



## **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

### **23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition**

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

#### **ARTICLE 1 - OBJECT**

CERVIM (*Research and Coordinating Centre for the Protection, Promotion and Enhancement of Mountain Viticulture*), in collaboration with the Aosta Valley Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the VINEA Association (Sierre - Switzerland), is the organizer of the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition, which is sponsored by the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV).

This competition, which is open to wines produced from vineyards in mountainous, in steeply sloping areas, in terraced areas or small islands is a point of reference for vine growers and wine producers in particularly demanding areas. The aim is to bring out all the unique features that these wines possess and to introduce consumers to them so that they can appreciate the cultural aspects related to mountain winegrowing and the valuable work carried out by vine growers to defend the land they belong to and the environment.

#### **ARTICLE 2 - ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

The Event Committee, chaired by the President of CERVIM, is made up of seven members:

- the President of CERVIM;
- a delegate of the Aosta Valley Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- a delegate of the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV);
- a delegate of the VINEA Association;
- a delegate of the Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies;
- the President of CERVIM's Scientific and Technical Committee.

The Event Committee has the task of supervising the organisation of the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition and any decisions it takes are final.

#### **ARTICLE 3 - WINES ALLOWED**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition is open to all wines produced using grapes from vineyards that have permanent structural difficulties, such as:

- altitudes over 500 meters above sea level, excluding vineyards on high plateaus;
- slopes with gradients greater than 30%;
- vines grown on terraces or embankments;
- vines grown on small islands.

The wines must comply with the definition of the OIV International Code and can be sent by wine producers of any country.

A *Producer* is identified by a name or company name, also shown on the label of the wines entered in the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition. *Wine producers* are those who transform grapes or grape must into wine, or make special wines or process wine to bring out the set of characteristics required for a particular appellation of origin, or refine or age wine.

Only wines from batches consisting of a minimum of 500 bottles, with bottle capacity as indicated in Section 5d), can be entered into the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition.

Flavoured wines and flavoured wine-based beverages or cocktails/mixtures of products are excluded. In addition, any wine made by single or associated producers who have been found guilty of fraud or adulterating wine are also excluded.

The competition provides a percentage of foreign wines participants not less than 20% of the total.

#### **ARTICLE 4 - WINES CATEGORIES**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition accepts wines labelled PDO - protected denomination of origin and wines from specific geographical areas labelled PGI - protected geographical indication (in compliance with the international wine labelling standards adopted by the International Organisation of Vine and Wine).

The wine admitted to participate to the 23<sup>rd</sup> International Mountain Wine Competition are, only the wines labelled with the PDO Protected Denomination of Origin, or the wines labelled with the PGI Protected Geographical Indication for wine with European Community origin and of Geographical Indication for wine from third countries (in accordance with definition of art. 22 of the TRIPS Agreement ), as well as quality sparkling wines ( such as defined by the EU Regulation n. 1308/2013, Annex 7, Part II, n. 5 ). Concerning the wines of third countries provenance are admitted wines that respect the OIV (Organisation Internationale de la Vigne et du Vin) labelling standards.

Formattato: Inglese (U.S.A.)

Entries are divided into 8 categories:

- 1 - Still white wines (containing up to 6 g/l of sugar residue);
- 2 - Still semi-sweet white wines (containing between 6.1 and 45 g/l of sugar residue);
- 3 - Still red wines from 2013 and 2014;
- 4 - Still red wines from 2012 or earlier;
- 5 - Still rosé wines;
- 6 - Sparkling wines;
- 7 - Sweet wines (with more than 45.1 g/l of sugar residue);
- 8 - Fortified wines.

Still wines are defined as wines containing natural carbon dioxide at a concentration of less than one atmosphere.

All wines described in Article 3 as subject to exclusion and all wines which do not fit in any of the above categories are not eligible for entry into the competition.

**Besides, all the wines already entered into previous editions of the International Mountain Wine Competition cannot be submitted again and therefore will not be accepted.**

Samples that do not fall in any of the above categories will be excluded from the competition. The winery will not be entitled to any reimbursement of the entry fee nor will the wine samples, which have been sent and are not admitted, be returned to the winery itself.

#### **ARTICLE 5 - RULES OF REGISTRATION**

For each wine entered, the wine producer must send the following items by courier or post to the address below:

**23° CONCORSO CERVIM - c/o Caves des Onze Communes - Loc. Urbains, 3 - 11010 Aymavilles (AO) - ITALY, so as to arrive no later than 10th July 2015:**

a) The original Entry Form, which must be completed on CERVIM's web site [www.cervim.org](http://www.cervim.org).

In case you cannot access the online enrolment procedure, the complete documentation is obtainable by contacting the Secretariat directly at +39.0165.902451;

b) Three (3) front labels and, if applicable, three (3) back labels identical to those applied on the wines entered into the competition, preferably in electronic format, and, if available, any product brochures, photos and data sheets describing the wine;

c) A copy of the documentation showing payment of the **65,00 Euro fee for each of the first two wines** entered and **60,00 Euro fee for each additional entry**, as a reimbursement of all organisational expenses, payable by bank transfer to: Unicredit Banca - Agenzia di Aosta, IBAN IT/28/U/02008/01201/000060043906 - BIC: UNCRITM1GF7, to the order of CERVIM;

The bank transfer should clearly indicate the name of the wine producer making the transfer and specify that the payment is for "23° Concorso Internazionale Vini di Montagna" (**bank fees are to be paid entirely by the sender**). Wines for which no entry fee has been paid will be disqualified;

d) Six (6) bottles of wine from the same lot, containing 750 ml or, for sweet or fortified wines only, 9 bottles containing 500 ml or 12 bottles containing 375 ml. **The bottles must be fully labelled and packaged** in a single carton on which it should be clearly indicated that the contents are a "CAMPIONE NON COMMERCIALE" (non marketable sample) being shipped to the "23° CONCORSO CERVIM", c/o Cave des Onze Communes - Loc. Urbains, 3 - 11010 Aymavilles (AO) - Italy;

e) A **sampling record**, automatically generated during the online enrolment procedure, which must be filled in and signed by the public official in charge of sampling at the winery **or by the winery owner as a self-certification**. The winery agrees to allow all staff in charge of taking samples access to the premises;

f) A **certificate of analysis**, issued by the winery's laboratory as well, showing at least the following parameters:

- alcohol by volume at 20° C (68° F);
- residual sugar in g/l;
- pressure, for sparkling wines;

The certificate of analysis must indicate the name of the winery and the name of the wine, along with all the information needed to identify the sample. The Event Committee reserves the right to carry out its own analyses to compare them with/verify the analysis provided;

g) For DOP wines, a **certificate of eligibility issued by the competent authority is required**.

Along with all the above items, the winery should send a personal data consent form (already pre-completed during the online enrolment procedure), as per Italian Legislative Decree no.196/2003, duly stamped and signed by the company's legal representative. One single form will be sufficient, even if several samples are sent. **Please send the documents together with the wine samples, inside the package.**

## **ARTICLE 6 - SHIPPING WINES**

The event organisers do not accept any responsibility for any delays or late arrivals of the samples to Italy, for any damage or total/partial loss during shipment or transport, for any chemical/physical or organoleptic changes to the wine as a result of temperature variations, leakage or any other problems that may occur during shipment.

**The shipment fees, as well as the costs of customs clearance and transport to destination are completely in charge of the participants.** These expenses must be paid directly to the shipping company .

**All the wines that do not follow the shipping and transportation rules indicated above will not be accepted. Those samples which do not meet the requirements will not be collected and therefore will be automatically excluded from the competition.** If wines are disqualified then, the wine producer will have no right to recover the entry fee, which means that all shipping charges are the sole responsibility of the wine producer who ships all contents at his/her own risk. Any sample arriving without proper paperwork and 'postage due' will be rejected and not returned to the sender.

## **ARTICLE 7 - RULES OF TASTING**

Upon receiving the wines, the Event Committee will be responsible for preserving the samples for judging.

Before the actual wine judging, the Event Committee will ensure the anonymity of each sample by assigning two codes to each sample:

- The first code will be assigned by the Event Committee when the wines arrive to Italy and are delivered to the Event Committee itself;
- Just before the samples are handed over to the wine judges, a second code will be assigned by a notary or lawyer formally appointed by CERVIM.

To ensure neutrality, this person, called the Competition Advisor, will have had no previous involvement in the wine industry prior to this event.

The Competition Advisor will monitor the various administrative tasks carried out during the competition. If needed, he or she will be able to ask any of his or her colleagues to collaborate in the supervision process. The Competition Advisor will guarantee that all operational and regulatory requirements are met and will also ensure the preservation of the wine samples from the moment the samples are made anonymous and ready for judging until the judges have done their final evaluation for each group of wines.

## **ARTICLE 8 - JURY COMPOSITION**

The jury of the competition is made up of several judging committees. Each committee will consist of :

- 3 wine tasters, holding a qualification as wine technicians or oenologists or any other equivalent qualification obtained outside of Italy, possibly representing an associate region of CERVIM;
- 2 expert wine taster, from Italy or another country;

Judging will be done according to the assessment form developed by the U.I.O.E -"Union International des Œnologues" (International Union of Oenologists) which is used during international wine competitions. The evaluation form uses a scale of 100 points.

The tasting committees are made up of 5 members: one of the wine tasters acts as President of his or her judging table and carries out a preliminary check to verify that all forms are filled in correctly, as well as regulating the order of the tasting sessions.

The committees are composed in majority by foreign tasters with head of technical tasters (oenologists).

If any of the judges is not able to carry out his or her duties during any tasting session, they may be replaced by Italian wine technicians and/or journalists designated by the president of the judging committees, excluding anyone who has directly or indirectly contributed to the organisation of the competition.

The judges' verdict is final. For confidentiality reasons, only the list of the award-winning wines will be made public, not the list of all the wineries participating in the competition nor the score assigned to each sample.

Till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015, upon request, CERVIM will provide wine producers with a copy of the jury's evaluation of their wine(s).

#### **ARTICLE 9 - SCORES AND MEDALS**

Each wine entered in the competition will be evaluated by a committee.

Selected wines will be awarded respectively:

- *a silver medal from 85 to 89,99 points*
- *a gold medal from 90 to 93,99 points*
- *a grand gold medal from 94 to 100 points.*

As established by the rules of the OIV (International Organization of Vine and Wine), the **total amount of awards assigned must not exceed 30% of the total number of samples enrolled in the competition.**

The winner wines, will be awarded, according to the score, with a medal and a diploma. The final score for each sample is determined by calculating the arithmetic mean of each numerical rating, after having eliminated the highest and the lowest evaluations.

#### **ARTICLE 10 - SPECIAL PRIZES**

The **2015 "CERVIM Special Prize"** will be awarded to the winery (from each participating country) with the top score, that is the total of the highest scores obtained by 3 wines enrolled in 3 different categories that have a score of at least 80 points out of 100.

The **2015 "CERVIM Grand Prize"** will be awarded to the wine that obtains the best overall score

A **special Prize** will be awarded to the best wine of each participating country with at least 8 wineries enrolled. In the event that the "special prize" coincides with the "Grand Prix Cervim 2014", the prize will be awarded to the next ranked wine.

The **2015 "CERVIM Future" Prize** will be awarded to the winery whose owner or associate is 35 years old or younger and whose wine obtains the best score. **In order to participate, you must send a copy of your ID card or a copy of the details of your company's registration with competent authorities.**

The **2015 "CERVIM'S Women" Prize** will be awarded to the winery whose owner or associate is a women and whose wine obtains the best score. **In order to participate, you must send a copy of the details of your company's registration with competent authorities.**

A **Prize** will be awarded to the top-scoring **organic or biodynamic wine**, entered in any of the categories available for submission. This prize will be awarded only if at least 5 wineries participate by enrolling their wines.

A **Prize** will be awarded to the top-scoring **wine produced on small islands**. Again, this prize will be awarded only if at least 5 wineries enrol their wines.

The winning wineries and wines will be awarded by a diploma and a ceramic plate framed by a wooden base .

#### **ARTICLE 11 - AWARDS CEREMONY**

The announcement of the award-winning wines will be given during a special ceremony organised by CERVIM: in this occasion all the award-winning wines will be available for a wine-tasting event open to the public in a specially-set tasting area.

CERVIM will supply the international press with a list of the competition winners. All award-winning wines will also feature in a special promotional campaign conducted by CERVIM. In order to promote mountain wines or wines produced in difficult orographic conditions, as well as to promote the Competition itself, the organisers reserve the right to present the wines which have been awarded medals or special prizes at events, fairs, press conferences and institutional ceremonies.

Wine producers receiving one of the awards, as specified in Articles 9 and 10, and wishing to mention this during their business activity, should follow the general rules in force in each country, in compliance with the guidelines issued by the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV).

The winner wineries shall receive the possibilities to use a sticker, depicting the medals won, to apply at the bottle of winner wine, of the millesime, sent to the competition.

Any prize which will not be claimed during the award ceremony will be sent to the wine producer by CERVIM, which, however, declines any responsibility for non-delivery or loss of any awards.

#### **ARTICLE 12 - LEGAL**

The Event Committee reserves the right to change these entry requirements at any time should it be necessary, upon receiving authorization from the competent government body. Any dispute arising will be subject to the jurisdiction of the Judicial Court of the city of Aosta, Italy.