

GILBERT GAILLARD

INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE

Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge Rules

Article 1: Purpose

The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge (in French Challenge International Gilbert & Gaillard) is an international competition organised globally by Wine Tasting and Trading Ltd, hereafter referred to as 'The Organising Company' under the Gilbert & Gaillard brand name. The Challenge is designed to award accolades, or not, to wines, spirits and other fruit-based or fermented cereal drinks (ciders, perries, beers...), from around the world that have reached optimal flavour expression. The 'Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge' is governed by the rules set out below.

NB: As an international competition organised by a company based outside France, the Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge is not governed by the 13 February 2013 decree. It therefore does not feature on the list of French wine competitions published in the official competition, consumption and trading standards bulletin. The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge began trading on January 1, 2018. It is in no way a continuation of the International Gilbert & Gaillard Competition organised by Vinipresse, which ended on 31 December 2017.

Article 2: Eligibility

The following are entitled to participate in the Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge:

- Producers-growers,
- Co-operatives,
- Co-operative groups,
- Producers' groups,
- Trading companies
- Manufacturers

Article 3: Conditions for entry

3.1. General conditions

Conditions for entering the Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge are as follows:

- a) The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge is open to products from around the world listed in article 1 (and designated for the sake of convenience in these rules by the term 'product') that are covered by a protected designation of origin, a protected geographical

indication or a name recognised in their country of origin. If they have no designation, they must meet international technical, health and labelling standards.

(b) 'Products' entered must come from a consistent batch designed for consumption. In the case of 'products' other than wine that do not have a PDO or PGI that are sold under a trademark, the sample entered must come from a batch that is representative of that trademark and its specifications.

The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge is open:

- To 'products' packaged in bottles,
- To 'products' packaged in bag-in-boxes
- To bulk 'products'.

If the 'product' is not packaged or does not have its final packaging at the time of entry in the International Challenge, the brand(s), the precise name and the designation under which it will be marketed and its container, the volume and the batch number must be clearly specified. If a medal is won and medal stickers are ordered, the final label(s) will be required as well as the quantity of the packaged batch, which must match the volume declared at the time of registration.

c) The minimum available volume for a competing 'product' must be 600 litres.

3.2 Samples

Each sample is entered in the following conditions:

- 2 bottles containing approximately 0.5 L to 1 L per sample, or 2 pouch-like formats containing no more than 5 L (such as bag-in-boxes).
- Shipping is at the competitors' expense and at their own risk.
- Any sample sent postage due will be rejected.

The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge takes delivery of the samples and entry fees and rejects those that do not comply with these rules. No non-compliant samples will be returned and the samples remain the property of the Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge.

3.3. Payment of registration fees

Entries can be registered on the Internet or by post. Registration fees are paid by cheque, credit card (Visa, Mastercard, Eurocard), bank transfer or Paypal as per the terms specified on the registration forms. Under no circumstances will payment be refunded.

3.4. Registration file

The registration file contains:

- The registration form (one per entry)
- An analysis report less than one year old, issued by a laboratory for each entry and containing, in addition to the details enabling it to be identified, the following information:

- The batch number or name. The batch volume (in number of bottles)
 - Acquired alcoholic strength 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
 - Excess pressure in bar for sparkling and semi-sparkling wines.
- One set of 3 labels per entry (matching the vintage entered). For unpackaged 'products', article 3.1 b applies.
 - Payment of the registration fees (one payment per company name, even for several entries).

Article 4: Tasting

4.1: Organisation conditions for the tasting

Samples are sent by producers to the address specified on the registration form, which can vary from one country to another.

Delivery is taken of them on arrival, they are registered and stored in air-conditioned facilities or cabinets. The samples are tasted by category (origin, type and colour) and in consistent price brackets. Prior to tasting, they are placed in identical packaging that conceals their shape and guarantees anonymity. The 'wines' are judged descriptively, including comments on:

- Visual appearance,
- Smell,
- Flavour impressions,
- Harmony,
- The typicity of the product.

The judges are selected from lists of industry members. They form panels chosen among specialised journalists, winemakers, sommeliers, etc. Judges are placed under the responsibility of a chair who runs the tasting process, handles the overall management of the panel, in liaison with the Organising Company, and summarises the tasting comments. The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge takes all appropriate measures to guarantee the samples remain anonymous and are treated equally.

The Organising Company ensures the Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge runs smoothly and checks compliance with the rules, preparation of the samples, organisation and execution of the tastings using the appropriate form, monitoring use and publication of the results.

4.2: Selecting 'products' and awarding medals

The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge comprises 4 sessions:

- Winter Session: from January to March
- Spring Session: from April to June

- Summer Session: from July to September
- Autumn Session: from October to December.

As an exception to the general rule for organising the sessions, and without wavering the other provisions of the Challenge, 'products' in the categories listed below may be tasted in advance by the panel from 1 December following their harvest, as part of the Challenge dated in the following year. A specific registration form is used for this early tasting.

For example, a 2020 vintage rosé wine, tasted on 1 December 2020, will be tasted and therefore take part in the 2021 Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge. To qualify for this exception to the rule, 'products' must meet the following criteria:

- Be registered in the following categories:
 - Rosé Wines
 - White Wines
 - Red Wines
- Be tasted in the year of their harvest, starting 1 December.
- In the event that a 'product' is awarded a medal by the panel, and that a medal sticker has been sold by the GGIC or its service providers, then displayed or incorporated into the bottle, the 'product' may only be made commercially available to the general public from 1 January of the year following its harvest.

For each of the sessions, the panel meets as many times as necessary and selects 'products' based on taste. At each tasting, a batch of 'wines' from the same category is presented to the panel. The panel deliberates and decides on the type of medal to be awarded to each 'product' and is entitled to mark it down if the sample and its duplicate entry show a fault.

Article 5: Awards

5.1: Description of the Awards and presentation of results

The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge awards the following accolades: Double Gold Medal, Gold Medal, Silver Medal and Bronze Medal. The 'products' scoring 90/100 or more are also eligible for a medal indicating the rating: 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100. Finally, 'Best Value' or 'Smart Buy' medals are awarded to 'products' offering value for money considered particularly appealing.

The Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge provides award-winners with a document specifying the type of distinction awarded, the identity of the 'product', the category in which it competed and the name of the marketer.

5.2: Medal stickers

Medal stickers are available from the Organising Company or commissioned service providers, for the award-winning 'products', in quantities matching the volume declared on the registration form.

5.3: Medals incorporated into labels

Award-winners can acquire the reproduction rights of GGIC medals from the Organising Company or its service providers. The reproduction rights of GGIC medals are also referred to as 'medals incorporated into the label'.

Printing of labels bearing any GGIC statement, logo, medal or rating must be carried out by a printer approved by the GGIC or its service providers. The list of approved printers is available in the winegrowers' area on the website, or upon request by the award-winner.

The process for purchasing medals incorporated into the label is invariably as follows:

- A duly completed and signed medal order form pertaining to an award-winning wine is sent to GGIC staff or its service providers, mentioning the approved printer chosen.
- Receipt of payment for the order is acknowledged by the GGIC's accounts department or that of its service providers.
- The order is confirmed by the GGIC, or its service providers, who contact the chosen approved printer.
- The approved printer sends the GGIC or its service providers a print approval, which must be scrutinised by Challenge staff.
- If the approved printer gets positive feedback, he/she is then entitled to start printing a label bearing any GGIC statement, logo, medal or rating.

Any other representation of the award obtained which does not meet the above-mentioned reproduction criteria is prohibited under penalty of legal proceedings.

Article 6: Duration of use of medals:

For 'products' from a clearly identified batch (as with vintage wines in general and vintage 'products' labelled with a PDO or PGI in particular), the medal can be used until the batch has been entirely depleted. However, medals are only available for sale for three years after the annual Challenge has closed. Hence, a 2020 medal will only be available for sale until 31 December 2023.

For branded 'products', other than vintage-labelled wines and products labelled with a PDO or PGI (as with beers or ciders without a PDO or PGI and non-vintage brandies), the medal can be used for one year from the date it is awarded. Hence, a branded cider with no PDO or PGI that wins a medal on 30 June 2020 will be able to use it on the relevant 'product' if it is packaged before 30 June 2021.

These rules also apply to mentioning medals on marketing communication media (price lists, company brochures, etc.).

Article 7: Checks

The Organising Company remains competent to settle any disputes. Thus, the organisers do not exclude the possibility of commissioning an approved wine analysis laboratory to carry out analytical inspections on some award-winning entries and reserve the right to take any action they deem necessary.

Similarly, the Organising Company may randomly take samples of award-winning 'products' displaying medals at point of sale and conduct taste controls in order to check that the aroma and

flavour profile is consistent with that of the award-winning entry. The same checks may be carried out in the producer's and/or distributor's warehouses, particularly during pre-season storage, for example for a 'Christmas beer'. The Organising Company reserves the exclusive right to monitor the commercial use of the awards on behalf of the Gilbert & Gaillard Challenge International and, if necessary, to prosecute producers, marketers or printers guilty of fraud or counterfeiting. Fraud is understood to mean awarding medals to 'products' that have not obtained an accolade; counterfeiting is understood to mean printing or having Gilbert & Gaillard medals printed without the explicit agreement of the Organising Company as part of a strictly controlled process.

Article 8: Force majeure and changes

If an event beyond the control of the Organising Company should prevent the Challenge from running smoothly, the Organising Company cannot be held responsible in any way.

The Organising Company reserves the right to cancel the Challenge, to change the dates initially scheduled, to shorten it, to extend it, to modify the conditions or the running of the Challenge in the event of force majeure (epidemic, fire, natural disaster, strike, terrorist act, etc.), an event beyond its responsibility or justified necessity. The participant may not hold it liable for such events.

Furthermore, the Organising Company cannot be held responsible in the event of theft, loss, delay or damage in the shipping of samples.

Article 9: Taking part in the Gilbert & Gaillard International Challenge

Participation implies de facto acceptance of these rules.

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