

# AABC 2025 Categories

(judge using style descriptions in BJCP 2021 Beer and 2015 Mead and 2025 Cider guidelines)

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## 1. LOW ALCOHOL (≤ 4% ABV)

Berliner Weisse [BJCP 23A]  
Scottish Light [BJCP 14A]  
Scottish Heavy [BJCP 14B]  
American Light Lager [BJCP 1A]  
London Brown Ale; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]  
Dark Mild [BJCP 13A]  
German Leichtbier [BJCP 5A]  
Czech Pale Lager [BJCP 3A]  
Ordinary Bitter [BJCP 11A]  
Piwo Grodziskie; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]

## 2. PALE LAGER

American Lager [BJCP 1B]  
International Pale Lager [BJCP 2A]  
Munich Helles [BJCP 4A]  
Helles Exportbier (Dortmunder) [BJCP 5C]  
Pre-Prohibition Lager; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]  
German Pils [BJCP 5D]  
Czech Premium Pale Lager (Boh. Pils) [BJCP 3B]  
New Zealand Pilsner [BJCP X5]  
Festbier [BJCP 4B]

## 3. AMBER & DARK LAGER

International Amber Lager [BJCP 2B]  
Czech Amber Lager [BJCP 3C]  
International Dark Lager [BJCP 2C]  
Munich Dunkel [BJCP 8A]  
Vienna Lager [BJCP 7A]  
Märzen [BJCP 6A]  
Czech Dark Lager [BJCP 3D]  
Schwarzbier [BJCP 8B]  
Rauchbier [BJCP 6B]  
Kellerbier; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]

## 4. PALE ALE

Cream Ale [BJCP 1C]  
Blonde Ale [BJCP 18A]  
Kölsch [BJCP 5B]  
Belgian Pale Ale [BJCP 24B]  
Australian Sparkling Ale [BJCP 12B]  
British Golden Ale [BJCP 12A]  
Belgian Blond Ale [BJCP 25A]

## 5. AMERICAN PALE ALE

American Pale Ale [BJCP 18B]

## 6. IPA

English IPA [BJCP 12C]  
American IPA [BJCP 21A]  
Double IPA [BJCP 22A]

## 7. SPECIALTY IPA

Hazy IPA [BJCP 21C]  
Specialty IPA [BJCP 21B]

## 8. AMBER ALE

Best Bitter [BJCP 11B]  
American Amber Ale [BJCP 19A]  
Altbier [BJCP 7B]  
California Common [BJCP 19B]  
Strong Bitter [BJCP 11C]

## 9. BROWN ALE

Irish Red Ale [BJCP 15A]  
Scottish Export [BJCP 14C]  
Kentucky Common; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]  
British Brown Ale [BJCP 13B]  
American Brown Ale [BJCP 19C]

## 10. PORTER

English Porter [BJCP 13C]  
Pre-Prohibition Porter; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]  
American Porter [BJCP 20A]  
Baltic Porter [BJCP 9C]

## 11. STOUT

Sweet Stout [BJCP 16A]  
Irish Stout [BJCP 15B]  
Oatmeal Stout [BJCP 16B]  
Irish Extra Stout [BJCP 15C]

## 12. STRONG STOUT

Tropical Stout [BJCP 16C]  
Foreign Extra Stout [BJCP 16D]  
American Stout [BJCP 20B]  
Imperial Stout [BJCP 20C]

## 13. WHEAT & RYE BEER

Weissbier [BJCP 10A]  
Witbier [BJCP 24A]  
Lichtenhainer; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]  
American Wheat Beer [BJCP 1D]  
Dunkles Weissbier [BJCP 10B]  
Roggenbier; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]  
Weizenbock [BJCP 10C]  
Wheatwine [BJCP 22D]

## 14. BELGIAN ALE

Saison [BJCP 25B]  
Bière de Garde [BJCP 24C]  
Belgian Dubbel [BJCP 26B]  
Belgian Single [BJCP 26A]  
Belgian Tripel [BJCP 26C]  
Belgian Golden Strong Ale [BJCP 25C]  
Belgian Dark Strong Ale [BJCP 26D]

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### 15. STRONG ALE & LAGER

Helles Bock [BJCP 4C]  
Dunkles Bock [BJCP 6C]  
Doppelbock [BJCP 9A]  
Eisbock [BJCP 9B]  
Wee Heavy [BJCP 17C]  
British Strong Ale [BJCP 17A]  
Old Ale [BJCP 17B]  
English Barleywine [BJCP 17D]  
American Strong Ale [BJCP 22B]  
American Barleywine [BJCP 22C]  
Sahti; Historical Beer [BJCP 27]

### 16. SOUR & WILD ALE

Gose [BJCP 23G]  
Lambic [BJCP 23D]  
Gueuze [BJCP 23E]  
Fruit Lambic [BJCP 23F]  
Straight Sour Beer [BJCP 28D]  
Flanders Red Ale [BJCP 23B]  
Oud Bruin [BJCP 23C]  
Brett Beer [BJCP 28A]  
Mixed-Fermentation Sour Beer [BJCP 28B]  
Wild Specialty Beer [BJCP 28C]

### 17. FRUIT & SPICE BEER

Fruit Beer [BJCP 29A]  
Fruit and Spice Beer [BJCP 29B]  
Specialty Fruit Beer [BJCP 29C]  
Grape Ale [BJCP 29D]  
Spice, Herb, or Vegetable Beer [BJCP 30A]  
Autumn Seasonal Beer [BJCP 30B]  
Winter Seasonal Beer [BJCP 30C]  
Specialty Spice Beer [BJCP 30D]

### 18. SPECIALTY BEER

Classic Style Smoked Beer [BJCP 32A]  
Specialty Smoked Beer [BJCP 32B]  
Wood-Aged Beer [BJCP 33A]  
Specialty Wood-Aged Beer [BJCP 33B]  
Alternative Grain Beer [BJCP 31A]  
Alternative Sugar Beer [BJCP 31B]  
Experimental Beer [BJCP 34C]  
Commercial Specialty Beer [BJCP 34A]  
Mixed-Style Beer [BJCP 34B]

### 19. MEAD

Dry Mead [BJCP M1A]  
Semi-Sweet Mead [BJCP M1B]  
Sweet Mead [BJCP M1C]  
Cyser [BJCP M2A]  
Pyment [BJCP M2B]  
Berry Mead [BJCP M2C]  
Stone Fruit Mead [BJCP M2D]  
Melomel [BJCP M2E]  
Fruit and Spice Mead [BJCP M3A]  
Spice, Herb, or Vegetable Mead [BJCP M3B]  
Braggot [BJCP M4A]  
Historical Mead [BJCP M4B]  
Experimental Mead [BJCP M4C]

### 20. CIDER & PERRY

**(NB major changes from previous 2015 style names and guidelines)**

Common Cider [BJCP C1A]  
Heirloom Cider [BJCP C1B]  
English Cider [BJCP C1C]  
French Cider [BJCP C1D]  
Spanish Cider [BJCP C1E]

New England Cider [BJCP C2A]  
Applewine [BJCP C2B]  
Ice Cider [BJCP C2C]  
Fire Cider [BJCP C2D]

Fruit Cider [BJCP C3A]  
Spiced Cider [BJCP C3B]  
Experimental Cider [BJCP C3C]

Common Perry [BJCP C4A]  
Heirloom Perry [BJCP C4B]  
Ice Perry [BJCP C4C]  
Experimental Perry [BJCP C4D]