



2026 MISSOURI WINE COMPETITION

Jim Anderson, Executive Director

Missouri Wine and Grape Board
Jefferson City, MO (800) 392-9463

July 14 - 16, 2026

2026 COMPETITION JUDGES

Doug Frost, Master Sommelier & Master of Wine, Kansas City, MO

Alisha Blackwell-Calvert, CSW Advanced Sommelier, St. Louis, MO

Anne Zwink, Winemaker & General Manager, Soldier Creek Winery, Fort Dodge, IA

Catherine Neville, tasteMAKERS Producer, St. Louis, MO

Jill Blume, Wine Educator & Enology Specialist, West Lafayette, IN

Mike Ward, CWE, WSET L2, St. Louis, MO

Andrey Ivanov, Master Sommelier, Mexico City, MX

Industry Judge: **Mike Riley**, Shamrock Hills Vineyard & Winery, Excelsior Springs, MO

AWARDS OFFERED

1. Governor's Cup
2. CV Riley Award for Best Norton
3. Husmann-Jaeger Award for Best White Varietal Wine
4. Best of Class for Dry White, Semi-dry White, Sweet White, Dry Red, Semi-dry Red, Sweet Red, Dry Rosé, Semi-dry Rosé, Sweet Rosé, Dessert/Fortified, Sparkling, Late Harvest/Ice, Distilled and Fruit Wine
5. Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals

RULES

1. Entry forms must be completed **online** by 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 12, 2026**. ***Entry forms must be filled out online in entirety or they will be rejected.***

2. There will be a flat \$50 entry fee for all entries. All entry fees will be administered by the Wine and Grape Board. Wineries that enter two (2) or more entries will get one (1) free entry. Limit one (1) free entry, for a \$50 total value. Minimum of two (2) total entries to participate. All wineries producing wine on-site are eligible.
3. ***TTB approved labels are required to be submitted***, with proof of authorization available upon request. Each wine entry must include the number of cases produced. Images or photocopies of labels are acceptable and may be emailed to ***missouri.wine@mda.mo.gov*** or delivered with your entries.
4. Wines must be shipped or delivered to a representative of the Wine & Grape Board at: University of Missouri, Grape and Wine Institute, c/o Missouri Wine Competition, 135 Eckles Hall, Columbia, MO 65211, and must be received by close of business (4:00 p.m.) on **Friday, June 26, 2026**. **The University will be closed in observance of Juneteenth on June 19, 2026.**
5. Infractions of rules and regulations will result in disqualification.
6. A winery may enter any wine so long as at least **22** cases of this same wine are bottled and available at the winery on August 13 (opening day of MO State Fair). Varietal entries must have the name of the variety on the label and may not be entered in a proprietary category. No winery may enter more than **three** wines in the “Out-of-state” class.
7. All entries must be produced in Missouri under a Missouri 22MS, LMS, or Domestic Wine License. ***If the wine label does not have the word(s) Missouri, and/or Missouri appellation of origin, in direct compliance as to TTB rules and regulations (Subpart D, 27 CFR section 4.20 through 4.39), that wine must be entered into the out-of-state category. Other than Mead, there will be no exceptions to this rule.***
8. All wine entries must be fermented at the entering winery, must meet state and federal standards and become the property of the Missouri Department of Agriculture.
9. **Four** bottles of all entries will be required. If packaging is smaller than 750mL please include **six** of each entry. Wineries may be required to provide **one** case of each gold medal winning wine for Missouri Wine and Grape Board promotional use.
10. The Wine and Grape Board will procure and distribute the official medals to be displayed on individual award-winning bottles.
11. Best of Class, Gold, Silver, and Bronze medal-winners will be announced following the competition.
12. All wines will be judged based on their merit for gold, silver, and bronze medals, according to judge’s discretion. Only “Missouri wine” gold medal winners will be considered for Best of Class and only Best of Class medal winners will be considered for the Governor’s Cup. Only Missouri wine is eligible for the Governor’s Cup. If a varietal has six or more entries, a special designation will be given to the highest awarded gold medal wine in each qualifying varietal category (i.e. Best Vidal, Best Norton/Cynthiana, etc.).

13. **Sweetness levels will be the responsibility of the entering winery. Each entry must contain the level of sweetness (example: .73%) on the entry form.** Award winning wines could be subject to laboratory analysis. Wines found to be miscategorized may be subject to disqualification.
14. Wines not classified elsewhere will be considered “specialty.” The contents of this wine must be made available upon entry form.
15. Judging by the vintage, type, style, classes, wine making techniques and/or the sub-division of classes will all be within the discretion of the superintendent of the wine judging.

WINE CATEGORIES

Dessert wines:	000 series
Distilled products:	100 series
Sparkling wines:	200 series
Red table wines:	300 series
White table wines:	400 series
Late Harvest wines (not fortified):	500 series
Pink Catawba & Rosé wines:	600 series
Natural fruit and flavored wines:	800 series
Out-of-state wines:	1000 series

SWEETNESS SCALE

Dry	Less than .70% residual sugar
Semi-dry	.71% - 3.0% residual sugar
Sweet	3.1% and over residual sugar

MISSOURI CLASSIFICATIONS

DESSERT WINES – FORTIFIED – SERIES 000

- 006 Port style
- 014 Sherry style
- 018 Other fortified dessert wine

DISTILLED PRODUCTS – SERIES 100

- 101 Grape or fruit based distilled products

SPARKLING WINES – SERIES 200

- 203 Natural (0% to 0.5% RS)
- 204 Brut (0.51% to 1.5% RS)
- 205 Dry (1.51% to 2.5% RS)
- 206 Extra dry (2.51% to 3.5% RS)
- 234 Sparkling fruit wines
- 235 Sparkling, other

RED TABLE WINES – SERIES 300

- 328 Chambourcin
- 333 Nouveau, all types
- 349 Norton/Cynthiana
- 390 Dry red blends, non-varietal (Claret, other than Meritage types) (Less than .70% RS)
- 391 Semi-dry red blends, non-varietal (.71-3.0% RS)
- 393 Sweet red table wine blends, non-varietal (3.1% and over RS)
- 397 All other red varietal wines not otherwise listed (Concord, etc.)

WHITE TABLE WINES – SERIES 400

- 403 Chardone1
- 470 Seyval Blanc
- 474 Vidal Blanc

- 475 Vignoles
- 476 Muscat varieties
- 477 Traminette
- 479 Dry white table wine blends, non-varietal labels (Less than .70% RS)
- 480 Semi-dry white table wine blends, non-varietal labels (.71-3.0% RS)
- 482 Sweet white table wine blends, non-varietal labels (3.1% and over RS)
- 484 All other white varietal wines not otherwise listed (Less than .70% RS)
- 485 All other white varietal wines not otherwise listed (.71-3.0% RS)
- 487 All other white varietal wines not otherwise listed (3.1% and over RS)

LATE HARVEST WINES – SERIES 500

- 504 Ice wine, specify varietal
- 511 Late Harvest, specify varietal

ROSÉ TABLE WINES – SERIES 600

- 600 Dry rosé (Less than .70% RS)
- 601 Semi-dry rosé (.71-3.0% RS)
- 603 Sweet rosé (3.1% and over RS)

NATURAL FRUIT WINES & FLAVORED WINES – SERIES 800

- 804 Pear
- 805 Apple
- 806 Peach
- 807 Apricot
- 808 Raspberry
- 809 Blackberry
- 811 Cherry
- 813 Other fruit wine, specify fruit on name field
- 814 Honey
- 817 Flavored grape wine
- 818 Flavored fruit wine

OUT-OF-STATE CLASSIFICATIONS

OUT-OF-STATE - SERIES 1000

- 1001 Out-of-state Dry red wines (Less than .70% RS)
- 1002 Out-of-state Semi-dry red wines (.71-3.0% RS)
- 1004 Out-of-state Sweet red wines (3.1% and over RS)
- 1005 Out-of-state Dry white wines (Less than .70% RS)
- 1006 Out-of-state Semi-dry white wines (.71-3.0% RS)
- 1008 Out-of-state Sweet white wines (3.1% and over RS)
- 1009 Out-of-state Dry rosé wines (Less than .70% RS)
- 1010 Out-of-state Semi-dry rosé (.71-3.0% RS)
- 1012 Out-of-state Sweet rosé (3.1% and over RS)
- 1013 Out-of-state Fruit wines
- 1014 Out-of-state Other wines