

2019 PA SOMMELIER JUDGMENT DAY

The Pennsylvania Winery Association (PWA) is excited to announce that Sommelier Judgment Day has returned for its 3rd year. Each year, the PWA works closely with Scott Zoccolillo of Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steak House as well as a handful of Sommeliers to bring together this program. PA Sommelier Judgment Day is not a competition but rather a marketing opportunity for your wines and for your winery.

As a wine buyer, it's extremely useful to see the wines that enter the PA Sommelier Judgment Day competition. It gives me a cross-section of what's currently being made in Pennsylvania and lets me compare the wines I already purchase to the new wines being presented. Each year, I discover at least one new winery to fall in love with and I get to learn about new things being grown in each of our specific microclimates. The competition gives me talking points for the entire year. I invariably end up mentioning it any time I get interviewed about PA wines or when I'm preaching the gospel of how great wines from Pennsylvania can be to my staff and to my guests. The wines we see at this competition are not just great PA wines, but also great examples of their respective grape variety, regardless of region or state.

- Alexandra Cherniavsky, The Love, Beverage Director

The wine(s) that you enter will be tasted and evaluated by a panel of 15 -20 Pennsylvania Sommeliers in a blind tasting. Sommeliers are only told of the varietal. Judges use criteria such as varietal correctness (color, bouquet, taste and finish) with a strong emphasis on final impression of the wine and balance; ripeness; and consideration of the winemaking decisions (chaptalization and acidification) and if any faults are present affecting the profile of the wine. Vinifera and Sparkling are only allowed to be submitted. Two bottles are required per entry, with a 10 entry maximum. Each wine MUST be labeled Pennsylvania Wine or AVA region according to TTB standards. Wine must currently be available to purchase by the public.

The Top 10 wines selected by the blind tasting as well as a selection of honorable mentions will be showcased at a private media event in October. The private media event will be held in Philadelphia this year. A best white, best red, and best overall wine are selected from the Top 10 and revealed at the private media event.

Sommeliers provide feedback on wines that are submitted, their feedback provides answers to questions such as:

- **What price range do you feel best reflects the quality of this wine?**
- **Is this wine varietal correct? If not, what is missing?**
- **Is this wine balanced? If not, what is out of balance?**
- **Are there wine faults? If so, what faults are there?**
- **Is this a wine you would consider for your program? Why or why not?**

In years past, media has picked up multiple stories in regard to Sommelier Judgment Day 2017 and 2018. Wineries have been featured on Forbes.com, Philly.com, LancasterOnline.com, LehighValleyStyle.com, Erie Times News, PennLive, Philadelphia Inquirer, Courier Post.

2019 SOMMELIER JUDGMENT DAY: ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019



- Submit two bottles per entry, Red, White, or Sparkling – 10 entries maximum
- Must be labeled Pennsylvania Wine or AVA region according to TTB standards
- Vinifera and Sparkling only: must be 75% of Vinifera in any wine submission
- Wine must be currently available to the public
- Must list the breakdown of the make-up of each wine in the section provided below
- MUST include PWA@pennsylvaniawine.com on your tracking email(s)

WINERY INFORMATION

Winery Name	
Winery Street Address	
Winery City, State, Zip	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
CONTACT NAME	

WINE SUBMISSION

WINE NAME (AS IT APPEARS ON LABEL)	VINTAGE	GRAPE VARIETIES USED: % (list all used, % used)	AVA (IF APPLICABLE)	PRICE

TOTAL WINES ENTERED _____ X \$35.00 PWA MEMBER TOTAL AMOUNT DUE _____
 TOTAL WINES ENTERED _____ X \$50.00 NON-MEMBER TOTAL AMOUNT DUE _____

Please send payment (check made payable to the PWA) and entry form to the PWA.

PWA, 411 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

Please send wine entries to the following address from Thursday, April 11 – Thursday, April 25

Wine entries may ONLY arrive Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

SWELL, LLC, 21 South 11th Street, Suite 523, Philadelphia, PA 19107