

Good day all

The season of pub of the year is with us again and this year, the competition takes a bit of an update. We start with a short list of pubs which meet the NBSS scoring criteria and add your suggestions for additional pubs for consideration. As well as the list of pubs that meet the criteria, we would like you to e mail us with whichever pubs you think should be added for consideration by Jan 1st 2026 in order to give us time to compile lists for the next stage of the local competition. To that end, please submit your pubs for consideration to johnsissons@sky.com You must have visited your recommendations at least once in the last three months and they should comply with CAMRA beer guidance standards which are enclosed within this e mail.

Once these lists have been submitted, they will go to the next stage of the competition. The second stage will be that a short list of six pubs will be decided by each member voting for their own six nominated pubs you think should be considered for the final POTY vote. The scores you enter will be compiled and the final six will be those chosen with the highest number of votes.

The third stage will be that all the final six must be visited at least once and scored on the CAMRA principles of 'what a pub should be'.

We shall also ask all members to nominate three pubs for cider pub of the year and should you have any nominee for club of the year, these should also be submitted by closing date of stage two. You will be advised of these dates in the future. Please make sure you vote only by e mail so that we can keep all suggestions in one place to assure accuracy. Please make sure that any correspondence carries your CAMRA membership number.

To start stage one, the pubs that have reached the NBSS scoring criteria of a minimum of five reporters, with an average score of 3.5 or more achieved will be listed as follows. To that, you can add any other pubs you feel should be considered. This will give us our initial shortlist.

Please remember, if you do not vote, you do not have a voice. Over to you now.

Faversham Furlongs Ale House

Faversham Elephant

Faversham Shipwrights Arms

Faversham Bear Inn

Sittingbourne Golden Hope

Sittingbourne Yellow Stocks

Faversham Quay

Faversham Sun Inn

Lower Halstow Three Tuns

Sheerness Pilots' Rest

Sittingbourne Paper Mill

Faversham Anchor
Faversham Phoenix Tavern
Queenborough Admiral's Arm .

Also nominated are.

Rodmersham Fruiterers Arms
Sittingbourne Gore Court Arms

1. The criteria are –
 - quality and condition of product
 - promotion and knowledge of product
 - cleanliness and staff hygiene
 - community focus and atmosphere
 - service, welcome and offering
 - style, décor and furnishing
 - sympathy with CAMRA's aims
 - overall impression & value

Competition Stages:

- **Branch Stage:** The first stage of the Kent CAMRA Pub of the Year (POTY) 2026 competition is for each of the Kent CAMRA Branches to judge and announce their branch winner.
- **Area Stage:** Each of the branch winners are judged to decide the East Kent, Mid Kent & West Kent POTY winners.
- **County Stage:** The three Area winners go head to head to decide the Kent Pub of the Year for 2026.
- **Regional Stage:** The winners of the various competitions across the South East Region are then judged to decide which pub is the South East CAMRA Pub of the Year 2026.

The South East Regional winner will go through to the South East Super Regional competition, the winner of which will go through to the National POTY competition, competing against the winners of the three other Super Regions.

Kent Pub of the Year 2026 schedule:

- Branch Pub of the Year deadline: Friday, 13th March 2026.
- Area Pub of the Year deadline: Friday, 24th April 2026.
- County Pub of the Year deadline: Friday, 12th June 2026.
- Regional Pub of the Year deadline: Friday, 31st July 2026.
- Super-Regional Pub of the Year deadline: Wednesday, 30th September 2026.
- National Pub of the Year Announcement: Early January 2027.

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Thanks