



BJCP Mountain/Northwest Region Representative Candidate Statement for:

Bob Hall
Bigfork, MT

I, Bob Hall, am running for the Mountain/Northwest BJCP representative. I am a Grand Master 2 beer judge. I recently moved to Bigfork, Montana after 19 years judging in Wyoming and Colorado. My day job is professor at University of Montana where I work at a field station on Flathead Lake. I am on the board of a local cooperative brewery. My experience and goals for being your BJCP representative are below.

I brew a lot of beer. I started brewing 29 years ago after college, and I currently focus on lagers, sours, and hoppy styles. Flathead Lake has many relic apple orchards, so now I make (and enter) traditional ciders. I enjoy entering beers in competitions; the feedback improves my beer brewing and entering ensures that what I write on scoresheets is what I would want to read as an entrant. I have won 2 medals at National Homebrewers Competition (NHC) and had 3 AHA Pro-Am entries.

In 1993 I took the BJCP exam in Atlanta and have been judging continuously since then. Judging improved my brewing by compelling me to link the process of brewing with beer evaluation. I have judged NHC first and final rounds. My service to BJCP has included grading many sets of exams. I proctor BJCP exams about once per year and have administered 4 sets, including here in Montana. I helped write the original 1998 BJCP

style guidelines. I currently serve as an assistant representative for the BCJP Mountain/Northwest region. I have interests in education and often present talks on technical and style aspects of brewing at AHA conferences.

The BJCP continues to grow. To meet this growth the BCJP made great strides in streamlining the exam process both for the benefits of the examinees and the graders. However, there is still a need for more graders, which requires more National-plus judges. I would like to work with facilitating training and advancing of judges. Additionally, I would like to assist with a formal, data-based assessment of exams to enable long term evolution of exam structure. Lastly, with large growth, I would like to facilitate ways for members to engage and volunteer with the organization. This task may naturally flow through the regional representatives who have close contact with members.

An important aspect of the representative position is to be a liaison between regional BJCP judges and the organization. I will serve all BJCP judges in our large region, despite living somewhat far from the brewing population centers. Members can contact me any time. I will conference call with assistant representatives seasonally to facilitate communication within our large region. I usually attend the AHA conference, and will continue as a representative. I will travel to Seattle, Portland Denver, and the Southwest to judge throughout my term. My wife's family is from Seattle and I travel to Colorado twice a year to judge and drink. I will enjoy meeting judges to grab a beer and discuss the BJCP.