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**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 468 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/](#).*