

# Press Release

## **Washington Beer Awards® returning this spring**

Washington's state-wide professional beer competition registration open throughout March

**Seattle, WA, March 1, 2018:** Specialty Competitions LLC is proud to announce the return of the Washington Beer Awards®, the craft beer competition designed specifically to support Washington's professional brewers. This is the sixth year for the Washington-only competition that provides an opportunity for all of Washington's craft brewers to compete in a blind judging format and fosters recognition of brewing excellence in Washington.

Only Washington breweries with beers produced and sold in Washington can enter the competition. The event is endorsed by the Washington Beer Commission as a way to help promote our excellent Washington brews and raise awareness of our rich brewing culture.

In 2017, 165 breweries submitted 1,207 beers to the competition spanning 122 styles from the Brewers Association Beer Style Guidelines. Judging was conducted by dozens of trained judges who assessed the technical and stylistic accuracy of the entries. More than 190 awards were presented recognizing brewing excellence in the state.

The 2018 competition is expected to grow with additional entries and award categories. The competition will also recognize "Breweries of the Year" who receive multiple awards in various categories and also feature special awards for a "Best Washington Agricultural Product Inspired Beer" and a "Best Washington Malt Beer." This competition also includes a "Pro-Am" category recognizing collaborations of homebrewers and professional brewers who have scaled up homebrewer recipes for production on a commercial scale. This year will also feature a "Collaboration Beer" category to celebrate the camaraderie of the industry.

Breweries can register entries from March 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. The 2018 judging will be conducted in early June with the winners being announced at the Washington Brewers Festival in mid-June. Details on the competition (including rules and registration information) as well as lists of the previous winners can be found at [www.wabeerawards.com](http://www.wabeerawards.com).

We look forward to recognizing another great year of Washington beers! Cheers!



**For Immediate Release**