



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT: Kaitlyn Crow**  
[kcrow@vacraftbrewersguild.com](mailto:kcrow@vacraftbrewersguild.com)

**2020 Virginia Craft Beer Cup Winners Announced**  
**-9<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony-**

**Richmond, VA** - The Virginia Craft Brewers Guild announced the 2020 Virginia Craft Beer Cup winners on Monday, August 31, 2020, at Bon Secours Training Center in Richmond, Virginia. The event looked different this year, with face masks, social distancing, and hand sanitizer placed all over the venue, but the excitement in the air was unchanged.

This year's competition was managed by Head Judge Charlie Harr. 267 beers in almost 20 categories competed for awards. The judging took place Saturday, July 25, at Old Ox Brewery in Ashburn, Virginia.

"This was a challenging year due to the pandemic. However, we made several adjustments to operate in a safe environment and follow established guidelines. In the end we had a lot of fun, made new friends and tasted some great Virginia beers," said Charlie Harr, Head Judge.

The Virginia Craft Beer Cup continues to be the largest state competition of its kind in the United States. The VCBG is committed to giving its members the opportunity to compete, obtain critical feedback from certified judges, and get statewide recognition that will help build their brands. That is why the Guild's priority this year was to not falter in its efforts to celebrate craft beer in Virginia, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The Virginia Craft Beer Cup is all about sharing what we have learned as craft brewers and small businesses, making memories, and best of all, celebrating the best of what Virginia Brewers have to offer! Besides, you never know who might win," said Sten Sellier, Beltway Brewing Company. "Having brought a few medals back to our brewery in the past, I can say that bragging rights are always a big plus!"

"The annual VA Craft Beer Cup is such a fun event that brings our breweries together

for some healthy competition and camaraderie,” said Janell Zurschmeide, Dirt Farm Brewing. “It allows us to celebrate each other, especially the winners, and further promote our independent breweries.”

The 2020 Virginia Craft Beer Cup winners are as follows:

### **BEST IN SHOW**

First Place	Black Hoof Brewing Company, Muzzle Loader Munich Dunkel
Second Place	Cedar Run Brewery, Goats in the House Pilsner
Third Place	Port City Brewing Company, Optimal Wit

### **AMBER ALE**

First Place	The Board Room VA, Ticket to Ride Red Ale
Second Place	Random Row Brewing Co., Scouser Red Ale
Third Place	7 Dogs Brew Pub, Scottish 80

### **AMBER LAGER**

First Place	Fairwinds Brewing Company, High Barbary
Second Place	Tasting Room at Mount Ida Reserve, First Edition
Third Place	Mustang Sally Brewing Company, Half Moon Rising

### **BROWN ALE**

First Place	Old Ox Brewery, Black Ox Rye Porter
Second Place	Ballad Brewing, Fast Mail Mild Ale
Third Place	Rocket Frog Brewing Company, Wallops Island

### **BOCK**

First Place	Black Hoof Brewing Company, Broadside Maibock
Second Place	Barking Rose Brewing Company + Farm, Dopplebock
Third Place	Big Ugly Brewing, Accelerator

### **DARK LAGER**

First Place	Black Hoof Brewing Company, Muzzleloader Munich Dunkel
Second Place	Gloucester Brewing Company, Mobjack Black
Third Place	Maker's Craft Brewery, Thuringian

### **FRUIT/VEGETABLE**

First Place	Benchtop Brewing Company, Mermaid's Lure
Second Place	Elation Brewing Company, Rosé Gosé
Third Place	Mustang Sally Brewing Company, Getaway Plan
Honorable Mention	Stable Craft Brewing, Blueberry Blonde

### **IPA**

First Place	Stone Brewing Co., Stone IPA
-------------	------------------------------

Second Place Fairwinds Brewing Company, Howling Gale  
Third Place Heliotrope Brewing, Oxfordcommadisiac  
Honorable Mention Random Row Brewing Co., Windswell DIPA

### **SAISON**

First Place Old Ox Brewery, Sightseer Saison  
Second Place Bingo Beer Co, Patio Vibes  
Third Place Ardent Craft Ales, Ardent Saison

### **PALE ALE**

First Place Beltway Brewing Company, Approachable Guise  
Second Place Twin Creeks Brewing Company, Keep Ya Distance Cream Ale  
Third Place Barking Rose Brewing Company + Farm, Conviction  
Honorable Mention Random Row Brewing Co., Mosaic Pale Ale

### **KOLSCH**

First Place The Vanguard Brewpub & Distillery, House Beer  
Second Place Sweetwater Taven, Barking Frog Kolsch

### **PALE LAGER**

First Place Cave Hill Farms Brewery, Loafing Shed Lager  
Second Place Port City Brewing Company, Helles Lager  
Third Place Dynasty Brewing, Dynasty Lager

### **PILSNER**

First Place Cedar Run Brewery, Goats in the House Pilsner  
Second Place Tradition Brewing Company, Tradice  
Third Place Bingo Beer Co, Bingo Lager

### **SPECIALTY – OTHER**

First Place Blue Mountain Barrel House, Raspberries on Acid  
Second Place Benchtop Brewing Company, Friar Storm  
Third Place Extra Billy's Smokehouse & Brewery, Capital Kolsch

### **SOUR**

First Place Reason Beer, Gryffon's Red  
Second Place Audacious Aleworks, Anniversary Flanders Red Ale

### **SPECIALTY MIXED**

First Place 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Company, Franc-n-Stein  
Second Place Fine Creek Brewing Company, Wine Barrel Aged Golden Sour  
Third Place Fine Creek Brewing Company, Herbarium Wild Saison

### **SPECIALTY – ALTERNATIVE**

First Place            That Damn Mary Brewing Company, Holden in the Rye  
Second Place        St. George Brewing Company, Honey Mead Lager  
Third Place           Dirt Farm Brewing, Honey Helles

### **SPECIALTY WOOD**

First Place            Caboose Brewing Company, Fireside Ale  
Second Place        2 Silos Brewing Company, Barrel Reserve: Imperial Stout  
Third Place           Blue Mountain Barrel House, Dark Hollow

### **STOUT**

First Place            Dynasty Brewing, 838 Stout  
Second Place        Great Valley Farm Brewery, Stout

### **STRONG ALE**

First Place            Garden Grove Brewing Co., Fergus Wee Heavy  
Second Place        Lake Anne Brew House, 2020  
Third Place           Lake Anne Brew House, Quadiversary  
Honorable Mention Tasting Room at Mount Ida Reserve, Murcielago Madison Stout

### **WHEAT BEER**

First Place            Port City Brewing Company, Optimal Wit  
Second Place        Trapezium Brewing Co., Chasing Ponies  
Third Place           Spencer Devon Brewing, Pontoon Bridges

Award winners will be featuring their beers in their tasting rooms and through their wholesale and retail partners. The VCBG encourages craft beer enthusiasts to visit these breweries and try these great brews. To learn more about these breweries and plan your taproom trip, visit our [Virginia Brewery Map](#) or go to [the Virginia Tourism Corporation's craft beer site](#) to plan your next weekend or vacation.

*The Virginia Craft Brewers Guild (Guild) is an association of independent, small and traditional breweries dedicated to growing the craft beer industry in the Commonwealth. The Guild is the state affiliate of the Brewers Association. For information of the Beer Judge Certification Program, go to <http://www.bjcp.org/>. For more information on the Guild, go to [www.vacraftbeer.com](http://www.vacraftbeer.com) and [www.vacraftbrewersguild.com](http://www.vacraftbrewersguild.com).*

# # #