

Date: March 7, 2016

To: All LCLB staff
All Industry Associations (including: The Fermenters Guild)
All Local Government, First Nations, and Police Agencies

Re: **Special Occasion Licensed (SOL) hobby brewer/vintner competitions.**

Introduction

These changes support the implementation of the Liquor Policy Review (LPR) recommendation # 50.

50. Permit hobby brewers and vintners to apply for an SOL to host competition events, allowing homemade beers and wines to be sampled by both judges and the public.

New Policy

Amendments to the definition of “private special occasion licence” and section 15 of the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation now permit hobby brewers and vintners to obtain an SOL to hold a competition to showcase and judge beer, wine and cider that they have made.

Liquor entered into the competition can be made in a residence or in an establishment licensed under 12.1 of the Act (a “Ferment on Premises or UBrew/UVin licensee”).

There must be no charge for tasting or entry into the event by attendees (organizers may charge a fee to those who enter their products into the competition for event cost recovery).

Until further notice, if you wish to apply for a hobbyist brewer/vintner competition SOL please contact our help desk at 1-855-999-7656.

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor control and licensing in British Columbia is available on the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch website at <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/liquorregulationandlicensing>. If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch toll free in Canada at 1-866-209-2111 or 250 952-5787 if calling from the Victoria area.

Original signed by

Douglas Scott
Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager