

Special Contest – 33rd Annual Competition

WINEMAKING

Amateur Competition

Coordinator: Bernie Rooney, Oak Barrel Winecraft, Berkeley

Timeline & Rules

Entry Forms Due → On or before Friday, May 18, 5 pm, [Fair Office](#)
You may also enter online at [Marinfair.org](#)

Deliver Wine → On or before Friday, May 18, 5 pm, at one of the four locations listed below

Note: Submit a copy of your Entry Form with wine

Entry Limit → None

Entry Fee → \$10 per Entry - \$4 per Entry for Wine Labels

Wine Receiving Locations:

- [Marin County Fair Office](#) ----- 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, CA
415.473.7048
- [Oak Barrel Winecraft](#)----- 1443 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, CA
510.849.0400
- [Napa Fermentation Supplies](#) ----- 575 Third Street, Napa, CA
Building A, inside Fairgrounds 707.255.6372
- [The Beverage People](#)----- 1845 Piner Road, Suite D, Santa Rosa, CA
707.544.2520

Judging → Ribbon Awards – Saturday, May 26, 10 am

Selection of Best of Show Awards → Saturday, June 2

Announcement of Awards → Saturday, June 23 at
[oakbarrel.com](#)

Wine Displayed at Fair → Saturday, June 30 through
Wednesday, July 4, Exhibit Hall

Exhibits Released → Thursday, July 5, 12 Noon to 7 pm, Exhibit Hall

Ribbons & Scorecards Mailed → Wednesday, July 11

ALL EXHIBITS NOT PICKED UP ON JULY 5 WILL BE DESTROYED.

1. Local and State Rules govern this Competition.
2. Competition is open to all amateur winemakers over 21 years of age. Amateur is defined as a person who does not hold an enology degree, and who makes wine only non-commercially, without assistance from any commercial winemaking facility. No commercial wines may be entered in this competition.
3. Wines are to be bottled & labeled in 750 milliliter or fifth bottles, except Dessert Wines & Ciders which may be entered in 375 milliliter or tenth bottles.
4. **Exhibitors must provide two bottles of wine in each class entered.**
Bottles not used in the judging may be claimed by the exhibitor at the end of the Fair. Entries will be displayed during the Fair and should be properly labeled with the exhibitor's name, division, and class prior to delivery.

5. A written critique of each wine will be made available to each entrant.
6. Every effort will be made to judge similar wines together. Exhibitors are requested to provide adequate information on bottle labels to allow categorization, and it is particularly helpful if sweetness is indicated as sweet, off-dry, or dry. Judges reserve the right to reclassify wines to facilitate judging.
7. The Marin County Fair or its representatives retains the right to refuse or disqualify any entries that do not meet the specifications of the rules of competition.
8. The Danish System of Judging will be used in judging for ribbon awards. Each wine will be judged against established standards of commercial quality, rather than how it compares with the other exhibits. Under this system, it is possible that all, or no, entries could win any given ribbon. Blue Ribbon winners will, however, be judged comparatively for the Best of Show awards. Wines will be judged by professional standards.
9. For further information contact the Fair Manager at 415.473.7048.

■ Judging Scale-Danish System ■		
<u>QUALITY</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>RIBBON</u>
1st Group - Superior	92%-100%	Blue
2nd Group - Good	84%-91%	Red
3rd Group - Average	70%-83%	White

Division 11 Red Wines

Entry Fee – \$10 per entry

Class

- 1 Cabernet Sauvignon, 2012 and older
- 2 Cabernet Sauvignon, 2013 and younger
- 3 Merlot
- 4 Pinot Noir
- 5 Syrah
- 6 Zinfandel
- 7 Red Blend
- 8 Rosés and Pinks, please specify kind on entry form
- 9 Any other Red Grape, please specify kind on entry form

Division 12 White Wines

Entry Fee – \$10 per entry

Class

- 10 Chardonnay
- 11 Sauvignon Blanc
- 12 Any other White Grape(s), please specify kind on entry form

Division 13 Dessert Wines

Entry Fee – \$10 per entry

Class

- 13 Late Harvest
- 14 Port
- 15 Sherry
- 16 Dessert Wines, any other, please specify kind on entry form

Division 14 Fruit Wines**Entry Fee – \$10 per entry****Class**

17 Fruit Wines, all types, please specify kind on entry form

Division 15 Mead Wines**Entry Fee – \$10 per entry****Class**

18 Traditional Mead (Dry, Semi-Sweet, Sweet), please specify on entry form

19 Melomel, Fruit Mead – Cyser (Apple), Pyment (Grape) & Other Fruit, please specify on entry form

20 Mead Wines, any other, Metheglin, Braggot, etc., please specify on entry form

Division 16 Sparkling Wines**Entry Fee – \$10 per entry****Class**

21 Sparkling Wines, all types, please specify kind on entry form

Division 17 *New!* Ciders**Entry Fee – \$10 per entry****Class**

22 Ciders, all types, please specify kind on entry form

Division 18 Wine Labels**Entry Fee – \$4 per entry****Class**

23 Submit your original label affixed to a piece of card stock or any other stiff paper. Labels will be judged on originality, creativity, readability, etc.

Danish System of Judging - Awards Offered per Class**1st Place, 2nd Place, 3rd Place & Honorable Mentions –
Rosette Ribbons (Awarded at the discretion of the Judges)****Best Entry of Each Class (Classes 1 through 22)
will receive \$10 & Rosette Ribbon****Best of Show Awards****Overall Best of Show ----- \$100 & Plaque****Best Red or Pink Wine ----- \$50 & Rosette Ribbon****Best White Wine ----- \$50 & Rosette Ribbon****Red & White Wine Best of Show Awards***sponsored by ~* **Chris & Cynthia Haeuser, San Rafael****Best Dessert or Fruit Wine ----- \$50 & Rosette Ribbon****Best Mead Wine ----- \$50 & Rosette Ribbon****Best Sparkling Wine or Cider ----- \$50 & Rosette Ribbon****Best Wine Label ----- \$25 & Rosette Ribbon**