



East Dorset CAMRA

General Rules for Nominations, Voting & Awards Presentations

Nominations

To be nominated a venue must have been open for a minimum of 6 months without change of management. Nominations must be based on the following criteria:

QUALITY OF REAL ALE/CIDER/PERRY

- Noticeable improvement in the range or quality of the real ale and/or real cider/perry.
- Making a significant contribution to promote real ale and/or real cider/perry to the public.
- Selling real ale and/or real cider/perry at a consistently high standard over a period of time.

STYLE, DÉCOR, FURNISHING AND CLEANLINESS

- The pub/club should provide a comfortable, pleasant and safe environment throughout.
- The pub/club and glasses should be clean. Toilets should be hygienic and clean with hot water, suitable hand drying facilities etc.
- Are the décor and furnishing appropriate to the style of pub/club? Do they suit what it is setting out to be and is the décor in good order?

SERVICE, WELCOME AND OFFERING

- Service should be welcoming, friendly, polite and also prompt whenever possible. If the pub/club is busy, a friendly acknowledgement of your presence is desirable.
- You should be treated like a valued customer and made to feel at ease.
- Staff should be knowledgeable about and enthusiastically promote real ales (and cider and perry if applicable),
- Staff should know how to pick up and hold a customer's glass.
- Do you feel welcome to have a drink without having a meal?
- Where possible, products from local producers should be included.
- The pub/club should be welcoming to all and avoid causing offence to any sections of society. This includes websites and other aspects of social media.
- Within its limitations, does the pub/club offer other products/services which may enhance a visit: good quality soft drinks, food, Wi-Fi etc.?

ALIGNMENT WITH CAMRA PRINCIPLES

- Prices and opening hours should be clearly displayed.

- You should get a full measure or a top up without asking. Does the pub/club use oversized glasses?
- Is real ale (cider and perry where applicable) promoted in a positive way?
- Real ale, cider or perry should not be sold using misleading dispense methods.
- Real ales should not be served through tight sparklers unless brewed to be dispensed in that way.

To make a nomination the member must have visited the venue in the previous three months (Urban Pub of the Season) or six months (Rural Pub of the Season) or twelve months (Club/Cider Pub of the Year).

Members can make nominations

- in person at the relevant branch meeting
- via the East Dorset CAMRA branch website www.eastdorset.camra.org.uk

To make a nomination online a member must include their name, membership number, reason for the nomination based on the above criteria and confirmation that they have visited the venue within the time limits above. The reason for nomination must address all four of the criteria. Any nomination that does not include these factors will be invalid.

Members making nominations in person at the meeting must state the reason for their nomination, based on the four criteria. To be clear these are-

**QUALITY OF REAL ALE/CIDER/PERRY
STYLE, DÉCOR, FURNISHING AND CLEANLINESS
SERVICE, WELCOME AND OFFERING
ALIGNMENT WITH CAMRA PRINCIPLES**

The branch chairman confirms that online nominations are from active members prior to the relevant meeting. Online nominations will close 48 hours before the branch meeting.

CAMRA recommends shortlisting if there are more than 4 or 5 venues nominated for each election. East Dorset members have voted to shortlist 4 venues for each vote, if required. Shortlisting, should it be required, will be voted on by those attending the relevant branch meeting. Shortlisting will be based on the criteria as above. The shortlist will then be voted on by the whole membership.

Voting

Members can vote

- in person at the relevant branch meeting
- via the East Dorset CAMRA branch website www.eastdorset.camra.org.uk

Members have one vote per election. To be valid votes must include the name and CAMRA membership number of the person making the vote and confirmation that any relevant criteria have

been met. The branch chairman confirms that online votes are from active members prior to the relevant meeting. Online voting closes 48 hours before the branch meeting.

To vote the member must have visited the venue concerned in the previous three months (Urban Pub of the Season) or six months (Rural Pub of the Season) or twelve months (Urban Pub/Rural Pub/Club/Cider Pub of the Year).

At the election votes are taken by a show of hands at the respective meeting and any online votes are added to these. The online votes are kept confidential until after the show of hands. The venue with the most votes wins the award.

In the event of a tie in a Pub of the Season election then the tied venues will be joint winners. In the event of a tie in any of the annual awards a second vote between the tied venues will take place at the relevant meeting to determine an overall winner.

Presentations

It is the responsibility of the social secretary in conjunction with the branch chairman to set a suitable date for the presentation of the respective award.

It is the responsibility of the branch chairman or their nominated deputy to present the award.

Urban and Rural Pub of The Season (POTS) Awards

During 2023 the branch is piloting having an Urban Pub of the Season and a Rural Pub of the Season of equal status. To be eligible for the Rural POTS award, a venue must be located within the East Dorset branch area boundary but outside the political boundary of the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. Urban POTS is therefore selected from within the boundary of the BCP Council area.

The 'General Rules for Nominations, Voting and Award Presentations' apply.

Nominations for POTS awards are to be made at the following branch meetings:

- Spring POTS: February meeting
- Summer POTS: May meeting
- Autumn POTS: August meeting
- Winter POTS: November meeting

Voting for POTS awards takes place at the following branch meetings:

- Spring POTS: March meeting
- Summer POTS: June meeting
- Autumn POTS: September meeting
- Winter POTS: December meeting

The winners are presented with a framed certificate obtained from CAMRA HQ.

Pub of The Year (POTY) Awards

The branch is piloting having an Urban Pub of the Year and a Rural Pub of the Year in 2023. The nominees for the Urban and Rural POTY awards are the winners of the relevant POTS awards during the preceding year.

The 'General Rules for Nominations, Voting and Award Presentations' apply. Voting for both the Pubs of the Year awards takes place at the branch AGM.

Both the winners are presented with a wooden plaque obtained by the branch.

CAMRA Regional Pub of The Year Entry

Because only one pub can be entered into the CAMRA regional pub of the year competition the branch will have to select its entry from the winners of the Urban and Rural POTY. Nominations for the regional Pub of the Year must be confirmed to CAMRA by mid-March in any year.

Following the AGM members will vote either online or at the February branch meeting to select the regional CAMRA Pub of the Year entry from the winners of the Urban and Rural Pub of the Year. The 'General Rules for Nominations, Voting and Award Presentations' apply. In addition members who vote must confirm they have visited both pubs in the previous year.

Cider Pub of The Year (CPOTY) Awards

The 'General Rules for Nominations, Voting and Award Presentations' apply.

Nominations for the CPOTY award are to be made at the December branch meeting. Members must have drunk cider at the venue they are nominating and/or voting for.

Voting for the CPOTY award takes place at the branch AGM.

The winner is presented with a framed certificate obtained from CAMRA HQ.

Club of The Year (COTY) Awards

The 'General Rules for Nominations, Voting and Award Presentations' apply.

To be eligible for the COTY award, a club must be freely accessible to CAMRA members during the normal day to day operation of the club upon presentation of their membership card at the very least

Nominations for the COTY award are to be made at the December branch meeting.

Voting for the COTY award takes place at the branch AGM.

The winner is presented with a framed certificate obtained from CAMRA HQ.

Pubs nominated for more than one Award

The branch wants as many pubs to benefit from its awards as possible.

In 2023 the branch is piloting having both an Urban and Rural Pub of the Year. Either the Urban POTY or Rural POTY will be selected to be the branch entry to the CAMRA Regional POTY competition. The selected regional entry pub will therefore be withdrawn from the Cider POTY award, if it has been shortlisted.

Review of these rules

These rules will be revised annually at the March meeting of the branch.