

# The Moorfield Rules for Pub and Beer Ticking

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## Contents

<b>0</b>	<b>Meta Rules</b>	<b>1</b>
0.1	Applicability of the Rules . . . . .	1
0.2	About Pub and Beer Ticking . . . . .	1
0.3	Ownership of the Rules . . . . .	1
0.4	Status of Footnotes and Commentaries . . . . .	2
0.5	Amendments to the Rules . . . . .	2
<b>1</b>	<b>Beer Tick</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Fully Validated Visit</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Recordable Visit</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1	Essential Definition . . . . .	7
3.2	In Case of No Tickable Beer . . . . .	7
3.3	In Case of Ill-health . . . . .	7
3.4	In Case of Required Abstinence . . . . .	8
<b>4</b>	<b>Unbroken Journey Thread</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1	Essential Definition . . . . .	9
4.2	Creating a Trail . . . . .	9
4.3	Restarting a Stopped Trail . . . . .	9
4.4	Assumptions . . . . .	10
<b>5</b>	<b>Void Travel</b>	<b>11</b>
5.1	Essential Definition . . . . .	11
5.2	Specifically Disallowed . . . . .	11
5.3	Incidental Conveyance . . . . .	11
5.4	Disability Exemption . . . . .	12
5.5	Remote Home Exemption . . . . .	12
<b>6</b>	<b>Public Transport</b>	<b>15</b>
6.1	Essential Definition . . . . .	15
6.2	Unscheduled Transport Services . . . . .	15
<b>7</b>	<b>Auto-locomotion</b>	<b>16</b>
7.1	Essential Definition . . . . .	16
7.2	Incidental Assistance . . . . .	16
<b>8</b>	<b>Pub</b>	<b>17</b>
8.1	Essential Definition . . . . .	17
8.2	Additional Qualifying Attributes . . . . .	17
8.3	Disqualifying Attributes . . . . .	17
8.4	Assessment in Cases of Doubt . . . . .	18

<b>9 Beer Festival</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>10 Different Beer</b>	<b>21</b>
10.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	21
10.2 Beer Variations . . . . .	21
10.3 Brewery Variations . . . . .	22
<b>11 Tickable Beer</b>	<b>24</b>
11.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	24
11.2 Brewery Location . . . . .	24
11.3 Availability . . . . .	25
11.4 Provenance . . . . .	25
<b>12 Qualifying Quantity</b>	<b>26</b>
12.1 Draught Beer . . . . .	26
12.2 Bottled Beer . . . . .	28
12.3 Spillage of Beer . . . . .	29
12.4 Other Alcoholic Drinks . . . . .	30
12.5 Non-Intoxicating Drinks . . . . .	30
<b>13 Home</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>14 Proper Commercial Basis</b>	<b>32</b>
14.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	32
14.2 Going Market Price . . . . .	32
14.3 Exceptions . . . . .	33
<b>15 Deleted</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>16 Hypothetical Drinker</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>17 Brewery</b>	<b>37</b>
17.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	37
17.2 Extension of the term by implication . . . . .	37
17.3 New Brewery . . . . .	37
<b>18 Ticking Domain</b>	<b>38</b>
18.1 Composition . . . . .	38
18.2 Included Areas . . . . .	38
18.3 Excluded Areas . . . . .	38
<b>19 Record Keeping</b>	<b>39</b>
19.1 Preamble . . . . .	39
19.2 Pub Visits . . . . .	39
19.3 Beer Ticks . . . . .	39

19.4 Void Ticks . . . . .	39
<b>20 Consumed</b>	<b>40</b>
20.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	40
20.2 Confirmation . . . . .	40
<b>21 Relevant Event</b>	<b>41</b>
21.1 Relevant Event Types . . . . .	41
21.2 Departure from Home . . . . .	41
21.3 Start of a Public Transport Journey . . . . .	41
21.4 Departure from a Pub or Beer Festival . . . . .	42
21.5 Arrival at a Pub or Beer Festival . . . . .	43
21.6 End of a Public Transport Journey . . . . .	43
21.7 Arrival Home . . . . .	44
<b>22 Drinking Premises</b>	<b>45</b>
22.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	45
22.2 Virtual Premises . . . . .	45
22.3 Overlapping Premises . . . . .	45
<b>23 Brewery Premises</b>	<b>46</b>
23.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	46
23.2 Exclusions . . . . .	46
<b>24 Home Premises</b>	<b>47</b>
24.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	47
24.2 Exclusions . . . . .	47
<b>25 Event Time</b>	<b>48</b>
25.1 Essential Definition . . . . .	48
25.2 Precision . . . . .	48
25.3 Linked Events . . . . .	48
25.4 Estimated Event Times . . . . .	48
<b>26 The Post-Imbibing Period</b>	<b>50</b>
26.1 Start . . . . .	50
26.2 End . . . . .	50
<b>A An Introduction to Beer Ticking</b>	<b>51</b>
A.1 About Pub Ticking and Beer Ticking . . . . .	51
A.2 Why Have Rules? . . . . .	51
A.3 Getting Started . . . . .	52
A.4 The Ticking Community . . . . .	53
A.5 How Many!?. . . . .	53

<b>B A Commentary on the Moorfield Rules</b>	<b>55</b>
B.0 Meta Rules . . . . .	55
B.1 Beer Tick . . . . .	57
B.2 Fully Validated Visit . . . . .	60
B.3 Recordable Visit . . . . .	61
B.4 Public Transport . . . . .	63
B.5 Qualifying Quantity . . . . .	63
B.6 Proper Commercial Basis . . . . .	71
B.7 Consumed . . . . .	75
B.8 Brewery Premises . . . . .	75
B.9 Post-Imbibing Period . . . . .	75
<b>C Disclaimer</b>	<b>77</b>

### **Abstract**

Everyone who practises the strange arts of Pub Ticking and Beer Ticking (or Scooping) has their own ideas about what counts as a new tick. Each person sets their own rules to make the game more challenging, or less, such that they may indulge that aspect of the game they enjoy the most. The Moorfield Rules for Pub and Beer Ticking, therefore, should not be looked upon as any sort of didactic guide nor should they be read as criticism of the way in which others pursue their hobby because neither is intended. These are rules that reflect how I like to do things. I guess they say a lot more about me than about the hobby but I'll leave that for others to decide.

## **0 Meta Rules<sup>1</sup>**

### **0.1 Applicability of the Rules**

#### **0.1.1 First Rule**

The first rule of Pub and Beer Ticking is that there are no (universally applicable) rules.

#### **0.1.2 Freedom of Choice**

Each person is free to adopt, adapt and adhere to her own rules as she sees fit.

#### **0.1.3 Free from Obligation**

A person shall not be obliged to follow these or any other ticking rules unless she so agrees and she shall, without detriment to her standing, be free to withdraw her agreement at any time.

### **0.2 About Pub and Beer Ticking**

#### **0.2.1 Pub Ticking**

Pub ticking is the compiling of a record, by the ticker, of each different pub that she visits.

#### **0.2.2 Beer Ticking**

Beer ticking is the compiling of a record, by the ticker, of each different beer that she consumes.

#### **0.2.3 Objectives**

Pub and beer ticking are about the appreciation of traditional pubs and beers; they are not competitive sports.

### **0.3 Ownership of the Rules**

#### **0.3.1 Author**

The MOORFIELD RULES FOR PUB AND BEER TICKING have been developed and are maintained by Natalya Petrovna '*Natasha*' Moorfield.

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<sup>1</sup>Rules About Rules

### 0.3.2 Creative Commons

Use, distribution and reworking of these Rules is restricted only as stipulated in the [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 2.0 England & Wales License](#).

## 0.4 Status of Footnotes and Commentaries

### 0.4.1 Footnotes

Some rules are annotated with footnotes<sup>2</sup> which are intended explain, define or clarify the meaning or scope of a particular term or phrase and shall, therefore, be considered an integral part of the rules.

### 0.4.2 Commentaries

The commentaries provided in [Appendix B](#) are intended only to shed light upon the ethos and reasoning behind the rules, to exemplify the spirit of the rules or to illustrate how they might be applied in certain circumstances; they are not a definitive part of the rules.

## 0.5 Amendments to the Rules

### 0.5.1 When the Rules May Be Amended

The Rules may be amended at any time but only in order

- (a) to adapt to environmental, economic, social or legislative changes that may affect a person's ability to accrue ticks;
- (b) to make more stringent the conditions under which a tick can be made where it is found that the letter of the existing rules is allowing or could allow the accrual of ticks in circumstances contrary to the ethos of the person or persons to whom the rules apply;
- (c) to relax the conditions under which a tick can be made where it is found that the letter of the existing rules is preventing or could prevent the accrual of ticks in circumstances contrary to the ethos of the person or persons to whom the rules apply **or**
- (d) to correct typographical errors, *non sequiturs*, contradictions and ambiguities.

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<sup>2</sup>Like this.



## 0.5.2 Application of Rule Amendments

A rule amendment shall only take effect with regards to a specific individual upon the first instance of a departure by that individual from her [home](#) following the adoption, by incorporation into this document, of that amendment.

## 0.5.3 Retrospective Application of Rule Amendments

The effects of the creation, deletion or amendment of any rule, including this one, shall not be applied retrospectively.

## 0.5.4 Versioning

**0.5.4.1 Version Identifier** Each new version of the Rules shall be given a unique version identifier in the form *x.y.z* where

- *x* is the major revision identifier;
- *y* is the minor revision identifier and
- *z* is the maintenance revision identifier.

The original release of the Rules was version 1.0.0.

**0.5.4.2 Maintenance Revision** A maintenance revision occurs when amendments are made

- (a) to correct
  - (i) spelling mistakes;
  - (ii) grammatical errors **or**
  - (iii) other minor typographical errors;
- (b) which alter the structure of a sentence or paragraph in order to improve readability but which do not amend or add to the meaning of the text;
- (c) which alter the type-setting or physical layout (but not the logical structure) of the document;
- (d) to repair, correct or add internal or external hyperlinks **or**
- (e) which amend, delete or add material to any of the Appendices.

A maintenance revision increments the *z* value by one<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup>So, for example, if a maintenance revision was made to version 1.3.6, the amended version would be 1.3.7.

**0.5.4.3 Minor Revision** A minor revision occurs when rules are added, deleted or amended in order to

- (a) change the intent of any aspect of the Rules;
- (b) codify a previously unwritten assumption or protocol **or**
- (c) resolve *non sequiturs*, contradictions or ambiguities.

A minor revision increments the *y* value by one and resets the *z* value to zero<sup>4</sup>.

**0.5.4.4 Major Revision** A major revision occurs when the structure of the rules document is altered such that top-level rule numbers are changed or a particular subject matter is moved between one top-level Rule and another. A major revision increments the *x* value by one and resets the *y* and *z* values to zero<sup>5</sup>.

**0.5.4.5 Alpha, Beta and RC Versions** During development work, new versions of the Rules in alpha, beta or release candidate form may appear in the public domain for the purposes of consultation or comment; these are not to be regarded as official versions of the Rules.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

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<sup>4</sup>So, for example, if a minor revision was made to version 1.3.6, the amended version would be 1.4.0.

<sup>5</sup>So, for example, if a major revision was made to version 1.3.6, the amended version would be 2.0.0.

## 1 Beer Tick

A beer tick is deemed to have been made when and only when all of the following conditions have been satisfied:

- (a) the beer in question is a [tickable beer](#);
- (b) the beer in question is a [different beer](#) to any other previously ticked by the person in question;
- (c) the beer in question has been purchased at a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#);
- (d) the beer in question has been purchased on a [proper commercial basis](#);
- (e) the beer in question has been [consumed](#);
- (f) the beer in question has been consumed on the [drinking premises](#) of the same pub or beer festival at which it was purchased;
- (g) the beer in question has been consumed in a [qualifying quantity](#);
- (h) the beer in question has been consumed during a [fully validated visit](#) to that pub or beer festival **and**
- (i) all the relevant details about that beer and its consumption have been [properly recorded](#).

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

## 2 Fully Validated Visit

A visit to a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall be deemed to be a **fully validated visit** if

- (a) it is a [recordable visit](#) **and**
- (b) part of an [unbroken journey thread](#), coincident with the visit, exists within the [drinking premises](#) of that pub or beer festival.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

### 3 Recordable Visit

#### 3.1 Essential Definition

A visit to a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall be deemed to be a **recordable visit** if, after a [relevant arrival](#) there,

- (a) a [tickable beer](#) (or other drink where the provisions of [Rule 3.2](#), [Rule 3.3](#) or [Rule 3.4](#) apply) has been purchased at that pub or beer festival;
- (b) that purchase has been made on a [proper commercial basis](#);
- (c) that drink has been [consumed](#);
- (d) that drink has been consumed on the [drinking premises](#) of the pub or beer festival in question;
- (e) that drink has been consumed in a [qualifying quantity](#) **and**
- (f) that visit has been [properly recorded](#).

#### 3.2 In Case of No Tickable Beer

If, at a [pub](#),

- (a) no [tickable beer](#) is available;
- (b) all the potentially tickable beers that are available are either
  - (i) known to be of such poor quality as to render consumption ill advised;
  - (ii) of uncertain or unverifiable provenance **or**
  - (iii) produced, commissioned or marketed by [breweries](#) of dubious ethical repute<sup>6</sup>

then another type of alcoholic drink may be [consumed](#) instead.

#### 3.3 In Case of Ill-health

If, exceptionally, a diagnosed medical condition or the treatment thereof makes the consumption of (further) alcohol unwise or dangerous then a [non-intoxicating](#) drink may be [consumed](#) instead.

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<sup>6</sup>Reservations about a brewery's ethics need not be limited to purely beer matters but could extend to wider social, economic, political or environmental concerns.

### 3.4 In Case of Required Abstinence

If, exceptionally, any personal or professional commitments require that the drinker maintains her sobriety then a [non-intoxicating](#) drink may be [consumed](#) instead provided no alcoholic beverage or part thereof has previously passed her lips during that calendar day<sup>7</sup>.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

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<sup>7</sup>This is irrespective of the date on which that drink might be deemed to have been consumed for record keeping purposes.

## 4 Unbroken Journey Thread

### 4.1 Essential Definition

An **unbroken journey thread** is a continuous trail of notional *thread points* that starts and finishes at the drinker's **home** and, in between, has no chronologically consecutive thread points more than one metre apart.

### 4.2 Creating a Trail

#### 4.2.1 First Thread Point

The first thread point of a journey is set where, upon leaving **home**, the last point on the drinker's person has crossed out of her **home premises**.

#### 4.2.2 Subsequent Thread Points

The next and subsequent thread points are set where the last point on the drinker's person leaves the space defined by a sphere of one centimetre radius centred upon the previous thread point.

#### 4.2.3 Thread Termination

The setting of thread points stops and a journey thread is terminated

- (a) when, upon returning **home**, the last point on the drinker's person has crossed into her **home premises** or
- (b) upon the commencement of any **void travel**.

### 4.3 Restarting a Stopped Trail

#### 4.3.1 Restart Point

A journey thread that has been stopped by **void travel** may be restarted, at the drinker's discretion, provided she is no longer engaged in void travel, by setting a new thread point where the last point on her person leaves the space defined by a sphere of one metre radius centred upon any previous thread point set since last leaving **home**. This previously set thread point shall be referred to as the **restart point**.

#### 4.3.2 Loss of Thread Points After the Restart Point

Where the restart point was not the last to be set before an incidence of **void travel**, all the thread points set after the restart point up to the start of the void travel are annihilated and treated, for all purposes, as though they had never existed.

### 4.3.3 Continuation

After a journey thread has been restarted, the setting of further thread points shall continue as under [Rule 4.2.2](#).

### 4.3.4 Final Termination

A journey thread stopped prior to the last departure from [home](#) cannot be restarted.

## 4.4 Assumptions

### 4.4.1 Fixed Position

Once set, each thread point remains fixed, relative to the general surface of the Earth, in latitude, longitude and altitude.

### 4.4.2 Timestamp

Each thread point has a notional [event time](#) representing the moment at which it was set, thus determining its chronological sequence in the journey thread.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*



## 5 Void Travel

### 5.1 Essential Definition

Any travel effecting passage from one place to another is **void travel** unless it is

- (a) by means of [public transport](#);
- (b) by means of [auto-locomotion](#);
- (c) by means of a permissible incidental conveyance ([Rule 5.3](#));
- (d) allowable by virtue of disability exemption ([Rule 5.4](#)) or
- (e) allowable by virtue of remote home exemption ([Rule 5.5](#)).

### 5.2 Specifically Disallowed

Notwithstanding any of the provisions in [Rule 5.4](#) and [Rule 5.5](#), the following types of travel will always be treated as **void travel**:

- (a) air travel;
- (b) any transport service that would not have run but for staff working in defiance of or in place of those involved in lawful or otherwise legitimate<sup>8</sup> industrial action.

### 5.3 Incidental Conveyance

#### 5.3.1 Definition

Conveyances such as lifts, escalators, travelators and the like shall be regarded as incidental.

#### 5.3.2 At Public Transport Facilities

The use of incidental conveyances made available, unconditionally, by public transport operators or authorities to ease movement within, around or between public transport facilities shall be deemed permissible under all circumstances.

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<sup>8</sup>The presumption here is that all lawful industrial action is legitimate. It may be, in certain circumstances, that industrial action which is found to be unlawful may, nevertheless, have moral justification and thus also be treated as legitimate.

### 5.3.3 Elsewhere

The use of an incidental conveyance in any other premises (such as, but not limited to, shops, shopping malls, offices, hotels, banks, hospitals, concert halls, sports stadia) shall be deemed permissible only when the traveller has entered those premises with the specific intent of engaging in activity that might reasonably be considered an essential activity<sup>9</sup> normally carried out on those premises. Where presence on such premises is mainly or solely to facilitate passage from one place to another, use of any incidental conveyance therein shall be treated as **void travel**.

## 5.4 Disability Exemption

### 5.4.1 General Conditions

Travel undertaken by any means that would normally be classified as **void travel**, may be treated as valid where, due to long-term<sup>10</sup> illness, infirmity or incapacity<sup>11</sup>, an equivalent move by means of available **public transport** or **auto-locomotion** would have been impossible, injurious or unreasonably burdensome.<sup>12</sup>

### 5.4.2 Limitation of Exemption

The disability exemption shall not apply where the traveller declines to make use of **public transport** or **auto-locomotion** for those parts of her journey where it would have been reasonable for her to do so.

## 5.5 Remote Home Exemption

### 5.5.1 Definition

A person's **home** may be treated as **remote** where

- (a) given that  $d_a$  is the distance, as the crow flies, in kilometres, between that person's home and the nearest point of access to a regular **public transport** service,

$$d_a > 5 \tag{1}$$

**and**

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<sup>9</sup>Essential as in constituting, or forming part of, the essence of what the premises are generally used for rather than being in any sense absolutely necessary.

<sup>10</sup>No attempt has been made to define 'long-term' and it should not, necessarily, be read as meaning indefinite or permanent.

<sup>11</sup>No attempt has been made to define illness, infirmity or incapacity and there is no necessity for any such condition to have been professionally diagnosed.

<sup>12</sup>Unreasonably burdensome when compared with the amount of effort, time or other resources that would be required for an able bodied person to undertake the same journey.

- (b) the events which caused this to become true
  - (i) were entirely or substantially beyond that person's control or
  - (ii) occurred before the date on which she started pub and beer tick-  
ing.

### 5.5.2 Alternative Travel Limitations

Initial travel from a remote [home](#) to a point of access to [public transport](#), a [pub](#) or a [beer festival](#) and final travel back home from a point of access to public transport, a pub or a beer festival, undertaken by means that would normally be classified as **void travel**, may be treated as valid provided

- (a) given, again, that  $d_a$  is the distance, as the crow flies, in kilometres, between the person's home and the nearest point of access to a regular [public transport](#) service and that  $d_p$  is the distance, as the crow flies, in kilometres, between the person's home and that place,

$$5 < d_p \leq 2d_a \tag{2}$$

- (b) no use could reasonably have been made of [public transport](#) for any part of the journey **and**
- (c) no intervening [recordable visits](#) are made to any pub or beer festival.

### 5.5.3 Regular Transport Service

A [public transport](#) service shall be treated as regular if it is scheduled to run

- (a) bi-directionally **or**
- (b) on a circular route that starts and finishes at the same place

on at least six days out of seven during a normal calendar week<sup>13</sup>.

### 5.5.4 Withdrawal of Service

The distance from a person's [home](#) to the nearest point of access to a regular [public transport](#) service does not change only because, on any particular day, an otherwise regular service is not scheduled to operate or, for any reason, fails to operate as scheduled.

A regular service may, however, be treated as having been revised, effectively suspended or to have ceased altogether, and thus to have potentially altered that distance, if

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<sup>13</sup> A normal calendar week is taken as a period of seven consecutive calendar days, none of which is a public holiday.

- (a) it is permanently withdrawn;
- (b) its advertised schedule is permanently, indefinitely or seasonally<sup>14</sup> reduced so that it operates on less than six days out of seven during a normal calendar week **or**
- (c) for a period of not less than seven consecutive calendar days
  - (i) it, for any reason, fails to operate as scheduled;
  - (ii) it is diverted or some of its usual stopping places are otherwise suspended such that all remaining stopping places lie further away from the drinker's [home](#) than previously **or**
  - (iii) the service does run but only by virtue of staff working in defiance of or in place of those involved in lawful or otherwise legitimate industrial action.

### 5.5.5 Anticipated Service Suspension

Where a regular [public transport](#) service or stopping place is suspended and is expected to remain suspended for not less than seven consecutive days, that suspension may be treated as having started on the first day. If the service, in fact, resumes before the end of the seventh day then it may, nevertheless, be treated as having been effectively suspended, for the purposes of [Rule 5.5.4](#), on the previous days provided its early resumption could not reasonably have been foreseen.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

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<sup>14</sup>A season being any period of the year that might be measured in weeks rather than days.

## 6 Public Transport

### 6.1 Essential Definition

A **public transport** service is deemed to be any scheduled land or water based conveyance that

- (a) runs or attempts run to an advertised timetable or service standard that is set in advance by the transport operator or a public transport authority;
- (b) is available equally to all potential passengers, conditional upon nothing more than payment of the correct fare **and**
- (c) is not and cannot be reserved for exclusive use.

### 6.2 Unscheduled Transport Services

An unscheduled service shall also be deemed to be public transport if it

- (a) is run by or on behalf of a transport operator in order to mitigate the effects of delay, overcrowding, cancellation or failure of a service meeting the conditions set out in [Rule 6.1](#) **and**
- (b) is made available equally to all travellers so inconvenienced.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

## 7 Auto-locomotion

### 7.1 Essential Definition

**Auto-locomotion** is any means of travel where the energy required to initiate, maintain and direct motion is generated exclusively by the traveller's own physical efforts, directly or indirectly.

### 7.2 Incidental Assistance

Incidental assistance derived from the elemental forces of nature shall not disqualify any travel that would otherwise be treated as auto-locomotion under [Rule 7.1](#) provided no intentional use is made of equipment or devices to harness or augment the effect of such forces.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

## 8 Pub

### 8.1 Essential Definition

A pub can be any commercial establishment that

- (a) the [hypothetical drinker](#) may go to for the purposes of purchasing and consuming beer, without prior arrangement, notice or booking;
- (b) is properly licensed to sell intoxicating liquor for immediate consumption on the premises;
- (c) sells beer as a regular and integral part of its day-to-day business **and**
- (d) is located within the [ticking domain](#).

### 8.2 Additional Qualifying Attributes

In addition to all the attributes specified in [Rule 8.1](#), to qualify as a pub an establishment must also either

- (a) serve [tickable beer](#);
- (b) be listed in the current *CAMRA Good Beer Guide*;
- (c) have been listed consistently in previous years' CAMRA Good Beer Guides or
- (d) have a name, layout and functionality<sup>15</sup> characteristic of a traditional inn, tavern or hostelry typically or historically found in the same locale.

### 8.3 Disqualifying Attributes

Subject to any assessment under [Rule 8.4](#), an establishment, although having all the attributes specified in [Rule 8.1](#) and at least one of those specified in [Rule 8.2](#), shall not qualify as a pub if

- (a) a fee is charged for admission;
- (b) the purchase of other goods or services is required or expected in order to purchase or consume beer;
- (c) admission is conditional upon being a member (or the invitee of a member) of the particular establishment or any connected company, fraternity, fellowship, society, club, association, scheme or the like, the more so if eligibility for membership is restricted on grounds that are or may be perceived as discriminatory;

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<sup>15</sup>Subject to any specific local customs or traditions, an establishment may be said to function as a traditional public house if people may informally gather there for the primary purpose of consuming beer and any other business or activities conducted there are of an entirely secondary or incidental nature.

- (d) an arbitrary or discriminatory admission policy is applied that goes beyond what is required by normal licensing law or necessary to maintain reasonable levels of safety, order and decency or
- (e) the establishment lacks a distinct identity other than the branding of the the larger business of which it is a part.

## 8.4 Assessment in Cases of Doubt

### 8.4.1 Basis of Assessment

If an establishment is found to have attributes from both [Rule 8.2](#) and [Rule 8.3](#), those from [Rule 8.2](#) that suggest it should be treated as a pub shall be weighed against those from [Rule 8.3](#) that suggest it should not and an assessment of its status made thereby.

### 8.4.2 Equality of Attributes

Equal weight need not be given to each attribute; the degree to which an attribute applies shall also be considered.

### 8.4.3 Impartiality

Evidence should be viewed dispassionately; not in the light of how it affects just the assessing drinker herself but how it might affect the [hypothetical drinker](#).

### 8.4.4 As Matters Stand

When making an assessment of the status of an establishment, it shall, except as specified in [Rule 8.4.5](#), be assessed on the basis of facts as they stand at the time of the [relevant arrival](#) at the establishment. No account shall be taken of

- (a) any changes that occur during the course of an individual visit;
- (b) facts as they may have been on the occasion of a previous visit;
- (c) any assessment that may have been made on any previous occasion;
- (d) any third-party information not verified by direct observation or
- (e) any information that may come to light after the [relevant departure](#) from the establishment.



#### 8.4.5 During a Beer Festival

If a visit is made to an establishment during an advertised beer festival, the paraphernalia of the beer festival shall be disregarded when making the assessment of its status as a pub.

#### 8.4.6 Finality of an Assessment

Unless found to be wrong because the rules pertaining at the time of the visit were incorrectly applied, an assessment shall be deemed final once either

- (a) in the case that the establishment is assessed to be a pub, the corresponding visit has been **fully recorded** **or**
- (b) in the case that the establishment is assessed not to be a pub
  - (i) the visit is fully recorded as a **beer festival** visit instead;
  - (ii) a subsequent visit to a different pub has been fully recorded;
  - (iii) a subsequent visit to a beer festival at a different place has been fully recorded **or**
  - (iv) a subsequent visit to the same establishment, on which occasion it is assessed to be a pub, has been fully recorded.

An assessment shall not be changed thereafter only because of a reinterpretation of evidence.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

## 9 Beer Festival

Any event, the sole or main purpose of which is the sale of [tickable beer](#) and that is held in premises or at a place that would not otherwise and ordinarily qualify as a [pub](#), shall be regarded as a **beer festival** if it

- (a) is properly licensed for the sale and consumption of alcohol;
- (b) is of a clearly temporary nature with a finite duration;
- (c) is open to the [hypothetical drinker](#), conditional upon nothing more than payment of any advertised entrance fee and/or glass charge;
- (d) has available for sale simultaneously at some point during its advertised period of operation at least ten [different](#) tickable beers **and**
- (e) is located within the [ticking domain](#).

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

## 10 Different Beer

### 10.1 Essential Definition

Subject to any of the provisions within [Rule 10.2](#) or [Rule 10.3](#), a beer is different to any other beer if it has been

- (a) brewed by, or on behalf of, a particular [brewery](#) to a recipe different to any other recipe used by that [brewery](#) **and**
- (b) given a name different to any other name used by that [brewery](#).

### 10.2 Beer Variations

#### 10.2.1 New Recipes

Where a [brewery](#) brews an existing beer to a new or different recipe, or to a different ABV, but does not change the name, no new beer shall be deemed to have been created.

#### 10.2.2 Post-fermentation Additives

Where an existing beer has extra ingredients added after the end of the normal brewing process, a beer different to the original beer shall be deemed to have been created only if such ingredients

- (a) discernibly alter the taste of the original beer;
- (b) are added at the [brewery premises](#) of the [brewery](#) which brewed the original beer **and**
- (c) are added with the express sanction of the [brewery](#) under whose name the beer is marketed.

#### 10.2.3 Change of Name

Where the name of a beer is changed, by its [brewery](#) or any other party, no new beer shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of the change of name.

#### 10.2.4 Beer Mixes<sup>16</sup>

**10.2.4.1 Basic Definition** Where a beer is made by mixing two or more existing beers, a new beer shall be deemed to have been created only if

- (a) each constituent beer is a product of the same [brewery](#);

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<sup>16</sup>[Rule 10.2.4](#) is based upon guidelines used by the *New Imbiber* magazine.

- (b) each constituent beer is itself a [tickable beer](#) that is, or has been, available in the retail beer trade;
- (c) the mixing is done at the [brewery premises](#) of the brewery which brewed the constituent beers;
- (d) the mixing is done with the express sanction of the brewery under whose name the beer is marketed;
- (e) no constituent of the mix is less than 25% of the total volume of the new beer **and**
- (f) no constituent of the mix is itself a mix.

Any mix not conforming to these conditions shall be deemed to lack a distinct identity and/or a traceable provenance. It shall not, therefore, be treated as a [tickable beer](#).

**10.2.4.2 Varying the Ratios** Different ratios of the same constituent beers will be deemed to have created a different beer where the proportions of two of the constituent beers differ by at least 25% of total volume from their proportions in any other mix of those same constituent beers.

Any variant mix purporting to be a different beer but which does not meet this requirement shall cause all mixes made from those same constituent beers to be deemed to lack distinct identity and none, therefore, shall be treated as a [tickable beer](#).

## 10.3 Brewery Variations

### 10.3.1 Contract Brewing

Where a [brewery](#) contracts to have a beer produced on its behalf by another brewery, no new beer shall be deemed to have been created if the beer in question has previously been or is subsequently, under the same name or otherwise,

- (a) brewed by the commissioning brewery itself;
- (b) brewed on its behalf by a different contractor;
- (c) marketed as one of the contractors own products or;
- (d) marketed as the beer of a different commissioning brewery;

### 10.3.2 Brewery Names

**10.3.2.1 New Brewery Names** Where a [brewery](#) changes its name but the business otherwise continues substantially as before, no new beers shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of being marketed under the new brewery name.

**10.3.2.2 Alternative Trading Names** Where a brewery markets its beers under more than one trading name, no new beers shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of being marketed under an alternative trading name.

**10.3.3 Relocation**

Where a [brewery](#) relocates its brewplant or otherwise transfers production to or between different premises or brewplants, no new beers shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of the relocation.

**10.3.4 Different Brewplant**

Where a [brewery](#) installs additional or replacement brewplant, no new beers shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of the different brewplant.

**10.3.5 Change of Ownership**

**10.3.5.1** Where a [brewery](#) is sold or otherwise transferred to a new owner, no new beers shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of the change of ownership.

**10.3.5.2** Where a brewery transfers the rights to produce and/or market a beer to another brewery, no new beer shall be deemed to have been created only by virtue of the change of ownership of those rights.

## 11 Tickable Beer

### 11.1 Essential Definition

To be tickable, a beer must be Real (Cask Conditioned) Ale. That is, it must

- (a) have been brewed, though not necessarily exclusively, from the traditional beer ingredients of malted barley, hops and water;
- (b) have been fermented using yeast;
- (c) have been matured by secondary fermentation in a brewery cask and have remained in that brewery cask until or shortly before the point of dispense;
- (d) not have been subjected to pasteurization or any similar process;
- (e) not have been filtered unless, due to the inherent characteristics of the venue at which the beer is sold, it is not otherwise possible, without doing so, to prevent sedimentary particulates from the brewery cask reaching the glass in which the beer is served **and**
- (f) not have been subjected to any non-standard brewing processes (such as, but not limited to, distillation, fractional freezing or evaporation) in order to deliberately alter its alcohol concentration.

### 11.2 Brewery Location

#### 11.2.1 Physical Location

To be tickable, a beer must have been produced at a [brewery](#) physically located within the [ticking domain](#).

#### 11.2.2 Cuckoo<sup>17</sup> and Contract Brewing

Where a beer (which is not a [legacy brand](#)) is brewed

- (a) by one [brewery](#) using the brewplant of another **or**
- (b) on behalf of one brewery by another

that beer will be tickable only if the brewery under whose name it is marketed is commercially located within the [ticking domain](#).

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<sup>17</sup>Cuckoo brewing is the term used to describe the situation where the personnel of one brewery brew beer using the brewplant and facilities of another.

### 11.2.3 Legacy Brands

**11.2.3.1** A **legacy brand** is a beer which is marketed under the name of a [brewery](#) which, following merger, acquisition or closure, is no longer operating as an independent or even quasi-independent concern. The brewery name, however, continues to be used by new owners and beers sold under its name are, typically, marketed in such a way as to give a casual observer the impression that the original brewery continues to operate as before.

**11.2.3.2** A legacy brand beer will be a tickable beer

- (a) if it continues to be brewed at a [brewery](#) physically located within the [ticking domain](#) **and**
- (b) if, immediately prior to the original brewery ceasing to operate as an independent or quasi-independent concern, that brewery was
  - (i) physically located within the ticking domain **or**
  - (ii) where it was operating without its own brewplant, commercially located within the ticking domain.

### 11.3 Availability

At any venue where a beer is made available at all, it must, to be tickable, be readily and unconditionally available to the [hypothetical drinker](#).

### 11.4 Provenance

To be tickable, a beer must have

- (a) a distinct identity **and**
- (b) a provenance traceable to a recognized [brewery](#).

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*Back to [Contents](#)*

## 12 Qualifying Quantity

### 12.1 Draught Beer

#### 12.1.1 Qualifying Quantity of Draught Beer

Where  $Q$  is the [deemed draught quantity](#), in millilitres, of a particular beer and  $a$  is the advertised %ABV<sup>18</sup> of that beer,  $Q$  is a Qualifying Quantity if

$$\ln(Q) \geq \frac{\ln(3) - \ln(a)}{e} + \ln(270) \quad (3)$$

$e$ , here, has its usual mathematical definition:

$$e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \quad (4)$$

or

$$e \approx 2.71828 \quad (5)$$

#### 12.1.2 Deemed Draught Quantity

The [deemed draught quantity](#),  $Q$ , is determined by:

$$Q = 180x + 270y \quad (6)$$

where  $x \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $y \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and are respectively, the number of [validated one-third of a pint](#) and [one-half of a pint legal measures](#) which have been [consumed](#) by the drinker during a single visit to a particular [pub](#) or [beer festival](#).

#### 12.1.3 Legal Measures

**12.1.3.1** The only measures that are recognised for the purposes of Rule 12 are standard legal measures. That is:

$$\left\{m \left(\frac{P}{3}\right) : m \in \mathbb{N}_1, m \leq 2\right\} \cup \left\{n \left(\frac{P}{2}\right) : n \in \mathbb{N}_1\right\} \quad (7)$$

where  $P$  is one Imperial Pint<sup>19</sup>. A measure is assessed from the [verified capacity](#) of or markings on the glass from which the beer is imbibed<sup>20</sup>.

**12.1.3.2** If, in an unlined glass, liquid beer fills, beyond reasonable doubt, at least 95% of the maximum capacity of the glass, that is a legal measure in the amount indicated by the nominal capacity of the glass.

<sup>18</sup> Alcohol by Volume, the ratio of *alcohol* : *total volume* \* 100

<sup>19</sup> 568.26125 millilitres

<sup>20</sup> For the purposes of Rule 12 the term *imbibe* is use to signify the simple act of drinking alcoholic liquor as distinct from tighter meaning placed on the term [consume](#).



**12.1.3.3** If, in a lined glass, liquid beer reaches or exceeds the level of a particular line or mark, that is a legal measure in the amount indicted by the line or mark.

**12.1.3.4** If, in an unlined glass that is less than 95% full or in a lined glass where the beer falls short of a particular line or mark, there is, nevertheless, beyond reasonable doubt, an amount of liquid beer greater than or equal to a lesser legal measure, that shall be deemed to be an amount of beer equal to that lesser legal measure.

#### **12.1.4 Verified Glass**

**12.1.4.1** For the purposes of Rule 12, a **verified glass** is any drinking vessel, made of any material, the liquid capacity of which has been verified by, or verified to the standards required by, the appropriate legal or regulatory authority.

**12.1.4.2** An unlined glass is one that, full to the brim, contains the amount of liquid indicated by its nominal capacity.

**12.1.4.3** A lined glass is one where the largest legal measure it can contain is indicated by a line or other mark on the side of the glass somewhere below the brim.<sup>21</sup>

#### **12.1.5 Quantity Validation**

**12.1.5.1** A legal measure becomes validated for the purposes of Rule 12 once all the beer that could reasonably be drained from the glass by the action of gravity alone has been [consumed](#).

**12.1.5.2** A measure will fail to be validated, regardless of any other considerations, if

- (a) there is a [spillage of beer](#);
- (b) any of the beer is imbibed outside the [drinking premises](#) of the [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) at which the beer was obtained;
- (c) the drinker honks up before the beer is considered to have been [consumed](#) or
- (d) a [relevant departure](#) is made from the pub or beer festival before all the beer from the measure that could reasonably have been imbibed has been imbibed by the drinker.

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<sup>21</sup> A lined glass may also have additional verified markings further down the side of the glass indicating lesser legal measures.

### 12.1.6 Revalidation

**12.1.6.1** After a legal measure has failed validation, the amount of beer that remains may be revalidated as if it was a freshly obtained beer using, if necessary, a fresh glass to validate a lesser legal measure.

**12.1.6.2** Any beer imbibed from a legal measure prior to that measure failing validation shall, for all purposes, be disregarded.

## 12.2 Bottled Beer

### 12.2.1 Essential Definition

A bottled beer is any beer sold at a [pub](#) by retail in a bottle that

- (a) is made of glass or other material with properties similar to those of glass;
- (b) was sealed when delivered to the pub **and**
- (c) remained sealed until the point of sale to the drinker.

Any beer purporting to be a bottled beer which does not satisfy these conditions or which is sold in any other type of container shall have its qualifying quantity determined as if it were a [draught beer](#).

### 12.2.2 Qualifying Quantity of Bottled Beer

Where  $Q$  is the [deemed bottled quantity](#), in millilitres, of a particular beer and  $a$  is the advertised %ABV of that beer,  $Q$  is a Qualifying Quantity if

$$\ln(Q) \geq \frac{\ln(3) - \ln(a)}{e} + \ln(270) \quad (8)$$

$e$ , here, has its usual mathematical definition:

$$e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n \quad (9)$$

or

$$e \approx 2.71828 \quad (10)$$

### 12.2.3 Deemed Bottled Quantity

The **deemed bottled quantity**,  $Q$ , is the sum total of the [validated advertised quantities](#) in each full bottle of the beer [consumed](#) by the drinker during a single visit to a particular [pub](#).

### 12.2.4 Validated Advertised Quantity

**12.2.4.1** Once a bottle of beer has been fully imbibed, the quantity of beer deemed to have been imbibed will be the quantity of beer that the bottle is advertised to contain (the *bottle measure*).

**12.2.4.2** A **bottle measure** becomes validated for the purposes of Rule 12 once all the beer that could reasonably be drained, by the action of gravity alone, from

- (a) the bottle and
- (b) any single glass into which the beer is poured for imbibing

has been [consumed](#).

**12.2.4.3** A bottle measure will fail to be validated, regardless of any other considerations, if

- (a) there is a [spillage of beer](#);
- (b) any of the beer is imbibed outside the [drinking premises](#) of the [pub](#) at which the beer was obtained;
- (c) the drinker honks up before the beer is considered to have been [consumed](#) or
- (d) a [relevant departure](#) is made from the pub before all the beer from the bottle that could reasonably have been imbibed has been imbibed by the drinker.

**12.2.4.4** If a bottle measure fails validation for any of the reasons specified above, the remaining beer may not be revalidated under any circumstances.

## 12.3 Spillage of Beer

### 12.3.1 Essential Definition

A spillage of beer is deemed to have occurred when any beer, accidentally or otherwise, leaves the inside of

- (a) the glass from which the beer is imbibed or
- (b) (in the case of a bottled beer) the bottle in which the beer was purchased

and contacts any other thing or any other person before it is imbibed by the drinker.

### 12.3.2 Incidental Losses

Incidental drips and the effects of evaporation may be ignored.

## 12.4 Other Alcoholic Drinks

### 12.4.1 Qualifying Quantity of Other Alcoholic Drinks

Where  $Q$  is the quantity, in millilitres, of a particular drink and  $a$  is the advertised %ABV of that drink,  $Q$  is a Qualifying Quantity if

$$Q \geq \frac{810}{a} \quad (11)$$

### 12.4.2 Quantity Validation

Validation of the amount [consumed](#) shall be by means of reasonable estimate.

## 12.5 Non-Intoxicating Drinks

### 12.5.1 Definition

A drink is deemed to be non-intoxicating if

- (a) it does not and is not required by law to have an advertised %ABV  
**and**
- (b) it is not marketed as an ‘alcohol free’ version of a product or product-type that would normally be an alcoholic drink.

### 12.5.2 Qualifying Quantity of a Non-Intoxicating Drink

Where  $Q$  is the quantity, in millilitres, of a particular non-alcoholic drink,  $Q$  is a Qualifying Quantity if

$$Q \geq 270 \quad (12)$$

### 12.5.3 Quantity Validation

Validation of the amount [consumed](#) shall be by means of reasonable estimate.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

## **13 Home**

Home is the dwelling place where a person normally lives; her sole or main residence.

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*Back to [Contents](#)*

## 14 Proper Commercial Basis

### 14.1 Essential Definition

#### 14.1.1 Price Paid

A drink shall be deemed to have been obtained on a **proper commercial basis** if it has been purchased by the drinker, or for her by another willing customer

- (a) at the [going market price](#) or
- (b) at a lesser price where any of the exceptions specified in [Rule 14.3](#) apply.

#### 14.1.2 Excise Duties

Regardless of the price paid or any provisions in [Rule 14.3](#), an alcoholic drink shall not be deemed to be available (and therefore not obtainable) on a proper commercial basis unless the appropriate Excise Duties have been paid or accounted for<sup>22</sup>.

### 14.2 Going Market Price

#### 14.2.1 Individual Drinks

The **going market price** for an individual drink is that which the [hypothetical drinker](#) might reasonably have expected to pay for that same drink.

#### 14.2.2 Multi-item Transactions

The going market price for

- (a) a round of drinks or
- (b) one or more drinks together with one or more other items (such as, but not limited to, snacks and meals)

purchased in a single transaction is that which the [hypothetical drinker](#) might reasonably have expected to pay for those same items purchased together and not, necessarily, what they might have cost her if purchased individually.

If the price paid is less than that which the hypothetical drinker might reasonably have expected to pay then each drink included in that transaction shall be deemed to have been purchased at less than the going market price unless facts indicate that only certain of the drinks or other items were subject to a discount.

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<sup>22</sup>Unless she has reason to believe otherwise, the drinker may always assume that the appropriate Excise Duties have been paid.

### **14.2.3 Tips, Gratuities and Service Charges**

Any tips, gratuities or service charges added to the price of a drink shall not count as part of the going market price even where they are customarily expected or appear to be mandatory.

### **14.2.4 Entrance Fees and Glass Charges**

Any entrance fees, glass charges or similar one-off costs shall not be treated as part of the going market price of any individual drink.

### **14.2.5 Per Transaction Basis**

The going market price 'test' shall apply, in all circumstances, on a per transaction basis. Consequently an overpayment made on one transaction may not be used to off-set an underpayment on another.

## **14.3 Exceptions**

### **14.3.1 Special Offers**

Drinks obtained for less than the going market price by virtue of discounts, special offers or promotions that the [hypothetical drinker](#) might reasonably have been able to avail herself shall be deemed to have been obtained on a proper commercial basis.

### **14.3.2 Prizes**

Drinks obtained for less than the going market price by way of a competition prize (that competition not having been a lottery or game where the result is determined substantially on the outcome of random events) that was open to the [hypothetical drinker](#) shall be deemed to have been obtained on a proper commercial basis.

### **14.3.3 Drink as Payment in Kind**

Drinks obtained at less than the going market price as reasonable recompense for services rendered by the drinker to the publican, pub business or beer festival organisation shall be deemed to have been obtained on a proper commercial basis unless such services were rendered in the course of the drinker's normal trade, profession or occupation.

### **14.3.4 Making Good**

Where none of the foregoing exceptions apply, a drink obtained at less than the going market price may still be treated as having been obtained on a proper commercial basis provided that

- (a) the drinker did not knowing and deliberately let pass a reasonable opportunity to make payment of the proper amount **and**
- (b) a donation greater than or equal to the difference between the amount paid<sup>23</sup> and the going market price is made by the drinker to a registered charity before the end of the [post-imbibing period](#).

#### 14.3.5 Dishonest or Exploitative Behaviour

None of the foregoing exceptions shall apply where drink has been obtained at less than the going market price

- (a) by wilfully dishonest means **or**
- (b) by wilfully over-exploiting the goodwill of others.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

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<sup>23</sup>Where the exact price paid for a drink within an underpaid round of drinks cannot be ascertained, the deemed amount shall be determined by reasonable estimate based on the facts available.



## **15 Deleted**

*There is no Rule 15.*

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*Back to [Contents](#)*

## 16 Hypothetical Drinker

The hypothetical drinker is assumed to be

- (a) an amoral but law-abiding member of the general public;
- (b) a person with a positive desire to drink real ale;
- (c) fresh to any particular scene but nevertheless well versed in general pub and drinking etiquette;
- (d) a card carrying but not active member of CAMRA;
- (e) without any specialist or professional knowledge of but nevertheless informed about real ale, the retail beer market and the brewing industry;
- (f) aware of beer ticking without necessarily being a ticker herself;
- (g) obviously and demonstrably old enough to legally purchase and consume alcohol **and**
- (h) never more than modestly inebriated.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

## 17 Brewery

### 17.1 Essential Definition

A **brewery** is any commercial entity that

- (a) itself brews beer or
- (b) commissions others to brew beer on its behalf which it then brings to market as its own beer<sup>24</sup>.

### 17.2 Extension of the term by implication

The term brewery should, where necessary and appropriate, also be read as referring to the brewplant, [brewing premises](#), proprietor and any persons who are (and who are authorised to be) directly involved in the brewing processes of any such entity.

### 17.3 New Brewery

A **new brewery** shall be deemed to have come into existence when a commercial enterprise

- (a) which is operationally independent of any other brewery;
- (b) which has no claims upon the debtors, actual or hypothetical, of another brewery **and**
- (c) which has no liability to the creditors, actual or hypothetical, of another brewery

becomes a brewery as defined by [Rule 17.1](#).

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

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<sup>24</sup>Without, necessarily, any duplicity or deceit intended by either party.

## 18 Ticking Domain

### 18.1 Composition

The six territories which comprise the **Ticking Domain** are

- (a) England;
- (b) Scotland;
- (c) Wales;
- (d) Isle of Man;
- (e) Guernsey **and**
- (f) Jersey.

### 18.2 Included Areas

Each of the Ticking Domain Territories is deemed to include

- (a) its mainland;
- (b) all associated islands;
- (c) all rivers, canals, lakes and other inland water bodies;
- (d) all coastal land areas within the mean low water mark **and**
- (e) all permanent structures which protrude beyond the mean low water mark excluding any such structures that form part of a direct link to territories outside the Ticking Domain.

### 18.3 Excluded Areas

Territorial waters beyond the mean low water mark are not part of the Ticking Domain.

## 19 Record Keeping

### 19.1 Preamble

No tick, of pub or beer, shall be confirmed until and unless it has been properly recorded in the drinker's complete and permanent record of all such ticks.

### 19.2 Pub Visits

For each [recordable visit](#) to a [pub](#), the record shall be made up of

- (a) the identity of the pub;
- (b) a description of its whereabouts sufficient for the [hypothetical drinker](#) to be able to locate it;
- (c) the date on which the visit was made and
- (d) whether or not the visit was a [fully validated visit](#).

The date recorded for the visit shall be that of the [event time](#) of the drinker's [relevant arrival](#) at the pub.

### 19.3 Beer Ticks

For each [beer tick](#), the record shall be made up of

- (a) the identity of the [brewery](#) that produced the beer or, if different, the identity of the brewery that commissioned the beer;
- (b) the identity of the beer;
- (c) reference to the [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) at which it was [consumed](#) and
- (d) the date on which it was deemed to have been consumed.

The date recorded shall be that of the [event time](#) of the drinker's [relevant arrival](#) at the pub or beer festival at which the beer was consumed.

### 19.4 Void Ticks

Where information later comes to light showing that, on the balance of probabilities, a tick has been recorded in error, it shall be made void and struck from the record.

## 20 Consumed

### 20.1 Essential Definition

Consumption of a drink is deemed to have occurred once it has been imbibed, in its entirety, through the mouth and swallowed.

### 20.2 Confirmation

The consumption of a drink is not confirmed, however, until it is kept down for the duration of the [post-imbibing period](#). If the drinker honks up during the post-imbibing period the drink shall not be considered to have been consumed.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

## 21 Relevant Event

### 21.1 Relevant Event Types

#### 21.1.1 Departure Events

A relevant departure event occurs whenever the drinker

- (a) subject to [Rule 21.2](#), departs from her [home](#);
- (b) subject to [Rule 21.3](#), starts a [public transport](#) journey **or**
- (c) subject to [Rule 21.4](#), departs from a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#).

#### 21.1.2 Arrival Events

A relevant arrival event occurs whenever the drinker

- (a) subject to [Rule 21.5](#), arrives at a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#);
- (b) subject to [Rule 21.6](#), ends a [public transport](#) journey;
- (c) subject to [Rule 21.7](#), arrives [home](#).

### 21.2 Departure from Home

#### 21.2.1 Definition

The drinker shall be deemed to have departed from her [home](#) when she has gone from being entirely within her [home premises](#) to being entirely outside them.

#### 21.2.2 Event Time

The [event time](#) given to a departure from [home](#) shall be the instant at which the drinker ceased to have any part of her person within her [home premises](#).

#### 21.2.3 Conditionality

A departure from [home](#) shall cease to be a relevant event if, at any time, the next relevant event becomes or can only be another departure from home.

### 21.3 Start of a Public Transport Journey

#### 21.3.1 Definition

A [public transport](#) journey shall be deemed to have started when the conveyance upon which the drinker is making her journey has left the place at which she boarded it.

### 21.3.2 Event Time

**21.3.2.1** The [event time](#) given to the start of a [public transport](#) journey shall be the moment the conveyance departed from the place at which the drinker boarded it.

**21.3.2.2** Should it be that she boarded the conveyance while it was in motion, the [event time](#) shall be the moment that she made contact with the conveyance.

### 21.3.3 Conditionality

**21.3.3.1** The start of a [public transport](#) journey shall not be treated as a relevant event until the conveyance has reached the next authorized alighting or disembarkation point or, if the drinker boarded the conveyance at an unauthorized boarding point, the next but one authorized alighting or disembarkation point.

**21.3.3.2** Use of an [incidental conveyance](#) does not create a relevant event nor does the start of any void travel or travel that would have been void but for a [remote home exemption](#) or [disability exemption](#).

## 21.4 Departure from a Pub or Beer Festival

### 21.4.1 Definition

A drinker shall be deemed to have departed from a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) when she has gone from being entirely within its [drinking premises](#) to being entirely outside them.

### 21.4.2 Event Time

The [event time](#) given to a departure from a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall be the instant at which she ceased to have any part of her person inside the [drinking premises](#) of the pub or beer festival.

### 21.4.3 Conditionality

A departure from a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall be treated as a relevant event

- (a) if, and only for as long as, the corresponding [arrival](#) at that pub or beer festival is a relevant event **and**
- (b) only once another relevant event, which is not an arrival at the same pub or beer festival, has occurred.



## 21.5 Arrival at a Pub or Beer Festival

### 21.5.1 Definition

A drinker shall be deemed to have arrived at a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) when she has gone from being entirely outside its [drinking premises](#) to being entirely within them.

### 21.5.2 Event Time

The [event time](#) given to an arrival at a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall be the instant at which she ceased to have any part of her person outside the [drinking premises](#) of that pub or beer festival.

### 21.5.3 Conditionality

**21.5.3.1** An arrival at a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall become a relevant event only if the preceding relevant event is not an arrival at the same pub or beer festival. Provided this condition is met, it becomes a relevant event as soon as it has occurred.

**21.5.3.2** An arrival at a [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall, however, cease to be a relevant event if, prior to departure, the visit has not become a [recordable visit](#) or if, subsequently, it ceases to be a recordable visit.

## 21.6 End of a Public Transport Journey

### 21.6.1 Definition

A [public transport](#) journey shall be deemed to have ended when the conveyance upon which the drinker has made her journey reaches the place at which she alights or disembarks from that conveyance.

### 21.6.2 Event Time

**21.6.2.1** The [event time](#) given to the end of a [public transport](#) journey shall be moment the conveyance came to rest at the place at which the drinker alighted or disembarked from that conveyance.

**21.6.2.2** Should it be that she alighted or disembarked from the conveyance while it was still in motion, the [event time](#) shall be the moment that she ceased to have contact with that conveyance.

### 21.6.3 Conditionality

The end of a [public transport](#) journey shall be a relevant event only if the [start](#) of the same journey is a relevant event.

## **21.7 Arrival Home**

### **21.7.1 Definition**

The drinker shall be deemed to have arrived [home](#) when she has gone from being entirely outside her [home premises](#) to being entirely within them.

### **21.7.2 Event Time**

The [event time](#) given to an arrival [home](#) shall be the instant at which the drinker ceased to have any part of her person outside her [home premises](#).

### **21.7.3 Conditionality**

**21.7.3.1** An arrival [home](#) shall become a relevant event only if the preceding relevant event is one other than a departure from home.

**21.7.3.2** An arrival [home](#) shall cease to be a relevant event if the preceding relevant event is or at any time becomes a [departure](#) from home.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

## 22 Drinking Premises

### 22.1 Essential Definition

The **drinking premises** of any [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) shall be those parts of

- (a) any land, buildings, structures, shelters or vehicles within or from which it serves beer;
- (b) any associated land which it lawfully occupies or has license to use, either by explicit grant or by virtue of custom and practice that remains uncontested, for the conduct of its business **and**
- (c) any outbuildings upon such land

to which the [hypothetical drinker](#) has an absolute or permissive right of access for the purposes of consuming beer.

### 22.2 Virtual Premises

Where the area of any premises determined by [Rule 22.1](#) is nil or so small as to be, for all practical purposes, incapable of being used for the consumption of beer, the drinking premises of the [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) may be deemed to extend outwards in all directions to a distance of ten metres from each point of beer dispense.

The area of such deemed premises shall, however, exclude any land, buildings or parts thereof

- (a) to which the [hypothetical drinker](#) has neither absolute nor permissive right of access or
- (b) upon or within which it is either not lawful or it is otherwise not permitted for her to carry or consume alcohol.

### 22.3 Overlapping Premises

Where two or more drinking premises determined under either [Rule 22.1](#) or [Rule 22.2](#) overlap, the drinker, by non-retrospective election,

- (a) must decide, when entering such an area of overlap, which of the premises she should be treated as then being within **and**
- (b) may decide, while within such an area of overlap, when she should be treated as having left the premises of one establishment to then be on the premises of another.

She may not be treated as being on the premises of more than one establishment simultaneously.

## 23 Brewery Premises

### 23.1 Essential Definition

The **premises of a brewery** shall be deemed to be

- (a) the building(s) in which the principal brewing processes are carried out  
**and**
- (b) any connected land, and outbuildings thereon, occupied by the brewery.

### 23.2 Exclusions

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Rule, none of the following shall be treated as brewery premises:

- (a) any detached land, and buildings thereon, used only for storage, distribution, sales or administration;
- (b) any areas within a brewery which also fall to be treated as the [drinking premises](#) of a [pub](#).

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*

## 24 Home Premises

### 24.1 Essential Definition

The **premises of a person's home** are deemed to comprise

- (a) the building or parts thereof that comprise the main dwelling space she occupies;
- (b) any connected land, and outbuildings thereon, to which she has, by virtue of being owner or tenant of the dwelling place, unconditional and, together with members of her household and any co-tenants, exclusive<sup>25</sup> rights to occupy **and**
- (c) any buildings (or parts thereof), land and outbuildings to which she has, by virtue of being owner or tenant of her dwelling place, unconditional and, together with the owners or tenants of similar, closely associated dwellings, exclusive<sup>25</sup> rights to access or derive benefit from.

### 24.2 Exclusions

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Rule, none of the following shall be treated as part of a person's home premises:

- (a) any land (and the buildings thereon) which is detached from the land upon which main the dwelling place lies;
- (b) land designated as 'access land' under the provisions of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000;
- (c) the parts of any land or buildings which also fall to be treated as the **drinking premises** of a **pub**.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

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<sup>25</sup>Exclusive rights to any land shall not be deemed to have been diminished, curtailed or compromised by any public right of way or by any permissive right of way that crosses the land.

## 25 Event Time

### 25.1 Essential Definition

An **event time** is a hypothetical representation of the date and time at which a particular event has occurred.

### 25.2 Precision

#### 25.2.1 Notional Precision

The notional precision of an event time is that which is sufficient to ensure that the times of all unlinked events are unique.

#### 25.2.2 Recorded Precision

When the time of any event is recorded it shall be to a nominal precision of one minute; fractions of minutes are always to be discarded.

### 25.3 Linked Events

Departure from one place and arrival at another are **linked events** where

- (a) the two places share a common boundary and travel between them takes place across that common boundary or
- (b) the two places overlap and the drinker has elected under [Rule 22.3](#) to cease being in one place and to start being in the other.

In either case, both the arrival and departure events shall have the same event time, both notionally and nominally, but departure from the first place shall nevertheless be deemed to logically precede arrival at the second.

### 25.4 Estimated Event Times

Where, for any reason, an accurate time for an event was not contemporaneously recorded, an estimate shall be made as soon as possible thereafter.

#### 25.4.1 Departure Events

The event time recorded for any [departure event](#) shall be the latest time at which the event might reasonably be said to have happened.

#### 25.4.2 Arrival Events

The event time recorded for any [arrival event](#) shall be the earliest time at which the event might reasonably be said to have happened.

### **25.4.3 Other Events**

The event time given to any other type of event shall be median point at which it is likely to have happened<sup>26</sup>.

### **25.4.4 Inconsistent Estimated Event Times**

When any event times estimated in accordance with the above provisions result in an inconsistent order of events or an improbable interval between events, reasonable adjustments must be made to eliminate the inconsistencies, taking into account all relevant facts.

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*[Back to Contents](#)*

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<sup>26</sup>That is, a time at which one may reasonably say there was a 50% probability that the event happened earlier and an equal probability that it happened later.

## 26 The Post-Imbibing Period

### 26.1 Start

The **Post-Imbibing Period** for any drink starts at the instant the drinker first begins to imbibe it.

### 26.2 End

The Post-Imbibing Period ends twenty-four hours after the drinker has made a [relevant departure](#) from the [pub](#) or [beer festival](#) at which the drink was obtained.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: [Read Commentary](#)*



## A An Introduction to Beer Ticking

### A.1 About Pub Ticking and Beer Ticking

Fundamentally, pub ticking is about seeking out public houses you've not been to before and drinking in them. Beer ticking (or *Scooping* as it also known) is about sampling beers (by which we mean, in a UK context, 'real' or 'cask conditioned' ales) that you've not drunk before and keeping a record of them; if you've ever been to a beer festival and marked off in the programme the beers you've tried, you may well be on the way to becoming a beer ticker yourself.

The two pursuits are, to some extent, mutually exclusive; concentrating on one will tend to be to the detriment of the other. A pub ticker is going to find herself in a lot of pubs that, whilst maybe serving perfectly good quality ale, are serving a lot of very mainstream beers that she's had a hundred times before. The beer ticker, on the other hand, will find herself repeatedly visiting a hard core of pubs she knows are likely to have the new and rare beers she craves. Myself, I came to beer ticking through pub ticking and the latter certainly gave me a good working knowledge of where the best beer ticking pubs are.

Pub ticking is, in essence, a fairly straight forward affair; you find a pub, go in, have a drink or two and move on. Beer ticking, however, is a rather more complicated affair, with far more variables to consider; hopefully, this commentary will, if it is doing what is intended of it, point you towards a few things you might want to consider as a ticker or prospective ticker.

### A.2 Why Have Rules?

One thing, perhaps the only thing, upon which all beer tickers are agreed is the first rule of beer ticking: there are no rules – no incontrovertible rights and wrongs, no absolute truths. However, it is probably more accurate to say that there are no *universally applicable* rules because most tickers will have developed a good idea of what, for them, is the proper way of going about things – some parameters against which to validate what they record. Each, however, will have their own, probably unique, principles that make ticking more challenging, or less, such that they may indulge that aspect of the pastime they enjoy the most.

Some will want to savour their beers and make florid tasting notes, while, for others, it's just a numbers game – to simply sample as many different beers as they can lay their hands on. Some will want to concentrate on tracking down beers from new or rare breweries, while many like to combine beer ticking with ticking pubs; for some the pubs will take precedence, with beers consumed being of lesser importance. Others will wish to combine their pursuit of pubs or beers with other, unrelated interests or may simply enjoy socialising with like minded people. Each ticker's priorities will very much

shape the rules by which she plays but they will have rules nevertheless. Even if they are not codified, even if they are not thought of as rules at all, each tucker will have ways of justifying each of her ticks and a clear idea of what would not constitute a legitimate tick.

In creating these rules and writing the commentaries, I have tried to avoid moralising on issues unrelated to beer drinking and, instead, concentrate on the core matters with which the rules are concerned, namely:

- the identification of pubs;
- the recording of pub visits;
- the identification, consumption and recording of new beers and
- the means of getting to where the beer is.

Inevitably, however, anything that describes and regulates how I choose to go about my hobby is going to reflect my own ethical standards and these have, in particular, strongly influenced the rules relating to travel. The MOORFIELD RULES FOR PUB AND BEER TICKING therefore, should not be looked upon as a didactic guide nor should they be read as criticism of the way in which others pursue their hobby because neither is intended. These rules reflect how I like to do things. I guess they say a lot more about me than about the hobby but I'll leave that for others to decide. The Rules codify the way I like to scoop and what I think of as a fair tick; in these commentaries I shall try to explain why I do things the way I do and also what others may do differently and hopefully show why there could never be a universally applicable rule set.

Fundamentally, what these or any other rules provide is a standard framework against which you can judge what is and what is not a tick. So you've had 10,000 different beers: unless you and the rest of us know roughly what you mean by 'had' and 'different' and, indeed, 'beer', that number is meaningless.

### A.3 Getting Started

Get a pen and some paper, get yourself off to a beer festival or some real ale pubs, write down details of where you went and the beers you had. Easy as that.

The **CAMRA** (Campaign for Real Ale) Good Beer Guide will point you in the direction of many excellent pubs throughout the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands which serve real ale. CAMRA's national newspaper, *What's Brewing*, their local pub guides and branch magazines (the latter generally being available free of charge from the better pubs in an area) can all be useful sources of news and information about beer festivals, breweries, beers and pubs.

Whilst CAMRA is not necessarily held in the highest esteem within the ticking community (and the sentiment is often perceived to be mutual) its publications will certainly serve as a useful starting point for your adventure; once you begin taking things a little more seriously, however, you will soon find that your most valuable sources of information are other tickers. As well as simple word-of-mouth, various independent publications (such as the *New Imbiber*), websites and web-groups, run or contributed to by tickers and real ale enthusiasts, also disseminate a wealth of useful information.

#### A.4 The Ticking Community

It is my experience that beer tickers tend to be slightly more mature imbibers who've got over the 'downing any old crap just to get drunk' stage of their drinking lives but are otherwise representative of the sorts of people you will find drinking beer in pubs up and down the land. Some towns and cities are certainly more rewarding than others when it comes to finding new beers but the tickers themselves hail from all parts of the United Kingdom. While there certainly *are* female tickers, serious ticking is, it must be said, predominantly a boy thing. Most seem to have in them that drive which compels some people to make lists and to collect things; many have had or continue to pursue other collecting, listing or ticking type pastimes.

Despite the large quantities of alcohol that tickers tend to consume, bad behaviour is seldom a problem; you will find tickers, in the main, to be some of the most good natured drunks you're ever likely to meet.

#### A.5 How Many!?

The number of beers you end up ticking will depend, of course, on how intensively you are prepared to pursue things and for how long. Any number of factors beyond your control may put a limit on your opportunities to score new beers but, ultimately, it's pretty much up to you. If you let it, ticking can end up consuming a great deal of your spare time; the main thing to remember, however, is that you are not in a race. As is explicitly stated in the rules, pub and beer ticking are about the appreciation of traditional pubs and real ales - they are not competitive sports. Satisfying as it is to reach personal milestones, I would counsel against setting targets or measuring yourself against the 'achievements' or expectations of others.

There are plenty of tickers who have far higher totals than me and many who are adding to theirs at a far faster rate than I am. Ten thousand beers is recognized as *the* major landmark and is one that a steadily growing number of tickers have achieved; it is a lot easier at present than it once was. A good few have scored twice that number and more; some 'bottlers' (a term I shall explain later) are well past thirty thousand and then some. That said, as everyone plays by their own rules, just as you will, comparison between

individuals is meaningless. The main thing is to enjoy what you do for its own sake and allow the numbers take care of themselves.

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*Back to [Contents](#)*

## B A Commentary on the Moorfield Rules

A major addition to the Rules brought in with publication of version 2.0 has been this commentary appendix. It has been created to expand upon the ethos of the rules and explain why things are as they are, to exemplify how the rules might be applied in particular situations, to provide general insights into my experience of the ticking pastime and to illustrate some of the ways in which others may do things differently. This commentary is not to be viewed as a definitive part of the Rules but may, in cases of doubt or ambiguity, shed some light upon the intentions of the Rules proper.

Whilst the Rules may, often, appear convoluted and complex for the sake of complexity, most of everything that is in here has been created in response to real-life circumstances and events. However, as the Rules are intended for general use (and, in some instances, to preserve the anonymity of those who may have been involved), I have, for the most part, refrained from using any of them specifically as illustrative examples.

Commentaries for all the Rules have already been drafted but, as this is still very much a work in progress, not all of them have yet been published. In the meantime, some of the section numbers within this appendix may not correspond with the numbers of the Rules to which they apply; they will do so once the project is complete.

### B.0 Meta Rules

#### Spirit of the Rules

The Meta Rules (*Rules about Rules*) enshrine the first rule of beer ticking – *there are no rules*. However, laying aside this paradox, the Meta Rules set out what the rest of the MOORFIELD RULES are about, to whom they might apply and how they might be used and amended. They also, I hope, set out something of the spirit of the rules generally – that they shouldn't be taken *too* seriously and, most importantly, that I claim absolutely no authoritative position in the world of beer ticking. As I have said before, when it comes to beer ticking, it is each to their own and I have no intention of suggesting that anyone else's approach is somehow wrong or that mine is in any way superior and you, dear reader, are free to use, adapt and adopt these rules, or not, exactly as you see fit.

#### Ethos of the Rules

The MOORFIELD RULES have, as you might expect, grown out of the personal ethics and beliefs of their creator. The principles that underpin the Rules build upon the assumption and the expectation

- that, in all our dealings, we will

- be fair, open and honest;
  - respect difference and diversity within our community and wider society;
  - respect the rights of others as we would expect others to respect ours;
  - refrain from exploiting the vulnerabilities of others as we would expect others to refrain from exploiting ours and
  - refrain from abusing the goodwill of others as we would expect others to refrain from abusing ours;
- that we will respect our environment and remember that those who follow in our footsteps have the same rights to enjoy it that we have had;
  - that, although we share common interests, we do not necessarily share a common purpose or common goals and that, as independent spirits, we will follow our own aims free from the expectations of others and
  - that, above all, we will be honest not only with others but with ourselves.

Some people may regard this a moralizing and some may detect political undertones in the Rules as a whole; neither is unintentional. If this causes you a problem, I refer you to the Meta Rules themselves which leave you perfectly at liberty to amend any part of this document to suit yourself: at their core, the Rules respect difference and diversity within our community.

### Rule Amendments

**External Triggers** The Meta Rules provide the opportunity to make rule amendments in order *to adapt to environmental, economic, social or legislative changes that may affect a person's ability to accrue ticks*. Although they do not impose an obligation to do so, any material changes which impact, for good or ill, on the Real Ale drinking scene, should be seen as a trigger to at least review the existing rules.

**‘In Flight’ Rule Amendments** ‘In flight’ rule amendments have been disallowed to ensure that all changes have to undergo some degree of rational, sober consideration before implementation rather than, on a whim or as a matter of expediency, allowing things to be ticked that really, in the cold light of day, ought not to have been ticked.

**Retrospective Amendments** Retroactive amendments are also not permitted. Once something has been ticked it cannot be rendered void only by virtue of a rule change. Equally, if something was prevented from being ticked by the rules as they stood at the time, no matter that it can be shown conclusively that it would have counted under any new revision, it will not be counted. I *have*, in the past, applied changes retrospectively and now accept that this was wrong. There is, however, something very counter to logic in allowing a rule change that specifically excludes retrospective rule changes from, retrospectively, undoing the effects of previous retrospective rules changes - so all sleeping dogs are now left to lie, no matter what.

**Version Releases** There is an expectation, but not a formal requirement,

- (a) that each new release (other than a Major Revision) will incorporate only one rule change (plus any consequential amendments) or only a limited number of maintenance fixes **and**
- (b) that at least one rule will be fully reviewed each month even if such a review does not result in any new release.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: Back to [Rule 0](#)*

## B.1 Beer Tick

### The Beer Tick Defined

Rule 1 is the root of the MOORFIELD RULES; the one from which all others flow. It gives a broad outline of the nine conditions that must be fulfilled in order to secure a beer tick. That there are as many as nine might suggest that beer ticking is a difficult and complicated business. Most of the conditions, however, are designed only to disallow practises that I regard as ‘ticking at the margins’ and if you stick to the basics of going to a pub or beer festival, drinking some beer and going home again, you’ll hardly be troubled by most of them at all.

Rule 1, in itself, defines nothing in detail. It simply lays down the framework within which subsequent rules describe in detail those aspects of beer ticking that can make the difference between scoring a new beer and not:

- what is and is not a beer that can be ticked;
- how a beer can be determined as different from any other;
- where beer may be obtained;
- how the drinker should get to where the beer is;

- how beer may be legitimately obtained;
- where the beer may be consumed;
- in what quantity it should be consumed;
- how the drinker may satisfy herself that the beer has been fully consumed and
- what records she needs to keep of her imbibing.

Detailed explanations of all these various aspects of beer ticking are given in the commentaries that accompany the subordinate rules but there is one issue that I shall touch upon in more detail here – that being the one of *where* you tick beer. This breaks down into two components:

- where you *buy* the beer and
- where you *drink* the beer.

They are not, necessarily, one and the same thing.

### **Where to Buy Beer**

As the text of Rule 1 indicates, there are two distinct sources of tickable beer: pubs and beer festivals. Cask ale can be sourced either in permanent drinking establishments (such as traditional public houses, continental-style bars, station buffet bars, social and political clubs, &c., which, for the sake of simplicity, I refer to throughout by the generic term ‘Pub’) or at Beer Festivals.

It is a sad fact of life that most pubs in Britain these days are shit. Far too many serve no cask ale at all while many that do are constrained by money-grubbing pub companies to sell only nationally marketed brands of real ale. These beers, often referred to as *blands*, are all too often insipid, mass-produced imitations of their traditional antecedents. There are, nevertheless, still plenty of pubs where new beers, often from smaller breweries, can regularly be found.

Depending on where you live, however, such pubs may be insufficiently thick on the ground to allow, on their own, a satisfactory pursuit of the ticking hobby. Even if you do live within easy reach of excellent beer ticking pubs and real ale circuits, you may still find yourself looking for more. As an alternative to the pub, therefore, you will almost certainly want to look towards attending a few Beer Festivals.

Somewhere in the land, on virtually every weekend of the year, there are Beer Festivals. Some pubs put on their own festivals and very good they are too but when referring to beer festivals in this document, I am referring to stand alone events organised, generally, on an annual basis, by local CAMRA



branches or other, usually charitable, organisations. They can range from intimate affairs with just a score or so beers on offer to massive undertakings that may have several hundred beers to choose from.

Most beer tickers will mix and match pubs and beer festivals as seems to them opportune, convenient or worthwhile. Some will spend several days at the bigger beer festivals, while others will eschew stand alone festivals altogether in favour of consuming beer where, in their view, it is meant to be drunk: in the pub. Drinking at a beer festival is a very different experience to that of drinking in a pub and my preference is certainly for the latter rather than, for example, a beer festival in a tent or at the swimming baths. That said, I am no stranger to stand alone beer festivals, many of which I still attend on an regular basis. I make no distinction between the ticks I obtain in pubs or at stand alone festivals: all are equally valid.

### **Drink in Situ or Bottle It?**

‘Bottling’ is probably the one thing upon which everyone in the ticking community has a clear opinion: you either do it or you don’t.

Many tickers will only count beers consumed at the time and the place of purchase. There are those, however, who, to maximise their ticks, will, rather than drink the beers they have bought there and then, decant them into bottles (generally plastic, screw top pop bottles) and save them for later. These tickers are referred to as *bottlers*.

Reasons for bottling are varied but, at the end of the day, it basically comes down to numbers. At many beer festivals or, indeed, on some of the better cask ale pub circuits, there will be far more new beers to be had than can reasonably be drunk in the time available. Bottling, therefore, provides a useful workaround for those not prepared to leave new beers untried. Many bottlers will, in addition to bottling beer for their own consumption, fill bottles for others not in attendance. This will later result in the furtive exchange of beers at railway stations or desolate motorway services, especially if the other parties to this arrangement were reciprocating by bottling beer elsewhere.

Depending upon circumstances (not all publicans, for example, are keen on seeing their beers bottled; not all ‘normals’ are particularly understanding) bottlers can be surprising stealthy. Even so, they are usually easy to spot by their extremely large bags, shopping trolleys or pull-along suitcases.

The reasons why any particular individual decides not to bottle are also varied. Many will be satisfied with or completely sated on what they can drink in situ and feel no need or have no time to drink more later. Many will not bottle, however, because of the issue of beer quality: bottling is something that is very easy to do badly.

Beer, once it has been served, has a propensity to quickly deteriorate in quality; you only need to consider how unappealing a glass of beer becomes

after it has been stood around for a couple of hours or how much less satisfying a carry-out from the pub is compared with the same beer you drank while you were there. Unless you don't mind drinking rancid cack, the trick you need to pull off if you're going to bottle a beer and still have something at least reasonably drinkable when you get home is to slow that inevitable decline; key to this is making sure your bottle contains absolutely nothing that might contaminate the beer.

As you will quickly gather from the Rules, however, bottling is not something I do; the finer points of successfully preserving beer, therefore, are beyond my practical experience and further comment from me here would be entirely unenlightened assumption and opinion. If bottling is something you feel inclined to try your hand at, I strongly recommend you seek advice from those who've been doing it for a while. I would, nevertheless, be pleased to hear from anyone who has any practical tips that might usefully be added to this commentary.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Back to Rule 1](#)*

## B.2 Fully Validated Visit

Rule 2, as well as defining whether a visit to a pub or beer festival is valid for the purposes of ticking beer, is also the root rule defining what a pub tick is. For reasons that are now largely historical, there are, in fact, two types of visits: simple visits (as defined by Rule 3 - Recordable Visit) and a subset thereof which are the **fully validated visits**.

In the beginning, I started off just recording the pubs I visited; there were no rules, just a growing list of pubs I had been to and drunk in. Then, one windy, rain lashed evening, soaked through to my knickers waiting for a bus home, it occurred to me how much more meaningful a challenge it would be if all the pubs I visited had to be reached without the comfort and convenience of private transportation. Thus were the MOORFIELD RULES first conceived.

The problem then, however, was that I had no record of which of pubs I had already been to I had visited in accordance with this newly formulated rules and which I had not. All pubs visited thus far, I decided, were to be given the status of simply having been 'visited' while those I went to subsequently, where it could be verified that the new rules had been complied with, were accorded a visit status I now refer to as fully validated. The way in which I originally framed those rules, however, meant that it was still possible to record a pub travelled to by invalid means as 'visited' albeit only as a sort of second class pub tick.

Once I had added beer ticking to my drinking activities, however, it quickly became clear to me that I only wanted to count beers drunk during

fully validated visits to pubs and beer festivals. Since then, as both my interest in beer ticking and my general reluctance to ever use private transport have grown, the need for this secondary visit status has become less and less relevant.

This all means, however, under the rules as they currently stand, I *can* tick pubs without fulfilling the conditions needed for a fully validated visit but I can only ever tick *beers* at pubs or beer festivals I have travelled to and back home from by legitimate means – that is under my own steam or by public transport. It is compliance with this requirement (as defined in Rule 4 – Unbroken Journey Thread) that validates a visit.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: Back to [Rule 2](#)*

## **B.3 Recordable Visit**

### **Ticking Real Ale Pubs**

You can only count a pub as having been visited (however you get there) if you have had a proper drink in it. The very fact that you are reading this document creates the expectation that, when you visit a pub, you will probably want to be drinking real ale. It is this expectation that is at the very core of Rule 3 – the requirement that tickable beer is consumed during the visit.

Sometimes, however, this may not be possible, so Rule 3 allows for two exceptions, the first being for those pubs where no (drinkable) real ale is available and the second for those occasions where drinking anything alcoholic is ill advised.

### **Ticking Pubs Without Real Ale**

You may well ask, of course, given your presumed dedication to real ale, why I have made provision in the rules for ticking pubs don't serve the stuff? You must remember, of course, that these rules do also concern themselves with *pub* ticking as well as ticking real ales and that, out there, some pubs which, whilst not (currently) serving real ale, have other merits that, to a pub ticker interested in our traditional drinking heritage, would justify a visit. There is, of course, little to be gained by anyone from visiting a woebegone estate pub where there is more likelihood of being sold firearms or Class A narcotics than anything decent to eat or drink; where no cask ale has been drunk since Double Diamond started working wonders or Watney's rolled out the Red Barrel. Somewhere in between these dens of iniquity and the sort of pubs we are really interested in, however, there remain some decent enough establishments currently serving only toxic waste that might just deserve to survive long enough to see more enlightened real ale times and perhaps persuaded that real ale might actually be good for business.

### **Eschewing Real Ale**

Why, you may ask, would the Moorfield Rules, concerned as they are with Real Ale, allow a pub to be ticked without having to consume any of the real ales on offer?

The answer is that only in rare circumstances should it be possible or desirable to do so.

In the first case, I see no point in putting a person through the misery of drinking undrinkable beer only to secure a pub tick; to secure a *beer* tick, of course, you must drink the stuff but not just for a pub tick. By definition, however, in order to tick the pub you must never have been there before so how, except in unusual circumstances, would you know the real ale was unfit to drink?

In the second case, you might come across a pub where the only real ale purports to be from a brewery you have never heard of. It might well be, of course, that it is a new brewery in which case everything is to the good and you should certainly not turn it down. On the other hand, it may be that it really isn't clear who has brewed it and enquiries of the publican elicit only the cagiest responses - a sure sign of dubious provenance and that a long barge pole needs to be applied.

In the third case, you might come across a pub where the only real ale is from one or more breweries that you have already made an active decision to boycott. This might be because of poor beer quality, beer re-badging or other concerns of authenticity; it might have nothing to with brewing related matters but with more general problems about brewery's stance on social, economic, political or environmental issues. Either way, the Rules do not expect you to compromise your principles only to secure a pub tick. The key thing here is that it should be a known and particular problem you have with the brewer and not one that starts there and then on a whim - unless, of course, you have an issue with the particular pump clip or beer name. . .

### **Enforced Abstinence**

Rule 3.3 allows for the pub ticker to continue indulging her hobby where ill-health or other personal reasons make it unwise for alcohol to be taken. This exemption is primarily intended to apply only in circumstances that the ticker could not reasonably have avoided and the term 'commitments' is used specifically to exclude mere whim or caprice her part. This concession is definitely *not* intended to allow someone already so drunk that she can't drink any more to carry on her pursuit of yet more pub ticks and hence the stipulation that the whole of her day thus far should have been alcohol free. That drink my subsequently be taken, for any reason, would not invalidate any exemption legitimately claimed under this rule; one would, however, have to question the legitimacy of an exemption already claimed where there had

been no apparent change of circumstances to explain why it was no longer ill-advised to take alcohol.

### **Pub Metamorphosis**

The Rules are silent upon whether or not it is possible to tick the same pub more than once. Clearly, it is not uncommon for pubs to undergo radical transformations in order to try and keep up with the ever changing fads and fashions in the market place. It might be argued, that some of these transformations are so extreme as to have created an entirely new pub which could, therefore, be ticked afresh in its new incarnation as well as having been ticked as it originally was. No provision currently exists within the Rules to recognise or define the circumstances under which a pub could change to such an extent (structurally, in name, in nature or otherwise) as to become a different entity that could count as a new tick. The unwritten assumption, therefore, is that so long as the basic structure remains, a pub is essentially the same entity throughout the whole of its existence. My current thinking is that a pub would have to be entirely razed to the ground, to literally cease to exist, before whatever took its place could count as something new.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Back to Rule 3](#)*

## **B.4 Public Transport**

Unlike many of the Rules, my definition of what public transport is has been designed to be as simple and straightforward as possible: if something runs to a timetable and the public can use it, it's public transport. In the years that I have been working to this rule, I have come upon very few instances of ambiguity or uncertainty. Complexity is only introduced into the travel rules when deciding how to treat the use of conveyances which are definitely not public transport.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Back to Rule 6](#)*

## **B.5 Qualifying Quantity**

### **Preamble**

How much of a beer do you need to drink for it to count as a tick? Some hardy souls will only count a beer if they have had a full pint of it; many will satisfy themselves with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint or even  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a pint; some will make do with very small quantities indeed.

Before, however, getting too definitive about quantities, we need to contrast and compare those who ‘sample’ their beers with those who ‘drink’ them in what might be thought of as a more conventional manner.

*Sampler* is the term I use when referring to someone for whom any quantity, sufficient to appreciate the taste and other qualities of a beer, will be enough to count as a tick. They may subsequently pass the remainder of a beer on to a companion to sample or maybe, even, just leave it. Two people sharing 1/2 pints of each beer they buy are sometimes said to be ‘quartering’ their beers. Some tickers may cynically take advantage of as many tasters<sup>27</sup> that a pub or beer festival is prepared to offer them and count them all as ticks; this is a practise unlikely to generate much approbation within the ticking community or goodwill from staff behind the bar.

You may find that ‘samplers’ take more care to savour beers and to keep a record of their qualities and characteristics, seeing as they are less likely than others to get totally wasted, though neither of these propositions may necessarily be true in all cases.

The rest of us, tickers that I refer to as beer *drinkers*, generally need to have consumed a more well defined quantity before counting any new beer as a tick. More of that anon.

First, it may be useful to look at the units and measures in which the trade in general quantifies beer. There are, essentially, two sets of beer measures in use; one used at the retail end of the business (the amounts you can buy over the bar) and another at the production and distribution stages (the amounts you can buy from the brewery). [Table 1](#) lists the more common measures (and some less common ones) together with their equivalents in gallons, pints and litres. Metric measures seem to be only rarely used internally within the brewing industry; for excise duty purposes, however, HMRC<sup>28</sup> use the metric hectolitre (hl) as their official unit of measure. One hectolitre is equal to one hundred litres which is approximately 22 gallons.

On the production side of things, the size or capacity of a brewery – its *brew length* – will, more than likely, be quoted in barrels; one barrel being equal to 36 gallons or 288 pints (approximately 1.6 hl). The capacities of the containers – *casks* – used to transport the beer from brewery to pub are also, generally, measured in imperial units. Indeed, casks of traditional size are imperial units in their own right.

The output of most micro breweries is transported in Firkins (9 gallon casks, often referred to as *nines*) and occasionally Kilderkins (18 gallon casks or *eighteens*). Larger cask sizes are rare these days and even big breweries seldom distribute beer in anything larger than a Kilderkin.

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<sup>27</sup>Small quantities of beer offered to the drinker free of charge so that she might avoid purchasing something that is not to her taste.

<sup>28</sup>Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs, the government department responsible for the assessment and collection of alcohol excise duties in the United Kingdom.

Table 1: Liquid Measures used in the Beer Industry

Measure	Gal	Pints	Litres
Nip		$\frac{1}{3}$	0.189
Half		$\frac{1}{2}$	0.284
Pint		1	0.568
Pin	$4\frac{1}{2}$	36	20.457
Firkin	9	72	40.915
Kilderkin	18	144	81.830
Barrel	36	288	163.659
Hogshead	54	432	245.489
Butt	108	864	490.978

At the retail end of the business, imperial measures also reign supreme. The only measures in which draught beer can legally be sold in the UK are

- the nip (one third of a pint (approximately 189 ml));
- the pint and half-pint (approximately 568 ml and 284 ml respectively) and whole multiples thereof and
- more recently added<sup>29</sup>, the two-third pint measure

You will find few pubs that are able or willing to sell beer in nip measures and it remains to be seen whether the  $\frac{2}{3}$  pint measure gains any traction in the market. The nip measure is, however, increasingly finding favour at beer festivals, generally made available by means of a  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint line being added to  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint or pint glasses rather than by using diminutive  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint glasses.

### Qualifying Quantity

So, having established the quantities in which you can actually buy beer, in what quantities is it drunk for ticking purposes? My approach reflects the common consensus that the half pint is the standard ticking unit. For me, having been a life-long ‘social drinker’ of real ale, there is still great attraction in the traditional pint. However, whilst there are a few who have the capacity and stamina to tick copious numbers of beers in pints, for most of us there are simply way too many beers out there to be ticking in pints. Drinking in halves rather than pints, therefore, potentially doubles the number of ticks you can get for your money, your valuable drinking time (VDT) and your valuable drinking capacity (VDC).

The question of whether, therefore, one might or should tick in thirds of pints needs to be addressed. After all, to drink each beer in this even smaller

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<sup>29</sup>1 October 2011

quantity could potentially increase by a further 50% the number of different beers that could be squeezed into one's VDT and VDC. There are, of course, no hard and fast reasons why tickers do not tick in thirds, but here are some of the reasons why, in the past, I have not:

- (a) Custom and practice.
- (b) The universal availability of  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint measures and the lack of availability of  $\frac{1}{3}$  measures means that
  - (i) with a half-pint rule, exactly the right amount of beer can always be purchased;
  - (ii) with a third-pint rule, the reality is that on most occasions you would still end up drinking half pints anyway.

You could, of course, leave any excess but that is wasteful (if no one else is going to drink it) and, unless you had some means of making an accurate measurement of the amount drunk or the amount left behind, you would never be certain how much you had actually consumed.

- (c) Consuming beers in very small amounts would make it all way too easy.

That said, whilst most tickers do generally stick to a half pint rule, some (and perhaps an increasing number as  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint measures become more widely available) will drink the lesser amount of particularly strong beers that would, otherwise, take up too much VDC. The Moorfield Rules, prior to version 2.1, made no such concession; however they *have* always insisted that  $\frac{1}{2}$  pints of particularly weak beers (sub-3% abv) were insufficient. Questions had to be asked, therefore, about the rationale for having no corresponding exception allowing a lesser amount to be drunk of particularly strong beers. The points considered were as follows:

- There are so few sub 3% beers on the market that most of the time we are working with an across-the-board  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint rule for greater than ninety-nine per cent of all the beers we encounter. This has always been a 'game of halves.'
- Convolved and verbose as the Rules may be, the endeavour is always to minimise the number of exceptions and exemptions.
- Whilst 'strong' beers are going to be encountered far more often than sub-3% beers, they are not going to be encountered in such numbers that a reduction from a  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint to a  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint is going to make a significant difference to a drinker's costs or her state of inebriation.



- $\frac{1}{3}$  pint measures, whilst legal and becoming more readily available at beer festivals, are still not commonly made available in most pubs; chances are you're not going to be able to drink a  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint measure even if you were minded to.
- The 3% lower limit suggested itself very readily, but just what would you treat as a 'strong' beer?

The counter arguments might be summed up thus:

- There already *was* a 'lower limit' so just how much complexity is being added by the addition of an 'upper limit'? Why not have a single sliding scale or function which defines a Qualifying Quantity for all strengths of beer and thus obviate the need for *any* exceptions?
- Increasingly, stronger beers are attracting a premium price and, as of 1 October 2011, beers with an ABV over 7.5% now specifically attract 'Higher Strength Beer Duty.' The rules are supposed and expected to *adapt to environmental, economic, social or legislative changes that may affect a person's ability to accrue ticks*.
- Whilst not defining or requiring it, the general framework of the rules does encourage responsible drinking; a relaxation of the half-pint rule for exceptionally strong beers would be in line with this ethos. Again, the rules should *adapt to relax the conditions under which a tick can be made where it is found that the letter of the existing rules is preventing or could prevent the accrual of ticks in circumstances contrary to the ethos of the person or persons to whom the rules apply*. It is easy to envisage a responsible drinker being dissuaded from ticking a particularly strong beer because of the requirement to drink a full  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of it.
- $\frac{1}{3}$  pint measures *are* becoming more readily available at beer festivals, which is where you are most likely to encounter a proliferation of stronger beers. In any event, there is nothing (within the Rules) to prevent you from using your own verified  $\frac{1}{3}$  measure; the Rules only require that your beer is drunk from the vessel in which its quantity was verified, not necessarily from that in which it was served.
- There is no 'obvious' boundary at which a beer may be thought of as becoming strong enough to justify a lower Qualifying Quantity but try thinking along the lines of categorizing beers as strong, very strong and exceptionally strong; I believe, then, the picture becomes very much clearer:
  - Strong: 5.1% - 7.0%

- Very Strong: 7.1% - 9.0%
- Exceptionally Strong: 9.1%+

Balancing the arguments for and against, I decided that the case for a third-pint rule for exceptionally strong beer was made and the present formula for calculating a beer's Qualifying Quantity was adopted on 22 January 2012.

*Natural logarithms, division by irrational numbers: do you seriously expect me to be able to calculate that, in my head, in a busy pub – when I'm pissed?* Although difficult to calculate without the aid of a calculator or computer, there are really only two points on the graph you need to remember: anything between 3.0% and 9.0% (inclusive) will still require a half pint to record a tick. For anything 9.1% and above a  $\frac{1}{3}$  will do. As with versions of the Rules prior to 2.1, the qualifying quantities for beers below 3% rise above 270 ml but you have to get below 1.4% before it goes over  $\frac{2}{3}$  pint and below 0.5% before it goes over a pint – I really cannot see much value in bothering with beers anything close to that level of weakness.

Why *e*? Simply because it just happened put the 'upper limit' for  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint consumption more or less where I wanted it – somewhere between very strong and exceptionally strong (9.03206%).

### Imperial and Metric Units

So, having settled on imperial legal measures as the standard ticking units, why do the Rules effectively specify amounts based on 'untis' of 180 ml and 270 ml rather than the actual  $\frac{1}{3}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint metric equivalents of 189 ml and 284 ml? It all boils down to issues of practicality. Most half-pint glasses used in pubs are a  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint to the brim. This means that to be able to say you've had an actual  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of beer, the glass must have been full to the brim – with liquid beer – to start with, there must have been no spillage and absolutely no liquid left in the glass at the end. This is never going to happen in reality.

For a start a 'full' brim measure glass need contain no more than 95% liquid; it is perfectly legal for as much as 5% of the space in a brim measure glass to be taken up with the foamy head – which is almost entirely air<sup>30</sup>. Hence the adoption of 180 ml as the equivalent of  $\frac{1}{3}$  pint and 270 ml as the equivalent of  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint, these being 95% of the imperial measures, near as damn it. This allows for the legal limit of non-liquid in a so-called full measure, for any minor spillage from a glass that actually was brim full to start with and for any residual liquid that cannot be practicably drained from the glass at the end of the drink.

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<sup>30</sup>It is, of course, much cheaper for a money-grubbing pubCo to fill your glass with air than with beer which means more profit for them, hence the failure of successive governments to outlaw brim measure glasses.

For the record, I do, of course, as a traditional Northern drinker, like a head on my beer. That is why the beer should be served in an oversized, lined glass with liquid all the way up to the line, leaving the head in that part of the glass above the line.

### Bottled Beers

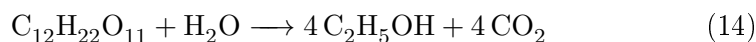
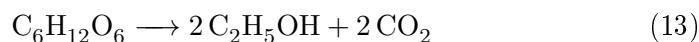
Not that the Moorfield Rules concern themselves with ticking bottled beers but consumption of a bottled beer may, on occasion, be needed to validate a pub tick. Bottled beers (that is, beers *sold* in bottles rather than draught beers poured into bottles by tickers), therefore, also have their qualifying quantities and these are calculated using the same formula as that for draught beers but but with each quantum of beer determined by the size of the bottle it came in rather than standard legal measures: the amount you are deemed to have drunk (assuming you drank the full bottle) is the exact amount shown on the bottle. Given the sizes in which they are generally sold, one bottle of almost any of bottled beer will be sufficient to provide a qualifying quantity. A beer would have to be less than 3.7% abv before a 250 ml bottle was insufficient, less than 1.8% for a 330 ml bottle and less than 0.6% for a 500 ml bottle.

### Alcohol Free Beers

[Rule 12.5](#) prevents ‘alcohol free’ beers from being treated as non-intoxicating drinks. Therefore, the amount of an ‘alcohol free’ beer with, for example, an advertised ABV of 0.1% that would have to be drunk for it to be a qualifying quantity would be 944 ml (or 1<sup>5</sup>/<sub>6</sub> pints). The amount for a truly alcohol free beer (ABV 0.00%) would be infinite: this is not unintentional. Not, of course, that any of these are likely to count as [tickable beers](#).

### Alcohol by Volume

Alcohol, or more specifically ethanol (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH (see [Figure 1](#))), is the main intoxicating component of beer and is produced by the metabolising of the sugars D-glucose (C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (see [Figure 2](#))) and sucrose (C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>11</sub> (see [Figure 3](#))) by yeast during the fermentation process:



The strength of a beer is generally quoted in terms of its alcohol by volume (ABV): the volume of alcohol as a proportion of the total volume of liquid expressed as a percentage, usually to a precision of one part per thousand (0.1%).

Figure 1: Molecular Structure of Ethanol

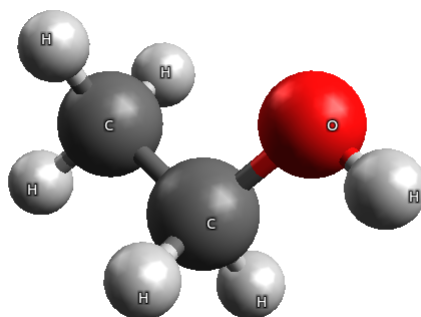


Figure 2: Molecular Structure of  $\alpha$ -D-Glucopyranose – one of the cyclic isomers of glucose

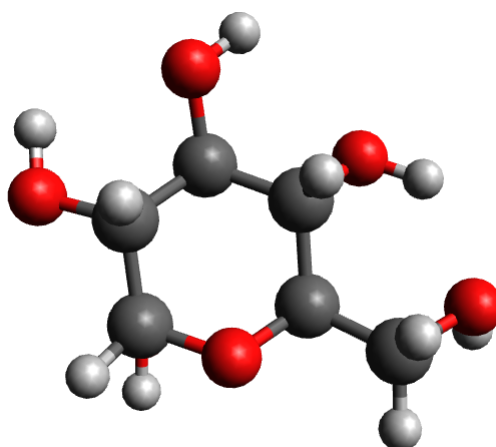
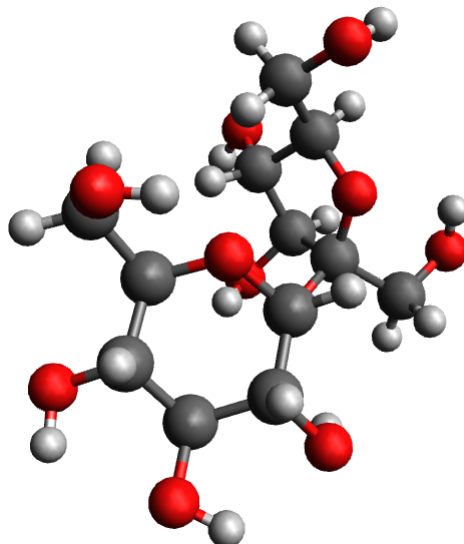


Figure 3: Molecular Structure of Sucrose



You may, occasionally, find ABVs quoted to a greater degree of precision (for example Abbeydale's *Black Mass* is quoted as having an ABV of 6.66%) but this will usually, as in this example, be nothing more than a marketing gimmick; it is not generally practicable to measure a beer's ABV to such a degree of precision.

The quoted ABV for any beer is really nothing more than a guide to its strength; in particular, the beers we are interested in for beer ticking purposes are, by the definition we have already established in [Rule 11](#), still fermenting in the cask, and we would not, therefore, expect the ABV to remain constant. For our purposes, however, we will treat the quoted or advertised value as being entirely accurate because we and, in particular, the hypothetical drinker, will never have any way knowing that it isn't.

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[Back to Contents](#) :: [Back to Rule 12](#)

## B.6 Proper Commercial Basis

Nobody's going to turn down free beer when it's offered, are they? I suppose not; I don't think I've ever been known to. The point here is, though, that occurrences of free beer, where they happen at all, are not generally going to be available to more than a select few and certainly not to our hypothetical drinker. One of the key underlying principals of the Moorfield Rules is that of an equality of opportunity to tick and, to this end, it is my opinion that beer obtained on favourable terms simply because of who you are or who you

know has not been obtained fairly. In general, therefore, free beer is void beer.

The concept of a ‘proper commercial basis’ also extends to exclude alcoholic drinks from hobby brewers and other bootleg producers that you may find, from time to time, for sale in an otherwise legitimate market. This is done by insisting that only liquor upon which the appropriate Excise Duties have been paid may be treated as obtainable on a proper commercial basis; more of that anon.

### **Going Market Price**

When it comes to determining the proper price for any particular drink, this should, in most cases be a straightforward procedure: the price of all drinks should, by law, be clearly advertised at the point of sale and that should be the price you pay – no more, no less. Most reputable establishments that we are likely to encounter, whilst not, necessarily, sticking rigidly to the requirement to clearly advertise prices will have a set price for everything and that is the price you will be charged. In most cases, it will be clear when you are being favoured with more advantageous terms and, therefore, unless you have clear reason to believe otherwise, you may always assume that you have been charged the going market price.

The concept of a going market price is not one that is intended to reflect a general market valuation for beer, only what one might reasonably expect to pay in a particular place at a particular time. In any market, some sellers will charge as much as the market will bear while others will sell cheap to undercut competitors; both high and low prices can equally be said to be true market values because both will have been set with reference to and are influenced by the market as a whole. Although all market valuations are ultimately driven by what the buyer is prepared to pay and what the seller is prepared to accept, I do not envisage an individual, hypothetical drinker, by refusing to pay the price demanded, being able to bring about a general reduction in the prices being charged at a particular venue. More likely she will end up on her arse out in the street.

There are going to be occasions where you do find yourself favoured with cheap or even free beer (maybe unavoidably so, if only so as not to cause offence by refusing) and it is not intended that, in all instances, this will put an automatic exclusion on your drinks. However, before explaining the exceptions, I shall briefly elucidate the reasons why some charges you may (have to) pay do not count as part of the going market price and why thus, if you choose to avoid paying them, you do not fall foul of the proper commercial basis test.

## Excluded Charges

**Tips and Gratuities** Tips and gratuities should, in all circumstances, be regarded as entirely voluntary and you will not be treated, for the purposes of this rule, as having paid less than the going market price for any particular drink only because you have decided not to give a tip.

*Should you, however, not anyway be offering a gratuity to the person who serves you? They are, after all, on very low wages and quite likely to be on the statutory minimum wage.* In my view tips and gratuities are (even if they go directly to your intended recipient(s), which may not necessarily be the case) subsidising and supporting a low wage economy. Whilst I have no problem with anyone wishing to express gratitude for services received in any way they see fit, I do not believe it is right that any worker, in any industry, should have to rely on the charity of customers to top up their wages to make it worth their while doing the job in the first place. Of course, the alternative (higher basic pay from the employer) would mean higher beer prices for everyone and, to my mind, this is a far more equitable state of affairs. Your mileage may vary.

**Service Charges** Although rarely, if ever, applied in a normal pub environment, service charges are a slightly different animal to gratuities in that they are likely to be an *advertised* addition to the price and unlikely to be voluntary. In my view they are entirely dishonest and I believe that you are perfectly within your rights to refuse to pay them, especially if the ‘service’ you receive is nothing more than perfunctory. You will not be treated, therefore, for the purposes of this rule, as having paid less than the going market price for any particular drink only because you refuse to pay a service charge.

**Entrance Fees and Glass Charges** Whilst I will not condone dishonesty in any shape or form and pushing your luck too far is likely to cause infractions of other Rules, I regard the avoidance of entrance fees and glass charges (particularly in pubs) to be fair game. Therefore you will not be treated, for the purposes of this rule, as having paid less than the going market price for any particular drink only because you have avoided paying what may seem to be a mandatory entrance fee or glass charge.

## Exceptions

There are a number of exceptions that broaden the scope of ‘proper commercial basis’ to take into account factors other than just the price paid for a beer.

**Special Offers** Promotions and special offers are, in many cases, obviously and readily available to the hypothetical drinker; an example might be a

‘happy hour’ where all drinks or a particular range of drinks are discounted regardless of who you are or any other conditions. Other offers such as ‘Buy  $x$  get  $y$  free’ and similar multi-transactional loyalty schemes may be less obviously accessible to the casual customer but, provided these schemes are genuinely made available for all-comers to take advantage of then drinks obtained under them may be considered to have been purchased on a proper commercial basis even if, in reality, most casual customers would not gain any benefit from them.

**Competition Prizes** Pubs will often offer a prize of free beer for winning games, competitions and, most likely, the pub quiz. Provided entry to the competition is genuinely open to all-comers then the free beer taken as a prize may be treated as having been obtained on a proper commercial basis: it will certainly have been offered on that basis. I have also taken the view that with, say, a pub quiz or darts tournament you have ‘earned’ the beer through the skill, judgement or knowledgeableness of yourself and, maybe, your drinking companions.

The same cannot be said of games of chance. Personally, I consider gambling, particularly on essentially random events, to be an entirely unethical exploitation of human psychological weaknesses. Consequently I do not consider that using such means either to sell or obtain beer fits within the ethos of the Rules.

**Drink as Payment in Kind** Where free or discount drink is offered as payment in kind for services rendered, I again take the view that it has been earned; indeed it is likely that your reward in drink is going to be far less than the real value of the service rendered. If it is not, you may be falling foul of the Dishonest or Exploitative Behaviour rule.

Of course, if the service rendered is in the course of your normal business and you are being paid anyway for it, then any additional payment in kind must be deemed to fall outside this exemption.

**Underpayment in Error** Just as I am sure you would be quick to point out if you had been over-charged or short changed, I expect that you will be similarly diligent in pointing out any errors made in your favour. Obviously, in a busy pub where customers are three deep at the bar and you’re not familiar with the staff, that might be easier said than done. To what lengths you should go in attempting to rectify an erroneous underpayment before you decide to give up and donate the difference to charity, I leave for you to decide.

**Overpayment in Error** If you are overcharged (and, of course, it does happen and sometimes deliberately so) I would expect you to either sort it



out there and then or live with it. What is not acceptable is to nurse a grudge and to then wilfully and dishonestly underpay on a subsequent transaction.

**Making Good** When you know that you have underpaid for a beer and there was nothing you could, reasonably, have done about it, you may still salvage the situation by donating the underpayment to charity. This must, however, be done promptly (within twenty-four hours) and should be done demonstrably (either with cash or a verifiable electronic or card transaction), not just on a promise!

**Dishonest or Exploitative Behaviour** There are many ways in which you might obtain beer at below the going market price from passing forged bank notes to simply over-exploiting the goodwill of someone who is supplying you with beer. The rule of thumb here is that if you could have paid the proper price for your beer and deliberately or negligently avoided doing so, it has probably been obtained dishonestly. If so, no amount of remorse or charitable donations are, for the purposes of these Rules, going to make that beer tickable.

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*[Back to Contents](#) :: [Back to Rule 14](#)*

## B.7 Consumed

**Honking Up** Let's face it, we've all done it: over-indulged on the beer and, before you know where you are, it's pavement pizza time! It's not pretty, it's not clever and it's not pleasant.

Some, I'm sure, can just shrug off such occurrences as an 'occupational hazard' but I can't help but think of it as good beer gone to waste, an unhappy conclusion to what should have been an enjoyable experience and an unsatisfactory way in which to say you have actually 'consumed' a beer. Hence the rule of voiding ticks where the beer doesn't, as it were, go all the way through. Think of it, additionally, as an incentive not to drink to the point of illness. As real ale drinkers we are fortunate that, in general, we do not suffer from hangovers, so why spoil it?

Of course there is always the possibility that you were going to be ill anyway for reasons entirely unconnected with drinking – a virus, food poisoning, whatever – but, let's face it, no matter how dodgy that take-away you had on the way home, the thirty beers you scooped beforehand were never going to make it less likely that you'd be ill, were they? So, harsh as it may seem, absolutely no honking allowed.

Why twenty four hours for the 'post-imbibing period?' Completely arbitrary. I have no medical knowledge to inform me when a beer might legitimately be said to have cleared someone's system and I do not intend

trying to find out; in any event it will, no doubt, vary from person to person and vary with circumstances: hence the arbitrariness of the time period and also my choice to use the most non-scientific phrase I could find.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: Back to [Rule 20](#)*

## **B.8 Brewery Premises**

Rule 23 defines the physical extent of a brewery's premises and is intended to set out precisely where modifications to or mixes of beers can be carried out in order that they may be counted as having been done *at* the brewery for the purposes of [Rule 10](#) (Different Beer). Rule 23.2 is intended to exclude particularly, but not exclusively, pubs owned or run by the brewery and the [drinking premises](#) of brewpubs.

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: Back to [Rule 23](#)*

## **B.9 Post-Imbibing Period**

The 'post-imbibing period' defines the length of time a beer must be 'kept down' in order that it may be treated as having been properly [consumed](#) and also the time within which any underpayment must be made good in order that a drink may be treated as having been obtained on a [proper commercial basis](#).

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*Back to [Contents](#) :: Back to [Rule 26](#)*

## **C Disclaimer**

The MOORFIELD RULES FOR PUB AND BEER TICKING and the associated commentaries make reference, directly and indirectly, to various Acts of Parliament and other statutory regulations; best endeavours were made, at the time of writing, to ensure that such references and any interpretation of them were correct. Nothing in this document, however, should be treated or relied upon as legal advice. **Do not** make potentially life-changing decisions based on what you read in this document without first seeking proper guidance from a qualified legal or financial advisor or from the appropriate regulatory authorities.