



2023 Entry Handbook



The Central Coast Wine Competition (CCWC) is the largest wine evaluation event that recognizes wines produced exclusively from vinifera grown on the Central Coast regions of California. This event promotes the excellent quality and diversity of commercial wineries and grape growers while recognizing the fastest growing wine regions in California.

Lead Organization - California Mid-State Fair
Chief Judge Tim McDonald, Napa, CA

GENERAL RULES

1. To qualify for entry in the 2023 Central Coast Wine Competition, 75% of the grapes used to produce the wines must have been harvested within the eligible grape growing regions.
2. ELIGIBLE GRAPE GROWING REGIONS: The Central Coast AVA includes from north to south: Alameda, Contra Costa (including all of Contra Costa County), Santa Clara, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. This competition also includes wines made from grapes grown in Ventura County.
3. All entries must be registered through the official online registration: <https://cmsfw.fairwire.com/> and must reach the Fair office on or before the entry closing.
4. After an entry is submitted, the entry fee will not be refunded.
5. The judge's decision is final and determines all awards.
6. The same wine (although marketed under different labels) may not be entered in more than one category. However, a winery may submit multiple entries in the same category.
7. An official entry consists of (4) 750 ml bottles or (6) 375 ml bottles. Competition reserves the right to request additional bottles of award-winning wines for display purposes.
8. Any wine delivered by mail, freight, or express must be prepaid. No entry will be accepted for which carrier charges have not been prepaid. All entries become the property of the competition.
9. The CCWC, management and staff are not responsible for errors in entries. No winery shall be entitled to an award for which has been disallowed on the basis of the producer's error.
10. Wineries/ Entries found in violation of rules or ethical practices will forfeit awards and other privileges deemed appropriate by the Central Coast Wine Competition Management and the Chief Judge.
11. Wines entered must be available for commercial sale.
12. In order to sell or pour wine at the California Mid-State Fair you MUST have a minimum of one (1) bottle entered in the Central Coast Wine Competition and the entry must be judged. The 2023 submission only validates your participation for the 2023 Fair event. Must enter annually to qualify.
13. The Gold medal wine tasting is an event where winning wineries of the CCWC are invited to feature their winning wines for a consumer wine tasting in Mission Square Plaza. This precedes the annual Wine Industry Awards.
14. Please identify in large legible letters, the name of the winery on the outside of each case. The outside of the case is also to be labeled CCWC. No wines will be accepted for which carrier charges have not been prepaid. Attach Packing List to outside of case highlighting specific entries inside.
15. This competition will adhere to the State Rules of the California Department of Food & Agriculture Fairs & Expositions Branch. [State Rules for California Fairs](#)

***REMINDER** - ALL ENTRIES ARE TO BE SENT OR DELIVERED WITH PACKING LIST ATTACHED TO OUTSIDE OF CASE TO THE PASO ROBLES EVENT CENTER.

EARLY BIRD ONLINE REGISTRATION TILL SUNDAY, MAY 21

ENTRY FEE: \$65 PER WINE

LAST CALL ONLINE REGISTRATION TILL TUESDAY, MAY 30

ENTRY FEE: \$85 PER WINE

Enter on-line at <https://cmsfw.fairwire.com/> Entry fees are non-refundable.

WINE ENTRIES RECEIVED: WEDNESDAY, MAY 31 – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Division 2000 - Wine

Classes

1. Sparkling-Methode
Champenoise, Charmat or
Other Process
2. Albarino
3. Chardonnay - Prior to '20
and non-Vintage
4. Chardonnay – 2020
5. Chardonnay - 2021 and
2022
6. No Oak Chardonnay
7. Gewurztraminer
8. Pinot Gris/Grigio
9. Riesling - Dry
10. Riesling - Off Dry
11. Sauvignon Blanc
12. Grenache Blanc
13. Roussanne
14. Viognier
15. Other White Rhones
16. White Rhone Blends
17. White Blends (Other than
Rhones)
18. Other White Wines-
dry(.7% RS or less)
19. Other White Wines-off dry
to sweet (.7% RS or more)
20. Gruner Vetliner
21. Marsanne
22. Cabernet Sauvignon Rose
23. Grenache Rose
24. Mourvedre Rose
25. Other Varietal Rose
26. Pinot Noir Rose
27. Sangiovese Rose
28. Syrah Rose
29. Tempranillo Rose
30. Zinfandel Rose (inc White
Zin)
31. Any Rose Blends
32. Barbera
33. Cabernet Franc
34. Cabernet Sauvignon - Prior
to '20 and non-Vintage
35. Cabernet Sauvignon – 2020
36. Cabernet Sauvignon - 2021
and 2022
37. Grenache
38. Malbec
39. Merlot
40. Mourvedre
41. Petite Sirah
42. Petit Verdot
43. Pinot Noir - Prior to '20
and non-Vintage
44. Pinot Noir – 2020
45. Pinot Noir - 2021 and 2022
46. Primitivo
47. Sangiovese
48. Syrah - Prior to '20 and
non-Vintage
49. Syrah - 2020
50. Syrah - 2021 and 2022
51. Tempranillo
52. Zinfandel - Prior to '20 and
non-Vintage
53. Zinfandel – 2020
54. Zinfandel - 2021 and 2022
55. Pinot Meunier
56. Tannat
57. Bordeaux Blends (Meritage)
58. Grenache Based Blends
59. Sangiovese Based Blends
60. Syrah Based Blends
61. Zinfandel Based Blends
62. Cabernet Based Blends
63. Other Rhone Style Blends
64. Other Italian Style Blends
65. Sweet Reds and Sweet Red
Blends
66. Any Other Red Blends
67. Any Other Red Varietals
68. Dessert Whites
69. Dessert Reds
70. Fortified Desserts
71. Served in a Can – Wine
Based

For more information about the 2023 CCWC judges, please visit the CCWC blog at <https://centralcoastwinecomp.com/judge-bios/>

MEDALS (AWARDS)

The judges shall award all medals. Wines will be considered for Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in their respective classes as well as “Best of Class”, Best White, Red, Dessert, Sparkling, Rose and “Best of Show.” “Best of Class” awards will be awarded to one wine from among the gold medal winners in each class to wines of exceptional merit. The decisions set forth by the Judges will be final. Additional awards may be given to outstanding entries from Contra Costa, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara for Fair display purposes. All Double Gold medal wines will be scored on a point system. Winners will receive both a point score and medal.

Best of Show is awarded to one wine recognized to possess special characteristics of the highest quality.

Best White, Pink, Red, Dessert and Sparkling Wine is awarded from the Best of Class winners.

Best of Class is awarded to wines that exhibit the highest quality in their respective categories. Best of Class wines will receive a “descriptive on the merits of the wine” from the judging panel to be used by the fair and producer for publicity purposes.

Gold Medal is awarded to a wine that demonstrates its type and/or varietal character, balance, structure, and complexities to the highest standards.

Silver Medal is awarded to a wine reflecting the correct distribution of balance and character of its type or variety; a wine deemed to be well crafted and of excellent quality.

Bronze Medal is awarded to a wine that is true to its type or variety; a wine deemed to be well crafted and of good quality.

Sweepstakes Award is awarded to the winery with the highest placing wines in the competition. To be eligible a winery must enter a minimum of five wines. The winery will receive a special award as the "Winery of the year" for CCWC.

2011 – Hearst Ranch Winery
2021 – J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines
2013 - Eberle Winery
2014 – Hope Family Wines
2015 – Cass Winery
2016 – Robert Hall Winery
2017 – Halter Ranch

2018 – Cass Winery
2019 – Halter Ranch
2020 – Cass Winery
2021 – Pear Valley
2022 – Pear Valley
2023 - Could be You!

Food & Beverage Packaging Competition

The Food & Packaging competition is a competition based on the following categories: Most Evocative of the Central Coast, Modern Classic, Untraditional Modern Design, Artistic Brand Series
Best of Show, gold, silver and bronze medals

Entry in this competition is automatic by entry into the Central Coast Wine Competition and requires no additional fee or entry information.

Central Coast Wine Competition
Entry Checklist

- Complete the online registration. <https://cmsfw.fairwire.com/>
- Be sure to provide individuals name, title, and phone number to be contacted in case there are any questions, errors, or shipping problems.
- Early Bird Online Entry Registration Due by Sunday, May 21 \$65 per Entry
- Last Call Online Entry Registration Due by Tuesday, May 30 \$85 per Entry
Entry fees are non-refundable.
- Entries will be accepted between dates of Wednesday, May 31 and Wednesday, June 7
NO Saturday or Sunday Delivery

Judging – June 13 – 15, 2023

Shipping/Deliveries: No Saturday or Sunday Delivery

CCWC – Paso Robles Event Center
2198 Riverside Ave
Paso Robles, CA 93446

If Using USPS (Post Office)
CCWC – Paso Robles Event Center
P.O Box 8
Paso Robles, CA 93447

**Be sure to include (4) 750ml or (6) 375ml bottles of each wine entry.
Make sure to attach Packing List to outside of case highlighting the specific entries inside.**

For questions, please contact:
California Mid-State Fair
exhibits@midstatefair.com



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