

The THC board of directors is at this time made of Linda Swihart, Lloyd Chatham, Kevin Doerr, Alan Schwab, and Victor Kostyuchenko. Our primary interest is the welfare of the club -- its continued healthy existence and growth, the development of a robust organization with an active, involved membership. We have discussed the topic of membership dues quite a bit, and have decided to implement an annual club dues requirement for people who wish to be "members." People preferring not to join will still be very welcome at all meetings, will still be our friends and homebrewing companions, and still have the same opportunity to belong to the email list and be registered users of the bulletin board as members. Until such active and involved membership makes changes in the rules.

Q. What cost?

A. Annual \$10, \$5 after June 30.

Q. What will that money be used for?

A. We will start very small, because what we will get from the dues will be rather small. The following are a small number of examples of things: expenses for entering and shipping to Club-Only-Competition entries, expenses for miscellaneous educational and homebrewing promoting activities -- e.g. build a jockey box as an educational group activity, to serve beer at events, and to be borrowed by members for private events. Annual small contribution to B.I.G. for THC as a supporting member. Pay for ingredients for beers served at events. Build a brewing system as an educational example, for borrowing and use by members. Own a few kegs -- and maintain them as the o-rings or poppets need replaced -- for storing beers/meads for events. Establish a library. Provide one one-year AHA membership as a prize in a drawing once or twice a year. Give small gift/reward for meeting hosts. Offer gas money to exam proctors for BJCP exams.....

Q. Don't we already have a treasury? How exactly have we been generating money until now, anyway?

A. Minimal, created by just a few people doing quite a bit of work, not sustainable, leading to serious burn-out. Buttons, T-shirts, beer glass jewelry and "beerrings" (earrings featuring beer-related charms). Also, board members and other very gung-ho people have been contributing their own money and not asking for reimbursement, e.g. beer for the initial Winter Warmers, replacing broken glasses, buying supplies for posters....

Q. What do members get?

A. They get to have a small but tangible investment in helping make this the club a healthy and active entity that will last. They are eligible to register for any BJCP study classes offered (these are "free" except for the beer cost, which is \$50 – \$80) until they are filled, to enter Club-only-Competitions, and are eligible to volunteer and participate for free at some very cool events. **Members are eligible to vote when there is a vote among the membership.** Also they get access to club board meeting records and finance reports, eligibility to borrow club equipment. Maybe someday there can be some discount program but until then, your membership card will only be good for some warm fuzzies.

Q. Can I just pay for one year from the time I join?

A. No. Bookkeeping that (keeping track of who owes dues every month!) is far more cumbersome for the secretary.

Q. Is there a family membership?

A. No. One membership is one vote. Maybe later. It will be up to the members.

We have what we believe to be an adequate and simple set of starter rules. We call it the provisional membership agreement:

The very basic purpose of this agreement is to allow the Board of Directors to define the Membership of the Club, and subsequently, to allow the Members to define the Club. This agreement is meant to be as minimal as possible to allow the Members to fully participate in the definition the bylaws of the Club. All of this is, of course, designed to help the Club be effective at enjoying and promoting the hobby of homebrewing.

Until bylaws are ratified, all Club governance matters will continue to be handled by the Board of Directors.

Members of the Board of Directors must be Members of THC.

Membership is \$10, due January 1. New Members joining after June 30 of a year may join for \$5 for the remainder of that year.

Membership is open to anyone who can legally drink alcohol in the state of Indiana.

Members will have the opportunity to comment on the bylaws proposed by the Board .

Members may vote to accept or reject bylaws proposed by the Board.

Bylaws must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the voting Members.

Membership form is at

<<http://www.tippyhomebrewers.org/MembershipAgreement2007.08a.doc>>

Bring it to a meeting, or send it, with your check, to

Alan Schwab
1413 Johnson St.
Lafayette IN 47904

Thank you,
THC Board