



**HOMEBREW
HAPPY HOUR**
a podcast about homebrew and craft beer

Entry Name and/or

Kölsch Cup 2025

Judge Name _____

Bottle Inspection: Appropriate size, cap, fill level, label removal, etc.

Comments _____

Descriptor Definitions (Mark all that apply):

- Acetaldehyde** – Green apple-like aroma and flavor.
- Alcoholic** – The aroma, flavor, and warming effect of ethanol and higher alcohols. Sometimes described as *hot*.
- Astringent** – Puckering, lingering harshness and/or dryness in the finish/aftertaste; harsh graininess; huskiness.
- Diacetyl** – Artificial butter, butterscotch, or toffee aroma and flavor. Sometimes perceived as a slickness on the tongue.
- DMS (dimethyl sulfide)** – At low levels a sweet, cooked or canned corn-like aroma and flavor.
- Estery** – Aroma and/or flavor of any ester (fruits, fruit flavorings, or roses).
- Grassy** – Aroma/flavor of fresh-cut grass or green leaves.
- Light-Struck** – Similar to the aroma of a skunk.
- Metallic** – Tinny, coinny, copper, iron, or blood-like flavor.
- Musty** – Stale, musty, or moldy aromas/flavors.
- Oxidized** – Any one or combination of stale, winy/vinous, cardboard, papery, or sherry-like aromas and flavors.
- Phenolic** – Spicy (clove, pepper), smoky, plastic, plastic adhesive strip, and/or medicinal (chlorophenolic).
- Solvent** – Aromas and flavors of higher alcohols (fusel alcohols). Similar to acetone or lacquer thinner aromas.
- Sour/Acidic** – Tartness in aroma and flavor. Can be sharp and clean (lactic acid), or vinegar-like (acetic acid).
- Sulfur** – The aroma of rotten eggs or burning matches.
- Vegetal** – Cooked, canned, or rotten vegetable aroma and flavor (cabbage, onion, celery, asparagus, etc.)
- Yeasty** – A bready, sulfury or yeast-like aroma or flavor.

Aroma (as appropriate for style) _____/10

Comment on malt, hops, esters, and other aromatics

Appearance (as appropriate for style) _____/ 5

Comment on color, clarity, and head (retention, color, and texture)

Flavor (as appropriate for style) _____/20

Comment on malt, hops, fermentation characteristics, balance, finish/aftertaste, and other flavor characteristics

Mouthfeel (as appropriate for style) _____/ 5

Comment on body, carbonation, warmth, creaminess, astringency, and other palate sensations

Overall Impression _____/10

Comment on overall drinking pleasure associated with entry, give suggestions for improvement

Total _____/50

SCORING GUIDE

- Outstanding** (45 - 50): World-class example of style.
- Excellent** (38 - 44): Exemplifies style well, requires minor fine-tuning.
- Very Good** (30 - 37): Generally within style parameters, some minor flaws.
- Good** (21 - 29): Misses the mark on style and/or minor flaws.
- Fair** (14 - 20): Off flavors/aromas or major style deficiencies. Unpleasant.
- Problematic** (00 - 13): Major off flavors and aromas dominate. Hard to drink.

Classic Example	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stylistic Accuracy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not to Style
Flawless	<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Merit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Significant Flaws
Wonderful	<input type="checkbox"/>	Intangibles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifeless