

Colorado Governor's Cup



Statewide Wine Competition 2019

produced by the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board

Thank you to Gov. Jared Polis for his support of the statewide winemaking competition.

OVERVIEW OF THE COMPETITION

The statutory charge of the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board (CWIDB) is both to “promote all wines produced or finished by a licensed Colorado winery” (35-29.5-104(2) C.R.S.) and “to promote the marketing of wines and wine grapes produced in Colorado” (35-29.5-103(1) C.R.S).

The purpose of this competition is to provide a judging available to licensed Colorado wineries with a panel of qualified national and regional judges assembled by Kyle Schlachter and Doug Caskey, CWIDB staff. As such, this competition will be open to all wines finished by a licensed Colorado winery regardless of the source of the fruit, as long as the winery is physically located in Colorado. “Winery” as used in this document includes producers licensed under 12-47-402 or 12-47-403, CRS as well as vintner’s restaurants licensed under 12-47-420, CRS. All entries will be eligible to receive medals and for inclusion in the Colorado Governor’s Collection. And again this year, the judges will initially evaluate the wines without any knowledge of the source of the fruit used to make the wine.

All entries into the 2019 Governor’s Cup Colorado Wine Competition will be eligible to receive medals, Best of Class awards if applicable, and to be included in

the Governor's Cup Collection, made up of the highest scoring wines deemed by the judges to be the best representatives of the Colorado wine industry.

Judging will take place at [Metropolitan State University of Denver's Hospitality Learning Center](#) on the Auraria Campus in Denver on September 13-15, 2019. One panel of judges will evaluate non-grape fruit wines, agricultural wines including mead, and "other than standard" wines. There will be an additional three or four panels of judges focusing on grape wine, both *Vitis vinifera* and non-*vinifera* varieties.

We recruit judges from all segments of the wine industry across the country, including writers/bloggers, retailers/wholesalers, winemakers and grape growers, as well as academics/wine educators, selecting people with a strong background in the style of wines on which their panel will focus. In accordance with the passage of SB19-142 which removes hard cider from the purview of the CWIDB, we will not recruit any judges specializing in cider for 2019.

Entries, consisting of 3 bottles of each wine, along with a zero invoice made out to "HLC @ Metro Inc.," plus the entry form and appropriate fees, must be submitted to the **CWIDB, c/o Colorado Department of Agriculture, 305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021 (303.869.9000) between Monday, July 22, 2019 and Friday, August 30, 2019.** Each box should be marked "Governor's Cup."

The CWIDB is largely covering the cost of this competition. The first entry will be free, and every additional entry will be **\$50** each. No entries will be accepted **after 4:45 PM on Friday, August 30, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Entries for grape wines, sake, meads and other wines can all be submitted together using one entry form. However, please be sure to clearly identify the meads, fruit wines and all "other-than-standard wines" (sake will fall into this category) on the entry form.

Once again this year, all wineries that enter product will be eligible for two complimentary tickets for winery staff to "Colorado Uncorked," the public tasting of the Governor's Cup Collection and any Best of Class Wines on November 15, 2019 at the History Colorado Center in downtown Denver. This will be an opportunity to support your fellow wineries, and sample the wines which the judges have singled out as the best in the state.

This year we will again combine the media and public events into one tasting, "Colorado Uncorked," on Friday, November 15, 2019 at the [History Colorado Center](#) in downtown Denver. The media and VIP tickets holders will be let in beginning at 6:00 PM and have access to special food pairings. The general

admission ticket holders will be allowed in at 7:00 PM. Discounts will be available to History Colorado members and VIP customers from the Colorado wine industry.

If you did not see the completed video of the 2017 Governor's Cup event, please [click on this YouTube link](#) or on the "Watch the Video" link on the landing page of www.coloradowine.com.

At this time the judges who have replied to our invitations include:

- Wayne Belding, the first Master Sommelier in Colorado based in Boulder
- Jay Bileti, judge at numerous national competition and executive with the American Wine Society
- Jeff Siegel, wine blogger at winecurmudgeon.com and author of *The Wine Curmudgeon's Guide to Cheap Wine*
- Andrew Stover, one of Wine Enthusiast Magazine's Top 40 Under 40 a few years ago and founder of Vino50, a company that imports wines from emerging US wine regions into the Washington, DC area
- Joel Butler, MW, one of the first two people in the US to receive the Master of Wine certification; a former education director for Diageo Chateau and Estates as well as Chateau Ste. Michelle; and now the owner of World of Wine, a fine wine shop and wine bar near Seattle, WA.
- Alder Yarrow, California wine writer and blogger in vinography.com
- Mike Dunne, recently the wine writer for the Sacramento Bee
- Rich Mauro, wine writer for the Colorado Springs Gazette
- Becca Yeamans-Irwin, wine writer, editor and blogger for academicwino.com
- Colorado retailers Dave Tewksbury and Taylor Courey
- Metro State Beverage Professor Michael Wray
- WineAmerica staff and frequent national judges Jim Trezise and Michael Kaiser
- AND, again this year, [Warren Winiarski](#), winner of the Judgment of Paris in 1976 and founder of Stags' Leap Wine Cellars in Napa after he served as the winemaker for Ivancie Cellars in Denver.

And on the mead and fruit wine side:

- Roberta Backlund, free-lance wine consultant who has worked as the national wine buyer for Lucky's Market, Boulder Liquor Mart, and Hazels

HOW TO ENTER

[Read the rules and the disclaimers for entering.](#) Then, complete the attached entry form with appropriate information for each wine you are entering. Ship three bottles of each wine, completed entry form(s) and **\$50** entry fee (*please note the new entry fee*) for each wine after the first one so that everything will arrive no later than 4:45 PM on Friday, August 30, 2019. **Include a zero invoice for all entries to “HLC @ Metro Inc.”** Entries received without a zero invoice will be disqualified.

Make out checks for the entry fees to CWIDB and please note “For Governor’s Cup Competition” at the bottom.

SHIP OR DELIVER TO: CO Wine Industry Development Board
c/o Colorado Department of Agriculture
305 Interlocken Parkway
Broomfield, CO 80021
303.869.9000

FOR ARRIVAL NO LATER THAN 4:45 PM FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019.

QUESTIONS

Doug Caskey, CO Wine Industry Development Board
PH: 303.869.9177 or doug.caskey@state.co.us
Kyle Schlachter, CO Wine Industry Development Board
PH: 303.869.9178 or kyle.schlachter@state.co.us

COMPETITION LOCATION

Metropolitan State University of Denver, Hospitality Learning Center
1190 Auraria Parkway, Denver

ENTRY FEE

There will be no entry fee for the first entry into the entire Competition and **\$50 for each additional entry.** No entries will be accepted after August 30, 2019. Your entry fee covers only about one-third of the cost of this competition. The Colorado Wine Industry Development Board covers the remainder of the costs. Wineries must cover the cost of shipping or delivering their wine and must accept the risk for all damage during shipping and storage.

ENTRIES

Entrants must deliver three (3) 750 ml bottles per entry, two (2) 1.5 l bottles, four (4) bottles of 500 ml, or six (6) 375 ml or 250 ml cans. We serve up to 8 judges one day and up to 20 judges the following day, opening a fresh bottle for the second day of all wines that pass through to the second day's sweepstakes round. All entries must be zero invoiced to "HLC @ Metro, Inc." Wineries may enter more than one wine in each class and as many wines as they wish overall.

All wine left over will be used for promotional or educational purposes by the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board. It is the responsibility of the entrant to pick up, claim or provide other transportation for the return of any disqualified entry.

COMPETITION CLASSES

The 2019 Competition may identify Best of Class awards. All Gold and Double Gold Medal winners will be considered for Best of Class awards. Wineries receiving Best of Class awards for wines with 10 or more cases available for sale on November 15, 2019 will also be invited to pour at Colorado Uncorked on November 15.

All Gold and Double Gold Medal winners will also be considered for inclusion in the [Governor's Cup Collection](#), as described below. The organizers and the judges may opt to consider elevating high-scoring wines into the Governor's Cup Collection if the following classes are not represented. If there are no Gold Medal wines in a class, Best of Class will not be awarded. Classes must have at least four entries to be considered part of the Best of Class awards. Judges will be given final say over the awards. Classes may include but are not limited to, the following:

- Best of Class White
- Best of Class Red
- Best of Class Rosé
- Best of Class Dessert/Fortified
- Best of Class Mead
- Best of Class Fruit, Agricultural or "Other Than Standard" Wine, including sake

COLORADO GOVERNOR'S CUP COLLECTION

This year, the judges will assemble the top-scoring wines from the Competition which best represent the Colorado wine industry into a "Governor's Cup Collection." The CWIDB may showcase these wines to the media, at public tastings and promotional events around the state throughout the coming year. In an attempt to assure that the case represents the diversity of all Colorado wines, the judges and organizers may adjust the contents of the Collection so that no more than 9 bottles of one Class of wine, as described above, make up the case, bringing in top-scoring examples from other classes. As always, we will not publicly disclose scores or ranking of wines, only the medals awarded and wines selected to be included in the Governor's Cup Collection.

If you would like your wine to serve as a standard-bearer of the Colorado wine industry and to receive first consideration when the CWIDB plans media familiarization trips, interviews, recommendations and call-outs, *you must enter the Governor's Cup Competition.*

When listing the contents of the Colorado Governor's Cup Collection, the CWIDB will call out and recognize those products made from at least 75% Colorado produce as identified by the appellation of grape wines (Colorado, Grand Valley AVA, West Elks AVA or a Colorado county) or as identified on the entry form for non-grape wines. The CWIDB may request purchasing records or other documents as proof of origin.

AWARD PRESENTATION: "COLORADO UNCORKED"

The CWIDB will invite Colorado Governor Jared Polis, Lieutenant Governor Dianne Primavera, and Agriculture Commissioner Kate Greenberg to present the Governor's Cup awards to all winning wineries at the public event, "Colorado Uncorked," on November 15, 2019 at the History Colorado Center. Wineries will be invited to pour all Best of Class award-winning wines as well as those included in the Governor's Cup Collection, *provided all wineries have a minimum of 10 cases available for sale at wholesale or to consumers at the time of Colorado Uncorked.* All wines will be paired at the event with small-bite menu items prepared by area chefs.

We are unable to guarantee that medals will be available in time for the November 15 public tasting; however, every attempt will be made to have plaques and awards for the Governor's Cup Collection prepared by that date. We will also invite selected media members to attend and cover the event and the winning wines.

WINNER OF THE GOVERNOR'S CUP

The judges will also select a Governor's Cup Winner, which in their opinion best represents the Colorado wine industry, from all wines selected for the Governor's Cup Collection. That winery will be able to display the Governor's Cup trophy for the coming year.

At the Conclusion of the Competition and after the Governor's Cup Collection wines and Best of Class winners are announced, the CWIDB may purchase up to five (5) cases of each selected wine from the entrants at 50% off the retail price. These wines will represent the Colorado wine industry at CWIDB's public tastings and events throughout the coming year. At public events, some wines may be more popular than others, so we may not start out by purchasing more than one or two cases of some wines.

By entering the Competition, you agree to provide all of the following:

- **up to five (5) cases of any of your wine selected for inclusion in the Governor's Cup Collection and,**
- **at least 10 cases available for retail and wholesale sales as of November 15, 2019. (See [Rule #4 under Eligibility](#), below) and,**
- **wine at no cost for the "Colorado Uncorked" event associated with this competition as well as to make every possible effort to provide a representative to pour at the November 15, 2019 event at the History Colorado Center in Denver.**

Invoicing and payment procedures for wine purchases by the CWIDB will be determined after the Competition. Failure to provide product as stated above, to make an effort to provide representation for the November 15 "Colorado Uncorked" event, and to comply with these agreements, all rules and stipulations in this document may result in disqualification of the wine and all entries from your winery as well as forfeiture of any medals, trophies or other forms of recognition.

JUDGING PROCESS

1. All entries will be grouped into flights of common varieties and/or styles based on information provided on the entry form, then judged by 3 to 5-member panels and rated on a 10-point scale based on the quality perceived by the judges. Judges will then use a consensus review process to award bronze, silver or gold medals. When an entire panel of judges awards a gold medal, that wine will be eligible for double gold. The judges will evaluate grape wines based on the standards of color, clarity, aroma, taste, balance and finish. They will evaluate non-grape, fruit or agricultural and other than standard wines, including sake, on standards appropriate for that category or style of wine. The highest scoring entries will be moved forward to the sweepstakes round for consideration for inclusion in the Governor's Cup Collection.
2. While entrants should identify the category or class they think best suits each entry, the organizers and judges also reserve the right to reclassify any entry into a different category/class which they feel is more appropriate and beneficial to the wine's evaluation. Each winemaker is encouraged to include a brief justification for including a wine in a particular category/class. All wines falling into what the International Riesling Foundation would call sweet (see the IRF's Taste Profile at <http://www.drinkriesling.com/tastyscale/thyscale/>) will be classified in the Fortified and Dessert wine category.
3. Judges will know the varietal contents of each entry as well as the style based on information provided on the entry form. However, judges will not be aware of the appellation, or source of the produce used to make that wine, during the first round of judging. Upon judges' request, the Competition organizers will inform the judges of alcohol, sugar content and pH/TA levels if provided on the entry form.
4. All entries will be tasted at room temperature with the exception of any sparkling entries, which will be chilled for safety. The competition organizers do not have the capacity to chill entries to a specific temperature or to accommodate any serving directions or instructions, so all entries will be tasted as is.
5. The top-scoring entries from all panels of judges will advance to a final sweepstakes round with all judges determining the wines eligible for inclusion in the Governor's Cup Collection. The competition directors and

the judges will determine how many wines from each panel will move forward to the Sweepstakes Round.

6. Unlike the preliminary round, each judge samples all of the Sweepstakes Round wines. Each wine's score starts fresh on the second day of judging. Judges will not consider the first day's scores when selecting the wines for the Governor's Cup Collection. Additionally, during the Sweepstakes Round, organizers may provide the judges with information identifying the appellation or source of fruit or other produce. Each wine in the Sweepstakes Round receives a final score calculated from the all judges' evaluations. The wines with the highest scores will be considered for the "Governor's Cup Collection" as described above. The judges will identify the Governor's Cup Winner as the wine they feel best represents the quality and potential of all wines made in Colorado entered into the competition.
7. All decisions of the judges are final.
8. When the judges deem any entry to be flawed, no more than one additional bottle will be opened. The judges reserve the right to disqualify a wine they deem to be undrinkable.

COLORADO GOVERNOR'S CUP WINEMAKING COMPETITION

RULES AND DISCLAIMERS

ELIGIBILITY

1. This competition is open to all wineries and vintner's restaurants making wine within the state of Colorado, provided they are duly licensed by both the Colorado Department of Revenue Liquor Enforcement Division (LED) and the Tax and Trade Bureau of the US Treasury Department (TTB). All wine manufactured by a licensed Colorado winery (CRS 44-3-402 or 44-3-403) or a vintner's restaurant (CRS 44-3-422) is eligible for this competition. Proof of licensure may be requested by the organizers.
2. **Wines finished by a Colorado licensed winery are eligible to receive medals, a Best of Class award, and for inclusion in the Governor's Cup Collection.** Wines made from at least 75% Colorado produce and selected for inclusion in ***The Colorado Governor's Cup Collection*** will receive additional recognition in the listing.
3. All wine submitted for this competition must be made in lots larger than fifty (50) cases and be made available for sampling at the media and public event on November 15, 2019, even if a winery representative cannot be present. Formula wines, mead and similar wines made in lots smaller than 50 cases may petition for an exemption to this rule if they can prove there will be no variation from one lot to the next.
4. All wines included in Governor's Cup Collection must have at least 10 cases of the wine available for retail sales at the time of the public event on November 15, 2019. The Governor's Cup Collection wines will be promoted to the public. This case minimum is to ensure that consumers will have a chance to purchase these wines.
5. No barrel samples, unlabeled bottles or bottles labeled with a temporary, photo-copied, hand-written, altered or unapproved label will be accepted.
6. All wines submitted must have labels that comply with all federal and Colorado labeling laws and regulations, *including an appellation of origin for all grape wines*, AND BE [REGISTERED WITH THE LIQUOR ENFORCEMENT DIVISION](#). (Click on the link for more information on label registration.)
7. Entrants agree not to hold the competition, its organizers, sponsors, venue hosts, volunteers and judges responsible or liable as noted under [Disclaimer #2 below](#).

8. Failure to comply with these rules will make the wine and/or the winery subject to disqualification from the competition, any awards, any promotions and the public tasting event.

DISCLAIMER AND AGREEMENTS

By submitting wine to this competition, the entrant agrees to all of the following:

1. to bear all shipping costs and liability for making sure the samples arrive at the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board's CO Department of Agriculture offices, 305 Interlocken Pkwy, Broomfield 80021, **BEFORE FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019 AT 4:45 PM. THE CWIDB WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY LATE ENTRIES;**
2. to hold the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board, volunteers, judges, venues and any and all sponsors of the competition and the awards presentation and the judging harmless for:
 - a. the safety of the wines from theft or damage by fire, temperature, vandalism or other causes; (Every reasonable effort will be made to store the wines safely and responsibly.)
 - b. any errors or omissions in the competition results and all subsequent publications or promotions of the results;
 - c. any negative media coverage, social media comments, and any other public response to the competition whether generated during the judging, public reception or any subsequent promotion;
 - d. and in all other aspects of this competition and the public reception;
3. to abide by all the procedures and rules set out in this document understanding that any non-compliance with the procedures and rules could result in disqualification with no refund of entry fees or return of wine;
4. to guarantee that all entries have been registered with the Liquor Enforcement Division of the Colorado Department of Revenue, and meet all labeling requirements for both the State of Colorado and the TTB;

5. to accept the decision of the judges as final;
6. to make samples of all Governor's Cup Collection and Best of Class wines available at no charge to be poured at the public celebration and tasting, Colorado Uncorked, at History Colorado Center on November 15, 2019 and to make every effort to be available in person at the November 15 event or provide a winery representative;
7. to make available up to five (5) cases of each designated wine for the "Governor's Cup Collection," if selected, which will be reimbursed at 50% of the standard retail price by the CWIDB for promotional use throughout the coming year (The Competition organizers may disqualify any wines selected for the Governor's Cup Collection if that wine is not available in sufficient quantity after the judging AND of which a minimum of ten (10) cases are not available for retail or wholesale sales on November 15, 2019.);
8. to affirm that all information provided on the entry form is correct and valid for all wines entered, that all appellations and other information on the labels of wines entered is correct and that the labels of all entries comply with state and federal laws and regulations;
9. and, to provide licensing documentation, proof of origin, label approval and any other information if requested by the CWIDB or competition organizers.

Entry Form for 2019 Governor's Cup Colorado Wine Competition

competition sponsored by the Colorado Wine Industry Development Board: judging held September 13-15, 2019

public reception and awards presentation: November 15, 2019 at the History Colorado Center, Denver

Three bottles of each entry must be received BEFORE 4:45 PM Friday, August 30, 2019 at the CWIDB offices at

CO Dept. of Agriculture, 305 Interlocken Pkwy, Broomfield, CO 80021 (303.869.9000)

Please note: by submitting entries to the Governor's Cup Competition you are agreeing to follow all the rules and disclaimers in the document above.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Winery: | |
| contact name and position: | |
| mailing address: | |
| City, State ZIP: | |
| phone: | |
| e-mail: | |

| Varietal Designation or blend | Vintage | Alc. % | Residual Sugar % | Acidity if known | pH if known | Appellation | % produce from Colorado | Vyd. designation or Proprietary Name if applicable | Notes and other information | Entry Fee |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | n/c |
| 2 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 4 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 7 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 9 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 14 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |
| 15 | | | | | | | | | | \$50 |

No late entries will be accepted. Make additional copies of this form if needed.

TOTAL DUE: # entries x \$50 less \$50

\$

If submitting more than one case of entries, please be sure an entry form is included with each case for the appropriate contents.

Make checks payable to CWIDB.