



Manitowoc County Fair

Thank you for interest in the Manitowoc County Fair
10th Annual Blue Ribbon Brew Competition.

Registration

June 1- August 10, 2026

Register online at <https://fair.manitowoccountycountywi.gov/>

Drop Off Locations

August 1 – 15, 2026

Entries can be dropped off at the following locations.

Manitowoc County Expo

4921 Expo Drive

Manitowoc, WI 54220

920-683-4378

Monday thru Friday 9am-3pm

By Appointment

Grape, Grain & Bean

1226 South 35th Street

Manitowoc, WI 54220

920-682-8828

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am-5pm

Tuesday, Friday 10am-4pm

TRUEBRU Homebrew Supplies

14260 W National Avenue

New Berlin, WI 53151

262-788-0944

Wednesday thru Saturday 10am-6pm

Sunday 10am-2pm

The Cellar

1921 S Washburn Street

Oshkosh, WI 54904

920-517-1601

Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday & Sunday 10am-4pm



Manitowoc County Fair

Shipping & Packing

August 3-14, 2026

Ship Entries to:

Manitowoc County Expo

Blue Ribbon Brew Competition

4921 Expo Drive

Manitowoc, WI 54220

- Carefully pack your entries in a sturdy box. Line the inside of your carton with a plastic trash bag. Partition and pack each bottle with adequate packaging material. Please do not overpack!
- Write clearly: "Fragile. This Side Up." on the package. Please refrain from using "messy" packaging materials such as Styrofoam "peanuts" or pellets; please use packaging material such as bubble wrap.
- Enclose each of your **bottle labels in a small zip-lock bag before attaching to their respective bottles.** This way it makes it possible for the organizer to identify specifically which entry has broken if there is damage during shipment.

Judging

Friday, August 21, 2026, at 6pm and Saturday, August 22, 2026, at 10am, 1pm & 3pm

Manitowoc County Expo Grounds (Merchant Building) 4921 Expo Drive, Manitowoc, WI

Awards

- Awards will be presented for each Beer Style Winner. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded in each category/table with medals.
- The 1st place entry in each category will advance to the Grand Champion Best of Show round. One beer will be selected as the Grand Champion Best of Show and one beer will be selected as the Reserve Grand Champion Best of Show. Additional prizes may be awarded to these winners at the discretion of the competition organizers.



Manitowoc County Fair

- Score sheets and awards will be available for pick up after the Best of Show Ceremony. Awards and score sheets not picked up will be mailed back to participants. Results will be posted to the website after the ceremony concludes.
- Awards Ceremony at the Manitowoc County Fair* (4921 Expo Drive, Manitowoc) Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at 6:30pm. *Admission required.

Competition Rules

1. This competition is sanctioned and open to any amateur home brewer age 21 or older.
2. All mailed entries must be received at the mailing location by the entry deadline – please allow shipping time.
3. All entries must be handcrafted products, containing ingredients available to the public and made using private equipment by hobbyist brewers. (i.e., no use of commercial facilities or Brew on Premises operations, supplies, etc.)
4. The competition organizers are not responsible for mis-categorized entries, mailed entries that are not received by the entry deadline, or entries that arrived damaged.
5. Brewers are not limited to one entry in each category but may only enter one entry in each subcategory.
6. Each participant may submit a maximum of six (6) entries. The contest will be limited to 100 entries.
7. Entry Fee is \$10.00 per entry. Payable via PayPal.
8. Qualified judging of all entries is our primary goal of our event. Judges will evaluate and score each entry. The judges will determine an overall score based on their individual scores and will rank each entry in its category. Each flight will have at least one BJCP judge.
9. Both the first and final round of judging will use a check-list style evaluation method for beer entries which was developed by the BJCP. Review the beer checklist score sheet, score sheet instructions and beer fault list to be familiar with the judging process for beer.



Manitowoc County Fair

10. The competition organizers reserve the right to combine categories for judging and restructure awards as needed based on the number of entries. All brews in combined categories will be judged according to the style they were originally entered in.
11. The Grand Champion Best of Show and Reserve Grand Champion Best of Show judging will be determined by a Best of Show Panel based on a second judging of the top winners.

Bottles Acceptance Rules

1. Each entry will consist of two (2) 10-to-12-ounce capped brown glass bottles that are void of all identifying information, including labels and embossing- but raised lettering is OK. Caps must be blank or blacked out completely.
2. Bottle labels (which the online registration tool creates for entrants when they enter their beers) must be printed and placed in a plastic bag. Attach plastic bags with labels inside to each bottle with a rubber band. Do not use tape or glue, since these will be disqualified.
3. An entry form will also be created for each beer as it is registered in the software. Please fill out the entry forms completely. Be meticulous about noting any special ingredients that must be specified per the 2021 BJCP Style Guidelines. Failure to note such ingredients may impact the judges' scoring of your entry.
4. Bottles will not be returned to the entrants.

Competition Contacts

Tonya Dvorak, Competition Coordinator
Russ Olp, Competition Coordinator
Kris Kohlmann, Competition Coordinator
Brian Lesperance, Judge Coordinator