

## Pearl Street Homebrew Competition Guidelines

### Is Your Homebrew Good Enough To Go Pro?

Pearl Street Grill & Brewery, in cooperation with the Niagara Association of Homebrewers and the Sultans of Swig Homebrewers Club, is pleased to present the **Pearl Street Brewmaster's Challenge Series**, a series of quarterly (roughly) single-style homebrew competitions open to residents of Erie and Niagara Counties in the State of New York. Competition styles will be selected based on their suitability to be brewed commercially at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery. Recipes from winning entries will be scaled up and produced at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery with the winning brewer (or brewing team) attending as brewing consultant. Prizes will be awarded for First, Second and Third place entries as follows: **1st Place** - \$100 Pearl Street Brewery Bucks Gift Card, Five (5) gallons (as one canister or ten growler fills) of the winning recipe as brewed at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery), and a \$250 brewing consultant fee. **2nd Place** - \$75 Pearl Street Brewery Bucks Gift Card and a \$150 cash prize. **3rd Place** - \$50 Pearl Street Brewery Bucks Gift Card and a \$50 cash prize. Winners will be feted at a Release Party for the commercial batch of the winning brew at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery.

Looking forward, Pearl Street Grill & Brewery will award the title of "**PSGB Home Brewer of the Year**" to the brewer of the best-selling quarterly winning brew - the beer that sells-out in the least time after its Release Party wins the title for its brewer! Additional prizes will be awarded to the Home Brewer of the Year at our Octoberfest event.

Participation in these competitions is **free of charge – there is no entry fee**. However, entrants are responsible for any costs associated with shipment or delivery of entries to the entry collection sites. NOTE: These competitions are not sanctioned by nor are they affiliated in any way with the AHA or BJCP.

All entries must be homebrewed. Commercially brewed beverages and beverages made in "brew on premises" or other such commercial establishments are ineligible. Further, individuals employed by any commercial brewing establishment, either currently or within 365 days prior to the entry deadline for the competition, are ineligible. Entries are limited to one entry per brewer (or brewing team) per competition. All brewers must be residents of Erie County or Niagara County in the State of New York. Hopped extract kit entries will not be eligible - all entries must be brewed from grains, unhopped extract, or a combination of the two, with at least one addition of hops unless hops are not required per style guidelines. All submitted recipes must be convertible to grains and pelletized hops if hops are required. Pearl Street Grill & Brewery reserves the right to modify recipes for winning entries as needed to address quality standards, production constraints, and the availability of ingredients.

Entrants should submit not less than three (3) and not more than six (6) 10-17 oz bottles per entry. Labels must be completely removed. All bottle and cap styles are acceptable, however, bottles that convey in any way the identity of the entrant may not be accepted and should not be submitted. No carbonators will be accepted, if sent, they will not be returned. No part of any entry will be returned, including bottles. Any questions concerning bottle requirements shall be addressed with the Pearl Street Brewmaster via email at **phili@pearlstreetgrill.com**.

Each entrant must submit a completed entry form. Entry forms must be completely filled out. Current address and telephone number are required. Entrants must certify that they are not and have not been employed by any commercial brewing establishment either currently or within 365 days prior to the entry deadline for the competition. Each entry must be accompanied by a completed recipe/process sheet. Each bottle must have a completed bottle label fastened by rubber band. NO TAPE PLEASE! Entry forms, recipe/process sheets and labels are available in the entry section of our website (<http://www.pearlstreetgrill.com>).

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All entries become the property of Pearl Street Grill & Brewery. We reserve the right to disqualify any entry for failure to comply with these rules. Disqualified entries may be evaluated but will not be eligible for awards or prizes. No entries will be returned. The decision of the judges is final.

The schedule for each competition will be announced via email to members of the homebrew clubs and to patrons of Pearl Street Grill & Brewery. The schedule will also be available on the Pearl Street Grill & Brewery website (<http://www.pearlstreetgrill.com>) and will be posted on the premises of Pearl Street Grill & Brewery.

Entries may be shipped or dropped off to:

Pearl Street Grill & Brewery  
Attn: Pearl Street Brewmaster's Challenge Series  
76 Pearl Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
716-856-2337  
<http://www.pearlstreetgrill.com>

Judging will be conducted by a panel of judges consisting of representatives from Pearl Street Grill & Brewery, The Niagara Association of Homebrewers, The Sultans of Swig Homebrew Club, and The Brewing News. Judges will evaluate (1) adherence to style according to the current **Brewer's Association Style Guidelines** (available at [www.beertown.org](http://www.beertown.org)); (2) drinkability; and (3) commercial potential. Winning brews will have both technical merit and high potential for consumer appeal.

The judges may disqualify any entry that is deemed to be unsafe for complete analysis due to infection or contamination. Judging sheets will be so noted.

Winning entrants will be directly notified within one week following completion of judging. Awards will be formally presented at a Release Party for the commercial batch of the winning brew at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery, to be scheduled approximately one month (on average, as styles permit) after the commercial batch is brewed. Competition results and the Release Party schedule will be announced via the same media used to announce the competition schedule - email to members of the homebrew clubs and to patrons of Pearl Street Grill & Brewery and posted on the Pearl Street Grill & Brewery website (<http://www.pearlstreetgrill.com>) and posted on the premises of Pearl Street Grill & Brewery. The Release Party will be open to the public. Attendance will be free of charge. Release Party activities will include a free buffet, formal awards presentation, a limited sampling of the commercial batch of the winning brew, half price pints of the winning brew and other special beverage pricing, a brewery tour and other entertainment. Attendees must pay for all beverages at event prices.

Score sheets will be available for pick-up by entrants at the Release Party. Those unable to attend the Release Party may request delivery of score sheets via email.