

NCSBA “BLACK JAR” HONEY CONTEST

RULES AND INFORMATION

Taste is the only thing that matters to the Judges!

- 1) Any registered conference attendee may enter honey in the contest and also serve as a Judge (may do either or both). The honey must have been produced in North Carolina by the Entrant – either individually or as part of a family, business, Chapter, or other group project for which he or she serves as the representative.
- 2) Only one entry is allowed per individual, business, Chapter, or other group. Two entries are allowed per family if the honeys are different, if 2 different names are used to sign in the 2 entries, and if both people are attending the conference under a family registration.
- 3) Twelve (12) to 16 oz of honey must be submitted in a squeezable container whose lid can later be replaced with a dripless, flip-top lid after the honey is signed in. This is a FIRM REQUIREMENT because the honey must be squeezed out onto the Judges’ tasting spoons without removing the lid. Classic 1-lb honey containers are preferred because the contest organizers strive for entry uniformity, but honey-bears are also acceptable if it’s your only option. Smaller, larger, or oddly-shaped containers cannot be used. In these cases, a limited number of containers (first-come, first-served) will be available for purchase into which you can transfer your honey before submitting. Organizers reserve the right to transfer honey into another container after it is submitted.
- 4) The Entrant must sign in the honey and leave it in the designated area before the deadline stated in the conference schedule. The honey container must include the name that was used on the sign-in sheet. If the Entrant will not be arriving until later, another attendee may deliver and sign it in for the Entrant. The containers will later be randomly numbered and covered with aluminum foil to obscure names and other distinguishing marks before setting it out for judging.
- 5) Judging will take place at the time and place stated in the conference schedule. There will be a preliminary judging round to determine which entries will proceed to the final judging round. Judges are encouraged to participate in both rounds. In the preliminary round, entries will be randomly assigned to ranges so that Judges will be asked to taste a maximum of 10-15 honeys. However, they may then sign in again to judge additional ranges. Judges will vote for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places per range using blue, red, and white poker chips, respectively. Points will be assigned as follows: 3 points for every 1st place vote (blue chip), 2 points for every 2nd place (red chip), and 1 point for every 3rd place (white chip). The top three from each range will advance to the final round. In the final round, every Judge will taste all of the entries and vote in the same way. Judging will stop for all if any Entrant’s honey runs out. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be announced and presented with ribbons on the final day of the conference as indicated in the schedule.
- 6) Honey not consumed during the judging can be reclaimed after the final round of judging in the same area where it was turn in. Any honey unclaimed at the close of the conference cannot be returned.
- 7) Rules are subject to change. For example, it may become necessary to limit the number of entries due to size-constraints of the judging area. If you have questions, contact Suzy Spencer at ncsba.black.jar@gmail.com.