

## SCBA Summer 2025 Honey Show

### General Rules:

1. Entries will be accepted on Thursday, July 17, 2024, between 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., and between 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 18, 2024. Judging starts at 10:00 a.m. Pick up entries between 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Saturday, July 19. Exhibits and other items not retrieved by the deadline posted for pick-up, shall be deemed abandoned.
2. The honey show is open to any South Carolina Beekeepers Association member who is a paid conference attendee and who wishes to enter one or more exhibits. Only 1 entry allowed per family per category. 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.
3. **It is the intention that awards will be given in all categories even if there is only one exhibit in the category. However, in order to receive an award, that exhibit must be worthy of placement. Entering an exhibit into a category does not guarantee an award.**  
**Exhibits are not judged against the field, but against the standard for the particular category.**
4. ALL entries must be produced by the exhibitor from honey bees owned and kept by the Exhibitor.
5. 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.
6. Once exhibits have been accepted into the competition by the Show Secretary, they may not be altered in any way. 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 persons who may enter the honey judging area.
7. Exhibits must be unmarked or identifiable in any way, except as provided herein. 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.
8. 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.
9. All beeswax must be prepared from pure, unadulterated beeswax, free from any additives or enhancements.
10. **The black jar category is only open to SOUTH CAROLINA residents, and must be from honey produced in the state of South Carolina.**

### **Prize Points & Sweepstakes**

Prize points will be awarded to all First through Sixth place winners in all categories as follows: First Place = 6 points; Second Place = 5 points; Third Place = 4 points; Very Highly Commendable= 3 points; Highly Commendable = 2 points; and Commendable = 1 point. These points will be used to calculate the winner of the Sweepstakes Winner Award. The Sweepstakes Winner will be awarded to the exhibitor who earns the highest number of prize points across all categories.

Ribbons will be awarded as follows: First place; Second Place; Third Place; Fourth Place; Fifth Place; and Sixth Place in each category and overall Best in Show.

Best in Show is selected from all First-place winners, excluding the Black Jar category.

### **Monetary awards:**

<b>Best in Show Award</b>	<b>= \$100.00</b>
<b>Sweepstakes Winner Award</b>	<b>= \$100.00</b>

## **Categories**

- Category H1a: Light Extracted Honey
- Category H1b: Amber Extracted Honey
- Category H1c: Dark Extracted Honey
- Category H2: Novice Extracted Honey
- Category H3: Chunk Comb Honey
- Category H4: Cut Comb Honey
- Category H10: Black Jar
- Category B1a: Traditional Sweet Mead
- Category B1b: Traditional Dry Mead
- Category B1c: Varietal Sweet Mead
- Category B1d: Varietal Dry Mead
- Category P1: Photography Related to Beekeeping: Subject – **The Big 50**
- Category P2: Photography: OPEN
- Category A1: Poetry
- Category W1: Beeswax Block 1 lb.
- Category W2: Beeswax Bars
- Category W3: Novice Beeswax Candle
- Category W5: Candles (Dipped Tapers)
- Category W6: Candles (Molded Tapers)
- Category W8: Molded Ornamental

**Rules for each category** – Please read and follow the rules exactly. Failure to do so will result in disqualification or reduction in placement.

**H1: Extracted Honey - H1a = Light    H1b = Amber    H1c = Dark**

Extracted honey is judged in three subcategories: (a) light, (b) medium or amber, and (c) dark. Exhibitors may submit one exhibit in each of these three subcategories. One exhibit of extracted honey is defined as two (2) one-pound queenline or classic glass jars. Any other type or style of jars will be disqualified. Closures may be of metal or plastic. Tamper-proof seals are strictly prohibited; any exhibits submitted with any tamper-proof seal(s) will be disqualified. Judges evaluate entries on the following: Cleanliness of the jar and lid (inside and out); 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).

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, and approximately ½ inch from the bottom of the jar.

**H2: Novice Extracted Honey**

This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a first prize **in any extracted honey category** at any prior honey show. An exhibit consists of one (1) one-pound jar of extracted honey. Except for the number of jars which comprise an entry, the judging criteria is the same as that for Extracted Honey.

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.

**H3: Chunk Comb Honey**

One entry of chunk honey is defined as two (2) one-pound jars. Chunk honey must be displayed in straight sided, uncolored, glass, wide mouth, jars. The glass should not be embossed. Such jars are available from many commercial beekeeping suppliers. Only one chunk of comb should be in each jar for competition. The chunk of comb must be in one piece, of uniform thickness, with a straight mid rib. The cuts should be clean and uniform. The chunk comb should be cut and sized to appropriately fit the container. The honey should fill the rest of the jar to the correct fill line. The comb should be oriented in the container as found naturally in the hive. Comb with watery cappings should be avoided. The comb should extend the length of the jar. The chunk of comb should account for at least fifty percent (50%) of the internal volume

of the jar. 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 entry; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; absence of “wet” or “watery” cappings; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors).

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.

#### **H4: Cut Comb Honey**

An exhibit of cut comb honey is three (3) boxes. The boxes must be transparent on all sides, and made for displaying cut comb. Each section should weigh a minimum of twelve (12) ounces. The chunk of comb must be in one piece, with a straight mid rib and of uniform thickness. Comb with watery cappings should be avoided. The cuts should be clean and uniform. There should be no leaking of honey from comb into the box. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth herein; uniformity of appearance and color (including the honey in the comb); cleanliness of the jar and lid; cleanliness and clarity of the honey; absence of uncapped cells, absence of “wet” or “watery” cappings; freedom from granulation, pollen, and brood; moisture content (only if needed); and aroma and flavor (for off aromas or flavors). Total weight of the entire exhibit (all sections) may be used as a tiebreaker.

The Exhibitor shall place ID one label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on each of the containers comprising the exhibit. The labels should be affixed at the front, bottom, center of each container.

#### **H10: Black Jar**

An entry consists of not less than two ounces, or more than four ounces, of pure, unadulterated honey. The required jar will be provided by the Show Secretary at the sign-in table. Judges evaluate entries for flavor only. **This category is only open to SOUTH CAROLINA residents, and must be from honey produced in the state of South Carolina.**

Black jar entries become the property of the Honey Show upon submission. Your entry will not be returned to you. However, if you wish to get your entry returned to you, a one-dollar fee will be required when you enter, that will cover our cost for the jar. The fee must be paid when you submit your entry.

If your entry wins a ribbon, your entry fee will be returned to you when you collect your ribbon.

Exact amount of the fee must be brought at the time of submission.

## **B1: Mead**

**B1a = Traditional Sweet - B1b = Traditional Dry - B1c = Varietal Sweet - B1d = Varietal Dry**

Meads are judged in four subcategories: (a) Traditional Sweet, (b) Traditional Dry, (c) Varietal Sweet, and (d) 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 these 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; traditional, inserted corks will not be accepted by the Show Secretary. 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: confirmation 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 and ingredient quantities) 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 affix an additional identifying label around the neck of the bottle to be chilled.

## **P1: Photography Related to Beekeeping: Subject – The BIG 50**

An Exhibitor may submit one example of the designated topic. The photograph must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The number '50' must be a prominent feature of the photograph. It can be comprised of honey, wax, bees, woodenware or anything used by the beekeeper in the process of keeping bees. Unique or innovative displays are recommended.

The photograph must be 5 X 7, mounted on an 8 X 10 white poster board. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. \*A white card with a description of the item must accompany each exhibit.

The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor an identifying label to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the back of the exhibit, centered near the top.

## **P2: Photographs Related to Beekeeping – Open**

An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related photography of their own composition. The photograph must be related to some aspect of apiculture, and it must be the original composition of the Exhibitor. The photograph must be 5 X 7, mounted on an 8 X 10 white poster board. It must stand up for display; either equipped with an easel back, or the entrant must provide an easel on which to display the photograph. Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. \*A white card with a description of the item must accompany each 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 of the exhibit (centered near the top), and the second label on the front, bottom, right-hand corner of the white card accompanying the exhibit.

## **A1: Poetry Related to Beekeeping**

This category includes the literary art of rhythmical composition for exciting pleasure, thought, action, or even disquiet by beautiful, imaginative, or elevated thoughts. An Exhibitor may submit one example of any beekeeping-related poetry of their own creation, of not more than 200 words or 20 lines, whichever is greater, excluding title line. All poems may be either neatly handwritten or printed, single or double line spacing. Poems may be of any form, or style. All entries must be original works. **To celebrate the SCBA 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the poem must be composed using the theme of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, “Past, Present, Future”.**

Judges evaluate entries on the following: subject matter, aesthetic appeal, technical proficiency, creativity, and originality. \*A white card stating the title of the poem, the style of the poem, and the story or inspiration behind the poem, must accompany each exhibit. The Show Secretary will provide each exhibitor identifying labels to be affixed to the exhibit. The Exhibitor shall place one label on the first page, at the bottom, left-hand corner of the of the exhibit. \*Copyright of each poem remains with the author, but the host organization has the unrestricted right to publish the winning poems in its newsletter and on its website, plus unrestricted rights to use the winning poems and any related material for PR purposes.

## **W1: Beeswax Block**

An exhibit consists of one (1) block of pure beeswax. The block must weigh no less than 16 ounces and no more than 17 ounces. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate 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 that of 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 smooth-surfaced and free of blemishes, decorations or embellishments. Preferable color should be lemon yellow with a pleasant fragrance. The block should be submitted on a plain, white paper plate, in a zip-top bag. Judges evaluate entries on the following: Cleanliness; color; finish; and aroma (for off aromas). 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 right-hand top corner of the plastic bag.

## **W2: Beeswax Bars**

An exhibit is defined as three (3) identical one (1) ounce beeswax bars. The preferred colors of beeswax range from white into all natural shades of the color palate 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 that of 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 bars should be submitted on a plain, white paper plate, in a zip-top bag. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the bottom center of the paper plate the wax blocks were submitted on, and the second label on the lower right-hand corner of the plastic bag.

### **W3: Novice Beeswax Candle**

**This category is open only to exhibitors who have never won a first prize in any beeswax candle category.**

An exhibit is defined as one beeswax candle. The beeswax should be of a vibrant, natural beeswax color, and should have a pleasant, natural beeswax fragrance. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Wicks should be trimmed to one-half inch in length. The candle should have a flat base with the wick waxed and well centered. The minimum length of the candle is eight inches. The candle 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. 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.

### **W5: Beeswax Candles (Dipped Tapers)**

An exhibit for dipped tapers is defined as two pairs of two connected candles (a total of four candles). The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Preferable color of the wax should be lemon yellow with a pleasant fragrance. Dipped tapers should have the last drip left on; the wicks must be left joined. The minimum length of all taper candles is eight inches. One of the candles in each exhibit will be burned. The exhibit should be presented with one (1) free-standing, fire-proof base or candleholder. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); and uniformity.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the bottom, or at the base, of each of the candles, and another label on the bottom of the candleholder.

### **W6: Beeswax Candles (Molded Tapers)**

An exhibit for molded tapers is defined as three (3) candles. The wax should be clean, and free of impurities. Preferable color of the wax should be lemon yellow with a pleasant fragrance. Molded tapers must have flat finished bases with wicks well centered. The minimum length of all taper candles is eight inches. Wicks must be waxed and trimmed to one-half inch in length. One of the candles in each exhibit will be burned. All candles should be presented in a free-standing, fire-proof base or candleholder. Judges evaluate entries on the following: conformation with the criteria set forth herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, on the bottom of each of the candleholders the candles were submitted with, and another label on the bottom, or at the base, of each of the candles.



**W8: Beeswax Candles (Molded Ornamental)**

An exhibit is defined as three (3) candles. The wax should be clean, and free of all impurities. Preferable color of the wax should be lemon yellow with a pleasant fragrance. Wicks must be trimmed to one-half inch in length. The form must have a flat finished base with wicks waxed and well centered. Candles will be judged on the herein criteria as well casting flaws and sharpness of detail. One of the candles in each exhibit will be burned. Judges evaluate entries on the following: confirmation with the criteria set forth in herein; cleanliness; color; aroma (for off aromas); uniformity; casting flaws; and sharpness of detail.

The Exhibitor shall place one ID label, as provided by the honey show Secretary, I on the bottom of each of the candleholders the candles were submitted with, and another label on the bottom, or at the base, of each of the candles.



## Appendix

### Notes on Correct Fill Level:

- 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.



Queenline Style Jar



Classic Style