



INDIES ENTRY PROCESS 2020



INDIES

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THANK YOU

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The Indies Technical Advisory Panel: Michael Capaldo, Jayne Lewis, Jessica Craig, Shawn Sherlock and Richard Watkins.

THE INDEPENDENT BEER AWARDS AUS (THE INDIES)

Championing Independent Brewing. Driving Quality, Celebrating Excellence.

The Independent Beer Awards (The Indies) champions the best of independent brewing. Organised by the Independent Brewers Association (IBA), The Indies are an valuable platform to showcase excellence in Australian independent beer.

The Indies are judged by a respected panel of judges dedicated to providing breweries with a high-quality competition, meaningful feedback and honest results.

The Indies are open for entry to Australian brewing companies (as defined by the IBA) who distribute their entered beer in Australia. The Indies is designed to reflect the Australian consumer beer market and create greater consumer awareness of the quality and diversity of the independent brewing industry.

PLEASE NOTE:

There are changes as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your understanding of the following:

Judging will be conducted at smaller state-based locations rather than a central site.

There will be no kegged/draught product judged. All beer supplied needs to be in containers compliant with the mandatory labelling regulations [outlined here](#) for the beer contained inside.

INDIES 2020 KEY DATES

Competition Opens	22 July
Peer Nominations Open	2 September
Competition Entries Close	16 September
Labels sent to entering breweries	21 September
Deliveries to WA state depot	22 - 24 September
Deliveries to state depots (TAS, SA, NSW, QLD)	28 September - 02 October
State deliveries to CHILL Melbourne	05 October - 9 October
Victoria deliveries to CHILL Melbourne	05 October - 9 October
Peer Nominations Close	07 October
Competition sorting	12 - 16 October
Stock to Judging locations	19 - 23 October
Competition Judging between	26 October - 4 November



ELIGIBILITY

Brewery Eligibility

Australian independent breweries

Australian independent brewing companies that meet the IBA's definition of an [Independent Brewer](#) are eligible to participate in the 2020 Indies if they have produced beer for commercial sale.

Breweries-in-planning and/or those not in commercial operation as of **30 June 2020** are not eligible to participate.

Eligibility compliance

If requested by the competition organisers, entering brewing companies are required to provide proof of annual production volume with an annual excise statement from their national taxation office for the previous twelve (12) months prior to entry into the 2020 Indies. This excise statement is required to be a formal statement in English. These statements are treated as confidential and will be destroyed following the completion of the Indies.

Beer Entry Eligibility

A brewing company may enter unlimited beers into the competition.

All beers entered into the 2020 Indies must have been commercially available in Australia at some time in the 12 months prior to 30 June 2020. If requested by the competition organiser, brewing companies may be required to verify commercial availability by providing at least one stockist or outlet.

Beers must be entered into the correct style and class. See the IBA 2020 Style Guidelines for more details. No single beer may be entered in more than one style.

Collaboration beers may only be entered by one party, which must be the party that has the greatest ownership (financial interest) of the beer. If financial interest is equally shared, the beer must be entered by the brewery where the beer was produced.

Many styles require additional information in order to assist the proper judging of entries. Any additional information provided will be edited by the competition manager to ensure that it does not identify the beer being judged.

If a brewing company or beer entry does not meet the eligibility requirements above as of the 30th June 2019 and has registered for The Indies, the brewing company and/or beer entry may be subject to disqualification without refunds or without further notice.

The Independent Brewers Association retains sole discretion to determine eligibility for competition at The Indies.

JUDGING PROCESS

Judge Selection

Judges for the Indies are selected from the national and international brewing industry and include brewers, sensory experts, suppliers, consultants and writers. Judges are selected based on their sensory abilities, industry and peer recognition, knowledge of beer styles and the brewing process, and their judging demeanour.

Indies judges perform several important roles. They assess competition entries against stringent award criteria to determine winning beer entries. They are also expected to provide concise, accurate written feedback to entering breweries regarding their entries, describing both positive attributes as well as defects noted during the competition.

Judges will be selected by the IBA Technical Committee rather than by application and selection.

Judging Process

Each entry will be assessed at a table of no less than five judges. The Associate judging program has been put on hold for the 2020 competition.

This table is led by an experienced Judge Captain. The Judge Captain protects the integrity of the competition, facilitates table discussion and ensures that the judging runs smoothly.

Judges very rarely evaluate more than 30 beers in any one three-hour session and never evaluate their own products, or products in which they may have a commercial interest.

Judging is blind, with no brand knowledge of any kind provided to judges.

Each beer is judged individually on its sensory merits and adherence to the competition style guidelines outlined in the 2020 Indies Style Guidelines.

Once all beers have been judged, each beer is discussed as a group. Each beer is determined to receive Gold, Silver, Bronze or no medal. Table comments are collected for each beer and provided as feedback to entering brewing company after the competition.

Medals

GOLD

An outstanding beer displaying the correct appearance, aroma, flavour and balance according to style with a high level of technical merit; a world-class example.

SILVER

An excellent beer maintaining close adherence of appearance, aroma, flavour, balance appropriate to style; an excellent example.

BRONZE

A very good beer that has minor deviations from style parameters and/or appearance, aroma, flavour, balance appropriate to style; a fine example.

CHAMPION TROPHIES

Champion Category Beers

Eligible to entering independent Australian brewing companies.

A champion trophy is presented to the best single beer in each of the following categories:

1. Pale Ale
2. Amber Dark Ale
3. Porter Stout
4. Hybrid Beer
5. Lager
6. India Pale Ale
7. European-style Ale
8. Session Beer
9. Strong Beer
10. Mixed Culture Beer

Champion category beers are determined through a second-round process, where all gold medal Australian entries of a category (e.g. Pale Ale) are rejudged against one another to determine the Champion Beer of that category.

Champion Australian Independent Beer

A champion trophy is presented to the overall Champion Australian Independent Beer. The Champion Australian Independent Beer is determined through a third-round process. All Champion category beers are re-tested by a selected judging panel. These entries are judged against each other to determine the Champion Australian Independent Beer for 2020.

Champion Australian Independent Large Brewery

Annual production: 300,000 – 40 million litres per annum

To be eligible for the Champion Australian Independent Large Brewery Trophy, a brewery must enter at least four (4) beers and one of those beers must achieve a gold medal. Points allocated for top 4 beers to determine by point calculation matrix. Brewery must identify entering this category upon entry.

Champion Australian Independent Small/Medium Brewery

Annual production: <300,000 litres per annum

To be eligible for the Champion Australian Independent Small/Medium Brewery Trophy, a brewery must enter at least four (4) beers and one of those beers must achieve a gold medal. Points allocated to the top 4 beers will be determined by the point calculation matrix. Brewery must identify entering this category upon entry.

Champion Australian Independent Brewpub

At least 75% beer produced is sold on-site

Brewpub definition: "A brewpub services its local community and can be a pub, taproom or restaurant that brews beer on-premises."

To be eligible for a Champion Brewpub Trophy, a brewery must enter at least four (4) beers and one of those beers must achieve a gold medal. Points allocated to the top 4 beers will be determined by the point calculation matrix. Brewpub must identify entering this category upon entry.

State and Territory Champion Brewery Awards

A minimum of three (3) Breweries in each State or Territory must enter for this Award to be valid.

State and Territory Champion Brewery Awards are as follows:

1. NSW
2. QLD
3. VIC
4. WA
5. SA
6. TAS
7. ACT & NT

To be eligible for a State or Territory Champion Brewery Trophy, a brewery must enter at least four (4) beers and one of those beers must achieve a gold medal.

Brewery state or territory must be identified when entering. Champions can be from Brewpub, Small/Medium Brewery or Large Brewery categories. Winner will be determined by the point calculation matrix.

Point Matrix

Scores are calculated from the top four entries submitted. The highest scoring brewery from each category – Small/Medium, Large and State/Territory Awards.

Points are awarded per medal to determine Champion Awards as follows:

Champion Category	1 point
Gold	5 points
Silver	3 points
Bronze	1 point



HOW TO ENTER

To enter the 2020 Indies:

1. Read through the 2020 Independent Beer Awards Entry Process & Style Guidelines and identify the best style that applies to your beer.
2. Complete the online entry form at www.iba.org.au
3. Entry form can be saved and completed later. An email will be automatically generated with a link to return to the form to complete.

Entry Fees

Entry fees are payable online with credit card payment upon completion of entry form.

Invoice and payment plans are also available.

Cost per entry** *All entry fees are exclusive of GST.*

IBA Brewery Member	\$200
Non-Member	\$300

Once an entry has been submitted through the online form, a confirmation email will be sent. It is the entering brewery's responsibility to ensure that all entry details are correct.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Packaged Beer

For 2020, we will not be accepting draught product. As a result, all entries need to comply with the Mandatory Label guidelines on the [IBA website](http://www.iba.org.au). That means we will not be accepting kegs, or keged beer decanted into containers that don't comply with the mandatory label guidelines for the beer contained within.

A minimum amount of packaged beer required for competition judging is as follows:

<i>Pack Size</i>	<i>Amount Required</i>
< 375 mls	12 bottles/cans
500 mls	10 bottles/cans
675 mls	8 bottles/cans
750 mls	6 bottles/cans

Label Requirements

After entries close, entering breweries will be emailed labels to be attached to their beer entries. Labels must be attached to each bottle/can of the beer entry prior to dispatch.

Labels include the following information:

- Entry no.
- Brewery Name
- Entry Name
- Category ID
- Style ID
- Packaging type (i.e. Bottles/Cans)

Labels will be emailed to each brewery's nominated contact on **11 September 2020**. Entries not bearing the Indies competition label will not be judged.

DELIVERY OF ENTRIES

Detailed shipping information will be sent to participating breweries once the registration process is complete.

Competition entries to The Indies must be received between 28 September – 2 October 2020. Late entries will not be judged.

Each brewery needs to make its own arrangements for its entries to be delivered either directly to the Melbourne delivery depot, or to the state depots in time for dispatch. Your entry fees will then cover dispatch costs from the state depots.

[Sendle](#) has offered IBA members access to Premium rates for nationwide deliveries. To access these discounted rates, please visit [Sendle here](#) to upgrade or register an account.

POST-EVENT PUBLICITY AND USE OF AWARDS MATERIALS

The IBA encourages award-winning breweries to promote their winning entries and trophies.

To preserve the integrity of the competition, only official awards graphics and logos are permitted for use in publicity and marketing materials.

Publicity material and use of the awards logo must include:

- Category in which award was received
- Type of award received (e.g. Gold, Silver, Bronze, Champion)
- Year the award was received
- The name of the beer and brewery exactly as it was entered into the competition

Usage of these logos must be pre-approved by the Independent Brewers Association. Requests for approval can be submitted to the Events Manager for the Independent Brewers Association at events@iba.org.au.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. Registration completed as incorrect type (e.g. non-members registering as IBA members) will be adjusted automatically on invoicing.
2. Entries must have had commercial release in the 12 months prior to 30 June 2020.
3. Entries are accepted on the condition that the brewery submits a completed entry form and pays the entry fee by the invoice due date.
4. Entry fees are due on the date shown on the invoice and payable in full.
5. Entries will not be judged if the entry invoice has not been paid in full one week prior to competition.
6. Entry forms must be submitted by 2 September 2020. Entry forms received after 2 September 2020 will not be considered.
7. The final day to withdraw entries from competition is 2 September 2020. Entries withdrawn prior to this date will receive full refund minus an administration fee of \$100. No refund will be given for entries withdrawn after this date.
8. All beer entered must bear correct labelling information attached as provided by the IBA.
9. Each entry must consist of the minimum amount as outlined in these entry requirements.
10. All beer received for judging will be kept by organisers and may be used at their discretion at a later date.
11. The IBA may at its discretion:
 - a. alter the closing date for the Indies;
 - b. rule that an entry may not compete or is ineligible to compete;
 - c. rule that a brewing company is ineligible to compete; or
 - d. alter the date, time or place on or at which the awards are scheduled to take place.
12. All decisions of the Event Organiser, Competition Manager and Judges on competition matters are binding and final.



2020 INDIES STYLES LIST

With Our Thanks

The Independent Brewers Association (IBA) would like to acknowledge and thank the Brewers Association® for permission to use the following Brewers Association Beer Style Guidelines 2020.

The categories and styles have been placed in a different order from the original Brewers Association® document to better suit the requirements of the Independent Beer Awards.

The IBA has reviewed the Brewers Association® 2020 Beer Style Guidelines and made changes appropriate to the 2020 Independent Beer Awards.

All content remains the same with the exception of:

- 1.N - Light American Wheat Beer without Yeast
- 1.O - Light American Wheat Beer with Yeast
- 2.G - Dark American Wheat Beer with Yeast
- 2.H - Dark American Wheat Beer without Yeast
- 4.W - Wood and Barrel Aged Pale to Amber
- 4.X - Wood and Barrel Aged Dark Beer
- 5.Z - New World Lager
- Double Hopy Red Ale is renamed 6.D India Red Ale
- 6.E - India Black Ale
- 8.E - Session Beer/Reduced Alcohol Beer
- 9.L - Wood and Barrel Aged Strong Beer

New Changes for 2020

Style additions

- 5.J - Contemporary American-Style Lager
- 5.L - Contemporary American-Style Light Lager
- 6.F - Experimental India Pale Ale
- 10.G - American-Style Fruited Sour

Used with permission of Brewers Association®.

STYLE LIST

The Independent Beer Awards Aus. categorizes multiple beer styles into classes, suitable to requirements of competition judging.

In 2020, the categories for the Independent Beer Awards Aus. are:

1. Pale Ale
2. Amber Dark Ale
3. Porter Stout
4. Hybrid Beer
5. Lager
6. India Pale Ale
7. European-Style Ale
8. Session Beer
9. Strong Beer
10. Mixed Culture Beer

Category	Style No.	Style Name
1. Pale Ale	1.A	Special Bitter or Best Bitter
	1.B	Extra Special Bitter
	1.C	Scottish-Style Export Ale
	1.D	Scottish-Style Light Ale
	1.E	English-Style Summer Ale
	1.F	Classic English-Style Pale Ale
	1.G	Golden or Blonde Ale
	1.H	American-Style Pale Ale
	1.I	German-Style Koelsch
	1.J	Classic Australian-Style Pale Ale
	1.K	Australian-Style Pale Ale
	1.L	International-Style Pale Ale
	1.M	Juicy or Hazy Pale Ale
	1.N	Light American Wheat Beer without Yeast
1.O	Light American Wheat Beer with Yeast	
2. Amber-Dark Ale	2.A	English-Style Brown Ale
	2.B	American-Style Amber/Red Ale
	2.C	American-Style Brown Ale
	2.D	American-Style Black Ale
	2.E	German-Style Altbier
	2.F	Irish-Style Red Ale

Category	Style No.	Style Name
	2.G	Dark American Wheat Beer with Yeast
	2.H	Dark American Wheat Beer without Yeast
	2.I	Scottish-Style Heavy Ale
3. Porter-Stout	3.A	Brown Porter
	3.B	Robust Porter
	3.C	Sweet Stout or Cream Stout
	3.D	Oatmeal Stout
	3.E	Classic Irish-Style Dry Stout
	3.F	Export-Style Stout
	3.G	American-Style Stout
	3.H	Smoke Porter
4. Hybrid Beer	4.A	American-Belgo-Style Ale
	4.B	Kellerbier or Zwickelbier
	4.C	Grodziskie
	4.D	Adambier
	4.E	Dutch-Style Kuit, Kuyt or Koyt
	4.F	American-Style Fruit Beer
	4.G	Fruit Wheat Beer
	4.H	Field Beer
	4.I	Pumpkin Spice Beer
	4.J	Pumpkin/Squash Beer
	4.K	Chocolate or Cocoa Beer
	4.L	Coffee Beer
	4.M	Herb and Spice Beer
	4.N	Chili Pepper Beer
	4.O	Specialty Beer
	4.P	Specialty Honey Beer
	4.Q	Rye Beer

Category	Style No.	Style Name
	4.R	German-Style Rye Ale
	4.S	Ginjo Beer or Sake-Yeast Beer
	4.T	Fresh Hop Beer
	4.U	Wood and Barrel-Aged Beer
	4.V	Wood and Barrel-Aged Pale to Amber Beer
	4.W	Wood and Barrel-Aged Dark Beer
	4.X	Aged Beer
	4.Y	Experimental Beer
	4.Z	Historical Beer
	4.AA	Smoke Beer
	4.BB	Gluten-Free Beer
	4.CC	Non-Alcoholic Malt Beverage
	4.DD	American-Style Cream Ale
	4.EE	California Common Beer
	4.FF	Breslau-Style Schops
	4.GG	Finnish-Style Sahti
	4.HH	Swedish-Style Gotlandsdricke
	4.II	Bamberg-Style Bock Rauchbier
	4.JJ	Bamberg-Style Helles Rauchbier
	4.KK	Bamberg-Style Maerzen Rauchbier
	4.LL	Bamberg-Style Weiss Rauchbier
5. Lager	5.A	German-Style Pilsener
	5.B	Bohemian-Style Pilsener
	5.C	Munich-Style Helles
	5.D	Dortmunder/European-Style Export
	5.E	German-Style Maerzen
	5.F	German-Style Leichtbier
	5.G	German-Style Oktoberfest/Wiesn

Category	Style No.	Style Name
	5.H	German-Style Heller Bock/Maibock
	5.I	American-Style Lager
	5.J	Contemporary American-Style Lager
	5.K	American-Style Light Lager
	5.L	Contemporary American-Style Light Lager
	5.M	American-Style Pilsener
	5.N	American-Style Malt Liquor
	5.O	American-Style Maerzen/Oktobertfest
	5.P	Australasian, Latin American or Tropical-Style Light Lager
	5.Q	International-Style Pilsener
	5.R	Vienna-Style Lager
	5.S	European-Style Dark Lager
	5.T	Munich-Style Dunkel
	5.U	German-Style Schwarzbier
	5.V	American-Style Amber Lager
	5.W	American-Style Dark Lager
	5.X	Contemporary American-Style Pilsener
	5.Y	New World Lager
	5.Z	Franconian-Style Rotbier
	5.AA	American-Style India Pale Lager
6. IPA (India Pale Ale)	6.A	English-Style India Pale Ale
	6.B	American-Style India Pale Ale
	6.C	Juicy or Hazy India Pale Ale
	6.D	India Red Ale
	6.E	India Black Ale
	6.F	Experimental India Pale Ale
7. European-Style Ale	7.A	Belgian-Style Blonde Ale
	7.B	Belgian-Style Pale Ale
	7.C	Belgian-Style Fruit Beer
	7.D	Belgian-Style Table Beer

Category	Style No.	Style Name
	7.E	Belgian-Style Witbier
	7.F	Belgian-Style Pale Strong Ale
	7.G	Belgian-Style Dark Strong Ale
	7.H	Belgian-Style Dubbel
	7.I	Belgian-Style Tripel
	7.J	Belgian-Style Quadrupel
	7.K	Other Belgian-Style Ale
	7.L	French-Style Bière De Garde
	7.M	Classic French & Belgian-Style Saison
	7.N	Specialty Saison
	7.O	German-Style Leichtes Weizen
	7.P	South German-Style Hefeweizen
	7.Q	South German-Style Kristal Weizen
	7.R	South German-Style Bernsteinfarbenes Weizen
	7.S	South German-Style Dunkel Weizen
8. Session Beer	8.A	Ordinary Bitter
	8.B	English-Style Pale Mild Ale
	8.C	English-Style Dark Mild Ale
	8.D	Session India Pale Ale
	8.E	Session Beer/Reduced Alcohol Beer
9. Strong Beer	9.A	American-Style Strong Pale Ale
	9.B	Old Ale
	9.C	Scotch Ale
	9.D	British-Style Imperial Stout
	9.E	American-Style Imperial Stout
	9.F	American-Style Imperial Porter
	9.G	Baltic-Style Porter
	9.H	South German-Style Weizenbock
	9.I	American-Style Barley Wine Ale
	9.J	British-Style Barley Wine Ale

Category	Style No.	Style Name
	9.K	Wood and Barrel-Aged Strong Beer
	9.L	Strong Ale
	9.M	Other Strong Ale or Lager
	9.N	Traditional German-Style Bock
	9.O	German-Style Doppelbock
	9.P	American-Style Imperial or Double India Pale Ale
	9.Q	Juicy or Hazy Imperial or Double India Pale Ale
	9.R	Imperial Red Ale
	9.S	American-Style Wheat Wine Ale
	9.T	German-Style Eisbock
	9.U	Juicy or Hazy Strong Pale Ale
10. Mixed Culture Beer	10.A	Berliner-Style Weisse
	10.B	Leipzig-Style Gose
	10.C	Contemporary-Style Gose
	10.D	Brett Beer
	10.E	Mixed Culture Brett Beer
	10.F	American-Style Sour Ale
	10.G	American-Style Fruited Sour Ale
	10.H	Wood and Barrel-Aged Sour Beer
	10.I	Wild Beer
	10.J	Belgian-Style Lambic
	10.K	Belgian-Style Gueuze Lambic
	10.L	Belgian-Style Fruit Lambic
	10.M	Belgian-Style Flanders Oud Bruin or Oud Red Ale
	10.N	Contemporary Belgian-Style Spontaneous Fermented Ale