below for how to make your scoresheet more complete and descriptive.

Tips for a COMPLETE scoresheet: The scoresheet consists of five sections: AROMA, APPEARANCE, FLAVOR, MOUTHFEEL, and OVERALL IMPRESSION. Underneath each heading of each section, there are guidewords that suggest elements on which to provide descriptions. For example, under AROMA, "comment on malt, hops, esters, and other aromatics". Be sure to comment upon most if not all of these elements, especially the primary elements for the beer style being judged.

Tips for a DESCRIPTIVE scoresheet: For each of your elements discussed in the COMPLETE section above, be sure to describe each element with both a LEVEL and SENSORY-BASED adjective. For example, instead of describing an aroma as simply "hoppy", describe it as "moderate citrusy hops" or perhaps even more descriptive as "moderate-light citrusy and resinous hops".

Useful adjectives:

Hops: citrusy, pine, earthy, resinous, spicy, herbal, floral, perfumey, grassy

Malt: grainy, wheaty, toasty, nutty, bready, bread crusts, caramel, chocolate, coffee, roasty, burnt

Esters: fruity, apple/pear, banana, berry, citrusy, tropical, prune/raisin, plum/cherry/currant

Levels: Dominant/Prominent, High, Moderate-high, Moderate/Medium, Moderate-low, Low, No/Absent/Lacking

Do's: Be respectful. Be honest. Ask questions of more experienced judges. Keep an open mind. Be prepared to learn. Try your best to be complete and descriptive. Provide feedback to the level of your experience. Use the BJCP Style guideline while judging.

Don'ts: Don't be disrespectful. Don't leave a mostly empty scoresheet. Don't provide vague descriptions. Don't guess. Don't forget about the other areas of the scoresheet including your name, rank, and the bottom and side check boxes. Don't compare beers within the flight; judge all beers against the style guideline.