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**Specialty Competitions
LLC**

Press Release

Washington Beer Awards Announce First State Fresh Hop Competition

Washington's state-wide professional beer competition hosts special Fresh Hop Competition

Seattle, WA, September 1, 2019: Specialty Competitions LLC is proud to announce the Washington Beer Award's first ever Fresh Hop Competition. While the main competition has been running for seven years, this year we are having a second competition to allow Washington's unique fresh hop beers a chance to be recognized in their prime.

This is a 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 fresh hop 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. This focused competition will focus on beers brewed with fresh, unprocessed hops aiming to showcase the unique characters of the "fresh hop beer" style category.

The Fresh Hop Competition will be held in early October with entries due in late September, allowing breweries time to brew and submit a variety of fresh hop beers styles and for them to be evaluated while still in their prime. Medals will be provided to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in several style specific award categories.

The registration period will be open from September 1st to September 10th with entries due in late September. Judging will take place the first weekend in October, and winners will be announced the following weekend. Results will be posted online immediately afterwards.

Complete details for the fresh hop component of the Washington Beer Awards are available at www.wabeerawards.com/freshhop. More information on the overall Washington Beer Awards and the complete list of results can be found at www.wabeerawards.com/winners. You can sign up to be kept in the loop on competition updates on the website, our e-mail list, and our Facebook page.

We look forward to recognizing Washington brewers and beers for showcasing fresh hops, one of Washington's greatest agricultural products.

For Immediate Release
