Procedures for “Stem-Type” Thermometer Testing

Ice Point Method

1. Fill up a cup with 5” or more w/ ice
2. Add water to fill the cup
3. Let the cup sit 4 to 5 minutes to allow the water temperature to stabilize (at 32 °F)
4. Insert thermometer, being careful to make sure the dimple in the stem is immersed and the stem is not touching the sides of the cup
5. Let the thermometer come down to 32° F (about 1 minute)
6. Adjust the needle by turning the nut underneath the dial (w/ a 7/16” wrench) to exactly 32° F (close one eye and look directly at the 32° mark)
7. Keep checking and adjusting until it stays at 32°F while in the ice water

Note: Each line on the dial represents 2°F and the ice point method is considered the most accurate method for stem-type thermometers