



Club Competition Procedure

Updated 2018

Preparation

Wines should be at the judging location 24 hours prior to judging to ensure uniform temperature. Sparkling wine and cider should be chilled, all others at room temperature. Sparkling wine and cider should be opened and poured at the judging table to observe mousse quality.

Before arrival of the judges, bottles should be registered and given numbers so as to render them anonymous. Bottles should be arranged on tables and sorted by class and entry number.

It is highly recommended to use an Excel spreadsheet to organize and track all entries. This will enable clubs to more easily produce the Entry Certificate with all of the AWO eligible wines.

Provide a quiet judging location free from interruptions and distractions. Club members may be present, but should avoid congregating in the judging area.

Judges shall be supplied with the following:

- Judging sheets for still and sparkling wines, pencils and erasers
- A table covered with white cloth or paper
- Adequate lighting (provide a table lamp if necessary)
- A corkscrew, wire snips for sparkling wine, bottle opener
- Individual small spittoons for judges and a bucket to empty glasses/spittoons
- Dry white bread cubes & baby carrots
- Paper napkins
- Mineral or plain water
- Glasses should be clear and of the same shape and size (tulip shape is preferred)

Conduct of Judging

- Avoid odours where the judging is carried out (cigarettes, cooking smells).
- Stewards should confine their duties to pouring wine for the judges. They shall not engage the judges in conversation unless invited to do so by a judge.
- A club may submit multiple entries to the Provincial in any class if a WJC judge selects more than one entry as Gold or Silver medal quality. The decision of the judges is final.
- The judges are required to sign the "Invoice" and to pick up payment. As well, the steward shall list ALL entries going on to Ontario on the "Entry Certificate" & the judges are to sign for each one.
- If your club provides certificates for club winners and wish to have the judge sign them, please have them ready.
- Competitions are usually followed by some food and discussion period. Judges are happy to share tasting information.