



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Shelley Gosaie
sgosaie@vacraftbrewersguild.com

**2023 Virginia Craft Beer Cup Winners Announced
-VCBG Annual Awards Ceremony-**

Richmond, VA - The Virginia Craft Brewers Guild (VCBG) announced the 2023 Virginia Craft Beer Cup winners on Monday, July 31, 2023, at Hardywood Park Craft Brewery's West Creek location. This year's competition was managed by Head Judge, Charlie Harr, and took place at Old Ox Brewery in Ashburn, Virginia. A record 125 breweries competed in this year's competition which included 35 new participants! Brewers were able to submit up to four beers to be judged in 31 different categories. A record 471 beers were entered in the competition and 550 people attended.

"I am thrilled to welcome an increase in participation in this year's competition, a testament to a growing industry in Virginia! This year's competition brought new breweries and veterans together across all styles for continued high-quality pours. Congratulations to the winners who entered the cup and continue pushing the craft brewery industry to new heights and making Virginia the great beer scene that it is!" 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. The VCBG has developed additional media, retail marketing, and tourism opportunities for Cup winners, ranging from a Cup Winner Beer Trail to digital medals for labels, and retail POS displays.

"This was another record-setting competition with 125 breweries submitting 471 beers to be judged," said Brett Vassey, VCBG President and CEO. "Despite a tough year economically, the Virginia Craft Beer Cup competition demonstrates the resilience of Virginia's independent craft beer industry."

The 2023 Virginia Craft Beer Cup winners are as follows:

BEST IN SHOW

First Place	Benchtop Brewing Company, Crimson Gaze
Second Place	Alewerks Brewing Company, Weekend Lager
Third Place	Billsburg Brewing Company, Fly Away IPA

ALTERNATIVE GRAIN(S) or SUGAR(S)

First Place St. George Brewing Company, Honey Meade Lager
Second Place Dirt Farm Brewing, Honey Helles
Third Place Southern Revere Cellars, Three Oaks Honey Brown Lager

AMBER ALES

First Place Lake Anne Brew House, Reston Red
Second Place 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Company, Mojo Magic
Third Place Iron Tree Brewing Company, Off Camber Ale

AMBER LAGERS

First Place Momac Brewing Company, Pato de Palo (Peg Leg)
Second Place Caboose Brewing Company, Vienna VA, Lager
Third Place Great American Restaurants – Sweetwater Tavern, Painted Lady Lager

AMERICAN LAGERS

First Place Blue Mountain Brewery, Classic Lager
Second Place Caboose Brewing Company, Boose Light
Third Place Eavesdrop Brewery, Chandelier and a Dollar Menu

BELGIAN ALES

First Place Port City Brewing Company, Optimal Wit
Second Place Olde Salem Brewing Company, Moonlight Mile
Third Place Loudon Brewing Company, Polished Foxx
Honorable Mention Bunnyman Brewing, Super Saison

BRITISH BITTERS

First Place Selvedge Brewing, Houndstooth
Second Place Iron Tree Brewing Company, Beerstalker
Third Place Tucked Away Brewing Company, Squadron Commander ESB

BROWN ALE

First Place Long Way Brewing, Exacta Right
Second Place Jack Mason's Tavern & Brewery, Brother Perkins Brown Ale
Third Place Alewerks Brewing Company, Tavern Brown Ale

CREAMS and BLONDES

First Place Pale Fire Brewing Company, Taking Water
Second Place Broken Window Brewing Company, Lucky 13
Third Place 6 Bears & A Goat Brewing Company, Mae West

DARK EUROPEAN LAGERS

First Place Starr Hill Brewery, Dark Biddings
Second Place Eastern Divide Brewing Company, Blacksburg Black Lager
Third Place Twin Creeks Brewing Company, Black Bär Bier

DOUBLE IPA

First Place Lost Barrel Brewing, Stratazacca Double IPA
Second Place Caiseal Beer & Spirits Company, Treat Me Wrong IPA
Third Place Smartmouth Brewing Company, Notch 9

EUROPEAN SOUR

First Place South Street Brewery, Slippery When Wit
Second Place Cova Brewing Company, There it Gose
Third Place Rockfish Brewing Company, Strawberry Guava Gose

FRUIT

First Place Dirt Farm Brewing, Peachy Mother Pucker
Second Place Blue Mountain Barrel House, Passion Fruit on Acid
Third Place 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Company, Brewberry Wheat
Honorable Mention 7 Dogs Brewpub, Raspberry Sourpuss

GERMAN AND AMERICAN WHEAT

First Place Patch Brewing Company, Home Run Hefe
Second Place Heritage Brewing Company, Alt Stadt Von Hefe
Third Place Alesation Brewing Company, Das Weizen

HAZY IPA

First Place Bike Lane Brewing, Hellwig
Second Place Lost Barrell Brewing, Lost Barrel Hazy IPA
Third Place The Virginia Beer Company, Estimated Eyes

INTERNATIONAL LAGER

First Place Full Distance Brewing, Yucatan Sunrise
Second Place Billsburg Brewing, Classic Lager
Third Place Billsburg Brewing, Juan's Nightstand
Honorable Mention Barnhouse Brewery, Morning Wood

IPA

First Place Billsburg Brewery, Fly Away IPA
Second Place Tradition Brewing Company, IPA #13
Third Place Vibrissa Beer, Gracious Living

IRISH & SCOTTISH ALES

First Place Nansemond Brewing Station, Myrtle's Diary Red Ale
Second Place Old Busthead Brewing Company, Vixen Irish Red
Third Place Parkway Brewing Company, Billy Boys Scotch Ale

KÖLSCH/LEICHTBIER

First Place Great American Restaurants – Sweetwater Tavern, Barking Frog Kolsch
Second Place Bike Lane Brewing, Klunker
Third Place St. George Brewing Company, Morning Dew

MIXED FERMENTATION

First Place Benchtop Brewing Company, Brown Bear Honey Pot Batch 4
Second Place Coastal Fermentory, Semper Fermentis – Batch 2
Third Place Alewerks Brewing Company, Lover's Greed

MONASTIC ALE

First Place Barnhouse Brewery, Barnhouse X
Second Place Fine Creek Brewing Company, Aved Frère 11

Third Place Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery, Belgian Tripel

PALE ALES

First Place Blue Mountain Barrel House, Full Nelson
Second Place Cooling Pond Brewing, Contrary Greek Gold
Third Place Rockbridge Vineyard & Brewing, Pale Ale

PALE EUROPEAN BITTER/PILSNER

First Place Great American Restaurants – Sweetwater Tavern, Kissing Bull Lager
Second Place Benchtop Brewing Company, Crispy Whip
Third Place Port City Brewing Company, Port City Helles

PALE EUROPEAN LAGERS

First Place Alewerks Brewing Company, Weekend Lager
Second Place St. George Brewing Company, Jubilee Maibock
Third Place Harvest Gap Brewery, Devil Dog Helles Lager

PORTERS

First Place James River Brewery, James Bean Vanilla Oatmeal Porter
Second Place Cedar Run Brewery, Ol' Prince William Porter
Third Place Studly Brewing Company, The Great Vanilla Bean-o

SMOKE

First Place WildManDan Brewery, We are Pivo
Second Place Starr Hill Brewery, Two Dogs Walkin
Third Place Black Hoof Brewing Company LLC, Morning Fog Rauchbier

SPECIALTY IPA

First Place Benchtop Brewing Company, Crimson Gaze
Second Place No award in this category
Third Place No award in this category

STOUTS

First Place Barley Naked Brewing Company, Irish Prenup
Second Place Thin Brew Line Brewing Company, An Garda Siochana
Third Place 6 Bears and A Goat, O'Dark Thirty

STRONG ALE

First Place Thin Brew Line Brewing Company, VB Strong
Second Place Bacova Beer Company, Chimney Fire Scotch Ale
Third Place Old Trade Farm Inc., Blue Ridge

STRONG EUROPEAN LAGERS

First Place Brew Republic, Eisbock
Second Place Barking Rose Brewing Company, Kelsonator
Third Place Parkway Brewing Company, Ravens Roost

VEGETABLE/SPICE

First Place Three Notch'd Brewing Company, Firefly Nights Summertime Ale
Second Place Bold Mariner Brewing Company, Monkey Fist
Third Place Caiseal Beer & Spirits Company, Coffee Blonde Ale

WOOD

First Place	Selvedge Brewing, Wooly Mammoth
Second Place	Water's End Brewery, Grand Cru
Third Place	Crazy Rooster Brewing Company, Dark and Vast
Honorable Mention	Cooling Pond Brewery, Double Outage Imperial Stout

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 plan your taproom trip, visit our [Virginia Brewery Map](#) or go to [the Virginia Tourism Corporation's craft beer site](#).

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 on the Beer Judge Certification Program, go to [bjcp.org](#). For more information on the Guild, go to [vacraftbeer.com](#) and [www.virginiacraftbrewers.org/](#).