West Virginia State Honey Festival
2026 Honey Show
In partnership with the West Virginia Beekeepers Association
and the American Honey Judges Association (HJA)
August 22-23, 2026

Updated: 6/20/2026

CHAIRPERSONS: Louisa Householder (louisa.householder@gmail.com ; 304-844-0236), Amy Kaiser, John Welty
LOCATION: Wood County Recreation Office, Parkersburg City Park, 1920 Park Ave, Parkersburg, WV 26101
PRESIDING JUDGE: Louisa Householder
ENTRIES ACCEPTED: Saturday, August 22, 2026, from 9:00 AM until 12:00 NOON
RELEASE TIME: All entries will remain in the show area after judging. Public viewing is from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM on Sunday, August 23, 2026. All entries will remain on display until 2:00 PM, Sunday, August 23rd. Exhibitors must pick up their entries between 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM on Sunday, August 23, 2026.

GENERAL RULES

Eligibility

1. The honey show is open to the public and any attendee of the 2026 WV Honey Festival, who wishes to enter one or more exhibits, except as otherwise specifically provided for herein. The honey show is NOT open to individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries, nor to individuals who are immediate family members of those individuals serving as judges, stewards, or show secretaries. "Immediate Family Member" is defined as individuals who are spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, first cousins, parents of common children, step-parents, step-children, or any individuals residing in the same residence.

Turn-in / Submission Period(s) & Deadline

2. Entries must be received between 9:00 AM & 12:00 NOON on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at the Wood County Recreation Office, Parkersburg City Park, 1920 Park Ave, Parkersburg, WV 26101. **No entries will be accepted after this deadline**.

Exhibitor Declarations & Affirmations

3. Each Exhibitor must sign an affidavit stating that each exhibit he or she submits was produced by the Exhibitor in conformity with the rules set forth herein.

4. Each Exhibitor must affirm the inclusion of any image, likeness, or work of any individual other than the Exhibitor, portrayed in or made part of any exhibit, was done so with the prior, informed consent of said individual, and that each exhibit is submitted with the full consent of all parties.

5. Unless specifically otherwise provided for under an individual category's rules, ALL honey, beeswax, propolis, pollen, or royal jelly exhibited, or made part of any exhibit, must be produced by the exhibitor from honeybees owned and kept by the Exhibitor. **Non-beekeepers may enter Food items only and are exempt from this rule.**

Any exhibit previously submitted for consideration in any prior honey show sponsored by the host organization, with the exception of mead, is not eligible for this competition.

6. All beeswax items, unless otherwise specifically allowed herein, must be prepared from pure, unadulterated beeswax, harvested from your bees. The beeswax must be free from any additives or enhancements. The use of synthetic, artificial, or adulterated beeswax or drawn honeycomb is strictly prohibited. *Exhibits found to be containing any of the above will be disqualified*.
The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palette yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of those commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault.

Double Entries Prohibited
7. Each Exhibitor may make only one exhibit per category. More than one individual from a family or household may submit exhibits across different categories; however, family members and individuals from common households may not submit multiple exhibits in the same category.

8. With the exception of Extracted Honey, in instances where the exhibit may qualify for consideration in multiple categories, the Exhibitor shall have the right to choose which category to enter their exhibit; the Exhibitor's selection will not be overturned by the Judge(s); and, said exhibit will be judged based on the criteria set forth in the category selected by the Exhibitor. The Judge shall have discretion to make the final determination as to proper color designation in regard to all exhibits of Extracted Honey.

9. Double Entries are strictly prohibited. A “Double Entry” is when an exhibitor has more than one exhibit placed in a single exhibition category. As used in this rule, the term “Double” is not limited to two but also encompasses any number greater than one. The Show Secretary shall not knowingly accept any subsequent exhibit which would create a Double Entry. Whenever a Double Entry is created by the decision of a judge in recategorizing an exhibit pursuant to the rules herein, the following procedure shall apply: Prior to the judging of any other exhibits in the affected category, the exhibits constituting the double entry shall be identified and examined by the head Judge; the head Judge shall make a determination as to which of the exhibits constituting the Double Entry is the best under the criteria listed for the affected category; the best exhibit of those comprising the Double Entry will be returned to the show bench, and the other(s) will be disqualified. Whenever a Double Entry results in the disqualification of one or more exhibits, and after the results are publicly announced or posted, it shall be the responsibility of the head judge to personally inform the affected exhibitor of the determination of the Double Entry and subsequent disqualification of the exhibit(s).

Security
10. Exhibits must not be marked or identifiable in any way, except as specifically provided herein. An example of identifying marks that are not allowed, but not limited to, are labels, signatures, signs, advertising, or anything that would identify the exhibitor to the judge. Certain categories will allow identifying marks if they are completely

covered so that they are not visible. Please see category rules for where this exception is allowed. Exhibits found to be in violation of this rule will be severely penalized.

11. The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to each exhibit as provided in the rules for each exhibition category. The Exhibitor shall be responsible for placing the ID labels on each exhibit as directed for each exhibition category, unless otherwise specified herein.

12. Once exhibits have been accepted into the competition by the Show Secretary, they may not be altered in any way.

13. After submitting entries to the Show Secretary, exhibitors may not enter the area where the exhibits have been placed. The Secretary, Stewards or Judges are the only people who may enter the honey judging area.

14. Judges will avoid the area where secretaries are accepting entries. This is to ensure as close to blind judging as possible.

Food Safety

15. All food & beverage exhibits must be prepared under sanitary conditions and follow food safety guidelines. All food & beverage exhibits must be sealed and shelf-stable, or otherwise prepared and packaged in such a way to be able to withstand spoilage. Any entry that appears to be unsafe or unpalatable will not be judged and will be disqualified.

16. Any food or beverage item made with any perishable ingredient(s) or components, or any exhibit that calls for or requires refrigeration for proper storage or holding, are prohibited.

Miscellaneous

17. All exhibits submitted in categories containing the designation “Extracted Honey” are to be presented in one-pound, glass (no plastic), “Queen-line” or “Classic” style jars.

18. In regard to the requirement of uniformity, items within or comprising any single exhibit should be alike and matching in every way: jars, containers, closures, contents, composition, orientation, placement, presentation, etc., should be identical across all individual items comprising any single exhibit.

19. For all exhibits which require (or give the Exhibitor the option of using) any display case, dish, base, frame, stand, or any other exhibition aide, the same should be presented in the same clean, neat, and uniform manner so as to complement and add merit to the accompanying exhibit.

20. All weight requirements refer to the net contents of the exhibit. For instance, a 16 ounce jar of honey should contain 16 ounces of honey. This does not include the weight of the container, the lid, the label, or any other packaging.

21. For all exhibits which call for the submission of a white descriptive card or index card with the exhibit, any size card or sheet of paper from 3”x5” to 8.5”x11” will be accepted. Additionally, the Exhibitor may submit multiple

cards for any exhibit as the Exhibitor sees fit. Should the Exhibitor wish to submit multiple cards, they should be secured together by staple or paper clips.

22. For all mead, beer, and other honey beverage categories, any Exhibitor may, at their discretion, submit a second bottle for chilled tasting. If the Exhibitor chooses to submit a second bottle for chilled tasting, the Exhibitor must submit two identical specimens, both suitable for judging. After the exhibit is submitted, the show secretary will randomly select one of two bottles to be placed in a cooler or refrigerated container. The show secretary will place the other bottle on the judge's bench. Both bottles submitted will be evaluated for the same criteria as a single bottle exhibit. *If the Exhibitor submits a second bottle for chilled tasting, they must note such on the descriptive card submitted with the exhibit.

23. Copyright of any submitted recipe, artwork, literary work, or other media remains with the exhibitor, but the host organization has the unrestricted right to publish images of submitted recipes, artwork, literary work, or other media in its newsletter, on its website, and via its social media outlets, plus unrestricted rights to use the same in any related material for PR purposes.

24. Where the submission of a “recipe” is required, that term includes the complete list of ingredients, quantities thereof, and the procedure used to combine and prepare the exhibit.

25. The Presiding Judge may, based on the number of exhibits submitted, combine one or more categories into a single category, or divide a single category into one or more sub-categories.

Return/Disposition of Exhibits-

26. Exhibitors who wish to retrieve their exhibits at the conclusion of the honey show must make arrangements to pick their exhibits up at the specified release time on August 23, 2026. If an exhibitor wishes to have their exhibit(s) released to a third party or proxy, they must indicate so in writing. Exhibits and other items not retrieved by the deadline posted for pick-up shall be deemed abandoned and shall be donated to the Honey Show Committee for future use or disposal. The sponsoring organization, nor the Honey Show Committee, is not responsible for any items left after the pick-up deadline.

27. The honey show committee reserves the right to reject any exhibit submitted if it is objectionable in any way. For these purposes, the definition of “objectionable” includes, but is not limited to representations of nudity, graphic violence, profanity, obscenity, or any depictions of a sexually explicit nature. Decisions of the Presiding Judge on this issue will be final.

28. The use of AI to create or enhance an entry in any category is prohibited. An example of entries not allowed, but not limited to are …AI generated poetry, AI generated photographs, AI electronic media, AI artwork and 3D printing. It is our intent to showcase beekeepers’ talents, creativity, and originality in the culture of beekeeping.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

It is the intention that ribbons will be given in all categories even if there is only one entry in the category. Entry into a category does not guarantee an award. In order to receive an award that entry must be worthy of placement. A Judge may, in his or her sole discretion, make or withhold the award of any given prize(s) or placement(s) in any category over which said Judge officiates. The decisions of the Judges are final.

Awards will be given to entries earning 1st through 3rd place in each category, as well as Best in Show, which is chosen by the judges from among all First-Place entries (except Black Jar and Novice).

Food entries submitted by the non-beekeeping public will be judged separately from beekeeper entries and awards will be given to entries earning 1st through 3rd place as well as Best in Show, which is chosen by the judges from among all First-Place entries submitted by beekeepers.

Prize Points

Prize points will be awarded to all First through Third place winners in all categories as follows: First Place = 6 points; Second Place = 5 points; Third Place = 4 points.

Prize cards for participants in the HJA Honey Judging Program will be provided electronically (via email) upon request. Points earned in approved categories may also be counted toward the requirements for those participating in the West Virginia Master Beekeeper Program.

Appeals

After the announcement of awards, any exhibitor may meet with the Category Judge to discuss their entry and ask questions. An Exhibitor may appeal the ruling of the Category Judge concerning their own exhibit in instances where the Exhibitor believes the Category Judge misinterpreted or misapplied a rule in regard to the judging of their exhibit. The Exhibitor must first present their protest to the Category Judge who judged their exhibit, and calmly and clearly state the basis for their protest. The Category Judge should hear the Exhibitor out, and then typically should explain to the Exhibitor the basis for their initial decision and discuss the Exhibitor's concerns with them. The Category Judge, along with the Exhibitor may then bring he protest to the Presiding Judge who, after hearing both sides and examining the rules and the exhibit at issue may, as he or she deems appropriate, uphold, reverse, or amend the decision, award(s), and/or official record in such a manner as to affect the most just result available. The decision of the Presiding Judge is final.

Exhibitors found willfully cheating, or purposefully altering or disfiguring an entry for the purpose of influencing the validity of judging will be disqualified from the contest, as well as from any future honey shows sponsored by the WV Honey Festival, WVBA, or HJA for a period of not less than three (3) years.

THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES WILL BE ACCEPTED & JUDGED AT THE HONEY SHOW:

HONEY (Category H)
H1: Light Extracted Honey
H2: Amber Extracted Honey
H3: Dark Extracted Honey
H4: Creamed Honey
H5: Creamed Honey (flavored)
H6: Black Jar

BEESWAX (Category W)
W1: Beeswax Block
W2: Beeswax Candles (Molded Tapers)
W3: Beeswax Candles (Molded Ornamental)

NOVICE (Category N)
N1: Novice Extracted Honey
N2: Novice Beeswax Candles

FOOD ITEMS (Category F)
F1: Honey Pound Cake
F2: Honey Cake (open recipe)
F3: Honey Cake (cupcakes & petit-fours)
F4: Honey Breads (loaves)
F5: Honey Muffins
F6: Honey Confections
F7: Honey Condiments (non-spicy)
F8: Honey Condiments (spicy)
F9: Honey Candy

BEEKEEPING ARTS & CRAFTS (Category A)
A1: Artwork Related to Beekeeping
A2: Crafts Related to Beekeeping
A3: Photography (open color)
A4: Photography (open black & white)
A5: Photography (bee on flower)
A6: Photography (essay)

BEVERAGES MADE WITH HONEY (Category B)
B1: Traditional Meads (sweet)
B2: Traditional Meads (dry)
B3: Varietal Meads (sweet)
B4: Varietal Meads (dry)

NON-BEEKEEPER FOOD ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE PUBLIC (Category P)
P1: Honey Pound Cake
P2: Honey Cake (open recipe)
P3: Honey Cake (cupcakes & petit-fours)
P4: Honey Breads (loaves)
P5: Honey Muffins
P6: Honey Confections
P7: Honey Condiments (non-spicy)
P8: Honey Condiments (spicy)
P9: Honey Candy

For all exhibits which call for the submission of a white descriptive card with the exhibit, any size card or sheet of paper from 3”X 5” to 8.5”X 11” will be accepted. Additionally, the Exhibitor may submit multiple cards for any exhibit as the Exhibitor sees fit. Should the Exhibitor wish to submit multiple cards, they should be secured together by staple or paper clip.

PLEASE READ THE RULES

FOR INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES FOR GUIDELINES

AND FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES:

EXTRACTED HONEY (H1, H2, H3)

Extracted honey is judged in three subcategories: (H1) light, (H2) medium or amber, and (H3) dark. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these three subcategories. One exhibit of extracted honey is defined as three (3) identical one-pound jars, as specified in rule #17 under the General Rules of the Honey Show. Closures may be of metal or plastic. Tamper-proof seals are strictly prohibited; any exhibits submitted with any tamper-proof seal(s) will be severely penalized. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). *See Appendix hereafter for notes on correct jars and fill level.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on each of the jars comprising the exhibit. The labels should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of each jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar.

NOVICE EXTRACTED HONEY (N1)

This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a First, Second or Third prize in honey at any honey show. Rules for the N1 Novice category are the same as shown above in the Extracted Honey category except the entry will consist of only <u>one</u> jar of honey regardless of color.

CREAMED HONEY (H4, H5)

Creamed Honey is judged in two subcategories: (H4) natural, and (H5) flavored. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these two subcategories. Creamed or Soft Set honey is honey that has been subjected to a manual or mechanical process to assist and control the otherwise natural process of granulation. An entry of creamed honey is three (3) identical wide-mouth jars, no less than eight ounces (8oz.), nor more than sixteen ounces (16oz.) in net weight. Creamed honey must be displayed in identical, clear, straight-sided, glass jars with one-piece lids. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the jar and lid; correct fill level; cleanliness and purity of the honey; uniformity of product within the jar; fineness of crystals; appropriate set or firmness (should be spreadable but not runny); freedom from foam, frosting, or visible moisture; striation, or colors; uniformity of the jars that comprise the exhibit; aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors); and moisture content (only if in question).

The exhibitor must submit a white card describing the process and procedure (including all steps and equipment) employed to produce their creamed honey.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on each of the jars comprising the exhibit. The labels should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of each jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar. An ID label should also be affixed to the white card accompanying the exhibit.

BLACK JAR (H6)

An entry consists of not less than two ounces, nor more than four ounces, of pure, unadulterated honey. The required jar will be provided by the Show Secretary at the sign-in table, and the Exhibitor will transfer their entry into the jar and return the exhibit to the Show Secretary. Judges evaluate entries for flavor only.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the exhibit. The label should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of the jar, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar. *Black Jar entries are not eligible for Best in Show. In the Black Jar category, only a First-Place prize will be awarded.
BLACK JAR ENTRIES WILL NOT BE RETURNED

BEESWAX BLOCK (W1)

An exhibit consists of one (1) block of pure beeswax. The block must weigh between one to two pounds, no more, and should have a thickness no greater than 1.5 inches. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. The block should be smooth-surfaced and free of blemishes, decorations or embellishments. Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palette yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of those commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The block should be submitted on a plain, white plate or board (which may be made of paper, foam, cardboard, or any similar material), in a zip-top bag. Alternatively, at the Exhibitor's option, the block may be presented in a protective display case. If a show case is used, it must not exceed 12"(length) x12"(width) x 4"(depth), and the wax block must be readily accessible for judging. The show case will not be judged, aside for cleanliness. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; finish; absence of pouring or casting defects including cracks, raised edges, unevenness, rippled or wavy surfaces, and aroma (for off aromas).

*The presence of the word "BEESWAX" imprinted on one surface of the block shall not be counted as a flaw or defect. However, any such mark or imprint shall be judged for casting flaws and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the underside of the wax block, and the second label on the top right-hand corner of the display case lid or plastic bag.
of the word "BEESWAX" imprinted on one surface of each bar shall not be counted as a flaw or defect. However, any such mark or imprint shall be judged for casting flaws and sharpness of detail. The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top center of the plate the wax blocks were presented on, and the second label on the top right-hand corner of the display case lid or plastic bag.

MOLDED TAPER BEESWAX CANDLES (W2)

An exhibit is defined as three (3) candles. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palette yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of those commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. Molded tapers must have flat finished bases with wicks well centered. The minimum length of all taper candles is eight inches. Wicks must be primed and trimmed to one-half inch in length. One of the candles in each exhibit will be lit by the judge and allowed to burn. The exhibit must be presented with one (1) free-standing, fire-proof base or candleholder. Items comprising the exhibit should be uniform in every aspect, including height, thickness, weight, appearance, and performance (where appropriate). Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); proper wicking; performance; uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place an ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the candleholder(s) so that it is visible from above, and on each candle near the bottom.

MOLDED ORNAMENTAL BEESWAX CANDLES (W3)

An exhibit is defined as three (3) candles. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax aroma. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palette yellow. Wax of other color palettes, especially those including shades of gray or brown, shall be deemed faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. The preferred aroma of beeswax should include honey and/or floral notes. Other aromas, especially those associated with caramelization, smoke, burnt sugar, chemical contamination/adulteration, or other aromas uncharacteristic of those commonly found in natural beeswax, shall be considered faulted, and shall be penalized by the judge(s) according to the degree of severity of said fault. Wicks must be primed and trimmed to one-half inch in length. The form must have a flat finished base with wicks waxed and well centered. One of the candles in each exhibit will be lit by the judge and allowed to burn. The exhibit must be presented with one (1) free-standing, fire-proof base or candle holder, unless candle is free-standing. Items comprising the exhibit should be uniform in every aspect, including height, thickness, weight, appearance, and performance (where appropriate). Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); proper wicking; performance; uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place an ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the candleholder(s) so that it is visible from above, and on the bottom of each candle.

NOVICE BEESWAX CANDLES (N3)

This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a First, Second or Third prize in any beeswax category at any prior honey show. An exhibit is defined as one (1) beeswax candle. Otherwise, the criteria for the (N3) entry will depend on the type of candle entered (Molded Taper or Molded Ornamental). Refer to the rules shown above for the type of candle you are entering.

ARTWORK RELATED TO BEEKEEPING (A1)

Artwork is the expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, often in a visual form such as (but in no way limited to) painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related artwork of their own composition. The artwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The artwork must be freestanding, hanging, or placed on an easel. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item must accompany each entry. *If the exhibit is already signed or marked in some identifying way, the exhibitor is asked to obscure the signature or identifying mark by covering the identifying mark with a Post-it or other such means as not to harm the exhibit.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

CRAFTS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING (A2)

A craft is a pastime or a profession that requires particular skill and knowledge of a specialized field or subject. Craftsmanship typically denotes experience, knowledge, skill, and expertise in making things by hand. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related craftwork of their own composition. The craftwork must be related to some aspect of apiculture and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The craftwork must be freestanding, hanging, or placed on an easel. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item must accompany each entry. *If the exhibit is already signed or marked in some identifying way, the exhibitor is asked to obscure the signature or identifying mark by covering the identifying mark with a Post-it or other such means as not to harm the exhibit.

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the front of the exhibit (centered near the bottom), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

PHOTOGRAPHS RELATED TO BEEKEEPING (A3, A4, A5, A6)

Photographs Related to Beekeeping are judged four (4) subcategories: (A3) Open Color, (A4) Open Black & White, (A5) Bee on Flower, and (A6) Essay. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these subcategories. Specific requirements pertaining to each respective subcategory are:

~Open Color – must be color
~Open Black & White – must be monochrome
~Bee on Flower – must be bee(s) on flower(s); no restrictions other than those set forth herein.
~Essay- conveys a story or message pertaining to apiculture, and must contain at least four (4), but no more than seven (7) photographs. The visible area of each photograph should be approx. 4" x 6".

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related photograph of their own composition. The photograph(s) must be related to some aspect of apiculture and must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The visible area of all photographs must be 8" x 10" or less in size, with the exception of Essay. For the Essay category, each photo must have a visible area of approx. 4"x 6" in size. The photograph(s) must be mounted, matted, or framed. The photograph(s) must stand up for display; either equipped with an easel back or the entrant must provide an appropriately-sized easel on which to display the exhibit. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. *A white card with a description of the photograph must accompany each exhibit. *If the exhibit is already signed or marked in some identifying way, the exhibitor is asked to obscure the signature or identifying mark by covering the identifying mark with a Post-it or other such means as not to harm the exhibit.

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the frame on the back of the exhibit (centered near the top), and the second label on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

BEVERAGES MADE WITH HONEY

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Exhibitors should be aware and keep in mind; this is a honey show. These beverage categories have been specifically chosen because of their ability to showcase honey as an ingredient. The influence and impact of honey on the finished product will be the first, and ultimate, factor the judges will consider when making final awards. The stronger and more pronounced the flavor and aroma of honey is in the finished product, the greater the preference that exhibit will receive from the judges. Conversely, an exhibit of otherwise exceptional quality that does not taste or smell profoundly of honey, will not be placed highly despite the presence of other exceptional qualities

MEADS (B1, B2, B3, B4)

Meads are judged in four subcategories: (B1) Traditional Sweet, (B2) Traditional Dry, (B3) Varietal Sweet, and (B4) Varietal Dry. Traditional meads contain only honey, water, yeast, and no other flavoring additives. Varietal meads include melomels, pyments, cysers, metheglins, hippocras, braggots, sac meads, and dessert meads. Entrants may submit one exhibit in each of the four respective subcategories. An exhibit consists of one clear, uncolored, glass standard 750ml wine bottle. Punt bottles are acceptable as long as they are standard pattern wine bottles. Tee, tasting, or mushroom-style corks are acceptable closures. Exhibits submitted with traditional inserted corks will be severely penalized. Bottles should be filled to a point precisely two (2) centimeters from the bottom of the cork. All mead must be produced from honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness of the container and closure; cleanliness and clarity of the contents; correct fill level; color; clarity; lack of sediment; aroma; flavor, including maturity, body, balance, complexity, and finish; and influence of honey on the final product. *A white card with a description of the type or style of mead and the full recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, and procedures) must accompany each exhibit. *The Exhibitor should also note on the white card if they have submitted a second bottle for chilled tasting.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the front, bottom, center of the bottle, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the bottle. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit. *In the event an Exhibitor elects to submit a second bottle to be chilled for tasting, the Show Secretary will provide an additional identifying label to be affixed around the neck of the bottle to be chilled.

FOOD ITEMS & BAKED GOODS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Exhibitors should be aware and keep in mind; this is a honey show. These culinary categories have been specifically chosen because of their ability to showcase honey as an ingredient. The influence and impact of honey on the finished product will be the first, and ultimate, factor the judges will consider when making final awards. The stronger and more pronounced the flavor and aroma of honey is in the finished product, the greater the preference that exhibit will receive from the judges. Conversely, an exhibit of otherwise exceptional quality that does not taste or smell profoundly of honey, will not be placed highly despite the presence of other exceptional qualities. **Please see items 15 & 16 in the General Rules regarding Food Safety.**

FOOD ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE NON-BEEKEEPING PUBLIC MAY BE MADE WITH PURCHASED HONEY. FOR OPTIMUM FLAVOR, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN YOUR HONEY FROM A LOCAL BEEKEEPER.

HONEY POUND CAKE (F1 & P1)

A pound cake is a rich, sweet, dense cake that's traditionally made with one pound each of flour, butter, eggs, and sugar. The Exhibitor may submit one example of a pound cake baked by the Exhibitor. An entry consists of one (1) cake. The recipe for the entry must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. Exhibits may NOT be dusted, frosted, iced, or glazed. Exhibits must be baked in either a tube or Bundt style cake pan. All ingredients in the honey pound cake must come from the list contained below. The use of any ingredient(s) not contained in the list below is strictly prohibited.

Exhibits for Honey Pound cake may contain any of the following ingredients, in any amount(s) or combination(s), at the Exhibitor's discretion:

~Flour
~Milk
~Buttermilk
~Evaporated Milk
~Cream
~Sour Cream
~Butter, Margarine, Lard, or Vegetable Shortening
~Eggs
~Baking Powder
~Baking Soda
~Salt
~Honey
~Sugar
~Almond Extract
~Vanilla Extract

Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, appearance, uniformity (of mixing and baking), moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, and influence of honey on the finished product. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe, including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure, must accompany each entry

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY CAKE (OPEN RECIPE) (F2 & P2)

The Exhibitor may submit one example of a cake baked by the Exhibitor. An entry consists of one (1) standard size cake no less than six inches (6 in.) in diameter or across. Exhibits may be, but are not required to be, iced or glazed. The recipe for the entry must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure), must accompany each entry. **The Exhibitor, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY CAKES (cupcakes and petit-fours) (F3 & P3)

The Exhibitor may submit one example of a cake baked by the Exhibitor. An entry consists of no less than three (3), nor more than six (6) identical cupcakes or petit fours. Exhibits may be, but are not required to be, iced or glazed. The recipe for the entry must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure), must accompany each entry. **The Exhibitor, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY BREADS (loaves) (F4 & P4)

The Exhibitor may submit one example of bread baked by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of one (1) standard size loaf. All loaves must measure at least eight inches (8 in.) in length or in diameter. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. Exhibitors, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients & procedure) must accompany each exhibit. In the event an exhibit in this category is too large to fit in a commonly available cake box, the exhibitor may submit his/her exhibit in some other appropriate, re-sealable container.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY MUFFINS (F5 & P5)

The Exhibitor may submit one example of muffins baked by the Exhibitor. An entry consists of no less than three (3), nor more than six (6) identical muffins. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. Exhibitors, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all

ingredients & procedure) must accompany each exhibit. **The Exhibitor, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box. In the event an exhibit in this category is too large to fit in a commonly available cake box, the exhibitor may submit his/her exhibit in some other appropriate, re-sealable container.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY CONFECTIONS (F6 & P6)

A confection is any pastry, tart, chocolate, or other sweet food or delicacy, not otherwise encompassed in another category in this show. An Exhibitor may submit one example of a confection prepared by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of six (6) pieces or servings. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. Exhibitors, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY CONDIMENTS (F7, F8 & P7, P8)

A condiment is a spice, sauce, pickle, preserve or other preparation that is added to food to impart a specific flavor, to enhance the flavor, or to complement a dish. Honey condiments are judged in two subcategories: (F7, P7) non-spicy and (F8, P8) spicy. An Exhibitor may submit one example of a honey condiment prepared by the Exhibitor in each of these categories. An exhibit in this category consists of one (1) properly sealed, properly filled, standard, clear, half-pint or pint canning jar with a metal, two-part lid and ring band closure. Entries that are not properly sealed will not be judged and will be disqualified. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, cleanliness, proper fill, visual appeal, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the condiment and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit. *If the proper canning of an exhibit requires a headspace in the jar that deviates from the jars fill ring, the proper headspace for the product should be used, and the same should be noted on the white descriptive card submitted with the exhibit.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the jar at the front, bottom, center, approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

HONEY CANDY (F9 & P9)

A candy is a small (bite-sized) piece of sweet food in which one of the primary ingredients is some form of sugar, often combined with chocolate, fruit, nuts, or other ingredients. An Exhibitor may submit one example of a honey candy prepared by the Exhibitor. An exhibit consists of six (6) pieces or servings. The recipe for the exhibit must include honey produced by the Exhibitor. All entries will be tasted. Entries are to be presented on a cardboard base, in a standard, unembellished, cardboard baker's or cake box; cake boxes with clear windows are also acceptable. Exhibitors, if they wish to, may place their item in a sealed zip-top bag, or wrap the item in paper or plastic film to preserve freshness; the bagged or wrapped item should be submitted in the cardboard baker's or cake box. All entries will be tasted. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein, appearance, uniformity, moistness, texture, aroma, flavor, influence of honey on the finished product, and originality. *A white card with a description of the item and the recipe (including all ingredients, ingredient quantities, & procedure) must accompany each exhibit.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the top, exterior panel of the box the exhibit is submitted in approximately ½ inch from the front edge of the box. Additionally, the Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the white card accompanying the exhibit.

Appendix

Notes on Correct Fill Level:

- The correct fill level on jarred honey entries is at the top of the fill ring of the jar, without going over.
- The fill ring is the raised ridge, or ring of glass, immediately above the shoulder of the jar and below the threads. It can be distinguished from the threads in two ways:
  a) the fill ring forms a complete circle, without ends; and
  b) the fill ring will be completely parallel with the bottom and top of the jar.
- Liquid honey in a circular shape forms a concave surface sometimes referred to as a meniscus. For the purpose of filling jars, the edge of the meniscus should clearly be at the top of the fill ring, without going over.