

2021 International Whisky Competition®

# OFFICIAL RESULTS

Awards, Scores and Winners



## INTERNATIONAL WHISKY COMPETITION COMMITTEE

LAS VEGAS, NV USA

June 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

[www.whiskycompetition.com](http://www.whiskycompetition.com)



*"The Olympics of whisky competitions." - Jim McEwan, Master Distiller.*

# Highlights of

## 2021

### FOREWORD

The Competition took place from May 12-16th in the beautiful town of Estes Park, Colorado. A professional tasting panel made of whisky, spirit, beer, and wine experts blind tasted each whisky individually. We scored each whisky using a comprehensive 100-point scale system. This unique process makes the International Whisky Competition one of the most professional competitions of its kind and the most followed whisky competition in the world.

#### **Understanding the Scoring System**

Judges were blind tasting, judging and scoring each whisky individually for 8 minutes based on the following four main segments and eleven sub sections:

- Sight: Color (0 points), Visual Appeal (5 points)
- Nose: Intensity and Complexity (15 points), Distinctiveness of Aromas (10 points), Balance of Aromas (10 points)
- Taste/Mouth Feel: Palate and Balance (10 points), Alcohol, Body and Complexity (10 points), Distinctiveness of Flavours (10 points), Balance Between Flavours (10 points)
- Finish: Length and Finish (10 points), Quality of Finish (10 points)

#### **Unique Medals**

We're one of the very few spirit competitions providing three medals for each category. Thus, each win is unique and not duplicated with generic awards of lesser value.

**Note:** We do not list whiskies that scored under 85 points unless requested by the competing distillery.

# 2021 Whisky of the Year

## Ardbeg Uigeadail

(95.9 Points)



Master Distiller  
of the Year  
**Dr. Bill Lumsden**

Winner of the Golden  
Barrel Trophy  
**Ardbeg Distillery**



*Dr. Bill Lumsden becomes Master Distiller of the Year, and Ardbeg wins Whisky of the Year with the highest-scoring whisky of the International Whisky Competition®. The outstanding Ardbeg Uigeadail, which scored 95.9 Points, truly highlights Dr. Lumsden's vast experience, consistency, and mastery in the art of distilling and creating remarkable whiskies.*

TOP SCORING WHISKIES

# TOP 15 Whiskies of 2021

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail – 95.9 Pts (Islay, Scotland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Vintage 1997 – 95.1 Pts (Highland, Scotland)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old – 95 Pts (Scotland)  
4<sup>th</sup> Place: Kavalan Artist Series: Paul Chiang Peated Malt Single Cask Strength Single Malt Whisky – 94.6 Pts (Taiwan)  
5<sup>th</sup> Place: King Car 40th Anniversary Selected Wine Cask Matured Single Malt Whisky – 94 Pts (Taiwan)  
6<sup>th</sup> Place: Black Bourbon Society's Maker's Mark Private Selection: Recipe 2. – 93.8 Pts (Kentucky, USA)  
7<sup>th</sup> Place: Kavalan Solist Vinho Barrique Single Cask Strength Single Malt Whisky – 93.7 Pts (Taiwan)  
8<sup>th</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 21 Year Old – 93.6 Pts (Scotland)  
9<sup>th</sup> Place: Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (Batch 2) – 93.4 Pts (Islay, Scotland)  
10<sup>th</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Signet – 93.1 Pts (Highland, Scotland)  
11<sup>th</sup> Place: Kavalan Solist (Oloroso) Sherry Single Cask Strength Single Malt Whisky – 93 Pts (Taiwan)  
12<sup>th</sup> Place: Kilchoman Machir Bay – 92.97 Pts (Islay, Scotland)  
13<sup>th</sup> Place: Ardbeg An Oa – 92.87 Pts (Islay, Scotland)  
14<sup>th</sup> Place: Aberlour A'Bundah – 92.73 Pts (Speyside, Scotland)  
15<sup>th</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Quinta Ruban 14 Year Old – 92.67 Pts (Highland, Scotland)

## **Best Single Malt (All Categories, All Countries)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail – 95.9 Pts (Islay, Scotland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Vintage 1997 – 95.1 Pts (Highland, Scotland)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kavalan Artist Series: Paul Chiang Peated Malt Single Cask Strength Single Malt Whisky – 94.6 Pts (Taiwan)

## **Best Blended Whisky (All Categories, All Countries)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old – 95 Pts (Scotland)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 21 Year Old – 93.6 Pts (Scotland)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 27 Year Old – 92.37 Pts (Scotland)

**Note:** We do not list whiskies that scored under 85 points unless requested by the competing distillery.



**Best Single Malt Scotch**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail – 95.9 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Vintage 1997 – 95.1 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (Batch 2) – 93.4 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch NAS (No Age Statement)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail – 95.9 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Signet – 93.1 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kilchoman Machir Bay – 92.97 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch 10 Year Old & Under**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Wee Beastie – 91.67 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Ten – 91.17 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie The Original – 89.93 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch 12 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glenlivet 12 Year Old – 90.93 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Nectar d'Or 12 Year Old – 90.53 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Aberlour 12 Year Old – 89.47 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch 13-14 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Quinta Ruban 14 Year Old – 92.67 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie The Elementa 14 Year Old – 89.77 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: The Glenlivet 14 Year Old – 89.07 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch 15 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Cadboll Estate Batch No. 2 – 89.67 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: The Glenlivet 15 Year Old – 89.5 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch 16-17 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Aberlour 16 Year Old – 92.33 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie The Tribute 16 Year Old – 92.23 Pts



**Best Single Malt Scotch 18 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glenmorangie 18 Year Old – 92.37 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: The Glenlivet 18 Year Old – 92 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Aberlour 18 Year Old – 87.53 Pts

**Best Single Malt Scotch 19-25 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1997 – 95.1 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (Batch 2) – 93.4 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie 19 Year Old – 90.97 Pts

**Best Islay Single Malt**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail - 95.9 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (Batch 2) – 93.4 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kilchoman Machir Bay – 92.97 Pts

**Best Highland Single Malt**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Grand Vintage Malt 1997 – 95.1 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Signet – 93.1 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Glenmorangie Quinta Ruban 14 Year Old – 92.67 Pts

**Best Speyside Single Malt**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh – 92.73 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Aberlour 16 Year Old – 92.33 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: The Glenlivet 18 Year Old – 92 Pts

**Best Lowland Single Malt**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glasgow 1770 Single Malt Scotch Whisky – Peated – 88.67 Pts

**Best Cask Strength Scotch**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg An Oa – 92.87 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Aberlour A'Bunadh – 92.73 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Corryvreckan - 89.67 Pts



**Best Peated Scotch**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Uigeadail – 95.9 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Traigh Bhan 19 Year Old (Batch 2) – 93.4 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kilchoman Machir Bay – 92.97 Pts

**Best Blended Scotch**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old – 95 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 21 Year Old – 93.6 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 27 Year Old – 92.37 Pts

**Best New Scotch Release 2021**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ardbeg Scorch 2021 Committee Release – 91.63 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dewar's Portuguese Smooth - 8 Year Old – 90.23 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Ardbeg Scorch 2021 Limited Edition – 90.13 Pts

**Best Blended Scotch 10 Year and Under**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's Portuguese Smooth - 8 Year Old – 90.23 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dewar's Japanese Smooth - 8 Year Old – 87.97 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dewar's Illegal Smooth - 8 Year Old – 87.6 Pts

**Best Blended Scotch 12-15 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's 12 Year Old The Ancestor – 89.6 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dewar's 15 Year Old The Monarch – 88.2 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Imperial 12 Year Old Blended Scotch – 86.2 Pts

**Best Blended Scotch 16-20 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's 18 Year Old The Vintage – 90.4 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Chivas 18 Year Old – 88.3 Pts

**Best Blended Scotch 21-24 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 21 Year Old – 93.6 Pts



**Best Blended Scotch 25 Year Old And Over**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old – 95 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Dewar's Double Double 27 Year Old – 92.37 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Dewar's 25 Year Old The Signature – 90.03 Pts



**Best American Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Black Bourbon Society's Maker's Mark Private Selection: Recipe 2.  
– 93.8 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Weldon Mills Reserve – 92.1 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Thomas S. Moore Cabernet Sauvignon Finished Kentucky Straight  
Bourbon – 92.03 Pts

**Best Bourbon Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Black Bourbon Society's Maker's Mark Private Selection: Recipe 2.  
– 93.8 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Weldon Mills Reserve – 92.1 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Thomas S. Moore Cabernet Sauvignon Finished Kentucky Straight  
Bourbon – 92.03 Pts

**Best Cask Strength Bourbon Whiskey (Full Proof)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Weldon Mills Reserve – 92.1 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Old Hamer Cask Strength Bourbon – 92 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 1792 Full Proof Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 90.63 Pts

**Best Single Barrel Bourbon Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Old Weller Single Barrel Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey  
– 91.17 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: John J. Bowman Single Barrel Virginia Straight Bourbon Whiskey  
– 91.07 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Old Hamer Single Barrel Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 90.63 Pts





**Best Bottled in Bond Bourbon**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: 1792 Bottled in Bond Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 88.4 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Early Times Bottled in Bond Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 88.2 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: TX Bottled in Bond Single Barrel Texas Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 85.43 Pts

**Best American Rye Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Old Overholt 114 Proof Straight Rye – 90 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Old Overholt Straight Rye – 89.47 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Colonel E.H. Taylor Rye Kentucky Straight Whiskey – 88.63 Pts

**Best Micro Distillery Whiskey (Under 150,000 Bottles)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Weldon Mills Reserve – 92.1 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Old Hamer Cask Strength Bourbon – 92 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Sisterdale Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 89.6 Pts

**Best American Single Malt**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Rogue Single Malt Cabernet Finish - 85.1 Pts

**\*Awards By U.S. States (Only for Whiskeys Scoring Over 85 Points)**

**Best Indiana Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Old Hamer Cask Strength Bourbon – 92 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Remus – 90.8 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Hugh Hamer Double Oaked 103 – 90.07 Pts

**Best Kentucky Whiskey**

1st Place: Black Bourbon Society's Maker's Mark Private Selection: Recipe 2. – 93.8 Pts

2nd Place: Thomas S. Moore Cabernet Sauvignon Finished Kentucky Straight Bourbon – 92.03 Pts

3rd Place: Thomas S. Moore Chardonnay Finished Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 91.83 Pts



**Best Tennessee Whiskey**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Uncle Nearest 1820 Premium Single Barrel Whiskey - US-21 – 91.07 Pts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Uncle Nearest Master Blend Edition – 90.37 Pts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Uncle Nearest 1856 Premium Aged Whiskey – 90.33 Pts

**Best Texas Whiskey**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: TX Texas Straight Bourbon Whiskey Finished in Tawny Port Casks – 90.17 Pts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sisterdale Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 89.6 Pts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: TX Texas Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 88.37 Pts

**Best Virginia Whiskey**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: John J. Bowman Single Barrel Virginia Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 91.07 Pts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bowman Brothers Small Batch Virginia Straight Bourbon Whiskey – 89.2 Pts



**Best Canadian Whisky**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Alberta Premium Cask Strength – 90.67 Pts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Alberta Premium 20 Year Old – 89.8 Pts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Canadian Club 43 Year Old – 89.03 Pts

**Best Canadian Blend**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Canadian Club 43 Year Old – 89.03 Pts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: High River Canadian Whisky – 87.7 Pts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Canadian Club Classic 12 Year Old – 87.43 Pts

**Best Canadian Rye**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Alberta Premium Cask Strength – 90.67 Pts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Alberta Premium 20 Year Old – 89.8 Pts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Canadian Club 100% Rye – 87.83 Pts



**Best Irish Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Paddy Irish Whiskey – 88.53 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Michael Collins Irish Whiskey – 88.27 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Grace O'Malley Blended Irish Whiskey – 87.4 Pts



**Best Japanese Whisky**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matsui Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 18 Years – 91.77 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Matsui Single Malt Whisky The Matsui Mizunara Cask – 91.17 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: The Kyoto Bourbon Barrel – 90.7 Pts

**Best Japanese Whisky NAS (No Age Statement)**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matsui Single Malt Whisky The Matsui Mizunara Cask – 91.17 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: The Kyoto Bourbon Barrel – 90.7 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Matsui Blended Whisky The San-in Bourbon Barrel – 90.67 Pts

**Best Blended Japanese Whisky**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: The Kyoto Bourbon Barrel – 90.7 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Matsui Blended Whisky The San-in Bourbon Barrel – 90.67 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Matsui Blended Whisky The Tottori Bourbon Barrel – 89.63 Pts

**Best Pure Malt Japanese Whisky**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matsui Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 18 Years – 91.77 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Matsui Single Malt Whisky The Matsui Mizunara Cask – 91.17 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Matsui Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 12 Years – 90.67 Pts

**Best Japanese Whisky 12 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matsui Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 12 Years – 90.67 Pts

**Best Japanese Whisky 18 Year Old**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matsui Pure Malt Whisky The Kurayoshi 18 Years – 91.77 Pts

SCOTLAND | USA | CANADA | IRELAND | JAPAN | REST OF THE WORLD

WORLD



### Best World Whisky

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Kavalan Artist Series: Paul Chiang Peated Malt Single Cask Strength Single Malt Whisky – 94.6 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kavalan King Car 40th Anniversary Selected Wine Cask Matured Single Malt Whisky – 94 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kavalan Solist Vinho Barrique Single Cask Strength Single Malt Whisky – 93.7 Pts

AUSTRALIA



### Best Australian Whisky

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Morris Muscat Barrel Australian Single Malt Whisky – 90.3 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Morris Signature Australian Single Malt Whisky – 89.17 Pts

AUSTRIA



### Best Austrian Whisky

1<sup>st</sup> Place: GLATZL GOLD Haiminger BIO-Whiskey – 85.33 Pts

ENGLAND



### Best English Whisky

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Cotswolds Hearts & Crafts Sauternes Cask Single Malt Whisky – 89.27 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Cotswolds Sherry Cask Single Malt Whisky – 88.2 Pts

INDIA



### Best Indian Whisky

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Mithuna by Paul John Indian Single Malts – 90.7 Pts

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Paul John Nirvana Unpeated Indian Single Malt Whisky – 89.73 Pts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Paul John P.X. Select Cask Indian Single Malt – 89.1 Pts

2021 IWC Winners by Category

SCOTLAND | USA | CANADA | IRELAND | JAPAN | REST OF THE WORLD

MALAYSIA



**Best Malaysian Whisky**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Timah Double Peated Blended Whiskey – 89.9 Pts

MYANMAR



**Best Myanmar Whisky**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Grand Royal - Special Reserve – 85.6 Pts

FLAVORED WHISKIES



**Best Flavored Whiskey**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Glacier Distilling Trapline Rock and Rye Whiskey

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Canadian Club Apple

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Southern Comfort

2021 IWC Winners by Category

## Distillery of the Year

### **Kavalan Distillery**

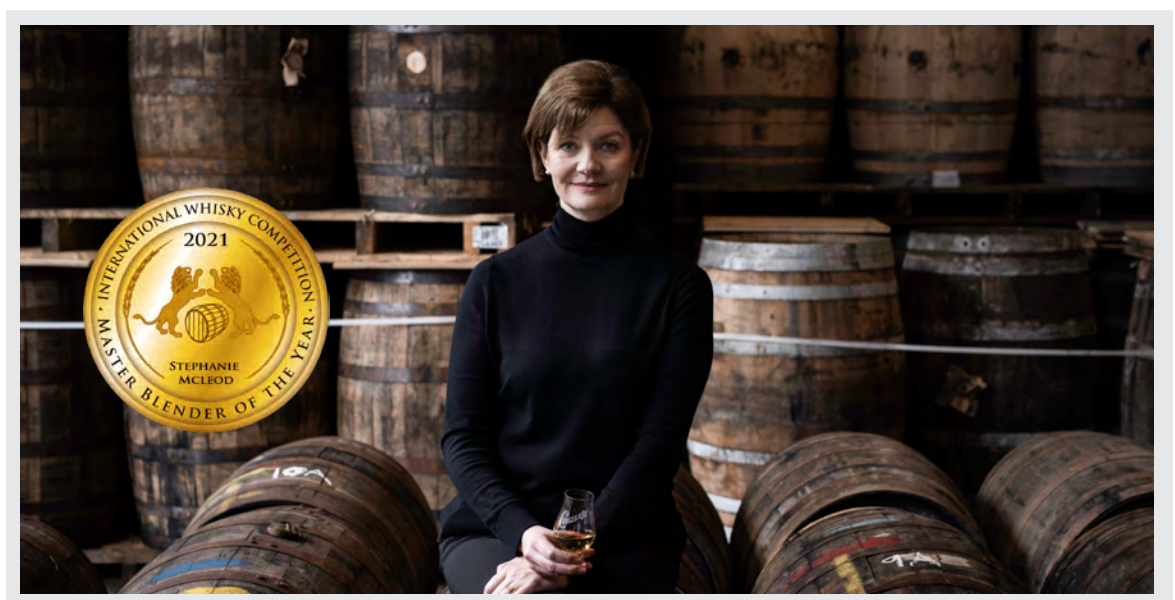
*Kavalan submitted an impressive range of whisky expressions, 18 of which scored over 90 Points, demonstrating exceptional craftsmanship and passion in crafting whisky.*



## Master Blender of the Year

### **Stephanie Macleod**

*Stephanie Macleod was named Master Blender of the Year for blending the exceptional Dewar's Double Double 32 Year Old Blended Whisky, which scored 95 Points. Additionally, four other of her blended Scotch whisky expressions received scores over 90 Points showcasing her inspiring abilities, dedication, and mastery in the art of blending outstanding whisky. For the third consecutive year, Stephanie Macleod has received the Master Blender title. Last year, Stephanie Macleod was the first woman to win the Golden Barrel Trophy for Whisky of the Year at the International Whisky Competition®.*





## Acknowledgments

The International Whisky Competition Committee would like to thank again its judges for their professionalism and hard work as well as our official sponsor Le Nez du Whisky – USA (Wine Aromas Inc) for its contribution.

**Special thanks to Fall River Village & Skyview event center for hosting the competition in Estes Park, CO during the COVID-19 Pandemic.**

We would also like to thank all staff members and independent consultants for the hard work they put into it making it possible under these complicated circumstances.

The International Whisky Competition Committee

## Contact Information

USA - Sebastien Gavillet,  
COO – Head of Tasting Panel  
[s.gavillet@whiskycompetition.com](mailto:s.gavillet@whiskycompetition.com)  
+1 702 234 3602

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