

# Competition Rules

1. Only commercial wineries are eligible for this competition, as described below. Wines must be:
  - a. bottled and commercially available.
  - b. produced by a TTB licensed commercial winery and have TTB COLA approval for the label.
  - c. have been produced with a minimum of 20 cases available at retail when released. For the purpose of this competition, a case consists of twelve 750 ml bottles. For Specialty/Fortified (but not Sparkling) categories, a case may consist of twelve 375 ml or 500 ml bottles.
  - d. professional and TTB approved, commercially printed label must appear on all bottles.
2. Proper registration process must be followed as is listed in the registration guidelines. Wineries entering must:
  - a. Have an official 2018 International Cold Climate Wine Competition registration; appropriate fees must be submitted online by 11:00 p.m. CDT, **July 31, 2018**.
  - b. Submit two bottles per entry, and include a copy of the registration confirmation receipt in every box of the shipment.
  - c. Deliver each wine entry under the following terms:
    - i. No later than **4:30 p.m. CDT on August 7, 2018**
    - ii. At the this address:

University of Minnesota Horticultural Research Center  
C/o Drew Horton  
600 Arboretum Blvd.  
Excelsior, MN 55331
    - iii. Clearly labeled “ICCWC”
    - iv. Accompanied by the registration confirmation receipt.
  - d. Pay entry fees.
    - i. Entry fee is \$55 per wine. Entry fees are non-refundable. The non-refundable entry fee for wines entered by the Early Bird deadline of July 1, 2018, is \$40 per bottle.
  - e. Indicate on the registration form information from the front of your TTB approved label that identifies your wine. (Label with wine name, if not varietal).
  - f. Indicate on the registration form the true residual sugar (RS) content (in % = g/100mL), total acidity (in g/L), and pH so the entries can be arranged properly for judging.
  - g. Indicate the vintage on the entry form, if a vintage wine.
3. Categorization for each wine must be properly followed with each varietal indicated in the registration form. Category guidelines as follows:
  - a. An individual wine may not be entered in more than one category.

- b. A winery may enter as many different wines as they like in each of the categories.
  - c. Competition coordinators have the right to reclassify entries if they believe the entry has been incorrectly classified at registration.
  - d. Indicate all grape or fruit varieties used in each entry on the registration form.
  - e. A varietal wine must contain at least 75% of the designated variety (75% cold-hardy grape).
  - f. A blended wine with no single variety of 75% must be entered as a blend. (Note that wines in the blended wine categories must contain a minimum of 75% cold-hardy grape varieties. Varieties used in the blend must be identified on the registration form.)
  - g. If wines are to be judged as dessert, fortified, or sparkling wines, they should be entered in categories 20-25, not as a varietal.
  - h. Fruit wines must be from 100% cold-hardy fruit varieties for cultivated fruit and 100% cold-hardy species for wild fruit. Please list varieties or species in the “Wine Composition” field of the registration form and/or the geographical source of the fruit in the “Other Information” field. Competition coordinators reserve the right to make final decisions concerning eligible varieties.
4. Judging, awards and promotions will occur as follows:
- a. Judging will be held on August 15, 2018, at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Walk-in or drop-off of entries are *not allowed* on the day of judging.
  - b. Panels of wine experts will conduct blind judging. The Chief of Competition will approve the qualifications of judges before each competition.
  - c. Winning wines will receive concordance double gold, gold, silver, or bronze medals. Wines are judged on their own individual merit.
  - d. Only award winning wines will be published.
  - e. Award winning wines have permission from the Minnesota Grape Growers Association and the University of Minnesota to promote awards won as soon as results are published.
  - f. Award winning wines will be posted on [mngrapes.org/competition](http://mngrapes.org/competition) within five days after the competition.
  - g. Award winning wines will be displayed in the Minnesota Grape Growers Association booth in the Agriculture - Horticulture Building on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds during the 2018 Minnesota State Fair.
  - h. Unopened wines will be utilized for promotional and educational activities to support the Cold Climate industry.