



Welcome to our First Annual Orpheus Cup Invitational! Saturday, September 17 from 4:00-7:00 PM

*The Orpheus Cup Invitational
was created to benefit Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir,
a celebration of the ineffable intermingling of
Mead, Magic, Music, and Song.*

This is a Mead Tasting & Competition. Brewers are encouraged to bring mead to be shared and tasted, and also to compete in as many mead sub-categories as they like.

- **To reserve a table:** please email Orpheus at ravensongarts@gmail.com
- **Location:** The home of Cynthia & Brian LeFevre at 8538 E. 163rd Court, Brighton, CO 80602
- **Meads for sharing and tasting** may be brought to the site from Noon to 3 PM on September 17, 2001.
- **Meads for the competition** must follow the competition rules below.
- Competing brewers are encouraged to be part of the tasting.
- We are expecting 150-175 people.
- Please bring signage, tablecloths, plastic tasting cups, and any ice or coolers you might need.
- **Volunteering to Help?** Judges and stewards are needed for this event. People interested should contact the coordinator, Andrew Adams, at ravensongarts@gmail.com. Certification and experience in judging is helpful but not required. There will be an informal training session at a time and place to be determined.

Competition Rules For 2011

This is a MEAD competition only and will follow American Homebrewers Association competition guidelines. Go to www.homebrewersassociation.org/ for more information.

This competition is limited to Colorado state residents. All entrants must provide a valid Colorado address on their registration form(s) or they will be disqualified.

Entry fees: \$10 for each sub-category entry. Acknowledging that mead is an expensive libation, an entry shall consist of *one or two* 10 oz - 22 oz bottles. There is no additional fee for entries advancing to Best in Show.

Location & Entry Shipping/Drop-off

Please see below for packing and shipping information.

Entries may be shipped to the tasting location:

**Cynthia & Brian LeFevre
8538 E. 163rd Court
Brighton, CO 80602**

Entries may be dropped off at other locations by prior arrangement.

- For Metro Denver, email: ravensongarts@gmail.com.
- For Greater Colorado Springs, email grnwoodtree@yahoo.com

PART I – How to Enter This Competition

1. Categories and Subcategories

The Orpheus Cup uses the *Beer Judge Certification Program (BJCP) Style Guidelines for Beer, Mead and Cider, 2008 Edition*: <http://www.bjcp.org/2008styles/catdex.php>. Enter your brew in the subcategory where you feel it will perform best. Judges do not see your entry registration form. Judges or organizers **will not** classify or reclassify your entry. The following is a listing of categories and subcategories:

24. Traditional Mead

- Dry Mead
- Semi-sweet Mead
- Sweet Mead

25. Melomel (Fruit Mead)

- Cyser (Apple Melomel)
- Pyment (Grape Melomel)
- Other Fruit Melomel

26. Other Mead

- Metheglin
- Braggot
- Open Category Mead

Any entry that does not meet the stylistic definitions for AHA Style Guidelines, categories 24 – 26 will be disqualified.

2. What kind of bottle is required? **Entries in bottles not meeting these requirements will be disqualified.**

- Mead entries must be in bottles that hold a minimum of 10 ounces in volume, and that will fit in a standard case box slot. The measurements of a standard case box slot are 2.75" long x 2.75" wide x 9" high. Bottles may be of any color and must be free of ink, paint, or paper labeling other than competition entry labels. Obliterate any lettering or graphics on the cap with a permanent black marker.

- B. Corked bottles and odd-shaped bottles are acceptable as long as they can fit in a standard case box slot (see above). Bottles with raised lettering are acceptable if they fit in a standard case box slot.
- C. Bottles with swing top closures ("Grölsch-type, Growlers, etc.) and 22 oz Bomber bottles are not allowed.

3. How many bottles do I need?

Send one (1) bottle for each competition sub-category (e.g. Category "25", Sub-Category "B", Payment.)

4. What are the entry fees? Send **\$10** for each sub-category entry. Acknowledging that mead is an expensive libation, an entry shall consist of *one or two* 10-22 oz bottles. There is no additional fee for entries advancing to Best in Show.

5. When are the entry deadlines? Entries will only be accepted from 8:00 AM Monday, August 15 until 5 PM on Friday, September 9, 2011.

6. How do I enter?

- A. **Fill out a Registration Form** for each entry.
- B. **Pay for your entries** by check or money order made out to Richard Cornelius/Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir.
- C. **Print labels** (either with a printer or by hand) for each entry bottle.
- D. **Attach a label to each bottle** using a rubber band; **do not attach labels with glue or tape or your entry will be disqualified.**

7. Shipping/Drop off of your entries and entry fee. **DO NOT SHIP ENTRIES VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE.**

- Entries may be shipped to:
Cynthia & Brian LeFevre
8538 E. 163rd Court
Brighton, CO 80602
- Entries may be dropped off at other locations by prior arrangement.
 - For Metro Denver, email: ravensongarts@gmail.com.
 - For Greater Colorado Springs, email grnwoodtree@yahoo.com

IT IS ILLEGAL TO SHIP ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. However, it is **not** against any federal laws to ship your entries via a privately-owned shipping company for analytical purposes. Private shipping carrier rules and regulations concerning the shipment of alcoholic beverages vary. We **strongly** encourage you to check with your shipping carrier prior to shipping your entry. *It is solely the entrant's responsibility to follow all applicable laws and regulations.*

ORPHEUS CANNOT ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF ENTRIES - arrange for a return receipt with your shipping company if you wish to confirm delivery of your package. Packages with postage due or C.O.D. charges will be returned to sender.

Every reasonable effort will be made to contact entrants whose bottles have broken to make arrangements for sending replacement bottles.

8. Are there entry limitations?

- A. Your homebrew cannot have been brewed on equipment used to brew beverages for any commercial purpose, whether for commercial research, production or any other purpose, including equipment at brew-on-premises establishments.
- B. Entrants must be resident of the state of Colorado.

- C. Judges may not judge a category they have entered, and stewards may not steward a category they have entered.

PART II – Registering Your Entry

The Orpheus Cup Invitational requires entrants to register each entry with a completed entry form at the time it is received, either when dropped off or included as part of a shipment.

- **EACH entry must have a completed entry form or they will be disqualified.**
- Refer to the entry form for instructions on how to fill it out.

PART III – The Fine Print

1. Judging

- A. All judging will be performed on September 17 at 8538 E. 163rd Court, Brighton, CO 80602
- B. The Judging Director will provide the completed score sheets for those entrants that are available at the event. If you are unable to attend, we will strive to mail score sheets with judges' comments to entrants by November 18, 2011.
- C. All decisions by competition organizers are final.

2. Awards

- A. **Ribbons** will be awarded to the first-, second-, and third-place finishers scoring 30 or higher in each category. Entries must score 30 or better to compete in Best of Show, although scoring a 30 or better does not guarantee advancement. If there are less than three entries scoring 30 or better in a given category, judges will award fewer than three entries for that category.
- B. **Best In Show Award.** First-place winning entries in each of the sub-categories will compete in a best-of-show judging.

3. Return Policy

No entries will be returned whether received late or otherwise. All entries become property of the Orpheus Cup Invitational.

4. Refund Policy

No refunds will be given.

5. Disqualifications

Entries failing to meet requirements listed in these Competition Rules will be disqualified. Disqualified entries may still be judged, but will not be eligible for awards or prizes.

1st Annual Orpheus Cup Invitational Entry Form, Labels, and Instructions

Please refer to BJCP Style Guidelines at <http://www.bjcp.org/2008styles/meadintro.php>

Special Ingredients Instructions

Include the following information in the "Special Ingredients/Judging Instructions" box.

All entries must include sweetness, carbonation, and strength information. **All entries must specify:** *level of sweetness* (dry, semi-sweet, sweet), *carbonation* (sparkling, petillant, or still), and *strength* (hydromel, standard, sack).

Entries in categories 25C and 26A, B, & C require style and/or special ingredient(s) information. As a general rule, these ingredients must play a role in the overall flavor/aroma/mouth-feel of the mead. Conversely, a mead listed in a category that does not require special ingredients should not list any special ingredients.

Entries in **25C - Other Fruit Melomel** - **must** specify the varieties of fruit used.

Entries in **26A - Metheglin** - **must** specify the types of spices used.

Entries in **26B - Braggot** - **may** specify the base style of beer or types of malt used.

Entries in **26C - Open Category Mead** - **must** specify the special nature of the mead, whether it is a combination of existing styles, experimental mead, historical mead, or some other creation.

Please do not use brand names, or geographic names, or any other proper names of special ingredients. For example, if you used Washington apples, Colorado clover honey, or Sitka spruce tips, only enter "apples, clover honey, or spruce tips" respectively. If a specific honey variety was used and the varietal character is noticeable, you may specify this as a special ingredient.

Special Instructions for the Judges: Judging instructions should be included in the "Special Ingredients/Judging Instructions:" section of the registration form. An instruction example would be, "Swirl bottle before serving" so that yeast is included in the sample.

Packing and Shipping Hints

It is your responsibility to adequately pack and ship your entries so they arrive intact. Carefully pack your entries in a sturdy box. Line the inside of your package with a plastic trash bag. Partition and pack each bottle with adequate packaging material. Please refrain from using packing "peanuts" if possible; use bubble wrap or newspaper instead. Do not over pack! Your package should weigh less than 25 pounds.

Read "[How to Pack Your Beer](#)," a downloadable PDF file from *Zymurgy* Spring 1991 (Vol. 14, No. 1) for excellent advice on how to save time and money, and avoid broken bottles. Also refer to "The Competitive Edge," an article about entering competitions in *Zymurgy* Spring 1996 (Vol. 19, No. 1). Contact info@brewersassociation.org to obtain an electronic copy.

1st Annual Orpheus Cup Invitational Entry Form and Labels

BREWER INFORMATION

Entrant's Name:

Additional Brewer:

Street Address:

City:

Phone (H):

Phone (C):

Email:

ENTRY INFORMATION

Name of Entry:

BJCP Category:

Category Number:

BJCP Sub-Category:

Sub-Category Number:

Special Ingredients/Judging Instructions (specify sweetness, carbonation, strength):

Bottle Labels - Attach one to the neck of each entry with a rubber band

Orpheus Cup Invitational - 2011	
Brewer Name:	
Address:	
City, ST:	ZIP:
Style Category:	
Style Sub-Category:	

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