CLAIMS

1. A tap configuration for use with an automated beverage control system comprising:

a spigot housing having a fluid line connection opposite a discharge spout, the fluid line connection to allow for connection with a beverage dispensing system;

a check valve mechanism in fluid communication with the discharge spout; and

a flow control adjustment mechanism in fluid communication between the fluid line connection and the discharge spout, the fluid control adjustment mechanism further being in operational communication with an automated beverage control system;

in which the flow control adjustment mechanism further comprises:

a flow control valve mechanism used to regulate fluid flow rate through the discharge spout; and

a detachable control mechanism.

2. A tap configuration according to Claim 1, in which the check valve mechanism is provided between the flow control adjustment mechanism and the discharge spout.

3. A tap configuration according to Claim 2, in which the check valve mechanism comprises a spring and ball construction for providing opening or closing at a desired system pressure.

4. A tap configuration according to Claim 3, in which the check valve mechanism further comprises interchangeable springs with desired spring constants that may be installed within a check valve housing.

5. A tap configuration according to Claim 4, in which the detachable control mechanism comprises a handle that is keyed to or otherwise fastened in a manner as to be capable of removal adjustment of fluid flow rate.

6. A tap configuration according to Claim 4, in which the flow control valve mechanism comprises a pneumatic control valve.

7. A tap configuration according to Claim 6, in which the pneumatic control valve is positioned between the fluid line connection and the check valve mechanism.

8. A tap configuration according to Claim 6, in which the pneumatic control valve is operationally powered by a pneumatic urging force that is further functionally affecting the automated beverage control system.

9. A tap configuration according to Claim 8, in which the pneumatic control valve is operationally powered by a pneumatic urging force that is further functionally affecting the automated beverage control system.

10. A tap handle configuration for use with an automated beverage control system comprising:

a spigot housing having a fluid line connection opposite a discharge spout, in which the spigot housing further includes a threaded connection to allow for connection with a beverage dispensing system;

a check valve mechanism in fluid communication with the discharge spout;

a flow control adjustment mechanism comprising:

a flow control valve mechanism used to regulate fluid flow rate through the discharge spout; and

a detachable control mechanism; and

a tap handle extension threadingly affixed to the spigot housing, in which the tap handle extension specifically does not control operational parameters of flow through the tap handle configuration.

11. A tap handle configuration according to Claim 10, in which the check valve mechanism is provided between the flow control adjustment mechanism and the discharge spout.

12. A tap handle configuration according to Claim 10 or 11, in which the check valve mechanism comprises a spring and ball construction for providing opening or closing at a desired system pressure.

13. A tap handle configuration according to Claim 10, in which the detachable control mechanism comprises a handle in operational connection with the flow control valve mechanism and that is keyed to or otherwise fastened in a manner as to be capable of removal from the flow control valve mechanism to prevent adjustment of fluid flow rate.