



2012 FBA ADVANCED TOUR Event Requirements

Version 1
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The FBA Advanced Tour is a linked system of flair bartending competitions for up and coming competitive flair bartenders in locations all over **North America**. The FBA Advanced Tour will establish a direct link between existing and new regional flair bartending competitions with the Advanced Divisions of FBA Pro Tour events, including Legends of Bartending, Nations Flair Challenge and Quest Competition.

The FBA Advanced Tour will provide Amateur and Advanced flair bartenders with the opportunities needed to improve their skills and eventually help them move up to the FBA Pro Tour. Bartenders will compete in events on the FBA Advanced Tour to earn Advanced Tour points. These points will be calculated for each event on the tour and will accumulate over the entire year for each competitor. At the end of the year the competitor(s) with the most points will be crowned FBA Advanced Tour Champion.

The FBA Advanced Tour is funded entirely by the events contributing to the point accumulation. In 2012, trophies and FBA Premium Memberships will be awarded. As has been proven on the FBA Pro Tour, competitors will attend the events that provide valuable tour points.

The events in the FBA Advanced Tour can be regional or national in scale, but must be open to all Amateur and Advanced competitors. Events can vary in format, rules, and sponsors, but all must be approved by the FBA. The FBA Advanced Tour does not have a level system like the FBA Pro Tour. This means all events accepted into the FBA Advanced Tour are equal and will all be at the same level in terms of requirements and points awarded.

Any event may apply to join the FBA Advanced Tour. However, to be fair to all competitors, we require ample time be given to receive your tour application, and then review, adjust, and approve the rules and format. **All format and rules must be submitted to the FBA well before the event date to be approved.** Please review the table below for the submission deadline.

One of the goals of the FBA Advanced Tour is to provide up and coming competitive flair bartenders the opportunity to compete more often, while reinforcing a common “sport” platform for the competitors to understand and excel in. While the goals of each event, as well as the look and feel of the events will be different from each other, the judging criteria, category definitions and scoring system should be compatible from one to the others. This allows competitors to easily transition from one event to another with minimal competitor and staff confusion as well as lower administration overhead.

To apply to have an event become part of the FBA Advanced Tour, fill out the application form online at <http://adv.barflair.org>. Please review the table below for the requirements and application deadlines.

ADVANCED TOUR PACKAGE EXPLAINED:

Events added to the FBA Advanced Tour will benefit in the following ways:

Advertising:

- Your event listed on the FBA Events page as a Sanctioned FBA Advanced Tour Event.
- Your event listed on the FBA Calendar, which is displayed on several websites.
- Your event advertised on the FBA News page starting 1 to 2 months prior to event date.
- Your event logo included on select FBA Advanced Tour media exposure.
- The FBA website gets over 1.5 million hits per month.

Competitor Motivation:

- Competitors all over the world recognize the FBA and our sanctioned events as being the best and most consistent competitions, as well as the standard in flair bartending.
- Each FBA Advanced Tour event earns the competitors points toward the end of year prizes and placement.
- Rankings and accomplishments on the FBA Advanced Tour will add credit to competitor's resumes, plus more competition experience to help them improve their skills.
- Being named the FBA Advanced Tour Champion will be recognized as the award for the top up and coming competitive flair bartender.

FBA Support:

- The FBA will assist your event with the current standards for rules and format to best fit the expected competition.
- A custom scoring program will be created to score your event if needed.
- FBA Certified judges will be made available for your event to use.
- Direct advertising to members all across North America.

Payments and Protection:

- The non-refundable FBA Advanced Tour fee must be paid in full before your event is listed on the FBA Advanced Tour, FBA Events Page, FBA Events Calendar, or anywhere else. This is to protect the FBA from non-payment from an event as this has happened in the past.

ADVANCED TOUR REQUIREMENTS:

- FBA Advanced Tour fee: **USD\$100**
 - Scale: **Regional and National events**
 - Maximum Total Prize Money: **USD\$2000**
 - Minimum FBA Approved Judges: **1**
 - Minimum Format: **None**
 - Minimum Finalists: **3**
 - Application Deadline: **2 Months**
 - Event Date and Format Posted: **1 Month**
 - Rules & Prize Money Posted: **1 Month**
 - Everything Posted: **1 Month**
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- These requirements are applicable to every event on the FBA Advanced Tour, except when run in conjunction with a Major Pro Tour event.
 - Each event must have at least one (1) FBA Approved Judge on the panel. This judge can be suggested or provided by the FBA.
 - Events on the FBA Advanced Tour are only open to Amateur and Advanced level bartenders. Any bartender who has competed at the Pro level at Legends, Nations, or Quest, or have graduated from the FBA Advanced Tour to the FBA Pro Tour, are considered to be at the Pro level and therefore are not eligible to compete in FBA Advanced Tour events.
 - There is only one event level on the FBA Advanced Tour. All events will award the same points as per the scale listed below.

FBA ADVANCED TOUR POINTS BREAKDOWN:

Position	Points
1	100
2	80
3	70
4	60
5	50
6	40
7	30
8	20
9	15
10	10
11 +	5

ADVANCED TOUR GUIDELINES:

Qualifiers:

Some larger Advanced Tour competitions, like the Advanced Divisions at NATIONS, QUEST, and LEGENDS, may have qualifying and final rounds, but this is not a requirement. We expect the majority of the FBA Advanced Tour events to only have 1 round or just finals. However, any event with a qualifying round prior to a final round must schedule it such that competitors who have to travel to the event to have the same chance to qualify as those who live locally.

Some events run multiple qualifiers spanning weeks or even months, with a grand final at the end of the series. Typically the finalists are determined by the top competitors from each week or month. The exact process of determining the finalists must be clearly posted within the rules deadline. To allow traveling competitors a fair chance of only have to make the journey once, an “out of town” or “last chance” qualifier should be held just prior to the final event. This last qualifier should give preference to out of town competitors over locals and repeat competitors.

Another option to assist out of town competitors is to offer Wild Card spots.

Wild Cards:

A “Wild Card” spot is a straight shot to the finals when not directly qualifying through normal means. This can be accomplished in several ways.

- Taking a few of the highest scored bartenders who did not make the cut in normal qualifying.
- Taking several other competitions top finishers as Wild Card spots. The number of spots and from which competitions these spots will come from must be declared and posted at least 2 month prior to the execution of said Wild Card event, and the FBA must be informed of these Wild Card Spots at this time.
- The champion from the previous year may be invited back as a Wild Card.
- A “free ride” may not be given. Wild Cards must be based on results of competing in a legitimate competition and fully justified.

FBA Members:

All scores are tracked by the bartender’s FBA Member Number; therefore every bartender must be registered with the FBA in order to compete in an FBA Advanced Tour event. Bartenders can register for a free Basic FBA Membership, or upgrade to the Premium Membership. To see what is offered by each type of membership, please visit www.barflair.org/register.cfm .

FBA ADVANCED TOUR PRIZE BREAKDOWN:

PLACE	FBA MEMBERSHIP	TROPHYS
1st	12 Month Extension	TROPHY
2nd	12 Month Extension	TROPHY
3rd	12 Month Extension	TROPHY
4th	12 Month Extension	TROPHY
5th	12 Month Extension	TROPHY
Top Female	12 Month Extension	TROPHY

- Competitors finishing in the top five of the FBA Advanced Tour will automatically move up to the FBA Pro Tour the following year.
- Competitors finishing in the top three in the Advanced Division events of the FBA Pro Tour (Legends of Bartending, Nations Flair Challenge and Quest) will automatically move up to the FBA Pro Tour the following year.