



For Immediate Release

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BIG WAVE WINS GOLD AT U.S. OPEN BEER CHAMPIONSHIP BY BALANCING FLAVOR AND SESSIONABILITY

Kailua-Kona, Big Island of Hawaii, July 10, 2013... The golden hues of Kona Brewing Company's [Big Wave Golden Ale](#) are shining a little brighter this week as it brought home a gold medal from the **2013 U.S. Open Beer Championship** held in Atlanta, GA this past weekend. Judges at the competition sampled more than 2,500 beers from 68 different brewers including Kona Brewing Company, with **Big Wave Golden Ale** emerging as the gold medal winner in the Session Beer category. Big Wave Golden Ale was the first beer brewed by Kona Brewing in 1994 and became available to mainland beer drinkers less than a year ago.

The award marks the third time [Kona has medaled](#) at the U.S. Open Beer Championship, having netted two bronze medals in 2009 for its **Longboard Island Lager** and **Fire Rock Pale Ale** in the American Lager/Pilsener and the Pale Ale categories, respectively. With an ABV of 4.4%, Big Wave Golden Ale is a standout in the emerging field of session beers that achieve high drinkability balanced with lower alcohol content so that multiple beers may be enjoyed over a session.

"This is an exciting competition that serves as testament to what an incredible first year Big Wave Golden Ale has had on the mainland," said Kona Brewing president Mattson Davis. "We're proud of what our brewers have accomplished over the past two decades by creating a well-balanced brew with such bright hoppy flavor and aroma, and we're stoked to see that the U.S. Open judges agreed on Big Wave's sessionability."

About Kona Brewing

Kona Brewing Company was started in the spring of 1994 by father and son team Cameron Healy and Spoon Khalsa, who had a dream to create fresh, local island brews made with spirit, passion and quality. It is a Hawaii-born and Hawaii-based craft brewery that prides itself on brewing the freshest beer of exceptional quality, closest to market. This helps to minimize its carbon footprint by reducing shipping of raw materials, finished beer and wasteful packaging materials. The brewery is headquartered where it began, in Kailua-Kona on Hawaii's Big Island. For more information call 808-334-BREW or www.KonaBrewingCo.com.

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