

Shrewsbury & West Shropshire CAMRA – Good Beer Guide Selection Process

Beer scores submitted by CAMRA members are a core component of the branch selection process.

The beer scoring year runs from 1st of January to the 31st of December inclusive.

The Branch NBSS co-ordinator issues a monthly beer scores summary to the Branch Committee and a final year-end report in the first week of January.

To be considered for GBG selection, a pub requires at least 10 different surveyors and a minimum average score of 3.5.

A new pub would normally only be considered for GBG entry after at least 6 months of trading.

An initial shortlisting is presented to the Branch at the January meeting to select the Branch's allocated quota of entries plus a number of reserves.

In general, if a pub meets the above core selection criteria it is deemed worthy of GBG entry unless there is recent feedback regarding deterioration in beer quality, change of cellar staff, etc.

Pubs must be open for a minimum of five days a week to be considered for inclusion.

A check is also undertaken at the meeting to ensure there is an adequate/desirable geographical spread of entries across the branch area to avoid over-concentrations and under-representations to the extent possible, whilst maintaining overall GBG entry quality;

If needed, a follow-up final selection meeting is takes place at the February Branch meeting to report back on any follow-up pub visits and agree the final GBG entries and reserves.

The branch's allocation of GBG entries represents broadly 10% of our real ale pubs and so it is inevitable that each year there will be pubs worthy of GBG entry that have to be left out. It is also desirable to have a certain degree of entry churn each year.