**Sacramento Home Winemakers**

**Winemaker of the Year Selection Criteria**

The Rex Johnston Home Winemaker of the Year (WoY) award encourages excellence in wine making among all club members.  One of the best measures of excellence is the opinion of qualified judges in a structured competition environment.  Accordingly, the following criteria were adopted by the Executive Board on July 1, 2009, and amended on April 11, 2012, May 2, 2021, October 10, 2022, and January 1, 2025.

The annual winner of the **Winemaker of the Year** (WoY) award shall be the entrant(s) who accrues the most Average Points in the Award Year. All entrants must meet entry requirements as specified below. The competition proceeds when a minimum of two (2) entrants submits applications for WoY.

**Definitions**

* Award Year - competitions entered January 1 through November 30 of the year being considered.  A competition is considered to have been in the Award Year if the actual judging is conducted and awards given during the Award Year.
* Total Points - The sum of the Points awarded to all non-excluded wines submitted to the required competitions to be considered for WoY.
* Average Points – Total Points ÷ Total Number of non-excluded Entries

**Note:** See below for Average Points and Total Points calculations

**Qualifications and Entry Requirements**

* Candidates must be members of SHW in good standing who are not the owners, winemakers or employees of licensed/bonded winemaking concerns, except as set forth below.
* Candidates who are owners, winemakers or employees of commercial winemaking concerns, but who are otherwise qualified, may submit wines for competition provided that such wines were made and bottled prior to the effective date of the winery being bonded.
* Candidates certify that the wines they submit for competition are 100% homemade wines created by the candidate without any hands-on assistance from a commercial winemaking concern as described above.  However, consultation with commercial winemakers and educators is encouraged by the club.
* When entering this competition as a team (two or more winemakers who have made the wines together), the team must enter all three qualifying competitions with the same team members and same team name. Every member of the team must be SHW members.
* Candidates must compete in a minimum of three (3) recognized wine competitions during the Award Year.  Regardless of the number of competitions entered, the results of only three competitions may be entered in the WoY competition.
* Among the recognized competitions entered for 2024, the two required competitions are the **SHW Jubilee Wine Competition** and the **California State Fair Home Wine Competition**.
* A minimum of two (2) separate and distinct wines, varietal/blend and/or vintage must be entered in all three (3) of the competitions for consideration of WoY. These wines cannot be excluded from consideration as defined below. See the Example below.
* Candidates can submit any number of wines to the competitions being considered.

**Entry Form – Complete and Submit**

* Use the WoY entry form to submit your WoY entry. Download the 2-page entry form from the SHW website.
* In addition to the SHW Jubilee Wine Competition and CA State Fair Home Wine competitions, indicate your third competition.
* Enter the two required entry wines (the same two entry wines are entered in all 3 competitions) in rows A and B.
* Enter all of the entry wines you submitted for each of the 3 competitions with the entry wines’ corresponding awards. If any of the entry wines were awarded a Best of Division (BoD), please indicate. Unsure? Contact the Chief Judge.
* Decide which entry wines you wish to exclude (see Exclusions below) and indicate as such.
* Entries must be received by the Chief Judge **by 5 pm on November 30** of the year being considered.

**Scoring**

Points are awarded as follows

No award – 0

Honorable Mention 10

Bronze Award – 20

Silver Award 30

Gold Award 40

Double Gold Award 50

**Exclusions**

* Poorly performing/scoring wines in a competition can pull down the overall WoY point total. To offset this, the following encourages club members to enter multiple wines in a competition without the consequence of being penalized by poorly scoring wine entries:
  + When 4 wines are entered in a competition, 1 wine may be excluded
  + When 5 wines are entered in a competition, 2 wines may be excluded
  + When more than 5 wines are entered in a competition, 3 wines may be excluded

The sum of points of non-excluded entry wines from all 3 competitions = **Total Points**.

Total Points divided by the number of non-excluded wine entries = **Average Points**.

**The Winemaker of the Year is the entrant who earns the highest Average Points.** The “Best of Division” as defined by SHW, or equal shall be used for tiebreakers. Should a tie still exist between contestants, multiple WoY awards will be awarded.

* Entries must be received by the Chief Judge **by 5 pm on November 30** of the year being considered.
* The Chief Judge will verify all entries and submit the top scorer and all applications to the President for review and approval.
* The scores of all candidates will be publicized to club members.

All questions can be directed to Chief Judge Gin Yang at [ginyangstaehlin@yahoo.com](mailto:ginyangstaehlin@yahoo.com).

**Example**

Competition A: Competition B: Competition C:

Wine A Wine A Wine A

Wine B Wine B Wine B

Wine C Wine D Wine E

Wine F Wine F

In this Example:

* Wines A and B are the required wine entries and included in all 3 competitions.
* 11 total wines have been submitted and one (1) wine from Competitions B and C may be excluded except for Wines A or B bringing the total to 9.