

SODZ Volunteer of the Year Award

Revised 9/21/2026

The strength of SODZ comes from the time and energy our members contribute to supporting the club and the homebrewing community. To recognize these efforts, we are proud to introduce the **Volunteer of the Year Award**—an annual honor celebrating the member who has gone above and beyond in service throughout the year.

The SODZ calendar resets every September and runs through the following August. Points are awarded for a variety of volunteer activities, and the member with the highest total at the end of the club year will be named Volunteer of the Year. The prize will be a \$50 gift card for Buckeye Brewcraft. Additionally, the first runner-up will earn a \$25 gift card for Buckeye Brewcraft.

The winners for the club year will be announced at the first meeting of the following club year (e.g. 2025-26 winners will be announced at the September meeting of the 2026-27 club year). This will coincide with the Brewer of the Year award presentation.

Eligibility

- Any current SODZ member in good standing may earn points.
- Sitting members of the SODZ Board of Directors are ineligible for the award.

Reporting/Tracking

The Volunteer Leaderboard will be published on the [SODZ.org](https://sodz.org) website similar to the tracking of Brewer of the Year. The Board will make every effort to account for volunteer points earned, but we ask that members let us know if we've missed anything.

For our BJCP-sanctioned events, we ask that members register for judge, steward, and staff positions on the competition websites. This will enable better tracking of these points.

Competition Points

SODZ members receive volunteer points for judging, stewarding, or serving as a staff member for SODZ competitions: British Beerfest, Beer for Boobs, Iron Kettle, monthly Club Competitions, and other competitions as they arise.

Judging – Points are earned for judging in any SODZ competition, and BJCP certification is not required to earn points.

Stewarding – Stewarding includes facilitating the monthly Club Competitions and stewarding at British Beerfest, Beer for Boobs, or at the Iron Kettle judging session.

Staff Members – This category is only for our BJCP competitions (British Beerfest and Beer for Boobs). Staff member positions include cellar staff, set-up crew, check-in crew, and fundraiser(s).

Non-Competition Points

SODZ members receive volunteer points for service to the club in educational, outreach, and other activities. The following is a list of ways to earn points. If you are unsure about an activity's eligibility for volunteer points, please ask a board member.

Club Event Support – This includes taking on a lead role in planning or facilitating any of our non-competition events. Examples include:

- Big Brew Day, Learn to Homebrew Day, Summer Picnic, Holiday Party (including facilitating the gift exchange).

Education – This category recognizes members who give back to the club through an organized knowledge/skills exchange. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Giving a presentation at a monthly meeting.
- Facilitating a club-organized tasting (style discrimination, off-flavors, etc.).
- Leading a club-sanctioned study group or training program that is open to all club members.

Marketing & Outreach – This is a broad category that allows for some expansion of membership roles outside of the Board.

- Outreach could include speaking on behalf of SODZ at industry events, professional organization meetings, or non-SODZ organized educational events
 - An example of outreach could include collaborating and organizing an event with local homebrew shop to introduce prospective members to SODZ).
- Marketing includes promoting the club with the intent to engage and inform the public, and increase club membership. In the future, it may include responsibility for SODZ social media posting.
 - An example of marketing activities could include artwork design for advertising or club swag

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Other larger ongoing responsibilities will necessitate a pre-negotiated points system. Some examples may include Monthly Club competition organizer, IT support, education coordinator, social media coordinator, etc.

If you have an idea, please contact any board member, and we would be happy to find a way for you to help the club.

Summary of Volunteer of the Year Points

Activity	Point Value
Judging	0.5 points per competition session
Judging-BOS	0.5 additional points per competition
Stewarding	0.5 points per competition session
Stewarding-Head Steward	0.5 additional points per competition
Cellar	1 point per competition
Set-up crew	0.5 points per competition session
Check-in crew	0.5 points per competition session
Fundraiser	2 points per competition
Judging Coordinator	2 points per competition
Competition Organizer	2 points per competition
Club Event Support	1 to 2 points per activity, at board discretion
Education	1 point per activity
Marketing & Outreach	1 point per activity, at board's discretion