

### ARTICLE 1: SUBJECT

The Vinalies® by Cœnologues de France competitions (Vinalies Internationales, Vinalies France, Vinalies Mondial du Rosé) are organized by Cœnologues de France, 21-23 rue de Croulebarbe 75013 PARIS (France), referred to as an “organizer” in these regulations.

They are open to wines originating from all French and/or foreign wine-growing regions, as well as to other derived beverages and spirits. The general provisions of the Consumer Code shall be applied for the aforementioned "other beverages", particularly in respect of the fair competition.

The objectives of the organizer are as follows:

- Recognize and promote the excellence of the intrinsic properties of the products.
- Generally promote the excellence of French products (both in mainland France and overseas departments and territories) and foreign (predominantly European) products which have reached an optimal level of taste expression.

The Vinalies® by Cœnologues de France competitions are organized in accordance with the regulations set forth below. These rules are available to any interested party on the website dedicated to the competition.

In this context, the organizer has the following missions:

- Make the guidelines and rules of the competition widely known;
- Collect the reports of the Jury members;
- Organize the presentation of the work and the announcement of the results;
- Facilitate the tasks of the juries and coordinate those of the external actors participating in the implementation of the competition.

### ARTICLE 2: BENEFICIARIES

Participants from all regions of France are admitted to the **Vinalies France** competition and participants from all countries of the world, including France, are admitted to the **Vinalies Internationales** and **Vinalies Mondial du Rosé** competitions:

- Winemakers,
- Wine cooperatives,
- Unions of cooperatives,
- Production groups,
- Manufacturers and wine shippers,
- Wine shippers,
- Importers or distributors.

### ARTICLE 3: CONDITIONS OF ADMISSION

The conditions for admission to the Vinalies® by Cœnologues de France competitions are as follows:

- **Packaged wines:**
  - Produced from a homogeneous batch intended for consumption and shipped with the final marketing packaging (labelled in accordance with the applicable regulations of the production country).

A homogeneous batch is understood as a set of commercial units of pre-packaged wine or containers with bulk wine, which were produced and, where applicable, packaged under practically identical conditions and has similar organoleptic and analytical characteristics.

- **Wines packaged in wine bottles (Bag-in-Box® type).**
- **Bulk wines:**
  - The wines must be shipped in their future marketing packaging (labelled in accordance with the current national regulations). The tank number, the quantity in a tank and the batch number (if already assigned) must be entered upon registration.

These competitions are open to all wines which comply with European and French standards and/or meet the definition of the International Code of Oenological Practices of the International Organization of Vine and Wine, as well as to the following products: cider/perry, cider/ice perry, spirits distilled from the products, other than grapes, and flavoured fermented alcoholic drinks. All these products must bear the indication of the country of origin where the raw materials were harvested and vinified.

For wines produced in France, only those covered by a Protected Designation of Origin or a Protected Geographical Indication, including the declaration of claim as provided for in Articles D.644-5 and D.646-6 of the Rural and Maritime Fishing Code, may participate in the competition.

Among the wines bearing no geographical indication and presented with an indication of vintage or grape variety, only those ones whose vintage or grape variety has been certified in accordance with the provisions of Article R.665-24 of the Rural and Maritime Fishing Code, may participate in the competition.

Wines bearing no protected geographical indication and presented without mention of grape variety or vintage, must provide a declaration of claim (volume/surface).

In all cases, a wine maker (see the list of beneficiaries, Art. 2) can present wine under the trademark only if it explicitly belongs to him.

The competing wine must originate from a homogeneous batch intended for consumption and be available in a quantity of at least 1000 L. Smaller volumes, however greater than 100 L, may be admitted if the production is particularly low. The origin must be mentioned on these bottles.

Marketing labels must comply with:

- The regulations applicable for French wines in France,
- Community regulations for the Member States of the European Union,
- The regulations applicable in the country of production and the import provisions for the third countries (provided that there are no restrictions imposed by decrees, laws or agreements between these countries and France).

### ARTICLE 4: SAMPLES

**Each sample must be presented under the following conditions:**

- **4 bottles** of approximately 0.5 L to 1 L per sample for **international competitions** and **3 bottles** for **Vinalies France**
- 6 bottles, if the capacity is less than 0.5 L
- 3 wine bottles of 5 L maximum.

**The bottles will be marked with their marketing labelling (front + back label if necessary)**

Each sample must be delivered at the designated location by the date specified on the website; otherwise it will be rejected and will not be refunded by the organization.

Shipping shall be performed at the expense of the competition participants and at their own risk. Any samples shipped with postage due will not be accepted. **As for shipments from overseas, the consignor bears the entirety of the costs incurred for customs clearance, and all shipments must comply with DDP Incoterms 2010.** The organizer receives the samples and the registration fees, and after verification he rejects those ones which do not comply with these regulations. In this case, the organizer shall inform the competition participant about the rejection of his samples from the competition(s).

**The consignor shall affix an identification label bearing the registration number assigned by the organizer to each wine on each box and each bottle in order to ensure traceability during the acceptance control.**

The organizer ensures the representativeness of the samples by checking the consistency of the information provided (exact name/brand of the presented product, appellation, cuvée, colour, vintage, batch number) on the selected bottles and the information transmitted during registration (appellation, cuvée, colour, vintage, batch number, as well as the analysis report).

For bulk products, the sample bottles must include the batch number or the tank number indicating the exact amount in the tank of their origin as well as the date of sampling. The rewards will be attributed specifically to the tank or the batch presented.

Any sample submitted to the competition is representative of the batch to which it belongs. When a batch of the presented product is stored in bulk in different containers, the sample presented to the competition shall be composed of the blend of samples taken from each of the containers and collected in proportion to the volumes of these containers, according to the final blend and its expected final quantity.

Samples which do not comply with the requirements will not be returned and they will remain in the property of the organizer. The organizer is fully responsible for the presentation and tasting. The organizer alone shall be competent to resolve any disputes.

### ARTICLE 5: REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT

**The registration file consists of the following documents:**

- The **registration form to be completed is available on the dedicated website** (one per sample)
- An **analysis report (certified by COFRAC for French wines)** of less than one year, accompanied by a **corresponding certificate of conformity** - a reference thereto is made in the COFRAC analysis (**for French wines**) for each sample submitted, - which additionally specifies the elements allowing it to be identified (a batch number or a tank number are obligatory), and contains the following information:
  - Alcoholic strength acquired at 20 °C in% vol.,
  - Potential alcoholic strength at 20 °C in% vol.,
  - Sugars (glucose + fructose) in g/L,
  - Total acidity in meq/L,
  - Volatile acidity in meq/L,
  - Total sulphur dioxide in mg/L,
  - Overpressure in Bars at 20°C for sparkling and semi-sparkling wines.

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- **For French wines**, the **declaration of claim** (for PDO<sup>1</sup> and for PGI<sup>2</sup>) or the application for certification (for wines bearing no protected geographical indication and presented with an indication of vintage or grape variety) or the harvest declaration,
- **A marketing label, bearing all the legal notices, per sample** (front and back labels, if necessary). The label must correspond to the vintage presented, if it is a vintage wine.
- **Payment of registration fees** (one payment per company name only, even for several samples.) - The applicable rates and the terms of payment are available on the dedicated website.

Bank charges shall not be covered by the organizer. The organizer retains the registration fee. Under no circumstances will the payment be refunded, regardless of the reasons for cancelling the registration.

- **Summary of the registration form:**

All competitions		French producers	Foreign producers
	Registration Form	✓	✓
	Analysis Report	✓ COFRAC	✓
	Certificate of conformity (mentioned in the COFRAC analysis)	✓	
	Declaration of claim (PDO/PGI) Application for certification or harvest declaration (If not PDO/PGI)	✓	
	Marketing label	✓	✓
	Payment	✓	✓

- ❖ Payment methods (supporting documents must be attached to the registration form):
  - By check payable to CEnologues de France
  - By credit card (Visa, Mastercard, Eurocard) directly on the competition website
  - By bank transfer

**Any registration form incomplete to the date of the competition will be rejected.**

### ARTICLE 6: ORGANIZATION OF TASTINGS

The physical organization of the tastings, both locally and nationally, is carried out by the Union of French Oenologists and through delegation at one of its regional offices.

<sup>1</sup> PDO - Product of Designated Origin

<sup>2</sup> PGI - Protected Geographical Indication

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The products will be tasted according to their category (origin or type of wine), samples will be previously placed in identical packaging concealing their shape and thus guaranteeing their anonymity.

If for certain categories the minimum number of participants in category (3) is not reached, the organizer reserves the right to group together several categories characterized by common identifying elements.

Product reviews will be descriptive and include comments for:

- Visual aspect,
- Olfactory aspect,
- Taste impression,
- General impression.

The organizer appoints a jury from a predetermined list of tasters. The jury is mainly composed of French oenologists (and foreigner oenologists for international competitions). The presidency rightfully belongs to a French oenologist, a member of the Union of French Oenologists.

The jury members, who are not oenologists, are selected for their skills from a number of recognized tasting experts originating from a wide variety of fields such as production, marketing, consumption, communication, etc.

The organizer takes appropriate measures to prevent a participant or a member of the jury from evaluating his own wines or wines with which he has any relationship. For this purpose, he collects the declarations of honour from the jury members indicating their direct or indirect relationship with the wines presented at the competition. Tastings can be public at the discretion of the organizer. Jury meetings are held secretly.

- **For international competitions:**

The total number of international jurors is set according to the number of samples presented. The organizer will apply the current OIV rules regarding the number of the jury members. It presently consists of at least 5 jury members, most of whom are oenologists and members of the Œnologues de France:

- 3 foreign jurors
- 2 French jurors.

The Chairman (a French oenologist) manages the course of the tasting, ensures the overall workflow of the jury and summarizes the tasting comments for the award-winning products, assisted by a deputy (appointed according to the sessions) in the drafting.

The tasting sheet used is a model approved by the Union of French Oenologists, the International Organization of Vine and Wine, the International Union of Oenologists and VINO FED.

- **For national competitions:**

The organizer forms juries which each will include at least 3 oenologist jurors. These members of the jury are subordinate to the Chairman, who manages the course of the tasting, ensures the general workflow of the jury together with the organizer, and summarizes and then records the results of the tasting and the comments on each award-winning product, together with his deputy.

The tasting sheet used is a model approved by the Union of French Oenologists, the International Organization of Vine and Wine and the International Union of Oenologists and VINO FED.

- **Commissioner General:**

The organizer ensures the proper running of the Vinalies® by Cœnologues de France and appoints an independent general commissioner who is not involved in the organization but can participate in the tastings.

The latter is responsible for verifying compliance with the regulations, sample preparation, organizing and conducting the tasting and its judgment using the appropriate sheet, monitoring, exploitation, and publishing the results.

- **Questions of the candidates:**

Any questions of the candidates concerning the tastings, their organization and the results of the competition must be submitted to the organizer.

If applicable, the organizer will post the question raised and the response given on the competition website, or will possibly sent an E-mail with the answer directly to the interested candidate.

The provisions contained in the documents submitted to candidates upon registration and, if applicable, the information subsequently provided on the competition website or in writing, intrinsically determine the scope of the competition.

The only contact for candidates is the organizer. Under no circumstances shall the candidates be authorized to directly contact the members of the jury or to the Commissioner General.

### **ARTICLE 7: REWARDS**

The organizer will award prizes in the limits of 30% for each category. These awards are split between Vinalies® Gold and Silver, taking into account, that within the Vinalies® Gold, if the rating warrants it, the Vinalies® Grand Gold may be awarded. These prizes are awarded in accordance with OIV 332A- 2009 and subsequent resolutions. No distinction can be awarded, if less than three separate participants compete in the same category (origin or type of the product).

The results will be officially published on the completion of the Vinalies® by Cœnologues de France competition on the dedicated websites. Each participant will be notified later. The organizer issues the winners a diploma and a document indicating the name of the competition, the nature of the distinction awarded and the score obtained, the product designation, the declared volume, the category in which the product competed as well as the name and the address of its owner.

Badges and visuals (ordering and requesting reproduction rights from the organizer) are available for the award-winning products; their sale is limited to the volume of the product declared at registration. **Any other representation of the reward received is prohibited.**

For the Vinalies France, Vinalies Internationales and Vinalies Mondial du Rosé competitions, different palms may be awarded on the following conditions:

- ✓ That the registered wines, spirits and by-products were awarded a Grand Gold medal
- ✓ That the number of wines, spirits or by-products participating in this award exceeds 15 samples.

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In no case shall the palm be added to the number of award-winning wines; it actually forms a part thereof. Unlike the medal-awarded products, the distinction of the palm-awarded products cannot be indicated on the label. These products will benefit from special communication (specific diploma, press media, Internet, specialized websites, etc.)

Vinalies® by Cœnologues de France results will be distributed as widely as possible in the form of ranking on dedicated websites and social networks.

Any distribution of information about the awarded prizes, in whatever form, is strictly prohibited prior to their official announcement. Any misuse of a reward may be the subject to a summons of the offender to a Disciplinary Committee appointed by the organizer.

The jury's decisions are ultimate and cannot be the subject of any complaints.

Only the winners of the competition may declare their award(s) and use the corresponding distinctive signs. It is therefore prohibited to assign, sell or transfer the reward for the use to any third party, both physical and legal.

### **ARTICLE 8: MONITORING**

The organizer remains competent to resolve any disputes. He may carry out an analytical control test for several samples in an approved laboratory for oenological analysis, and reserves the right to take whatever action he deems necessary.

At least two months before the tasting, he shall inform the DIRECCTE/DREETS of the region where the final competition is implemented, about the place and date of the tasting, and attach these regulations thereto.

Within two months after the competition the organizer submits a signed report, certifying that the competition was held in accordance with the provisions of the regulations and specifying the information below to the relevant regional DIRECCTE/DREETS:

- The number of samples submitted for the competition in general and by category,
- Number of samples awarded in general and by category,
- List of samples awarded and elements for each of them to identify the product and its owner, batch number and declared quantity,
- The percentage of award-winning wines compared to the number of wines presented,
- The number of distinctions awarded and their distribution by type of distinction.

Samples of each award-winning product will be kept by the holder and organizer of the competition for one year from the date of the competition, and their registration forms and associated analysis reports will be kept for five years.

These samples, their registration forms and analysis reports will be made available to the monitoring services. The organizer reserves the exclusive right to monitor the commercial use of the awards.

### **ARTICLE 9: CASE OF FORCE MAJEURE AND MODIFICATIONS**

If an event beyond the control of the organizer interferes with the proper running of the competition, he can in no way be held liable.

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He reserves the right to cancel the competition, modify the originally scheduled date, shorten or extend its duration, change the conditions or its course in the event of force majeure (pandemic/epidemic, fire, natural disaster, strike, terrorist attack, refusal of a service provider, etc.), an event beyond the scope of his responsibility or reasonable necessity. No participant can claim his responsibility.

Additionally, the organizer cannot be held liable in the event of theft, loss, delay or damage to samples upon delivery.

In order to take into account the general measures necessary to deal with an epidemic or a case of force majeure (in the context of a health emergency), the organizer shall take the most appropriate measures.

As for the conduct of Vinalies® France, he reserves the right to organize a single phase of regional tastings, at the end of which the prizes will be awarded. If this is the case, the quota of 30% per category of award-winning wines will be applied at the regional level.

When conducting international competitions, the organizer will follow the rules published by the OIV and Vinofed, depending on the applicable sanitary conditions, with a particular regard to the composition of the jury, without prejudice to the provisions of the Decree of 13 February 2013 setting forth the conditions of registration for French wine competitions specified in the list of French wine competitions, the medals for which may appear on labels of the wines produced in France.

### **ARTICLE 10: PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION AND USE OF COLLECTED DATA**

In fact, it includes reading and acceptance of these rules (the participant confirms having read the regulations related to the organization of Vinalies and having read the organizer's data management policy within the context of the competition).

In particular, by agreeing to participate in the competition, the candidates allow, within the scope of the organizer's communication policy, the royalty-free use of their participation in the competition (presentation of the candidate, tasting, ceremony, etc.) for any subsequent transmission and reporting in the media as well as for the public broadcasting of such participation.

By accepting these rules and regulations, the candidates also grant the organizer the right to record their voice and/or their image, and the right to reproduce and distribute them in any media as part of the competition promotion.

With regard to the use of data, CEnologues de France®, the organizers of the Vinalies® competitions, undertake not to share or sell the data of the participants for commercial or marketing purposes.

CEnologues de France is at the disposal of the participants for any information regarding the security and justification for the personal data collection and storage period within the context of the competition referred to in these regulations.

- **Data storage period:**

All personal data collected in connection with participation in the Vinalies® by CEnologues de France contests will be stored.

Find all the information about the rights and the collected data on the website  
<https://www.vinalies-internationales.com/fr/donnees-personnelles>.