



38th Annual
LONE STAR INTERNATIONAL
WINE COMPETITION

OCTOBER 6 - 7, 2021 ~ GRAPEVINE CONVENTION AND VISITOR'S BUREAU

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Message from TWGGA’s President..... | 3 |
| Highlights of Changes from 2020..... | 4 |
| Competition Objectives..... | 4 |
| Force Majeure..... | 5 |
| Key Dates to Remember | 5 |
| Contact Information..... | 6 |
| <i>General Requirements</i> | |
| General Eligibility Requirements..... | 6 |
| Legal & Enforcement Summary..... | 7 |
| Competition Resources..... | 7 |
| <i>Wine and Wine Label Design Competition Guidelines</i> | |
| Entry / Eligibility Requirements..... | 7 |
| Entry Limitations..... | 8 |
| Competition Fees..... | 8 |
| Wine Categories and Classes..... | 9 |
| Entry Procedures..... | 11 |
| Wine & Wine Label Design Competitions & Parameters..... | 11 |
| Day I Judging: The Medal Round..... | 12 |
| Wine Competition Scoring & Awards – NEW AND IMPROVED..... | 13 |
| Day II Judging: Best in Category and Grand Star Rounds..... | 13 |
| Errors in Submission/Disqualifications..... | 14 |
| Judge Selection and Judging Procedures..... | 14 |
| Wine Judging Procedures and Panels..... | 15 |
| Wine Label Design Competition – NEW AND IMPROVED..... | 16 |
| Wine Label Design Competition Criteria and Categories..... | 17 |
| Product Sample Requirements..... | 18 |
| Rules and Regulations..... | 18 |
| Shipping and Delivery Requirements..... | 19 |
| Deadline Requirements..... | 20 |
| <i>After the Competition Requirements and Guidelines</i> | |
| Winning Wine Commitments | 21 |
| Promotional Opportunities and Materials..... | 21 |
| Use of Logos and Marks..... | 22 |
| <i>Appendix</i> | |
| Enofile Online Instructions..... | 23 |

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association (TWGGA) is very excited to announce the 38th Annual Lone Star International Wine Competition (LSIWC).

The Lone Star Wine Competition, as it had been known from its inception in 1984, was limited to Texas Wines and Texas Wineries. In 2001 the Board of Directors of the Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association made the decision to expand the competition internationally.

The first U.S. region included in this expansion extended from the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains to the Mississippi River. It was important for the Great Plains to be the first region in this expansion, since Texas is very much a part of the Great Plains. We included Canada and Mexico in the spirit of the Free Trade Agreement, and Austria as a courtesy to the Grapevine, Texas sister city of Krims, Austria.

For the 2002 Competition, the committee decided to expand to the remaining wine states, except the largest producers New York, Oregon, Washington, and California. In 2004, we continued to expand including all international and national commercial wineries. Since 2004, with the LSIWC new commitments embracing and welcoming its national and international neighbors and friends, we've tripled the number of entries.

In 2020, despite the pandemic, the LSIWC saw a surge of Texas winery entries and an expansion to 10 States participating in the international competition.

For 2021, the LSIWC is initiating key changes to enhance the credibility and visibility of Texas' oldest International Wine Competition. Changes include:

- Judging will be conducted using the widely accepted Winery Spectator 100-point scale
- Highly credentialed experts will be assigned as lead judges to each panel to enhance discussion and verification of overall scoring.
- Assignment of wine flights will be solely performed by credentialed experts.
- A new and improved wine label competition focusing on graphic elements, branding, and market positioning.
- Judging will be performed by graphic – design artist experts.
- Dedicated promotion of Gold, Best in Category, and Grand Star winners

As the President of TWGGA, I am PROUD of our Association's efforts to keep LSIWC front and center during the pandemic. Our 2021 changes heighten our level of commitment to continue and improve our competition to become a premier competition within our state, nationally and internationally.

We hope that those who have submitted entries in the past will continue to do so, and if you have missed a few years or never entered LSIWC, we encourage you to submit your entries. Each of you deserve a Texas sized recognition that can only be awarded from the Lone Star State!

CHEERS & GOOD LUCK!



Roxanne Myers
President, Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association

HIGHLIGHTS OF CHANGES FROM 2020

- The Lone Star International Wine Competition Force Majeure policy has been included.
- The Category, Wine Coolers, has been removed from the 2021 Wine Competition.
- The following varietals have been added.
 - Red Wine Category
 - Dolcetto
 - Petite Verdot
 - Tannat
- At this time, we will not be accepting CBD infused wines, even with TABC label.
- Judging will be conducted using the widely accepted [Winery Spectator 100-point scale](#)
- Highly credentialed experts will be assigned as lead judges to each panel to enhance discussion and verification of overall scoring.
- Assignment of wine flights will be solely performed by credentialed experts.
- A new and improved wine label design competition will focus on graphic elements, branding, and market positioning. Judging will be performed by graphic artist experts.
- No entry product samples will be accepted after the delivery deadline. Any entry that has a postal date stamp before the product sample deadline will be accepted. All product samples received after the deadline will be considered a donation to the Competition, along with all entry fees.
- Entrants are encouraged to ship their product samples in as early as possible. This is necessary to process all product samples in time for the competition.

LONE STAR INTERNATIONAL WINE COMPETITION OBJECTIVES

The Lone Star International Wine Competition, founded in 1984 for the purpose of:

- Promoting the excellent quality and diversity of commercial wineries and grape growers while recognizing the fastest growing wine regions in the United States
- Promoting healthy competition among the continually evolving and burgeoning Texas wine industry.
- Continuing to push for star quality of all Texas wines through vineyard sourcing and management and winery production as well as to promote the experience and expertise contained in both.
- Raising awareness of and promoting the Texas wine industry in Texas, nationally and internationally amongst the media, restaurateurs, distributors, and primarily the Texas wine consumer
- Expanding the general knowledge and awareness of accomplished wineries in the Texas Wine industry
- Providing an opportunity for [Texas Department of Agriculture](#) (TDA), [Go Texan](#), [Uncork! Texas Wines](#), [TWGGA](#), and others to recognize the presence and strength of the Texas wine industry as an integral and beneficial component to the agricultural, economic, and tourism aspects of the State.

FORCE MAJEURE

The Lone Star International Wine Competition shall not be liable for any delay or failure to perform its operations, activities, shows and events to the extent such delay or failure results from a force majeure occurrence. A force majeure occurrence is defined as any occurrence which makes performance by the Lone Star International Wine Competition illegal, impossible, inadvisable or, in Lone Star International Wine Competition's reasonable opinion, unsafe or commercially impracticable and includes, but is not limited to (i) any breakage or accident to equipment, machinery or facilities; (ii) any strikes, lock-outs or other labor difficulties; (iii) statutes, ordinances, regulations, orders, directives or rules issued by governmental authorities, including, but not limited to those concerning public health and safety, animal disease prevention, detection and response and/or protection of the environment; (iv) judicial decrees or orders; (v) pandemics, epidemics, quarantines, recognized health threats as determined by the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or state or local government authority or health agencies (including, but not limited to the health threats of COVID-19, H1N1 or other infectious diseases); (vi) animal diseases and/or quarantines; (vii) wars, riots or insurrections; (viii) civil disobediences, public demonstrations or sabotage; (ix) acts of God, fires, floods, national disasters, explosions or inclement weather; (x) inability to obtain necessary labor, materials, supplies, utilities or transportation; (xi) depressions, recessions or other economic downturns; (xii) embargoes or energy shortages; or (xiii) any other cause beyond the Lone Star International Wine Competition's reasonable control.

Wine Product samples and Fees: In the event of an unexpected closure, or inability to host the Lone Star International Wine Competition, wine product samples received to date will remain in the custody of the Lone Star International Wine Competition, as it would be logistically and financially prohibitive to reprocess the inventory by submitter. Registration fees collected will be credited to the next scheduled Lone Star International Wine Competition.

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

| Date Due | What is Due |
|---|--|
| Monday, July 19, 2021 | Enofile - Competition entry system opens |
| | Fees must be paid immediately upon registration. Your registration will not be 'saved' unless it is paid in full |
| | Early Bird entry fees extend through August 27, 2021 |
| | Entry fees can be found in the Competition Handbook |
| | Wine shipments accepted immediately upon registration and full payment of fees |
| | Wine Shipping and Delivery address can be found in the Competition Handbook |
| Friday, August 27, 2021 | Early Bird entry fees end at 11:59 pm |
| Saturday, August 28, 2021 | Standard Entry Fees apply |
| Friday, September, 17, 2021 | Last day to register wines and pay fees in full |
| Monday, September 20, 2021 | Last day for wine and wine label design completion product samples to be received |
| Wednesday, October 6, 2021 - Thursday, October 7, 2021 | Lone Star International Wine Completion judging |
| Wednesday, October 13, 2021 | Medal winners announced |

CONTACT INFORMATION

The following Lone Star International Wine Competition staff members support the program and are available to assist with any questions.

For questions related to operations, logistics, judges, competition rules, media, volunteers and awards.

Sabrina Houser Amaya
Director of Communications and Membership
sabrina@twgga.org
Cell: 830/456-2787

For questions about Enofile, Classic Wine Storage, shipping/delivery, and general questions about the competition.

Mary Judson
Wine Competition Coordinator
Marytwgga@gmail.com
Cell: 210/823-7251

LSIWC MAILING ADDRESS FOR ENTRY FEES* ONLY:

(NOTE: DO NOT SHIP WINE TO THIS LOCATION)

c/o Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association
P.O. Box 312650
New Braunfels, TX 78132

*Entrants are strongly encouraged to pay entry fees online at the time the entry is made. However, should a check need to be mailed, you must use the mailing address above.

BEFORE THE WINE TASTING COMPETITION

It is each winery's responsibility to ensure that it complies with all applicable rules and policies stated in this Handbook. Judging will take place in October of the given year.

INTEGRITY OF THE COMPETITION AND RESULTS

The integrity, validity and reliability of this competition are paramount for the Lone Star International Wine Competition.

- The competition follows the generally accepted judging criteria that produce world-class standards of excellence.
- Great care has been taken to select qualified judges who have proven to be high caliber in personal and professional pursuits.
- All judges will be trained on medaling standards generally accepted by most major wine competitions.
- Conflicts of interest have been scrupulously avoided in every aspect of this competition.
- No wine may be entered more than once in the same year, even if it is marketed under different labels. However, different vintages of the same wine may be entered, with each vintage being a separate entry.
- All aspects of this wine judging have been, and will be, conducted to ensure that the results have the highest degree of integrity and are fully worthy of the Lone Star International Wine Competition.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Any wine meeting the following requirements is eligible to enter the Lone State International Wine Competition.

- Any wine **currently distributed on and off premise in Texas by a licensed wholesale distributor** that is produced from grape, cereal grain or fruit product grown and produced anywhere in the world is eligible for entry. Types of products include still wines, sparkling wines, fortified wines, fruit wines, and sake.

- Winery must have a designated, licensed Texas distributor or be self-distributed by a Texas winery.
- All wine entries must be registered with the TABC (a valid label registration).
- The **specific vintage** of all wine entries must be commercially available in the Texas marketplace at or near the suggested retail price listed in the entry form at the time of entry and during the 2021 Lone Star International Wine Competition. The SRP (suggested retail price) must reflect an accurate retail price within a reasonable range for a 750-ml bottle.

LEGAL AND ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Lone Star International Wine Competition management reserves the final, absolute right to interpret rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the Lone Star International Wine Competition. It further reserves the right to determine unforeseen matters not covered by these rules and to amend or add to these rules as in its judgment as it may determine necessary.

Notification of the Competition: Efforts will be made to reach all wineries regarding the entry deadlines and guidelines, neither LSIWC nor TWGGA is not responsible for failure to notify or contact any one winery regarding entry into the Competition. The wine competition entry deadline is preset. No extensions will be granted.

RESOURCES

LSIWC Website: The Lone Star International Wine Competition page will provide links to Enofile Online, the 2021 Competition Handbook, list of important dates and post competition promotional materials, including POS merchandising and digital artwork,

TWGGA Facebook: Join TWGGA Facebook page for pre- and post-competition information.

Enofile Online Competition Application: Enofile Online offers an alternative to filling out entry forms, year after year, Entrants create a simple database of their wine, then they enter competitions with just a few mouse clicks, pay online, and use the searchable database to see their result. See Enofile Appendix for specifics as to how to register.

WINE COMPETITION PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Competition Dates: The Lone Star International Wine Competition will take place at the Grapevine Convention and Visitor's Bureau on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, followed by the Best in Category and Grand Star rounds on Thursday, October 7, 2021

OFFICIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL COMPETITION ENTRIES

It is the responsibility of each Entrant to ensure all requirements have been met. Incomplete entries will not be refunded, nor the wines returned.

An official entry shall consist of the following.

1. A fully completed and paid entry, including all applicable wine information, submitted by the date through the online entry system, [Enofile Online](#)
2. An entry fee must be received at the time of registration through the online entry system for your registration to be saved to each competition.

- a. Required product samples received by the deadline noted in this Competition Handbook at Classic Wine Storage.
 - b. The required product samples include four (4) bottles of 750 ml wine or the volumetric equivalent if submitting bottles smaller or larger than 750 ml. Only entries in sealed bottles, pouches, cans, bag, or in a box format will be accepted.
3. Kegs are not accepted for judging. If wine is sold in a keg only, the volumetric equivalent of four (4) bottles of 750 ml wine must be submitted for entry in bottles.
 4. Required reserves of the vintage-specific (if applicable) wine for post-Competition promotional contribution. Members whose TWGGA membership dues are paid in full will be sent discount codes.

ENTRY LIMITATIONS

- There is no maximum number of entries.
- There is no limit on the number of wines or categories an Entrant may submit.
- Wines must be products currently available (including specific vintage, if applicable) to consumers through a licensed wholesaler and retail or on-premises distribution channels within Texas.
- No wine may be entered more than once in the same year, even if it is marketed under different labels. However, different vintages of the same wine may be entered.
- The Competition may require any wine receiving an award, be verified by a qualified representative of the Competition who shall determine all entry requirements have been met, including the availability for sale to the public in commercial quantities in Texas.

COMPETITION FEES

- **Entry Fee Requirements:** Online entry fees are designated below.
 - We strongly encourage all fees be paid at the time of entry via credit card*
 - Early bird fees not paid by August 27, 2021, will convert to standard fees.
 - Entry fees are non-refundable.
 - You are encouraged to retain a copy of the payment receipt received after the entry fees are paid.

LSIWC MAILING ADDRESS FOR ENTRY FEES* ONLY:

c/o Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association

P.O. Box 312650

New Braunfels, TX 78132

(NOTE: DO NOT SHIP WINE TO THIS LOCATION)

| 2021 Lone Star International Wine Competition Entry Fees | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Member Entry Fees* | | | Non - Member Entry Fees | | |
| Entry Type | On or before 8/27/21 | 8/28/21 - 9/17/21 | Entry Type | On or before 8/27/21 | 8/28/21 - 9/17/21 |
| Wine Per Entry | \$70.00 | \$80.00 | Wine Per Entry | \$85.00 | \$95.00 |

*Members whose TWGGA membership dues are paid in full will be sent discount codes

** See Competition Handbook for wine bottle product sample requirements

*Entrants are strongly encouraged to pay entry fees online at the time the entry is made. However, should a check need to be mailed, you must use the mailing address above.

2021 Lone Star International Wine Competition Label Design Entry Fees

Fees reflect price per entry

| Entry Type | On or before 8/27/21 | 8/28/21 - 9/17/21 |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 label | \$40.00 | \$50.00 |
| 2 labels | \$35.00 | \$45.00 |
| 3+ Labels | \$30.00 | \$40.00 |

** See Competition Handbook for wine label design product sample requirements

WINE CATEGORIES AND CLASSES

Category and class names reflect predominant consumer, trade, and restaurant classifications by varietal and by denomination. The Competition reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to combine classes when the number of entries so warrants, or to divide or reorganize classes if the range of sweetness, or other factors present, so warrants. A wine must be properly classified per the country or state wine labeling requirements for varietals. Example: a wine with less than 75% Malbec should not be entered as a “Malbec,” but would be entered in a broader class, such as “Malbec Based Blends” or “other dry reds.”

Please pay careful attention to the residual sugar ranges on applicable categories, subcategories and listing of wine varietal blend to have your wine classified properly and judged with like wines. For all wines entered in a category with a residual sugar requirement, the residual sugar must be included on the entry form.

CATEGORIES AND CLASSES TO BE JUDGED

| White Table Wine | Red Table Wine |
|---|---|
| Albarino | Aglianico |
| Blanc du Bois | Black Spanish/ Lenoir |
| Chardonel | Cabernet Franc |
| Chardonnay | Cabernet Sauvignon |
| Chenin Blanc | Cynthiana/ Norton |
| Gewurztraminer | Dolcetto |
| Muscat Blanc | Malbec |
| Pinot Gris/ Grigio | Merlot |
| Riesling | Montepulciano |
| Roussanne | Mourvèdre |
| Sauvignon Blanc | Pinot Noir |
| Trebbiano | Petit Syrah |
| Vermentino | Petit Verdot |
| Viognier | Sangiovese |
| Other White Wines | Syrah |
| (specify varietal and percentage of each) | Tannat |
| Proprietary Blends | Tempranillo |
| (specify varietal and percentage of each) | Zinfandel/ Primitivo |
| | Other Red Wines |
| | (specify varietal and percentage of each) |
| | Proprietary Blends |
| | (specify varietal and percentage of each) |
| | |
| Rosé | Blush |
| Varietal Rose | Varietal Blush |
| Non-Varietal Rose | Non-Varietal Blush |
| | |
| Late Harvest, Dessert & Ice Wine | Fruit Wine and Other Than Grape Wine |
| Late Harvest | Single Fruit |
| Dessert | Blended Fruit |
| Ice Wines | Sparkling Fruit |
| | Honey Wine/ Mead |
| | Cider |
| | Rice |
| | Other Fruit/ Other Than Grape Wine |

ENTRY PROCEDURES

- Entries are only accepted through [Enofile Online](#).
- Identify and enter the wine(s) you wish to submit for judging for each competition.
- Select the competitions you wish to enter based on the Competitions and related parameters in this Competition Handbook.
- The primary method of entry and payment is via the website, [Enofile Online](#). Detailed entry instructions are available in Appendix – Enofile Online - of this Competition Handbook.
 - If you have not used Enofile Online before, you will need to set up a new account following the steps on their website.
 - Once your account is created, the next step is to set up the wines you wish to enter for all the Competitions.
 - After your wines are set up, identify each Competition you wish to enter and add the wines which you have already set up.
- Pay entry fees as prescribed in the Competition Handbook. For Wine Competition only, a discount is offered to TWGGA members in good standing and will have been sent a unique membership promo code.
- NOTE: It is extremely important that the Entrant verify that their [Enofile Online](#) wine entry matches exactly with the wine product samples being shipped. The most common error is that the wine entry in [Enofile Online](#) does not correspond to submitted wine product samples (e.g., Entry vintage is 2018 yet wine product sample vintage is 2019).
- Lone Star International Wine Competition officials reserve the right to:
 - Re-classify an entry if it is entered in an incorrect class or the submitted product samples do not match submission entry.
 - Change the Enofile entry to match the product samples sent.
 - Submit to media outlets, the original and correct entry OR the corrected Enofile entry.
- Delivered wines are not entries until all fees have been paid in full. No wines submitted as entries will be returned.
- Review all information in this Competition Handbook, carefully noting all entry, delivery and fee deadlines and rules.
- **Wines will be disqualified for failure to meet deadlines or abide by the rules, no exceptions.**

WINE COMPETITIONS AND RELATED PARAMETERS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>International Competition</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ More than 200 cases produced.• <u>Limited Production</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Less than 200 cases produced. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Texas Competition</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ More than 50 cases produced and $\geq 75\%$ by volume from Texas fruit.• <u>Wine Label Design Competition</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Open to all packaging designs (e.g., bottle, pouch, cans, boxes, etc.) and labels |
|--|--|
- NOTE: Wines may be entered into one Class only within a Competition, although one wine may be entered in more than one Competition. For example:
 - Wine may be entered in:
 - a. Both the Texas & International competitions, and
 - b. Both the Texas & Limited Production competitions.

DAY I WINE JUDGING: THE MEDAL ROUND

MEDALING PROCEDURES

- **Classes:** All wines will be divided into their respective classes and tasted by one panel of judges. Classes exceeding the capacity of one panel to taste will be divided among multiple panels.
 - Certain classes may be sub-divided according to residual sugar content (e.g., Rieslings, Sparkling Wines)
 - As needed, larger classes will be separated by suggested retail pricing or other criteria at the discretion of the Competition management to ensure the wines compete against like wines in the judging and scoring process.
- **Flights:** Wines will be served in flights of no more than 10. Each judge's primary role is to taste, evaluate and score each wine in each flight assigned to their panel.
- **Panel Discussions:** Judges within the panel may discuss wines within each flight to help evaluate the wines and develop more accurate scores, after the initial individual assessment. Each judge's score will convert to a Double Gold, Gold, Silver, Bronze or No Medal.
- **Re-pour:** In the event a bottle served may be deemed unacceptable (i.e., corked or other fault), the judges may request a re-pour. In the event all remaining product samples of a wine are flawed, the wine will result in No Medal.
- **Resolving a Tie:** As two judges' no-medal votes disqualify a wine from winning a medal, such discordant judgment shall be further deliberated with the fellow judges until mutual agreement about the wine has been reached. If this is not possible, the Director of Judges must be consulted, and will break any unresolved tie.
- **Re-tasting:** Panelists may, upon request, re-taste and re-evaluate any wines from an earlier flight within a class, so long as that class has not yet been closed.
- **Auditing:** Once data is input to the system by the scribe, it is verified by the scoring team against the score sheet submitted by the Lead Judge and Panel Director. If any wine is re-tasted following the initial judging, the scores are updated by the scribe and resubmitted on paper by the Lead Judge and Panel Director head to the scoring to be verified once again by the scoring team. Once the scores and class awards for all wines within a class have been audited, the class is considered "closed," and the wines may not be re-evaluated nor re-scored by the panel.
- **Final Ruling:** If there are any problems, questions or disputes in the judging, the panel will call in the Director of Judges and the Competition management team who will rule on the question or dispute. The Director of Judges' rulings are final.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

During the first round of the Competition, judges will taste each wine presented in a Category and Class and vote individually to award that wine either a gold, silver, bronze, or no medal. The overall objective of this phase of the competition is to grade the range of wines based on the established medaling standards. At this stage, ties are allowed.

WINE COMPETITION SCORING AND AWARDS - NEW AND IMPROVED!

A wine score is the quickest, simplest way for a judge to communicate their opinion about the quality of a wine. Often found alongside tasting notes, wine scores help buyer decide which wines to buy and can be a powerful marketing tool.

To enhance the credibility and visibility of Texas' oldest International Wine Competition, the Competition management has made the decision to move to the 100-point scale for wine scoring based on five (5) elements:

- Appearance
- Body
- Finish
- Aroma
- Taste

| Scoring Range | Medal | Wine Award Description |
|---|-------------------|---|
| 95-100: Classic: a great wine | Double Gold Medal | Of outstanding quality and exceptional. Reflects the best flavor, balance, style and winemaking for that class and price point. 5 judges score the wine within the 95- 100 category |
| 90-94: Outstanding: a wine of superior character and style | Gold Medal | Of outstanding quality, superior to most. Reflects the good flavor, balance, style and winemaking for that class and price point. |
| 85-89: Very good: a wine with special qualities | Silver Medal | Of great quality, reflects a standard to achieve in flavor, balance, style and winemaking for that class and price point |
| 80-84 Good: a solid, well-made wine | Bronze Medal | Of good quality, reflecting balance and typical qualities of that class and price point; a drinkable wine without obvious flaws |
| 75-79: Mediocre: a drinkable wine that may have minor flaws (No Medal) | No Medal | Of mediocre/inferior quality, lacking balance or typical qualities of that class and price point |
| 50-74: Not recommended | | |

The 100-point wine-scoring scale was popularized by [Wine Spectator](#) magazine and by Robert Parker.

DAY II WINE JUDGING: BEST IN CATEGORY & GRAND STAR

BEST IN CATEGORY JUDGING AND AWARDS

Best in Category flights will be selected from Gold Medal Winners.

- Best in Category White Wine
 - Selected from gold medal winners in the White Table Wine Division in each Wine competition.
- Best in Category Red Wine
 - Selected from gold medal winners in the Red Table Wine Division in each wine competition.
- Best in Category Rose' Wine
 - Selected from gold medal winners in the Rose' Wine Division in each wine competition.
- Best in Category Dessert Wine
 - Selected from gold medal winners in the Dessert, Ice Wine and Late Harvest Divisions in each winecompetition.
- Best in Category Fortified Wine
 - Selected from gold medal winners in the Fortified Division in each Wine competition.

GRAND STAR JUDGING AND AWARDS

Grand Star Flights are derived from the highest scoring Best in Category Award winners.

- Grand Star White Wine
 - Selected from Best in Category medal winners in the White Table Wine Division
- Grand Star Red Wine
 - Selected from Best in Category medal winners in the Red Table Wine Division
- Grand Star Rose' Wine
 - Selected from Best in Category medal winners in the Rose' Wine Division.
- Grand Star Dessert Wine
 - Selected from Best in Category winners in the Dessert, Ice Wine and Late Harvest Divisions.
- Grand Star Fortified Wine
 - Selected from Best in Category winners in the Fortified Division.

Following the blind Grand Star judging, the judges, and other invited guests will have access to non-blind product samples of the gold medal, Best in Category and Grand Star wines,

All submitting wineries and companies winning a Gold medal will receive appropriate contact information for companies represented in the pool of judges from the distribution and retail trade.

ERRORS IN SUBMISSIONS/DISQUALIFICATIONS

The Lone Star International Wine Competition is not responsible for correcting errors on entry forms or incorrect information supplied and/or created by the winery staff or their designated representatives.

- An entry will be deemed ineligible if it does not meet all requirements set forth in this Competition Handbook.
- TWGGA is not responsible if a wine is later disqualified for being tasted in the wrong class showing faults or for any other reason.
- No Entrant shall be entitled to an award which has been disallowed because of the Entrant's own error.
- LSIWC management shall withhold awards for entries found to be ineligible and may recover awards made for ineligible entries revealed during audits of competition records. NOTE: This includes that specific vintage of a medal winning wine remaining commercially available in Texas after the conclusion of the competition through November 1st of the given competition year.

FUNDAMENTAL ETHICS

Any entry found to have submitted deliberately misleading information may result in the Entrant being disqualified from all awards and, at the sole discretion of the Show's International Wine Competition also may prohibit the winery from entering the judging in succeeding years.

SELECTION OF WINE JUDGES

Competition judges will be drawn from the supplier, wholesale, retail, and restaurant branches of the wine trade on both the local, national, and international levels, as well as from members of the press and a select group of the most avid and knowledgeable local consumers. Judges are selected based on their credentials, as well as their overall knowledge and good reputation within the local and national wine community, and at the sole discretion of the International Wine Competition management.

SELECTION OF WINE JUDGES

We have gathered a highly experienced and talented panel of judges drawn from the supplier, wholesale, retail and restaurant branches of the wine trade as well as from members of the press. Our judges have cumulative expertise in writing reviews about wine, restaurant and retail purchasing, and wine education. The diverse background of the judges reflects the broad base appeal of the wines.

Each panel will consist of a Lead Judge and four other judges. All five judges have equal votes (5 person panels, 100- point scale per judge, per wine). The lowest score for each wine per panel is eliminated. All 4 scores roll up into a 50–100-point scale. The panel will remain intact throughout Day 1 of the competition. If a judge must withdraw due to unforeseen circumstances or be relieved by the chair, a new panelist chosen by the chair will fill the position.

The Best in Category and Grand Star Competitions are comprised of selected judges, engaging in the same judging process as aforementioned.

WINE JUDGING PROCEDURES

- All wines will be entered in one of the classes listed in the Wine Classification section of this Competition Handbook for the purpose of wines being tasted with like wines during the competition.
- Certain classes may be sub-divided according to residual sugar, suggested retail pricing or other means at the discretion of the Lone Star International Wine Competition.
- The judges will eliminate any wines that have obvious flaws and/or that are not representative of their varietal.
- Where there are less than five entries per class, Lone Star International Wine Competition reserves the right to re-group the entries.
- Lone Star International Wine Competition officials reserve the right to re-classify an entry if it is entered in an incorrect class or the submitted product samples do not match submission entry.

JUDGING PANELS

During Day I of the Competition, 5 to 6 judging panels consisting of five (5) judges each will be set up to consider each entry. On each panel, one judge will be designated as the panel head. The panel head will serve as the moderator for any discussion and will document the panel's scores. All judges will have equal votes. A scribe will be seated at each panel to enter in each judge's score in real time. The paper score card will be submitted by the panel head to the scoring room to audit the data entry of the scribe.

Once a panel is defined, it will remain intact throughout the entire first phase of the competition. If a judge must, due to unforeseen circumstance, withdraw or be relieved by the Judge Director and/or Competition management, a new panelist will be selected from qualified alternate judges standing by.

Guest judges may be seated with the judging panels. Guest judges may participate in the panel tasting and discussion, however, no vote from a guest judge will count toward a wine's final score.

TRAINING

Prior to the competition date, training sessions will be held with the new local judges to review the Lone Star International Wine Competition scoring procedures, medaling standards, and procedures for finalizing Best in Category and Grand Star awards.

DIRECTOR OF JUDGES

The Lone Star International Wine Competition will have at least one, preferably two Director of Judges to ensure the competition remains accurate and in line with the highest industry standards. Any questions about the accuracy and integrity of the classifications, judging, etc. will be decided by the Director of Judges in conjunction with Wine Competition management.

WINE LABEL DESIGN COMPETITION - NEW AND IMPROVED!

“A Picture is Worth 1000 words.”

This phrase has never been truer! Wine in the bottle is as much art as it is science, but we all know that competition is fiercer than ever! The multitude of outlets, including online during and post COVID, and the plethora of options on store shelves makes for a crowded field of good wines at reasonable pricing even more competitive.

With our totally redesigned Wine Label Design Competition, we are celebrating the label design as part of the wine buyer's experience!

Join us for our totally redesigned Wine Label Design Competition focusing on design, graphic and printing aesthetics as well as marketing and branding attractiveness and memorability.

This Competition is open to every-one in the community: design firms, ad agencies, inhouse departments, non-profits, institutions, associations, freelancers, students and more.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR WINE LABEL DESIGN COMPETITION

Entries require or allow for the following:

- Be entered individually and paid in full to be entered into the competition.
- Be entered through [Enofile Online](#).
- Meet deadlines as prescribed in this Competition Handbook.
- Represent a product that is/was commercially available between January 1, 2019, and June 30, 2021.
- Are or were available for commercial sale and consumption only (tasting room, online, retail, etc.)
- Meet TTB guidelines or government regulations in the country of origin.
- Alternative Packaging - specifically cans, boxes, pouches — may also enter the Competition.
- The Competition does require *both product sample product AND uploaded images* in the wine label design in [Enofile Online](#).
 - Upload a high-resolution image of the ‘front’ of the label only* (*Must be less than 2MB*)
- Include one product sample product for each category and/or class entered.

NOTE: The wines entered the Wine Competitions cannot be used for the Label Competition as they are stored and managed differently. Competition management will not move any Wine Competition wines to serve in the Label Competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA FOR WINE LABEL DESIGN

We honor the best Wine Label Designs of the year to those who demonstrate:

1. Aesthetics/Attractiveness/Visual Design Fundamentals
2. Strategic/Effectiveness
3. Any special/unique element or concept that really stands out from the crowd
4. Memorability

The criteria will be used to analyze the entire product sample. One score will be issued between 1 (low) and 10 (high). All the judges' scores for each wine will be computed and an average score determined for each entry.

JUDGING CATEGORIES FOR WINE LABEL DESIGN COMPETITION

| Phase I Wine Label Design Competition | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Retail Pricing Category | |
| Price Per Bottle | ≤ \$15.00 |
| Price Per Bottle | \$15.01 - \$24.99 |
| Price Per Bottle | ≥ \$25.00 |
| <i>Includes all bottle sizes</i> | |
| Alternative Packaging Category | |

Includes all boxes, cans, pouches, single serve, etc.

Highest scored entries in Phase I will advance to the next Judging phase

| Phase II Wine Label Design Competition |
|---|
| Best in Category |
| Retail Pricing Category |
| Alternative Packaging Category |
| |
| Highest scored entries in Phase II will advance to the next Judging phase |

| Phase III Wine Label Design Competition |
|---|
| Best of Show |
| All categories from Phase II compete against each other for a single Best of Show |

| Phase IV People's Choice Wine Label Design Competition |
|--|
| All Wine Label Designs which scored the highest marks in Phase I will be submitted for the People's Choice Award at the TWGGA Annual Conference and Trade Show |

SELECTION OF WINE LABEL DESIGN JUDGE

We have gathered a highly experienced and talented panel of judges drawn from local and state-wide associations whose experience and long-term efforts support graphic design, marketing, and promotion.

PRODUCT SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS OF WINE AND LABEL DESIGN COMPETITIONS

Wine Competitions: Each *wine entry* must consist of one of the following options:

- Four (4) identical 750 ml bottles
- Three (3) identical 1.5-liter bottles
- Six (6) identical 375 ml bottles
- Five (5) identical 500 ml bottles
- Box Wine — combination to equal any total listed above.
- Canned Wine/Beverages/Pouches/Alternative Packaging — combination to equal any total listed above.

Label Competition: Each *label entry* must consist of one product sample be it bottle, box, pouch, can, etc.

NOTE: The wines entered in the Wine Competitions cannot be used for the Label Design Competition as they are stored and managed differently. Competition management will not move any Wine Competition wines to serve in the Label Competition.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR WINE & LABEL DESIGN COMPETITIONS

- The Competition is open to all wines produced by commercially bonded wineries in the country of origin and licensed to produce wine for sale in the U.S.
- All individual Wine and/or Wine Label Design Competition entries are available for commercial sale and consumption only (tasting room, online, retail, etc.)
- There is no limit to the number of the entries.
- There is no limit to the number of vintages of the same variety a winery may enter.
- Competition Wines may be entered into one Class only within a competition, although one wine may be entered in more than one competition. For example:
 - Wine may be entered in:
 - a. Both the Texas & International competitions, and
 - b. Both the Texas & Limited Production competitions.
 - All wines can be entered in the Wine Label competition.
 - No matter the competition, an entry fee is required for each wine entered in each competition as well as each label that is entered. Wine marketed under different labels may only be entered once in each competition.
- All blended wines must have varietal percentages on the entry form. Failure to provide the varietals and percentages will forfeit the wine from the Competition.
- All Competition wines entered in a varietal class must be at least 75% by volume of the specified varietal. All wines with residual sugar over 0% must have residual sugar percentage (%) stated on the entry form.
- Proprietary blends cannot contain more than 75% of any one variety.
- All unused and/or unopened wines for the competition will not be returned.
- All wines left over will be used at the discretion of Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association Competition management retains the right to ban any winery from competing.

SHIPPING-DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

- All product sample shipments are due no later than **Monday, September 20, 2021**
- Make sure that the wines on the packing slip match those which you are shipping, including vintage. Entries shipped in error will not be returned.
- Please include a copy of the Enofile Online registration/packing slip in each box shipped. This will ensure accurate receipt.

Direct Delivery:

Wineries may directly deliver their wines, after registration. Prior to delivery, please contact them to make arrangements:

Classic Wine Storage

Attn: Chase Hayes

2875 Market Loop

Southlake, Texas 76092

817/271-0520

Shipping

Classic Wine Storage

c/o LSIWC

2875 Market Loop

Southlake, TX 76092

817/442-0348 (Office)

Questions or concerns regarding the competition can be directed to Sabrina Houser Amaya at sabrina@twgga.org or 830/456-2787 cell.

DEADLINE REQUIREMENTS

- **Entry Requirements:** Entries are accepted online only as designated in the Key Dates to Remember in this Competition Handbook. An official Competition entry shall consist of:
 - A completed online entry form per entry
 - Paid in full entry fee(s) per entry.
 - Requisite product samples:
 - Wine Competition: Four (4) 750 ml bottles of the wine or volumetric equivalent for *each* entry
 - Wine Label Design Competition: One product sample for *each* entry
- **Deadline:** Wine entries and wine product sample receipts close on designated dates in the Key Dates to Remember in this Competition Handbook. No product samples will be accepted after these deadlines.
- **Entry Dates:** Entries will be accepted only via Enofile Online only. An official entry shall consist of:
 - A completed online entry form for *each entry*
 - Paid in full entry fee for *each entry*, and
 - Requisite product samples:
 - Wine Competition: Four (4) 750 ml bottles of the wine or volumetric equivalent for *each* entry

Wine Label Design Competition: One product sample for *each* entry

• **Friday, August 27, 2021, 11:59 p.m. CST.**

• **Saturday, August 28, 2021.**

• **Friday, September 17, 2021, 11:59 p.m. CST.**

• **Monday, September 20, 2021.**

- Final day for accepting wine deliveries at Classic Wine Storage.

Early Bird Entry Fee Ends

Standard Entry Fees Commence

All Entries and Fees Due

Shipping Deadline

- Any wine with a postal stamp on or before September 20, 2021, will be accepted unless the Competition has instructed the Entrant to submit new/additional bottles.

Product samples not arriving on time may forfeit the opportunity to participate due the advanced set up required. Competition management will make every effort to get late arriving wines placed, however in the event the wine cannot be placed or arrives after the competition, the wines and the fees will become the property of Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association.

AFTER THE COMPETITION

WINNING WINES – POST COMPETITION COMMITMENTS

- All wineries entering wines that receive any awards, including gold, silver or bronze medals, Best in Category and/or Grand Star, via email by mid-October.
- A list of all the winning wines will be released to the media and public no later than November 1st of the Competition year. If there are specific publications in your area that you would like notified, please send their names and email addresses to sabrina@twgga.org
- Each winning wine entrant is required to supply the following promotional wines to the shipping receiver specified in the Competition Handbook.

| Promotional Wines Required by Medal Type | Competition | | |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------------|
| | Texas | International | Limited Production |
| Gold Medal | 12 | 6 | 6 |
| Best in Category | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| Grand Star | 6 | 6 | 3 |

WINNING WINES – PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

ADVERTISING

Each winery consents to abide by the following rules that govern the use of results of the Lone Star International Wine Competition in advertising:

- The winery agrees to refrain from any misleading advertising or labeling regarding any award which may be granted for this wine.
- The winery agrees that it will not represent any wine as being identical to the award-winning wine unless it is identical.
- In the event of misleading advertising by an award-winning entrant relative to a particular award or awards, the Lone Star International Wine Competition, at its discretion, reserves the right to disqualify both the offending wine and the responsible winery from this and future competitions.

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

The Lone Star International Wine Competition will produce point of sale pieces that will be available on our website for download and personalization for use in your in-store displays.

Please ensure the point-of-sale information is correctly associated with each wine and its medal or award earned. Point of sale artwork may not be altered except to personalize it in the provided field.

Additionally, the Lone Star International Wine Competition will provide digital medals that may be used in electronic or print advertising, such as your websites or social media. Please ensure that the digital medal is the correct assignment (double gold, gold, silver, bronze) for each wine associated. Digital medal artwork may not be altered in any way. Please note, this medal art is the only approved format in which to use the Show's logo in conjunction with your winning wine.

LOGOS AND MARKS

Competition participants may not use any official Competition logo in association with their brands. The various logos of the Lone Star International Wine Competition are registered trademarks and may NOT be used under any circumstances **without prior written permission** from Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association. The digital medals and point of sale materials provided on the Lone Star International wine Competition website are the only approved format in which to use the logos in conjunction with your winning wines. Again, these may not be altered in any way except to populate the provided blank fields.

APPENDIX - ENOFILE ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS

ONLINE ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

All 2021 wine competition entries should be submitted through the online entry system. If you have trouble utilizing the web site, please contact [Enofile Online](#) at info@enofileonline.com or 503/235-8429.

ENTERING ONLINE

1. To access the site, please visit Lone Star International Wine Competition.
2. If you (or another representative of your brands) have entered a competition using [Enofile Online](#) before, please login using your winery's credentials. You must use the existing set up to utilize your brands that have already been set up in the system, as it will not allow a duplicate brand or wine to be set up under multiple logins.
 - If you have forgotten your password, please select the corresponding button to retrieve your account information.
 - First time users will select "Register" to set up a new account.
3. Complete all required information in the customer account setup. **NOTE: This contact information will be used to contact you regarding any questions about your entries. We will also use the provided contact information to mail any awards earned in the Competition.**
4. Once your account is set up with information about your winery, select "Add Wine" to set up your wines. Please set up one wine entry at a time, including wine label design, by completing all required information for each wine competition and wine label design competition that you would like to enter.
5. Once your wines are set up, click "Easy Enter" to see a list of competitions currently accepting entries. For Lone Star International Wine Competition, there are four available competitions:
 - International Competition
 - More than 200 cases produced.
 - Limited Production
 - Less than 200 cases produced.
 - Texas Competition
 - More than 50 cases produced and $\geq 75\%$ by volume from Texas fruit.
 - Wine Label Design Competition
 - Open to all packaging designs (e.g., bottle, pouch, cans, boxes, etc.) and labels

NOTE: Wines may be entered into one Class only within a Competition, although one wine may be entered in more than one Competition. For example:

- Wine may be entered in:
 - a. Both the Texas & International competitions, and
 - b. Both the Texas & Limited Production competitions
6. Click the "+" button next to each wine you would like to enter each Competition to move it onto your entry form.
 7. For each wine, a box will pop up with questions specific to our Lone Star International Wine Competition.
 - a. The 'Division' will already be selected. This represents that you are entering the 'specific' Competition.
 - b. Choose "Category Type" for your wine and then the "Category" that best describes the varietal of that wine. As a rule, the wine should be made up of at least 75% juice from a particular grape to compete in that varietal class.

- c. If you are an 'International Winery' – please check the box indicating that your wine will be shipped internationally to our Competition if applicable.
8. Repeat the process of adding a wine “+” and specifying the “Category Type,” “Category,” “and “International Shipping” (*as applicable*) for each one until you have added all wines you wish to enter into each specific Competition associated with the Lone Star International Wine Competition
9. Click “Next” to enter the payment screen.
10. Click “Pay Online” to submit your credit card payment.

If you have questions related to the Lone Star International Wine Competition specifically, please contact Sabrina Houser Amaya, Director of Communications and Membership, sabrina@twgga.org, Cell: 830/456-2787 and we will be happy to assist you.