

# 2026 PA FARM SHOW

## DEPARTMENT 34 - BEER CONTEST

### MEET YOUR COMMITTEE CHAIR PEOPLE!

**John Stemler** is currently the brewmaster of Pagoda City Brewing and former co-founder and brewmaster of Free Will. John fell in love with the science and art of making beer and decided it was the best fit for his skill set. With a love for the fine details in brewing, John is a great fit for the beer contest chair.



**JUDGING WILL TAKE PLACE:  
SATURDAY DECEMBER 13, 2025**

### ENTRY DEADLINE

**All entries must be made online using Fair Entry Software no later than November 7, 2025.**

**The deadline for beer arrival is November 14, 2025, by 3:00 p.m.**

**If beer is shipped it must be shipped to arrive between Monday, November 3 and Friday, November 14, 2025, by 3:00 p.m.**

**Please be sure to review all general rules and department rules prior to entering.**



PA Secretary of Agriculture, Russell C. Redding

Pennsylvania's State Fair showcases top competitors from 108 county and local fairs, and the diversity and quality of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry, the innovative people who make it thrive, and the faces of our proud past and promising future. The show offers visitors a peek into the industry that supports 593,000 Pennsylvania jobs and contributes \$132.5 billion to Pennsylvania's economy every year. See you at the PA Farm Show!

# *What's New* *for Beer*

***New Recommendation***

***Made in Pennsylvania***

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# RULES AND REGULATIONS

Links	<p>See General Rules and Regulations online at  <a href="https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/rules-regulations">https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/rules-regulations</a></p> <p>Enter online at  <a href="https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/forms-registration">https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/forms-registration</a></p>
General	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This competition is open to any Pennsylvania Limited Brewery with a licensed professional brewer 21 years of age or older and is also an active member of the Brewer's of Pennsylvania (BOP) guild.</li> <li>2. All entries must be made in Pennsylvania for commercial use.</li> <li>3. A contestant may make up to ten (10) entries.</li> <li>4. An entry must consist of at least three (3) units (minimum of 12 oz. each) in a hermetically sealed vessel.</li> <li>5. A product may only enter and compete in one department per year and must be appropriately labeled in correspondence with the entry. Violation of this rule will result in the product being disqualified from each department entered.</li> <li>6. In order to be eligible to participate in the sampling and sales of beer at the 2026 Farm Show, a brewery must enter at least one (1) beer for judging.</li> </ol>
Entry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. All Entries will be accepted online only by November 7. To register online go to <a href="http://pafarmfl.fairentry.com">http://pafarmfl.fairentry.com</a>.</li> <li>8. Register using the Company Name.</li> </ol>
Entry Fee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. The fee for beer entries is \$35.00 per entry.</li> <li>10. Payment is made with the online entry.</li> </ol>
Made in Pennsylvania	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. It is <u>recommended</u> that entries should contain a raw agricultural commodity (i.e. grain, hops) or value-added agricultural product (i.e. malt) that was grown and/or processed in Pennsylvania. Grain, malt, hops, or adjunct ingredients (i.e. fruit, herbs, spices, etc.) from another state or country bought by a local Pennsylvania broker do not qualify as Pennsylvania agricultural commodity/product. Water is also not to be considered.</li> </ol>

*New!*

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Submission

11. If beer is shipped it must be shipped to arrive between Monday, November 3 and Friday, November 14, 2025 prior to 3:00 p.m.

Ship to: Farm Show Beer Competition  
Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center  
2300 N. Cameron St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9443

12. If beer is hand delivered to the Farm Show Complex, they must arrive at the Cameron Street Lobby Security Desk no later than Friday, November 14, 2025, prior to 3:00 p.m.

13. The box form for the beer entered must be completed and received with the beer being submitted.

14. All beer submitted should be marked on the outside of the shipping case: "2026 Farm Show Beer Competition."

## Judging

15. Judging will be private and completed prior to the opening of the Farm Show. All beer will be properly stored cold and chilled prior to judging.

16. Tasting format: All beer will be judged based on the BJCP style guidelines. Top three brews per category will be awarded first, second, and third for general competition.

17. Following competition, brews will be displayed at the Farm Show. Best of Show Award will be presented.

18. Beer(s) being entered into the PA Preferred® category should be noted as such. These beers will be judged against respective class and the beer with the highest overall score will be awarded the PA Preferred® Legacy Award as well as 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. PA Preferred guidelines for beer entries are as follows: 75% of the entry grist and/or 75% of the hop bill, and/or all of the fruit addition (if any) are PA grown.

19. Placing will be offered on merit of excellence, not entry alone. Therefore, in any one class all placings may not be awarded if, in the judge's opinion, entries do not merit placement. This may also result in the omission of some placements such as first or second for awarding of only a third.

20. Decision of judges is final.

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Judging, Continued

21. In the case that a brewer serves as a judge, that judge will not be permitted to judge the classes that they have entered. Furthermore, in the event that a judge is a competing brewer and at least one of their entries is being judged for Best in Show, that judge will be recused from judging the class.

See General Rules, Regulations & Health Requirements online at  
<https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/rules-regulations>

Use shipping tag online at  
<https://www.farmshow.pa.gov/pafarmshow/exhibit/forms-registration>

## HOW TO ENTER



Use Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox for best results.



Register all entries for each exhibitor in the family before proceeding to payment section.



Be sure to click the SUBMIT button when you have completed your entries.



Check your email inbox for a confirmation email with a list of your entries and invoice.



Be sure you receive the second email when your entries are approved by the Farm Show.



[Step by step entry video](#)



[Step by step entry document](#)



# CLASSES

JUDGE	DATES/TIMES
TBD	<b>Beer Judging</b> Saturday, December 13, 2025

1	Standard American Beer	18	Pale American Ale
2	International Lager	19	Amber and Brown American Beer
3	Czech Lager	20	American Porter & Stout
4	Pale Malt European Lager	21	IPA
5	Pale Bitter European Beer	22	Strong American Ale
6	Amber Malt European Lager	23	European Sour Ale
7	Amber Bitter European Beer	24	Belgian Ale
8	Dark European Lager	25	Strong Belgian Ale
9	Strong European Beer	26	Monastic Ale
10	German Wheat Beer	27	Historical Beer
11	British Bitter	28	American Wild Ale
12	Pale Commonwealth Beer	29	Fruit Beer
13	Brown British Beer	30	Spiced Beer
14	Scottish Ale	31	Alternative Fermentables Beer
15	Irish Beer	32	Smoked Beer
16	Dark British Beer	33	Wood Beer
17	Strong British Ale	34	Specialty Beer

\*Please note, BJCP Style Guideline subcategories are listed in FairEntry. Choose the correct subcategory when entering.

## AWARDS

**Per Class:** First, Second, and Third - Ribbons. First place will also be awarded a gift certificate from an industry trade vendor.

**Best in Show:** Trophy and a gift certificate from an industry trade vendor.

**PA Preferred® Legacy Award** sponsored by PA Preferred® and a gift certificate from an industry trade vendor.

# PENNSYLVANIA STATE FARM PRODUCTS SHOW

[www.farmshow.pa.gov](http://www.farmshow.pa.gov)

## 2026 Beer Box Tag

**ALL ENTRIES MUST BE MADE ONLINE BY NOVEMBER 7, 2025**

Beer (along with a box tag) **must arrive on November 14, 2025, prior to 3:00 p.m.**

Ship beer to: Pennsylvania Farm Show Beer Competition, PA Farm Show Complex & Expo Center,  
2300 N. Cameron St., Harrisburg, PA 17110-9443

**PLEASE PRINT**

**FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND COMPLETE**

BREWERY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BREWERY ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE#:( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX#:( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: \_\_\_\_\_

	Class Number	Beer Name	Style	Brewer's Notes - <b><i>Please be sure to exclude notes that may reveal the brewery's identity</i></b> (More space on back. Space for additional notes will be available on the box forms used in beer shipments)	PA Preferred Brew?* (Y/N)	If entering as a PA Preferred Brew please list locally sourced ingredients here**
Entry #1						
Entry #2						
Entry #3						
Entry #4						
Entry #5						
Entry #6						

\*Is your business a member of the PA Preferred program? (Apply at [www.papreferred.com](http://www.papreferred.com))

\*\*A PA Preferred Brew contains a majority of PA grown and sourced ingredients and must be registered in the PA Preferred program.

Total Number of Beers Entered \_\_\_\_\_ (**Maximum of 10**)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# FIRE REGULATIONS

1. All exit corridors and emergency exits must be kept clear; no partial blocking will be permitted.
2. All fire alarm pull stations must be kept clear.
3. Fire extinguishers may not be covered by any drapes or hidden by any type of displays.
4. No motorized camping units or vehicles may contain more than one (1) gallon of fuel while on display.
5. All pressurized fuel tanks may be drained.
6. All fuel fills must be locked and fuel caps must be taped closed with duct tape.
7. Any living trees and shrubs are acceptable as long as the shrubbery is individually bagged and baled.
8. Artificial trees and shrubbery must be treated with a flame proofing material. The fire official may request certification of flame proofing.
9. Any type of mulch materials must be treated with a flame proofing material or watered daily. If treated with a flame proofing material, certification may be requested by the fire official.
10. Smoking is prohibited in the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center.
11. No open flames, fires or burning of any kind will be permitted within the Complex. No exterior burning is allowed unless the Department of Environmental Protection and the Bureau of Fire grant permission.
12. Vendors setting up tents, canopies and membrane covering must provide fire department with fire rating of material. Vendors must also provide any required portable fire extinguishers as needed.
13. Outside propane tanks shall be protected by posts or other approved physical barriers (Jersey barriers).
14. Extinguishers need to be visible, accessible and located in a conspicuous location where they will be readily accessible and immediately available for uses. These locations shall be along normal paths of travel.
15. Doors shall never be blocked or tied off.
16. The Fire Prevention Code of Harrisburg will be strictly enforced.

Contact the Harrisburg Bureau of Fire with any questions regarding the above regulations at 717-255-6464 or fax to 717-255-6448.

**R. E. Gallatin Jr.**  
**Fire Inspector**  
**123 Walnut St. Suite 220**  
**Harrisburg, PA 17101**  
**Phone: 717-225-3105**





# 2026 PA FARM SHOW

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS

### EARLY DETECTION

- Early detection is the most effective way to prevent emergencies or lessen their impacts.
- Vendors and exhibitors will likely be the first to witness, experience, or report incidents.
- You can be the difference in preventing something harmful from happening.
- To report any type of threat or emergency incident, notify the PA State Police Command Post.

### BOMB THREATS

- Threats can be made in person, by phone, or in written message.
- Collect as much detailed information as possible about the threat (when, why, how, exact wording of threat, type of voice, personal appearance, clothing description, name, gender, phone number, physical address).
- It is especially important to know the perpetrator's timeline for activation of the device (when will it occur?).
- Immediately report the threat to the State Police Command Post.
- Authorities will investigate the threat and make the proper decisions accordingly in coordination with facility management.

### LOST CHILDREN

- Be sure to get the full name of the lost child and keep them safe with you. Notify the Farm Show security desk or closest security/law enforcement team. PSP or Farm Show staff will help to reunite lost children with loved ones.

### STATE POLICE

**717-787-4171**

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### FARM SHOW SECURITY

**717-231-6565**

### SHELTER IN PLACE

- Although rare, there could be incidents that occur outside the facility that could put people at risk (chemical fire, very severe weather). In these instances, a shelter-in-place plan will be implemented for the welfare of all occupants.

### SUSPICIOUS OBJECT

- Do not touch or disturb the object.
- Maintain a safe distance from the object and attempt to isolate the area.
- Notify the State Police Command Post with a description and location of the object.

### SUSPICIOUS PERSON

- Observe the circumstances and behavior of the suspicious activity.
- Notify the State Police Command Post and provide as much detail as possible.
- Details about the person should include direction of travel, appearance, height and weight, build, clothing, speech, and anything about the behavior that indicates suspicion.

## SEE SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!

Security and Law Enforcement Stations are located at the Cameron Street Lobby entrance and the Crossroads Security Office

# EMERGENCY

## PREPAREDNESS TIPS

### STATE POLICE

**717-787-4171**

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### FARM SHOW SECURITY

**717-231-6565**

## FLOODING

- Facility management will attempt to mitigate the effects of flooding and natural disasters before they happen and will work with all show vendors during this type of event.
- The Maclay and West parking lots are susceptible to flash flooding.
- Avoid contact with flood water.
- If major interstates or surrounding roads are being closed, facility management will make announcements accordingly.

## MEDICAL EMERGENCY

- Notify the State Police Command Post and they will dispatch emergency medical services to the location.
- Describe the nature and severity of the medical incident and location of the victim.
- Do not attempt to move the person unless you are a trained medical responder.
- Stay with the victim and seek help from others if necessary.
- If rendering aid due to your training, be careful not to expose yourself to hazards such as fire, electricity, hazardous materials, or blood borne pathogens

## FIRE & EVACUATION

- If you see a fire, activate the nearest alarm or notify the Farm Show Security Desk.
- The City of Harrisburg Bureau of Fire will respond to the alarm.
- When the building evacuation alarm is activated, leave by the closest and safest exit and alert others to do the same.
- Quickly take all personal belongings.
- Please listen to the instructions of the PA system announcements, Farm Show Complex employees, or responders.
- Do not use elevators!
- The facility is equipped with sprinklers and ABC fire extinguishers.
- Once outside, move a safe distance from the building.
- Do not return to an evacuated building until the 'all-clear' sign is provided by the Fire Chief, a Police Officer, or any other official first responder.
- Do not operate cell phones during an evacuation until the 'all-clear' is given

## VIOLENT BEHAVIOR

- Your safety comes first. Use your best judgement to preserve your life.
- Report any physical abuse to the State Police Command Post.
- If there's an active shooter in the facility but not in your area, evacuate the facility and find safety.
- If the active shooter is near your area and preventing your escape, go to a room that can be lock or barricaded or hide and remain silent.
- If the shooter knows you are there but you feel you can flee, quickly evacuate the area.
- If you feel like fleeing is not possible, you can either confront, or attempt to overpower the person.
- If there is a shooter, messages regarding the known location of that person may be broadcast over the PA System.

## SEE SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING!

Security and Law Enforcement Stations are located at the Cameron Street Lobby entrance and the Crossroads Security Office