

# THE CELLARMASTER

## Extreme 'Homebrewer of the Year' Makeover

by Norman Schaeffler

Last year was the inaugural year for the CASK Homebrewer of the Year award. This award was developed to recognize excellence in brewing and outstanding participation in our club and club events. Last year, we had good participation with 9 club members in the running for the "CASK Cup" when all the votes were tallied. This year we are looking to add more members to the race. To help accomplish this, we have added some new rules to the ways that points are awarded.

Returning from last year, each member will receive 1 point for representing CASK at a AHA Club-Only Competition, 3 points for a first place finish in a competition, 2 points for a second place finish and 1 point for a third place finish. New this year, placing in any AHA/BJCP sanctioned competition counts towards CASK Homebrewer of the Year. Also new this year, getting "Best of Show" in a competition will be rewarded with an additional 3 points. Additionally, service and contributions to the club will be recognized with 1 point awarded for making a presentation at a club meeting, up to a maximum of 3 points, and 1 point for writing an article for the newsletter, also up to a maximum of 3 points. Finally, a point will be awarded to a member that volunteers to organize a club event, like the Summer Party, Big Brew, or a road trip.

Perhaps the biggest change this year is the winners of the CASK IronBrewer, as determined by the CASK membership at the Summer Party, will receive double points in the CASK Homebrewer of the Year Competition, namely 6 points for 1st, 4 points for 2nd and 2 points for 3rd. The IronBrewer will be based on teams this year and every member of the team will be awarded these double points. Details of the new IronBrewer format are covered in Brian Hershey's article on the front page.

So in summary, the points breakdown for the 2005 CASK Homebrewer of the Year in easy to read, chart format(see next column). ■



### HOMEBREWER OF THE YEAR Point Breakdown

Rep. CASK at AHA Club-Only	1 pt
1st Place of Best of Show	3 pts
2nd Place	2 pts
3rd Place	1 pt
Iron Brew Competition	
1st Place	6 pts
2nd Place	4 pts
3rd Place	2 pts
Meeting Presentation	1 pt (3 max)
Newsletter Article	1 pt (3 max)
Organizing Summer Party, Big Brew or Road Trip	1 pt

## Beer on a 'Pod?'

by Norman Schaeffler

Over the last political season one of the big stories was the blog. Blogs, or weblogs, are web pages that allow the "blogger" to post their rants and raves, their political insights, their, or someone else's, deepest, darkest secrets.

But blogs were last year, what's the next thing coming down pike? **Podcasting!** If a blog allows anyone to be a newspaper columnist, podcasting allows anyone to be a radio personality. Podcasting is the recording of "radio" show that you then post on your web site, usually in the MP3 format. Think *The Splendid Table* or *This American Life* or *Science Friday*, only recorded in your living room with you as the host. The idea is that your fans would download the new audio file and put it on their iPod, or other MP3 Player, and listen to the show on the morning commute or run.

So what does this have to do with brewing or beer? There are, of course, podcasts devoted to beer. The Good Beer Show ([www.goodbeershow.com](http://www.goodbeershow.com)) and Australian craft brewers ([oz.craftbrewer.org/Library/index.shtml#Sound](http://oz.craftbrewer.org/Library/index.shtml#Sound)) are two good ones to get started with. The Good Beer Show features a lot of beer reviews and interviews with brewers and authors. It is actually is a very good show. Australian Craft Brewers have a whole list of radio shows about beers and brewing. So if you are looking for a new way to get your "brew-news" fix, check out a podcast. ■

