

Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre CAMRA Good Beer Guide – Branch Nominations Rules

Introduction

Our Branch (BFW) can nominate pubs and clubs (hereafter referred to as pubs) within its area for inclusion in CAMRA's annual Good Beer Guide (GBG). The maximum number of nominations allowed is notified to the Branch by the Regional Director. (The maximum as at February 2017 is 23). The branch may also nominate any number of reserves to take the place of any nominated pub should they need to be withdrawn for any reason during the publication process.

We aim to nominate in a fair and consistent manner. These rules will be subject to review by the Branch as appropriate.

They were approved by the Branch at the Branch Meeting held in March 2017 for GBG selection from the 2019 edition onwards.

Aim

To nominate each year those pubs serving the consistently best quality and condition real ale within BFW for inclusion in the GBG.

Summary Procedure

- 1 Each month Branch members are encouraged to score beer quality for pubs visited, either via the Branch website, the WhatPub website or by handing a written list to the Branch Pubs Officer(s) (POs).
- 2 Members should not vote more than once per month for any pub. Multiple scores will be averaged out.
- 3 Scores are entered monthly for the period January to December inclusive each year and are averaged to provide a cumulative total average (CTA) for the year for all scores to date.
- 4 Any pub that do not receive a score in specific month is given the CTA.
- 5 The PO(s) consider the averaged scores and present recommendations for GBG nominations to the Branch committee in January.
- 6 The committee then presents its recommended nominations for discussion to the Branch meeting in January and that Branch decision is final.

To ensure as far as possible that our approach is both fair and consistent, the following rules will be applied :-

Rules

- 1 Scores must be made in accordance with CAMRA's National Beer Scoring System (NBSS).
- 2 Licensees, bar staff and those closely involved in the management of pubs must not score the pub they are involved with. If they do, their vote will be disqualified by all of the POs and the Branch Chair and Branch Chair will inform them of the decision. The branch will be informed of any disqualified vote.
- 3 The POs and Branch Chair, collectively and not by a majority decision, may disqualify any vote if they believe that it is an attempt to artificially boost or reduce and pubs score. The Branch Chair will inform them of the decision. The branch will be informed of any disqualified vote.
- 4 When selecting pubs to recommend to the branch, the POs should consider the following:
 - a) Pubs with the highest average scores should be selected.
 - b) A pub should be scored for a minimum of six months in the year and in each quarter of the year that it is open.
 - c) A pub should not be included if more than 75% of it's vote is from one member.
 - d) A pub should not be included if its average score is less than the "Good" score in NBSS.
 - e) A club that does not allow CAMRA members access is not eligible for entry into the GBG.



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The PO(s) may recommend that pubs, for whatever reason, should, or should not, be included in the GBG if good reason is given and the Committee and Branch agree.

- 5 Survey trips should be made once a quarter. The pubs visited should be decided by the POs to investigate any pub identified as in need of survey, in particular rural pubs. Such trips will be open to Branch members on a first come, first served basis provided they are prepared to score the pubs correctly.
- 6 The POs should ensure that fair representation is given to the geographic spread of the region assuming that pubs pass other criteria.
- 7 If ownership of a pub changes, its previous monthly scores for the year will be replaced with the CTA for all previous months of the current year.
- 8 New real ale outlets during the year will also be awarded the CTA score for all previous months before being entered onto the voting list.
- 9 The January Branch nomination meeting to discuss the Committee's proposals should be held centrally to avoid, if possible, difficulties in attending other venues.
- 10 The POs will then ensure that the relevant pubs/clubs are entered into WhatPub as the GBG nominations for the Branch.

CAMRA's NBSS Ratings

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| 5 | Perfect | Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely. |
| 4.5 | Very Good/Perfect | Possibly close to the best you ever had, but not for sure. |
| 4 | Very Good | Excellent beer in excellent condition. |
| 3.5 | Good/Very Good | You will probably stay here rather than move on. |
| 3 | Good | Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again. |
| 2.5 | Average/Good | It is better than average but perhaps not a definite good. |
| 2 | Average | Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing. |
| 1.5 | Poor/Average | You think of finishing your ale and moving on. |
| 1 | Poor | Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment. |
| 0.5 | Undrinkable/Poor | Beer undrinkable, so poor you have to take it back or can't finish it. |
| 0 | No real ale | No cask ale available or so poor you have to take it back or can't finish it. |

