

2020 Montana Grape and Winery Association People's Choice Wine Competition

Annual wine competition for MTGWA members



Since its inception, the People's Choice Competition has been an opportunity for MTGWA members to gather and share professional and amateur wines, meads, and ciders made in Montana. At each gathering, winemakers have shared a cornucopia of adult beverages, hand-crafted and delectable in nature (ok, some not so delectable). It is our annual opportunity to compare our efforts with others of a similar category, in a blind-format; and most of all to have fun while also learning tips and tricks to improve.

Rod and Linda Allen have once again taken up the gauntlet to produce this awesome gathering and testing of our abilities. Please share your made-in-Montana beverages with pride and the spirit of camaraderie that has been a hallmark of the People's Choice Competition since 2016.

Rules for the 2020 MTGWA Conference People's Choice wine competition and wine tasting March 5, 2020

1. No kit wines to be entered. Variety blends are ok.
2. Contest open to any member aged 21+ years, amateur or commercial. Entering winemakers must be members of MTGWA and must have made the entered wine.
3. Three wines may be entered in the competition per membership in the MTGWA. Additional wines may be entered at \$5.00/bottle. Members not attending the Conference may enter wines at \$15.00/bottle.
4. Bottles must be labeled with winemaker's name, variety(s), and vineyard/orchard, etc. and with the required forms available at the contest. Bottles will be covered and placed in the category chosen. Do not identify your covered bottle(s) to anyone. Be an impartial judge.
5. Vote once for each category you judge (any or all). Which wine are best in each category? You be the judge. All contest attendees, including speakers are eligible to judge. Complete judging before going to the open tasting with labels revealed (see rule 9 below).
6. First, second and third place awards will be presented at the Friday banquet. Grower of the year, winemaker of the year and best of show wine awards will be based on the number of votes accumulated in the contest.
7. In case of ties, winner will be determined by coin flip. In any dispute, entrants and members agree by entering that the decisions of the MTGWA board of directors are final. The purpose of this competition is to promote Montana wineries, cideries, winemakers and vineyards etc. and to **have fun.**
8. All entries will be exposed at the end of judging, with numbers to remain on the bottle. Entrants will be responsible for clearing their wine and bottles from the room at the end of the People's Choice competition.
9. Open wine tasting with winemaker's labels revealed will be held in an adjacent area for those who have completed judging or do not wish to judge. Any member can share a labeled wine for the open wine tasting.
10. Categories for the competition:
 1. White /Rose Native-American or French Hybrid.
 2. Other white wines, open class, hybrid or vinifera.
 3. Red Native-American or French Hybrid.
 4. Other red wines open class, hybrid or vinifera.
 5. Cider.
 6. Other fruit wines.
 7. Meads.
 8. Dessert/other fortified wines.