

# CONCOURS INTERNATIONAL WINE IN BOX

## ARTICLE 1 : ORGANIZER

The company **EURL ŒNOLOGUES DE FRANCE**, whose registered office is located at 21-23 Rue de Croulebarbe, 75013 PARIS, France, **SIRET No. : 418 822 573 000 22**, hereinafter referred to as 'the Organiser', is organising the 'WINE IN BOX INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION', hereinafter referred to as 'the Competition'.

All operations (including administrative, technical, promotional, etc.) related to the 'Competition' are carried out by the 'Organiser'.

## ARTICLE 2 : PRODUCTS CONCERNED

The 'Competition' is open :

- For France :
  - All French still wines (including VDL wines) produced under a Protected Designation of Origin or Protected Geographical Indication (which have been declared in accordance with Articles D.644-5 and D.646-6 of the Rural and Maritime Fishing Code prior to the registration date).
  - French still wines which, not having a geographical indication, are presented with an indication of vintage and/or grape variety that has been certified in accordance with the provisions of Article R.665-24 of the Rural and Maritime Fishing Code.
  - French still wines which, not having a protected geographical indication and which are presented without mention of grape variety or vintage, provide a declaration of claim (volume/area).
- For international wines:
  - All still wines that meet the definition of the International Code of Oenological Practices of the International Organisation of Vine and Wine. All products must bear an indication of the country of origin where the grapes were harvested and vinified.

## ARTICLE 3 : TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PRESENTATION

The conditions for admission to the 'Competition' are as follows :

- The wines must be packaged in wine packaging (Bag-In-Box®), come from a homogeneous batch intended for consumption and be sent with their final marketing packaging (label complying with the regulations in force in the country of production). A homogeneous batch is defined as a set of sales units of packaged wine or containers of bulk wine that has been produced and, where applicable, packaged under virtually identical conditions and has similar organoleptic and analytical characteristics.
- Bulk wines that will be packaged in wine containers (Bag-In-Box®): wines must be sent in their future marketing packaging (labels must comply with national regulations in force). Upon registration, the tank number, quantity in the tank and batch number (if already assigned) must be provided.

- Labelling must comply with :
  - The regulations in force in France for French wines.
  - EU regulations for wines from Member States of the European Community.
  - The regulations in force in the country of production and the import provisions for third countries (provided that there are no restrictions imposed by decrees, laws or agreements between these countries and France.

Packaging designs are accepted in registration files. **However, only samples in their final, regulatory packaging will be accepted.**

#### **ARTICLE 4 : PARTICIPANTS OR COMPETITORS**

Only the following are permitted to present their wines :

- Winegrowers.
- Wine cooperatives.
- Cooperative unions.
- Producer groups.
- Producers and producer-merchants.
- Merchant-breeders.
- Importers or distributors.

#### **ARTICLE 5 : OBLIGATION**

Each participant in the ‘Competition’ undertakes to comply with all the articles of these rules and to provide all the information and documents mentioned on the registration form.

#### **ARTICLE 6 : PARTICIPATION FEES**

Registration for the ‘Competition’ is subject to a flat-rate, one-off participation fee, set each year by the ‘Organiser’. This fee must be paid upon registration for each product submitted. Bank charges are not covered by the organiser.

The amount of these participation fees is indicated on the competition website. This amount must be paid by cheque or bank transfer made payable to AMELOVIN.

**Under no circumstances will a payment be refunded, regardless of the reasons for cancellation.**

#### **ARTICLE 7 : REGISTRATION PROCEDURES**

The deadlines for registration and wine submission are specified on the competition website. The registration file must contain the following for each product :

- The registration form to be completed on the dedicated website (one form per product registered)
- The analysis report identifying the sample and dated less than one year prior to the registration deadline.

- For French wines :
  - Either the declaration of claim for PDOs and PGIs.
  - Or the certification application for wines without a GI presented with an indication of vintage and/or grape variety.
  - Or, for operators who do not make the claim declaration themselves, purchase contracts certifying the identity of the seller and buyer, the name of the wines, volumes, colours, vintages if applicable, without any obligation to indicate prices.
- Payment of registration fees
- The analysis covers the following analytical parameters:
  - The actual and potential alcohol content by volume.
  - Total sulphur dioxide (expressed in mg/l).
  - Sugars (glucose + fructose) (expressed in g/l).
  - Total acidity (expressed in meq/l).
  - Volatile acidity (expressed in meq/l).
  -

Each registration form corresponds to a single product presented by a single producer, identified by a reference number during the processing of applications. **Analyses must correspond to the mandatory information indicated on the packaging of the sample presented and to the regulations in force.** Registration is effective upon receipt of the complete application (the address and deadline for submitting the application are indicated on the registration form). If the application is rejected, the registration fee will not be refunded.

## ARTICLE 8 : SAMPLES - HOMOGENEOUS BATCH - MINIMUM VOLUME

Three samples per wine presented are required :

- **All must be sent to the 'Organiser'** (1 for tasting, 1 spare for tasting in case of a problem with the previous one, and 1 for regulatory storage).

Wine samples shall be presented in containers with a volume of 5 litres or less. **Samples presented in bottles, regardless of their capacity, are not eligible for entry.**

Samples must come from a single homogeneous batch, packaged or partly in bulk, clearly identified by a batch number. A homogeneous batch is defined as a set of sales units of a packaged wine or containers of bulk wine that has been produced and, where applicable, packaged under virtually identical conditions and has similar organoleptic and analytical characteristics.

When a batch of wine entered in the 'Competition' is stored in bulk in different containers, the sample submitted to the 'Competition' shall consist of a blend of samples taken from each of the containers and blended in proportion to the volumes of those containers.

To compete, all participants must have a homogeneous batch of at least 1,000 litres available, physically present in the cellars during the 'Competition'. A smaller volume, but greater than 100 litres, may be accepted when production is particularly low. Shipping is at the competitors' expense and risk. Any samples sent carriage forward will be refused.

For shipments from abroad, customs clearance costs are entirely borne by the sender and shipments must be made under Shipment DAP Incoterms 2020. The organiser receives the samples and registration fees and, after checking them, eliminates those that do not comply with

these rules. In this case, the organiser will inform the entrant that their samples have been rejected from the 'Competition'. The address for receiving samples is indicated on the website.

For each winning wine, the control sample must be kept for one year (from the date of the 'Competition'). The samples received remain the property of the 'Organiser' of the "Competition". They will not be returned to the candidates, even if they withdraw from the 'Competition' or are eliminated.

## **ARTICLE 9 : ANONYMITY OF WINES**

The wines entered are classified by category: Country, AOC/AOP, IGP, VDL, colour, grape variety and vintage. The sample is placed in an opaque container. No markings specific to the wine's packaging may appear. Each sample is labelled with the anonymity number of the participating wine.

If, for certain categories, the minimum number of competitors per category (3) is not reached, the Organiser reserves the right to group together several categories characterised by common identifying features.

## **ARTICLE 10 : ORGANISATION OF TASTINGS AND AWARDS**

The practical organisation of the tastings is handled by EURL des Œnologues de France. The wines will be tasted according to their category (appellation, type, grape variety, vintage, colour), with the samples first placed in identical packaging to ensure their anonymity.

The assessment of the products will be descriptive and will include comments on :

- Visual appearance.
- Olfactory sensation.
- Taste impression.
- Overall harmony.

The best wines in each category may be awarded the **BEST WINE IN BOX distinction**. No distinction may be awarded if there are fewer than three distinct competitors in a given category.

## **ARTICLE 11 : DESIGNATION AND POWERS OF THE JURY MEMBERS**

The 'Organiser' appoints the 'Competition' juries from a pre-established list of tasters. The juries are mainly composed of French and foreign oenologists. The chairmanship is automatically assigned to a French oenologist who is a member of the Union des Œnologues de France.

Non-oenologist judges are selected from among recognised tasting specialists for their skills, coming from a wide variety of backgrounds such as production, marketing, consumption, communication, etc.

The 'Organiser' takes appropriate measures to prevent a competitor who is a member of the judging panel from judging their own wines or wines with which they have any connection. To this end, it collects a sworn statement from the members of the jury mentioning their direct or indirect links with the wines presented in the competition.

The total number of international judges is determined according to the number of samples presented. The number of judges per jury is a minimum of five : three foreign judges and two French judges.

## **ARTICLE 12 : TASTING PROCEDURE - ROLE OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The wines are brought to the correct tasting temperature by the 'Organiser', in accordance with the OIV's recommendations on the matter. Anonymous wines are presented uncorked. The serving of wines during the competition is carried out under the responsibility of the Jury President.

The Table President (French oenologist) manages the tasting process, ensures the smooth running of the jury and summarises the tasting comments on the award-winning products, assisted in the drafting of the report by a deputy (appointed according to the sessions). The tasting sheet used is the official model approved by the Union des Œnologues de France, the International Organisation of Vine and Wine, the International Union of Oenologists and VINO FED.

The jury president collects everyone's opinions and prepares a summary. At the end of the tasting, tasting minutes are drawn up and signed by each member of the jury, then submitted by the jury president to the competition organisers. This document specifies the following for each award-winning wine: the date, the jury number, the product number, its score and the distinction awarded.

## **ARTICLE 13 : AWARDS**

The awards, limited to 33% per category and for the entire 'Competition', will be awarded at the discretion of the juries to wines that have achieved a high level of expression deserving of these distinctions.

No distinction may be awarded if fewer than three separate competitors are competing in the same category. The Organiser will notify each candidate of the result by email. The results of the Competition will be disseminated as widely as possible through a variety of channels: press, website, social media, specialist journals, etc.

The Organiser will issue the winners with a diploma and a certificate specifying:

- The name of the Competition.
- The nature of the distinction awarded.
- The category in which the wine competed.
- The identity of the wine (its sales name, colour, grape variety and vintage).
- The declared volume.
- The name and address of the winner who owns the wine.
- 

Badges and visuals (reproduction rights) representing the award may be applied to the Wine in Boxes and will be available from the 'Organiser' for award-winning wines based on the volume of wine declared on the registration form.

Any other mention of the award obtained must be approved by the Organiser before being printed on the packaging. The Organiser reserves the exclusive right to control the commercial use of the

award. **Unauthorised use and reproduction of the logo and its distinction are strictly prohibited.**

Any infringement will be subject to legal action against the offender and their printer. The winners authorise the Organiser to publish their names, as well as the information specified in the technical data sheet, without this giving rise to any other rights.

The smooth running of the 'Competition' will be supervised by the General Commission of the 'Competition'. A complete list of winners will be published for each edition of the 'Competition'. The "Organiser" must keep the winning samples as stipulated in Article 8 of these rules for one year following the 'Competition'. The information sheets (registration forms, technical data sheets and analysis reports) must be kept for five years (from the date of the 'Competition').

#### **ARTICLE 14 : STATEMENTS**

The 'Organiser' of the "Competition" shall notify the relevant regional DIRECCTE/DREETS office two months before the 'Competition' takes place, specifying the location and date chosen and attaching these rules.

No later than two months after the 'Competition' has taken place, the 'Organiser' shall send the relevant regional DIRECCTE/DREETS a report signed by the person responsible for the control system, certifying that the 'Competition' was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the rules and including, in particular :

- The number of samples submitted to the competition overall and by category.
- The number of samples awarded prizes, overall and by category.
- The list of award-winning wines, with details for each award-winning wine enabling the product and its owner to be identified, the batch number and the quantity declared.
- The percentage of award-winning wines in relation to the number of wines submitted.
- The number of awards given.

#### **ARTICLE 15 : CONTROLS**

The Organiser shall establish an internal control system to verify compliance with the Competition rules.

This shall consist of an independent commissioner appointed by the Organiser, who shall not be involved in the organisation of the Competition but may participate in the tastings. The commissioner shall be responsible for verifying :

- Compliance with the rules.
- The preparation of samples.
- The organisation and conduct of the tasting and judging.
- The verification, processing and publication of results.

In the event of any doubt as to the origin or authenticity of the product, or in the event of samples being presented that do not comply with the regulations in force or the rules of the 'Competition', the wines concerned will be eliminated from the competition. The Organiser may carry out checks to ensure that the registration form submitted corresponds to the sample awarded. It reserves the right to verify the claims made for the award-winning wines.

The Organiser reserves the right to carry out analytical checks on award-winning samples and undertakes to systematically check 5% of the award-winning wines.

## **ARTICLE 16 : DISPUTES**

Any practical difficulties in applying or interpreting these rules shall be decided at the sole discretion of the 'Organiser'. If necessary, the 'Organiser' reserves the right to set up an ethics committee.

## **ARTICLE 17 : LIABILITY**

If an event beyond the control of the 'Organiser' prevents the "Competition" from running smoothly, the 'Organiser' cannot be held liable under any circumstances. The 'Organiser' reserves the right to cancel the 'Competition', change its originally scheduled date, shorten or extend it, or modify its terms and conditions or procedure in the event of force majeure (epidemic, fire, natural disaster, strike, terrorist act, etc.), an event beyond its control, or justified necessity. The candidate may not hold the Organiser liable. Furthermore, the Organiser cannot be held liable in the event of theft, loss, delay or damage during the delivery of samples.

Participation in the 'Competition' implies that the participant has read and accepted these rules (the participant confirms that they have read the rules relating to the organisation of the "Competition" and confirms that they are aware of the 'Organiser's' data management policy in the context of the 'Competition').

In particular, by registering for the 'Competition', candidates authorise, within the framework of the 'Organiser's' communication policy, any royalty-free use of their participation in the 'Competition' (candidate presentation, tastings, ceremonies, etc.) for any communication and reporting in the media and for the dissemination of this participation to the public.

By accepting these rules, candidates also grant the Organiser the right to record their voice and/or image, and to reproduce and broadcast them on any media as part of the promotion of the Competition. With regard to the use of data, the Organiser undertakes not to share or sell participants' data for commercial or marketing purposes.

The 'Organiser' is available to participants for any information concerning the security and justification for the collection and retention period of personal data in the context of the 'Competition'.

## **ARTICLE 18 : CONSULTATION OF THE REGULATIONS**

These regulations may be :

- Either downloaded from the website [www.best-wine-in-box.com](http://www.best-wine-in-box.com),
- Or provided upon request by email to [vinalies@oenologuesdefrance.fr](mailto:vinalies@oenologuesdefrance.fr)