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**D9 Brewing Ranks High in Two Blind Tasting Competitions**

*Medaled Twice at Great International Beer & Cider Competition; #6 Nationwide for Pumpkin Beers by* Paste Magazine

***CORNELIUS, N.C. --*** D9 Brewing Company, a craft microbrewery in Cornelius, N.C., recently participated in two blind tasting competitions resulting in three beers receiving recognition for their quality and taste. D9 Brewing was awarded second and third place for two of its beers at the 19th Annual Great International Beer & Cider Competition. Another D9 beer was ranked sixth in *Paste Magazine’s* list of best pumpkin beers in the United States.

The Great International Beer & Cider Competition was held on Friday, October 23, 2015, in Providence, R.I. D9 Brewing received awards in the Sour/Wild Beers Category; Viking Fraoch Scottish Sour placed second and Ezekiel 25:17 Black Sour placed third. In addition, D9 Brewing won two of the three awards given to North Carolina breweries. Appalachian Mountain Brewery, based in Boone, N.C., received an award in the Porter – Robust Category. The competition had six hundred eighty (680) beers and ciders from breweries and cideries across the United States and around the world. Each beer was placed in one of fifty-nine (59) categories of ales, lagers, and ciders. The competition was conducted in a blind tasting format and judged by a group of one hundred-twenty (120) professional brewers, beer industry professionals and beer journalists. The judges knew only the style and subcategory of each beer and cider.

*Paste Magazine* conducted a blind tasting of pumpkin beers from breweries nationwide and released a list of the Top 20 Pumpkin Beers on Thursday, October 1, 2015. D9 Brewing’s Head of the Horseman Imperial Pumpkin was ranked sixth on the list. D9 was one of two North Carolina breweries on the Top 20 list. NoDa Brewing Co., based in Charlotte, N.C., was ranked eighteenth for Gordgeous Pumpkin Ale. The tasting had forty-five (45) pumpkin beer entries, which *Paste* narrowed down to 20 finalists for ranking. Judges in the blind tasting included professional beer writers, brewery owners, beer representatives and other journalists. According to *Paste*, “Beers were judged completely blind by how enjoyable they were as individual experiences and given scores of 1-100, which were then averaged.”

A full winners list from the Great International Beer & Cider Competition is posted at [**http://www.distilleryage.com/GIBC\_2015\_WINNERS.pdf**](http://www.distilleryage.com/GIBC_2015_WINNERS.pdf)**.**  To see *Paste Magazine’s* full article and rankings, please go to <http://www.pastemagazine.com/articles/2015/10/blind-tasting-and-ranking-45-pumpkin-beers.html>.

**About D9 Brewing Company**

D9 Brewing Company is a craft microbrewery located slightly north of Charlotte in Cornelius, NC. The company’s purpose is to brew and share outstanding beer that unites people. First envisioned in July 2009, the founders believed every person – and beer – has a story and decided to start a brewery where both could be shared. D9 Brewing Company seeks to inspire the community and promote the art of craft beer.

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