

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION
Council Meeting held Sunday, March 30, 2008
At the Italian Cultural Center, 3075 Slocan St., Vancouver

1. Welcome by President

Helmut Berner called the meeting to order and welcomed those present.

Attendance: Twelve members signed the attendance sheet. Seven clubs were represented. Mike Roman, Italvino, Joe Kecskes, Belcarra, Paul Arcand, VAWA, Fran Ayris, Zymurgy, Steven Hill, ICWC, George Gibson, Nanaimo, Kent Curley, Vinovan

2. Toast by Host Club

Steven Hill gave a welcoming toast with a little history on the tradition of the toast.

3. Approval of Agenda *Approved*

4. Approval of the October Council Meeting minutes *Approved*

5. Reports

a) Treasurer's Report: (John Matkovich) see attached *Approved*

A copy of the treasurer's report was circulated at the meeting and approved.

b) Guild Master's Report (Sam Hauck)

The Victoria guild has successfully attracted some new members. However, there is still a need for members to become judges particularly on the mainland.

To assist wine stewards at the local competition level, it was suggested an updated list of judges be placed on the BCAWA website.

ACTION: Sam will update the judges list.

c) Provincial Steward's Report (Mike Roman)

Information regarding the provincial competition is now on the BCAWA website. The information includes drop off points for entry wines, prices for competition and banquet, date, time etc.

d) National Director's Report (George Gibson) see attached

George confirmed that Vinovan will host the 2009 AWC competition.

6. New Business

a) Scoreless comment sheets: The scoreless sheets were generally well received. However, some concern was expressed over the lack of specific comments. A committee to discuss the merits of both systems and to standardize a judging form for all competitions was suggested.

ACTION: Sam will take this suggestion to the guild for discussion.

b) BCAWA wine seminar: The wine seminar was a big success with many good comments coming from the participants. Member clubs thanked BCAWA for the excellent DVD's sent to club representatives for circulation among members who could not attend. A suggestion that this become a yearly event sponsored by BCAWA as part of their education program was put forward. The proposal will be reviewed at a future council meeting.

Sam thanked MC, Paul Arcand, and the members of the committee for a job well done.

Comment from the organizers was the difficulty finding speakers for the event.
ACTION: Steve Hill volunteered to make a list of available speakers and post it on the BCAWA web page. If you have suggestions for speakers please contact Steve sjhill@shaw.ca

c) 2010 Provincial Competition: BCAWA is seeking a host club for 2010.

d) Conflicting competition dates: This year BCAWA experienced a conflict in club competition dates.

ACTION: To avoid the problem Helmut will try to monitor the dates when posted.

7. Motion to adjourn: *moved/seconded* *Fran Ayris/Joe Kesckes*

Helmut thanked the ICWC for hosting the meeting.

National Director's Report to BCAWA Council Meeting March 30, 2008

Saskatchewan has rejoined the AWC, so now the member provinces are BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritimes (mainly Nova Scotia).

Vinovan has voted to host the 2009 AWC Competition for BC.

Alberta seems to have pretty well washed its hands of comp;letting its responsibilities from the 2007 AWC Competition. AWC President Larry Paterson is arranging for the 248 medals to be produced in Toronto. He will do the labeling to save money but expenses involved in medal production over the \$1000 available from the sponsor WinExpert and labeling and mailing costs will be borne by the AWC Treasury.

Larry has been working tirelessly to coax all seven directors into agreement on many overdue changes. Attached is a copy of part of an email I received from him March 28 outlining some of those proposed changes. They may require some analysis to be understood and I encourage club representatives to circulate this report to your members urging them to send me their thoughts on the suggested changes. Eventually – probably July – the AWC Directors will vote on the changes in whatever form they have taken by then.

I draw your members' attention to the new classes. Are there others you would like to see in AWC like Zinfandel, Cab Family Varietals, Cab Family Blends, and White Pinot? Do you agree with the mandatory class concept or should there be optional or predetermined exemptions? What do you think of the idea of awarding extra entries based on size of provincial membership as compensation for the greater financial contribution from the provinces with most members? I've suggested that we use a sliding scale of dues inversely proportional to membership size even if that means collecting a bit less money annually – do you have any thoughts on that idea?

Well before any changes come to a final vote by the AWC directors I will circulate them to the BCAWA membership to make sure my vote reflects your wishes. So I really hope you'll spend a little time thinking about what you'd like to see in AWC changes.

George Gibson
National Director

----- Original Message -----

From: [Larry Paterson](#)

To: [George Gibson](#)

Sent: Friday, March 28, 2008 11:58 AM

George

I anticipate the following table wine classes:

C1 - Chardonnay
C2 - Aromatic Whites (Riesling, Gewurz, Muscat, Other??)
C3 - Kit Whites
C4 - Non-Vinifera Whites
C5 - Other Whites

D - Rose / Blush

E1 - Cabernet Family
E2 - Pinot Family
E3 - Kit Reds
E4 - Non-Vinifera Reds
E5 - Other Reds

Each class would need a description that we could vote on. Existing classes would not change, but new ones need to be in writing.

Also to be proposed:

- widening P Sparkling Cider to include non-apple low-pressure (crackling) wines
- splitting Country into two classes

100 entries per province, 2 mandatory each class (50 total), 2 per class wild card (50 total). Each mandatory not entered would "cost" the province the ability to make that entry.

In addition, provincial dues would move to an amount based on prior-year census as reported to AWC, and entries for provinces with more than 100 members would depend on the same census. Obviously we need to have a census in 2008 for 2009 purposes if this is adopted, but surely each province has a record of how many members are paid.

Membership dues should be 25 cents per member (to start) replacing the \$10 plus \$1 per club. Entries would be the 100 per province plus one additional entry for each ten members above 100. (ie if BC had 425 members, then the dues would be \$106.50 and they would receive 132.5 = 133 entries). An alternative is to make it 50 cents per member and allow one additional for each five people. Essentially the larger provinces are providing more AWC funding, and getting more entries.

I think that everyone is convinced that this is a rational compromise. Under no circumstances would the value of a provincial vote or weight of representation be changed by this. A vote from Manitoba would continue to be the same weight as one from Ontario or Quebec regardless of membership.

The inter-provincial title could be determined by counting medal points awarded to only the top two "mandatory" entries from each province in each class. Another option is to use average medal points or average judges score. Many have told me that they don't care, or that there never has been a Provincial champion.

Larry Paterson
President, AWC

<http://www.littlefatwino.com/>

**BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION
2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Roma Hall, 940 Ewen Avenue, New Westminster.
Saturday, May 24.

Unapproved Minutes

1) Welcome by President

Helmut Berner called the meeting to order at 2pm and welcomed everyone present.

A total of 17 members were in attendance including delegates George Gibson: Vinovan.- Renzo Furlan: Italvino.- Joe Kecskes: Belcarra.- Paul Arcand: VAWA.- George Beck: Nanaimo.- Art Hooper: KWWA.- John Thompson: Coq. Vintners.- Axel Kroitzsch: Langley Fermenters.

2) Toast by Host Club

Renzo Furlan of the Italvino club toasted the BCAWA with wishes of good luck in many more years to come.

3) Approval of Agenda

Added motion to redress financial grant to Guild.

Approved

4) Approval of March Council Minutes

Approved as circulated.

5) Reports:

Treasurer John Matkovich reported the \$2000 education/training grant to the Guild lay dormant.

Motion: to cancel the \$2000 education grant to the Guild.

Moved/seconded *John Matkovich/Rick Homer*

Carried

Financial support is still available when needed. The Guild, however, is expected to benefit financially from hosting the 2009 provincial competition.

John reported a healthy balance of close to \$14 000. Funds are available to anyone who wishes to organize an educational seminar.

He also expressed his concern about the decline in membership. Member clubs have shrunk to 15; individual members to 402.

Guild Master Sam Hauck addressed the challenge of training and educating more new members to become judges. There are currently 60 members in the three chapters. A large majority of judges live on the Island. Problem: few are willing to judge on the mainland, leaving mainland judges to judge most competitions.

National Director George Gibson introduced the AWC proposals for additional classes in national competition. Lengthy discussion ensued on what classes should (not) count toward the Grand Champion wine maker. George asked for membership input on which classes BC should endorse. George continues to struggle with the lack of communication from other provinces.

Provincial Chief Steward Mike Roman reported that he had to get by with a significantly low number of judges. Several classes were judged Friday afternoon. He suggested the move be emulated by future Chief Stewards. Mike thanked the 22 judges, especially those from out-of-town.

6) New Business

Much discussion followed a suggestion by Helmut Berner to establish a permanent provincial competition committee, sighting the difficulty to find clubs to host provincial competitions.

Some alternatives were offered to support the current model: establish a list of clubs to take their rotating turn at hosting a provincial competition: encourage small clubs to band together to host.

The Guild will host the 2009 provincial competition. New Chief Steward, John Matkovich, announced that the date has been set for May 23, 2009.

Helmut thanked Mike Roman and the Italvino club for hosting the 2008 provincial competition. He also thanked the out-going executive.

7) Election of Officers (Joan Collings presiding)

All by acclamation.

President:	Helmut Berner
Vice President:	Rick Homer
Secretary:	Shelagh Frith
Treasurer:	John Matkovich
National Director:	George Gibson
Chief Steward:	John Matkovich
Members at Large:	Walter Frith
	John Thompson
	Axel Kroitzsch

8) Appointments

Archivist:	Charles Plant
Web Steward:	Jack Ziebart

Adjournment: moved/seconded Mary Homer/Paul Arcand

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS
Executive Meeting held Sunday, September 28, 2008
1744 Windemere Ave., Port Coquitlam
Unapproved Minutes

1. Welcome by President

Helmut welcomed everyone present and called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

Attendance: Helmut Berner, Walter Frith, John Thompson, George Gibson, John Matkovich,
Sam Hauck, Shelagh Frith

2. Approval of Agenda *Approved*

3. AGM minutes amended: *Approved*

BCAWA approved a motion to donate \$100 to BC Hospice Palliative Care in memory of Mike Farkas a long time member of BCAWA and the Nanaimo Winemakers.

4. Reports

a) Treasurer's Report: A financial report was emailed to the executive prior to the meeting.

John reported that: to date 2 clubs have paid their annual dues; BCAWA received \$388 from the provincial competition. A \$1,500 fund is still available to clubs for educational purposes.

b) National Director's Report: AWC fees were increased. They are now \$.50 for each BCAWA member plus the \$25 provincial fee. A summary of results from AWC 2008 was handed out. Ontario was first with BC close behind. New classes have been added to the competition that will increase the allowable entries. Provinces must have equivalent classes to fully utilize their allowable entries. Please see the AWC website for further information.

c) National Competition: Vinovan is hosting the 2009 AWC competition. Entry deadline is tentatively set for July 15th, 2009. John Matkovich proposed putting a package together including daytime seminars, lunch, silent auction and a windup party to encourage members from other provinces to attend. John proposed raising the entry fee from \$8 to \$10 per bottle .

d) Chief Steward: John Matkovich reported the tentative date for the provincial competition is May 23, 2009 to be held at Cheers, North Vancouver. Details will follow later.

e) Guild Master: Sam Hauck presented the new judges handbook. Sam reported the guild formed an education committee to plan a Spring 2009 training session.

5. New Business

a) Because of the difficulty of finding host clubs to sponsor the Provincial competition, Helmut Berner proposed that in order to secure an orderly succession of future Provincial competitions, BCAWA introduce a five year schedule of clubs to host the Provincial competition.

MOTION: that BCAWA introduce a five year calendar of clubs to be called upon to host the Provincial competition. This proposal will be presented to council for approval at the next meeting.

Moved/seconded carried

b) New Classes: George Gibson discussed and presented the new AWC classes for acceptance in the Provincial competition.

MOTION: that the BCAWA executive recommend to council:

1. That the three new classes: Aromatic White Grape, Non-Vinifera Grape Dry Red and Rhone Style Dry Red are accepted for Provincial competition,
2. That kit classes be removed from the provincial competition.

Moved/seconded carried

c) Score and Comment Sheets:

a) Sam recommended that the wine evaluation sheet used by the judges be put on the BCAWA website and that legal size paper be used when downloading and copying.

b) Sam presented a standardized judges comment sheet that will be placed in the guild handbook for reference. He recommended it be placed on the BCAWA website as well.

ACTION: Sam will contact Charles Plant.

d) Grapevine Trophy: Helmut will contact Tom Robinson for current status of the award.

e) Calculating trophy winners: Walter Frith recommended a standardized reporting system for club competitions to expedite the calculations for winners of provincial trophies. (To be discussed further at the council meeting.)

6. Host for October Council meeting:

Vinovan will host the next council meeting to be held Sunday, October 26th, 10 AM at Cheers Restaurant, 125 East 2nd Ave., North Vancouver

Meeting Adjourned 1:00 PM

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION
Council Meeting held Sunday, October 24
Cheers Restaurant, 125 East 2nd Ave. North Vancouver
Unapproved Minutes

1. Welcome by President

Helmut welcomed those present and called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM.
Attendance: Twelve members signed the attendance sheet. Six clubs were represented.

Joe Kesckes, Belcarra, Paul Arcand, VAWA, George Gibson, Nanaimo, Mike Leeper, Vinovan,
Fran Ayris, Chilliwack, Art Hooper, Kamloops

2. Toast by Host Club

Vinovan hosted the meeting. Mike Leeper gave the welcoming toast.

3. Approval of Agenda *Approved*

Added to new business was the request by Jack Zeibert to remove the copyright from the video
“Acid in Winemaking” in order to copy to DVD.

4. Approval of AGM minutes *Approved*

Business arising from the AGM: See new business 6,a)

5. Reports:

a) Treasurer’s Report: John Matkovich reported a \$13K surplus in BCAWA funds and asked for suggestions on what to do with the money. Several suggestions were put forward but none were voted upon. The budget was passed around for approval.

Approved/carried

b) Provincial Chief Steward’s Report: John Matkovich announced that the Guild is responsible for the 2009 Provincial Competition to be held May 23rd at Cheers Restaurant, North Vancouver. All profit will go to the guild. Event information will be out in the New Year.

c) National Chief Steward’s Report: Vinovan is hosting the 2009 National Competition August 14, 15 at Gloria Dei church and Cheers Restaurant, North Vancouver. All entries are to be in by July 15.
The committee is planning seminars, lunch, silent auction and a windup party to encourage members from other provinces to attend. John asked that clubs send in suggestions for seminar topics. Wine Experts will remain the key sponsor. Details will be mailed in early spring.

d) National Director’s Report: (see attached) George Gibson expressed his gratitude to Nova Scotia for the outstanding performance of the 2008 National

Competition committee. Mike Leeper moved that BCAWA send a note of appreciation for a job well done.

ACTION: George will send a note of thanks to the Nova Scotia committee.

e) Guild Master's Report: Sam reported that the guild has formed an education committee to organize a spring seminar for guild members. The guild has also implemented a written test for members.

The guild would like to adopt the comment sheet developed by the Belcarra Winemakers as a standard throughout the province. Sam proposed an emphasis on comments would be preferable to a scoring format that gives little information about the wine being judged.

MOTION: that the Guild Master circulate the new form to member clubs requesting their comments and approval. The results are to be presented to council in the spring.

Moved/seconded *George Gibson/Mike Leeper* *carried*

The Guild is examining the possibility of offering their services outside amateur competition.

6. New Business

a) Helmut presented a letter proposing a Calendar of provincial competition hosts. (attached)

MOTION: that the social part of the provincial competition be considered optional.

Moved/seconded *George Gibson/Joe Kesckes* *carried*

MOTION: that the club hosting the provincial competition do so with all expenses paid by BCAWA plus a guaranteed profit of \$500 upon prior approval of the budget by BCAWA executive.

Moved/seconded *George Gibson/Mike Leeper* *carried*

ACTION: Helmut will notify the Nanaimo Winemakers of this motion. Nanaimo has been asked to host the 2009 provincial competition.

b) Provincial classes: George reviewed the newly introduced AWC classes and presented council with a suggested list of the new and modified classes.

MOTION: 1. That BCAWA create new classes *Aromatic White Grape*, *Non Vinifera Grape Dry Red*, and *Rhone Style Red* to allow members to compete in AWC classes.

2. That council accepts the new classes and modifications as presented.

Moved/seconded *George Gibson/Art Hooper* *carried*

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR THE AGM: That BCAWA will recommend removing the classes BC red, BC white and red and white kit from the provincial competition.

c) Competition Results: Walter Frith recommended that a standardized reporting system be implemented for all competitions sanctioned by BCAWA to expedite calculations for winners of provincial trophies

ACTION: Walter will contact member clubs with a layout of the recommended format for publishing competition results.

d) Other Business: A request from BCAWA websteward Jack Ziebart to remove the copyright from the video “*Acid in Winemaking*” was received.

MOTION: That BCAWA remove the copyright to the video “*Acid in Winemaking*”

Moved /seconded *Mike Leeper/Paul Arcand* *carried*

ACTION: Helmut will contact Jack.

e) Host for March 2009 Council meeting:

Vinovan will host the next Council meeting Sunday, March 15, 2009 10AM at Cheers Restaurant, 125 E. 2nd Ave., North Vancouver.

Meeting Adjourned 1:00 PM

National Director's Report to BCAWA Council Meeting October 26, 2008

The Nova Scotia AWC competition has come and gone and everyone was impressed by the efficiency demonstrated by John Starr, Ivan Herbert, and their colleagues. Having the medals in our hands within six weeks sets a modern day record.

Highlights of the Competition

Though it was very close, Ontario squeaked past BC to take interprovincial honours. Larry Paterson was Grand Champion Winemaker again with 11 medals including 2 gold from his 13 entries. For some reason Alberta submitted only 23 entries. I wonder whether that was in protest for all the criticism they received over the 2007 competition.

I have listed all our entries and medals with how they fared in the competition. There is little rhyme nor reason except possibly for the ODW class where 8 of our 13 entries were awarded lower level medals than they had in the BCAWA competition or no medals. Six of the 8 were aromatic whites. Over all, 30 medals remained the same, 16 medals went up, and 28 went down.

I have prepared definitions for the following new AWC classes, submitted them to the AWC panel and received almost no feedback: Aromatic White, Dry Red Zinfandel, and Dry Red Rhone Style.

If we hope to remain competitive in the AWC competition it would seem we have no choice but to create our own classes from which our entries can go forward. If we don't create our own counterpart classes there will be no way the BC National Director will be able to select any entry for the new AWC classes except for Zin.

We'll look at possible new and modified classes for BCAWA later.

George Gibson
National Director

British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association				
Treasurer's Report May 23 2009				
Cash Balance as at May 31, 2008			\$ 11,784.89	
Inventory September 28 2008			\$ 1,103.00	
Total Cash/Inventory September 28, 2008			\$ 12,887.89	
<u>Operating Activities 2008/2009 Fiscal Year</u>				
Revenues 2008/2009	Budget		Revenue	Balance
<u>Returned Funds</u>				
Competition Medals	\$ 802.00		\$ 802.00	\$ -
Total Returned Funds	\$ 802.00		\$ 802.00	\$ -
<u>Actual Annual Revenue</u>				
Club dues	\$ 2,200.00		\$ 2,035.00	-\$ 165.00
Competition Share 2008	\$ 388.50		\$ 388.50	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 6.00		\$ 6.38	\$ 0.38
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 3,396.50		\$ 3,231.88	
<u>Less Operating Expenses 2008/2009</u>				
	Budget		Expenses	Balance
Ferry/Travel	\$ 200.00			\$ 200.00
Secretarial	\$ 100.00		\$ 44.56	\$ 55.44
Web Site Maintenance	\$ 250.00		\$ 190.34	\$ 59.66
Meeting Rentals	\$ 500.00		\$ 346.00	\$ 154.00
Teleconferencing	\$ 250.00			\$ 250.00
National Competition	\$ 650.00		\$ 835.36	-\$ 185.36
Grapevine AWC Directors	\$ 85.00		\$ 52.50	\$ 32.50
Filing Fees (2008)	\$ 25.00		\$ 25.00	\$ -
AWC Dues	\$ 300.00		\$ 228.00	\$ 72.00
BCAWA Handbook Development	\$ 400.00			\$ 400.00
Club Education program	\$ 1,500.00			\$ 1,500.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 250.00		\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 4,510.00		\$ 1,821.76	\$ 2,688.24
Net Operating Revenue 2008/2009	-\$ 1,113.50		\$ 1,410.12	
Cash/Inventory Before Allocations	\$ 11,774.39		\$ 14,298.01	
<u>Allocations</u>				
Education Program	\$ 1,500.00			\$ 1,500.00
Balance Cash/Inventory	\$ 10,274.39			
Less Inventory	\$ 1,103.00		\$ 1,103.00	
Unallocated Cash Balance Year end May 31, 2009	\$ 9,171.39			
Total Cash Available May 23 2009	\$ 10,671.39		\$ 13,195.01	