



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association Minutes of the February 20, 2016 General Meeting

NOTE: These minutes have not yet been adopted.

Date: February 20, 2016
Location: Kroitzsch Home
9962-117th Street, Surrey BC

BCAWA Executive:

Present:

President:	Axel Kroitzsch - Langley (Chair)
Vice President	Mike Leeper – Vinovan
Secretary:	John McMaster - VAWA
Treasurer:	John Matkovich – Vinovan
National Director	Doug Markin - Nanaimo
Guild Master:	Dave Ewen - VAWA
2016 Chief Steward:	Ron Thorne – SCAWA
Director at Large:	Larry McIntyre - VAWA
Director at Large:	Pepe Kubon – VAWA

Absent: Past President: Sandy Bellows – Saanich

Clubs / Representatives Present (Voting Members):

Belcarra Wine Makers	Rob Martino (Voting)
	Doug Brain
Chilliwack Zymurgy	Fran Ayris (Voting)
	John Ayris
Italvino Wine Club	[club not represented at this meeting]
Kamloops Wine Assoc.	[club not represented at this meeting]
Langley Fermenters	Axel Kroitzsch
	Glen Mayer
	Pat Zawalykut
	BeauJon Sackett(Voting)
Nanaimo Winemakers	Doug Markin (Voting)
Saanich Sommeliers	Colin Nicholson (Voting)
	Sharon Bierd
Sunshine Coast	Ron Thorne
	Jacquelin George (Voting)
VAWA	Larry McIntyre (Voting)
	Ken Dunn
	Clem Joyce
Vintners of Coquitlam	Mike Lesperance (Voting)
Vintners of North Van	Doug Ellis (Voting)
	Lothar Fabian

(7 voting members present at this meeting)

1 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kroitzsch called the meeting to order at 11:40 am and welcomed all present.

2 TOAST BY HOST CLUB

Axel Kroitzsch gave the toast to spending more time together and make better wine.

3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4 MINUTES

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the minutes of the BCAWA Annual General Meeting Dated November 21, 2015 be adopted as corrected.

CARRIED

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

6 REPORTS

6.1 PRESIDENT

Axel noted that we've had more emails and conversations going back and forth in the past few months than we've had in years, which is a very positive and beneficial trend for BCAWA. He said that even if some of the topics had been a bit controversial the discussions around them were open and civil which led to involvement from a broader range of people and resulted in a much better decision making process Axel pointed out that there would be a Town Hall session at the end of the meeting and he hoped that everyone would think of presenting ideas that would further benefit our clubs.

6.2 TREASURER – John Matkovich

John circulated copies of the financial statements, noting that the finances were in good shape. This year there are 314 members in all clubs in the Province, a modest increase from last year.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

6.3 2016 CHIEF STEWARD – Ron Thorne

Ron reported that planning continues for the May 28, 2016 competition. A budget has been prepared and they're in the midst of finalizing the drop off points and venues for the major pieces have been confirmed. They have lined up a number of volunteers and judges and don't feel they need help from BCAWA at this point. Doug Brain will forward announcement details to the webmaster as soon as they're ready.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

[At this point in the meeting someone noted that maybe we should have gone around the room and have everyone introduce themselves. Which we did. The Secretary made a note to have and "introductions" section at the beginning of each meeting in the future.]

6.4 NATIONAL DIRECTOR – Doug Markin

Doug reported that the AWC had not yet formalized a formula to determine the number of entries each Province was allowed each year, although a formula proposed by Ontario had been in use for the past few years. Doug noted that he had reintroduced the motion to make the formula permanent and had been approved by 4 of the 5 provinces and he was waiting for Ontario to respond.

Doug noted that he had made a motion that the President of the AWC be selected from the host province. The discussion of the motion indicated that the other Provinces felt that as the Vice President / Chief Steward position was already appointed from the host province that they were not in favour of the motion and it was defeated.

Doug mentioned that the AWC directors were currently discussing the method used to calculate the National Winemaker of the Year. He noted that he thought that every wine submitted to the National competition should be counted not just the top 5 as is currently done.

A member asked about the status of National medals (the lack thereof). It was noted that it was largely a cost issue and that the medals had previously been sponsored by wine kit manufacturers. It was noted that BCAWA should not have to subsidize the medals, but also that this isn't something that BC can solve on its own – Doug will have to bring it up with the AWC.

Doug proposed that instead of a medal we could produce sheets of small labels for medal winners. The medals would say "Gold Medal – 2016 - AWC National Competition" (or whatever) and they winemaker would be able to attach these labels to their bottles – just as the commercial wineries do when they win a competition. We could also do this for Provincial and club competitions. There was considerable support for this idea. Doug said he would look into it further.

No request for a motion to accept the report was made; no motion was made.

6.5 GUILD MASTER – Dave Ewen

Dave noted that the Guild had adopted a new policy where they now actively supply judges for competitions. This has created much more interaction between the Guild and the competition organizers and the process seems to be working well.

The Guild reviewed the BCAWA Class Descriptions and recommended some changes.

The Master Judge program was initiated and there are currently 8 Guild members who have been qualified in 8 classes or more and have earned the Master Judge designation.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the Guild Master's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

7 SPECIAL ORDERS

None

8 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

9 NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1 **The Vancouver Amateur Winemakers Association (VAWA) provided notice** that the club intends to make 2 motions that will rescind motions (9.6.1 and 9.6.2) adopted at the November 21, 2015 meeting.

Axel asked Clem Joyce to speak to the motion. Clem noted that he makes sherry, has entered it in the Provincial competition and done well enough that he has been invited to enter his sherry in the National competition. The removal of the Aperitif classes from the Provincial competition will prevent winemakers from entering Aperitif wines in the National competition which, in his opinion, should not have been done.

As far as putting cider in the sparkling class, Clem stated that they are entirely separate things and should never have been combined.

- 9.1.1 It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That class A (Aperitif Sherry) and class B (Aperitif) be restored to the Provincial competition.

[There was considerable discussion about the Provincials being the gateway to the National competition and therefore general agreement that the Provincial classes should mirror the National classes. Furthermore, it was proposed that changes to the Provincial entry classes should be led by changes to the National classes and if we want changes

perhaps we should lobby to have the National entry classes changed.

Some members suggested that all BC club competitions should, in turn, mirror the Provincial entry classes but that idea was not generally supported as the club competitions are not gateways to the Provincial competition.]

CARRIED

9.1.2 It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

The class P (Sparkling Cider) be restored to the Provincial Competition and no longer permit Sparkling Cider to be entered in class H (Sparkling).

[There was little discussion of this topic as it was felt that the issue was largely the same as the previous issue which had been discussed at length.]

CARRIED

9.2 Provincial Competition Entry Class Description Review

Axel asked Dave Ewen to speak to this topic. Dave stated that BCAWA had asked the Guild to review the Provincial entry class descriptions and recommend changes to them. He said they've recommended some changes, mainly in acceptable alcohol levels, sweetness (residual sugar levels) and acid. Recommended serving temperatures have also been added. Dave reminded everyone that the recommended changes had been circulated to BCAWA members and that they'd received a couple of comments that were incorporated into the final document.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the changes to the Provincial Entry Class Descriptions proposed by the Guild be accepted and published.

[Discussion:

Clem Joyce expressed concern that the specific gravity range for Class F Dessert was specified as 1.024 – 1.034 for Botrytis Affected and 1.028 – 1.048 for Icewine Style but the upper limit for both should be 1.080. There was agreement that Clem was correct and the document should be changed to reflect these higher numbers.]

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the motion be amended to make a further change to the description for Class F Dessert. Specifically that it be changed so that the specific gravity range be specified as 1.024 – 1.080 for Botrytis Affected and 1.028 – 1.080 for Icewine Style.

CARRIED

The original motion was then voted and

CARRIED AS AMENDED

9.2.1 Proposal to have BCAWA and the Guild host the 2016 National Competition

Axel summarized the topic by reminding everyone that Alberta was scheduled to host the 2016 National Competition but announced in January that they would be unable to do so. BC is scheduled to host the event in 2017 and it was felt that we would be asked to move up one year in the schedule. The BCAWA and Guild executive felt that as it is such short notice, it would be unlikely that any of the BC clubs would volunteer to host, and agreed to propose that they jointly host the 2016 National Competition.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That BCAWA and the Guild jointly host the 2016 AWC National Competition.

Discussion:

Vinovan expressed concern that the member clubs had not been given the opportunity to offer to host the event. In fact, the first the clubs heard anything about it was in the form of the proposal that BCAWA and the Guild host the event. It was stated that it's not too late – if any club wanted to host the Nationals they could stand up now and volunteer but it was also agreed that the process should have been a lot more inclusive. Vinovan also expressed concern that the event is proposed to be held in their neighbourhood just 6 weeks prior to their own competition and they worried that the event may well divert resources away from their own event. Vinovan stated that they were not interested in hosting the event; no other clubs stepped up either.

CARRIED

A post-vote discussion ensued regarding the details of the proposed event. John Matkovich said that not only do we have to be sensitive to Vinovan's concerns about poaching resources so close to their competition, we also have to be realistic and limit the scope of the Nationals event to match the resources that we have available. There are 3 options that we have discussed:

- 1) Option 1: To keep with tradition, we would have a dinner / dance and silent auction following the competition. This not only interferes with Vinovan, it's also somewhat risky as we can't be certain that people would attend the event. We know that traditionally the dinner / dance is attended primarily by host club members and interest might be low without a sponsoring host club. This option would require someone dedicated to arranging the dinner / dance and another person dedicated to arranging a silent auction.
- 2) Option 2: would be to have a wine and cheese instead of a dinner / dance and a silent auction – profit would be somewhat lower but so would the effort involved. This option would require someone dedicated to arranging a silent auction.
- 3) Option 3 would be to have only a wine and cheese. We can still make some profit, but at lower risk and effort. This option can be accomplished with people who have already volunteered their time.

John stated that Option 3 was what the unofficial organizing committee was recommending.

The date of the competition was discussed: why September 24? Opinions varied but August or September were thought to be equally ok. Coquitlam noted that the club travelled the last two weekends in September picking up grapes so they would not be available. No conclusion was reached.

Will there be enough wine left after the competition to support a wine tasting? Yes – we will be sure to request that entries be submitted in 750ml bottles.

Mike Leeper asked if we could have a motion further defining what we were planning: a silent auction but no dinner / dance. Axel asked for such a motion.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the 2016 AWC National Competition be followed by a wine and cheese with a silent auction.

Discussion:

Larry McIntyre suggested that BCAWA does not need any more money than it already has and he does not believe that a silent auction is necessary.

Dave Ewen stated that the Guild does need money for its operations.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the motion be amended to eliminate the silent auction.

Discussion:

It was suggested that a silent auction coordinator would need to be in place within the next 4 weeks for the event to have any chance of success.

Dave Ewen stated that he would have to go back to the Guild to see if they were interested in continuing the Guild participation if they weren't going to get anything out of it. (John Matkovich suggested that we could still make about \$2,000 without a silent auction.)

Other money raising schemes were mentioned such as auctioning off the medal winning wines, sourcing and auctioning off wines that are not generally available to the public.

There seemed to be general agreement that the scope of the undertaking will be totally dependent on some individuals or even a club as a whole stepping up to manage anything beyond the basic competition. For example, Vinovan might decide to manage the silent auction part by combining it with their own – they would expect a share of any profit.

It was suggested that the Guild and the clubs needed time to discuss whether they would be able to provide resources to arrange and manage a silent auction.

Axel suggested that further consideration of the motion be postponed for 30 days to give the clubs time to discuss it.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That further consideration of the motion be postponed until March 31.

CARRIED

Discussion of the motion under this section and the amending motion are suspended until March 31.

It was felt that we should include here what we have reached consensus on:

- 1) That BCAWA and the Guild should jointly host the National competition unless a member club steps forward and announces their desire to host the event prior to March 31.
- 2) No Dinner/Dance will be included.
- 3) If the Silent Auction were also eliminated there would likely be a \$2,000 (approx.) shortfall from what we originally anticipated, and this will be felt mostly by the Guild.

10 Town Hall Session

Sharing Presentations: Axel renewed discussion on Dave Ewen's work to promote the sharing of educational presentations amongst clubs. There was general agreement that this was a good idea and that available presentations and speakers should be posted on the BCAWA website.

Material that is currently posted on the BCAWA website: some is outdated and should be removed or updated. In addition, new material should be added. It was suggested that clubs should promote the BCAWA website material to all club members at each meeting and forward any resulting comments to the person responsible for the content. Which brought up the need for just such a person.

A conversation around sulfite testing morphed into the subject of clubs buying testing equipment for the use of their members to encourage better winemaking – and perhaps making the equipment available to other clubs.

Wine making supplies: it was noted that Clem Joyce has been supplying materials to many winemakers for several years now, but in doing so has exposed himself to some financial risk. It was suggested that BCAWA consider coordinating this on a province wide basis and underwrite the expense of this undertaking. It was noted that BCAWA itself has no resources to do this kind of thing and that it would need to fall to the clubs, or individual club members, to get this done. It was suggested that perhaps BCAWA could implement an online order entry / inventory control system for this purpose.

Axel introduced Rob Martino and noted that he was taking over the grape supply business that Gilbert has built up over the past 13 years and that he would be in touch with winemakers over the next few weeks as the plans unfold.

Doug Ellis reminded everyone that at a previous BCAWA meeting, the concept of a province wide “club crush” was talked about and that Vinovan discussed it and was very supportive.

11 Next Meeting

The next BCAWA General Meeting will be the AGM May 28, 2016.

12. ADJOURNMENT

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED**

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

DRAFT

British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association				
Treasurer's Report February 20, 2016				
Cash Balance as at May 1, 2015		\$ 9,936.37		
Inventory May 1,, 2015		\$ 3,350.00		
Total Cash/Inventory May 1,, 2015		\$ 13,286.37		
<u>Budget Forcast 2015/2016 Fiscal Year</u>				
Forcasted Revenues 2015/16	Budget		Actual	Balance
<u>Returned Funds</u>				
Competition Medals 2015	\$ 652.00		\$ 652.00	\$ -
Total Returned Funds	\$ 652.00		\$ 652.00	\$ -
<u>General Revenue</u>				
Club dues	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 1,570.00	-\$ 70.00
Wine Magazine			\$ 1,970.00	
Competition Share 2015	\$ 236.60		\$ 236.60	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 15.00		\$ 1.71	\$ 13.29
Total General Revenue 2015/16	\$ 1,751.60		\$ 3,778.31	-\$ 56.71
<u>Total Operating Revenues</u>	\$ 2,403.60		\$ 4,430.31	\$ 2,026.71
<u>Forcasted Expenses 2015/16</u>				
	Expense			Balance
Ferry/Travel	\$ 200.00		\$ 84.80	\$ 115.20
Secretarial	\$ 100.00			\$ 100.00
Web Site Maintenance	\$ 200.00			\$ 200.00
Meeting Rentals	\$ 600.00		\$ 310.00	\$ 290.00
Teleconferencing	\$ 400.00		\$ 296.35	\$ 103.65
Filing Fees (2015)	\$ 25.00		\$ 25.00	\$ -
AWC Entries	\$ 296.35		\$ 275.84	\$ 20.51
AWC Dues	\$ 200.00			\$ 200.00
Wine Magazine			\$ 1,975.00	
Club Education program allocation	\$ 1,000.00			\$ 1,000.00
Wine Judge Training program	\$ 2,000.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ -
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00			\$ 50.00
<u>Total Operating Expenses</u>	\$ 5,071.35		\$ 4,966.99	\$ 104.36
Budgeted Operating Revenue 2015/16	-\$ 2,667.75		-\$ 536.68	
Cash Available May 1, 2015	\$ 9,936.37			
Budgeted Cash Balance May 1 2016	\$ 7,268.62			
Actual cash balance February 20, 2016			\$ 9,399.69	



British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting

NOTE: These minutes have not yet been adopted.

Date: May 28, 2016

Location: St. Helen's Church Hall
3871 Pandora Street, Burnaby, BC

BCAWA Executive:

Present:	President:	Axel Kroitzsch - Langley (Chair)
	Vice President:	Mike Leeper – Vinovan
	Secretary	John McMaster - VAWA
	Treasurer:	John Matkovich - Vinovan
	Guild master:	Dave Ewen - VAWA
	Chief Steward:	Ron Thorne – SCAWA
	National Director	Doug Markin - Nanaimo
	Director at Large:	Pepe Kubon - VAWA
Absent:	Past President	Sandy Bellows – Saanich
	Director at Large:	Larry McIntyre – VAWA

Clubs / Representatives Present (Voting Members):

Belcarra Wine Makers	Doug Brain
Chilliwack Zymurgy	Vashti Garcia
Italvino Wine Club	Riccardo Pellizzari
Kamloops Wine Assoc.	[club not represented at this meeting]
Langley Fermenters	Axel Kroitzsch
Nanaimo Winemakers	Cathy Markin
Saanich Sommeliers	Rick Homer
Sunshine Coast	Ron Thorne
VAWA	John McMaster
Vintners of Coquitlam	Mike Lesperance
Vinovan	Bill Huva

(10 voting members present at this meeting)

1 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kroitzsch called the meeting to order at 2:50 pm and welcomed all present.

2 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3 PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the minutes of the BCAWA Annual General Meeting Dated May 23, 2015 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

4 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None

5 REPORTS

5.1. PRESIDENT – Axel Kroitzsch

The President noted that while we didn't get as much done as we had hoped, it was a good year. He further stressed:

- Social get-togethers are a good thing and seem to be appreciated by all
- The Guild has produced some very good training
- BCAWA continuing to reach out to Clubs, attracting new membership and interaction with Clubs is a good thing
- The \$1500 education fund is seldom used – clubs should make use of it
- There has been a turnaround as we have not lost any BCAWA Clubs
- There continues to be some interaction with commercial ventures

5.2. TREASURER – John Matkovich

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5.3. CHIEF STEWARD – Ron Thorne

The Chief Steward reported that this year's competition was successfully concluded at approximately 1:30pm today. There was a total of 278 entries judged with 28 Gold, 78 Silver and 100 Bronze medals awarded.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Chief Steward's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5.4. NATIONAL DIRECTOR – Doug Markin

The National Director reported due to the declining membership Manitoba, this may be the last year for them to participate in the National Competition.

The National Director noted that the John Starr, a former AWC president, had written to the AWC Directors encouraging them to consider moving away from the medal system and reverting to the rank ordering (1st, 2nd, 3rd, ...) method of scoring entries in the

National Competition. John explained that he felt that winemakers would be much more interested in the competition if the scoring system determined the best wines in the competition rather than simply distributing medals.

The National Director indicated that he was interested in reviewing the way that that Winemaker of the Year is calculated.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the National Director's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5.5. GUILD MASTER – Dave Ewen

The Guild Master reported that they had been much more proactive in assigning judges to all member club competitions in the past year. The Guild has had 2 training sessions this year, organized by Axel Kroitzsch and Rick Homer. He went to report that the Guild has begun to build its reputation outside the BCAWA clubs and has recently participated in judging at a commercial wine competition.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Guild Master's report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

6 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1. Proposal to have BCAWA and the Guild host the 2016 National Competition

There have been a number of emails on this topic – most clubs have expressed support for it and none have requested any further changes in format so a formal vote of approval is requested.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the BCAWA and the Guild host the 2016 National Competition.

CARRIED

7 NEW BUSINESS

7.1. HOST CLUBS FOR FUTURE PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS

2017 – Itlvino and Coquitlam (confirmed)

2018 – Vinovan

2019 – Nanaimo Winemakers

2020 – Kamloops Wine Association

2021 - Chilliwack Zymurgy

2022 – Langley Fermenters

2023 – Saanich Sommeliers

2024 – VAWA

2025 - Belcarra/Sunshine Coast

2026 – Itlvino

7.2. It was MOVED and SECONDED

That when a club hosts the National Competition this would count as their next

Provincial turn. The list would be moved up a year from that point meaning that all clubs would host the Provincials one year earlier.

CARRIED

7.3. It was MOVED and SECONDED

That all BCAWA member clubs provide 3 contact names (rather than the current 1) and that BCAWA send all email notices to all three contacts.

CARRIED

8 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

John McMaster ran the election in Sandy Bellows absence. He thanked the current executive and carried out the elections for the new executive.

The following are the results:

President	Mike Leeper (Vancouver)	by acclamation
Vice President	John McMaster (Vancouver)	by acclamation
Secretary	Sharon Bierd (Saanich)	by acclamation
Treasurer	John Matkovich (Vancouver)	by acclamation
National Director	Doug Markin (Nanaimo)	by acclamation
Directors at Large (2 positions)	Robert Martino (Belcarra) Jonathan Klinck (Chilliwack)	by acclamation
Appointed Positions		
Guild Master –	Dave Ewen (Vancouver)	
Past President –	Axel Kroitzsch (Langley)	
Web Master	John McMaster (Vancouver)	
Archivist	Robin McNeil (Saanich)	

9 NEXT MEETING

The next BCAWA General Meeting will be held Sunday October 16, 2016 at 11:00am
Location: #8 - 7788 - 132nd St, Surrey, BC. V3W 0H5 (Axel's Office)

10 ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED



BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION

Agenda General Meeting October 16, 2016

7788 132 St #8, Surrey, BC V3W 0H5, Phone:(604) 588-1662

Call to order 11:30 am

1. Welcome and Call to Order by President Mike Leeper
2. Toast Axel Kroitzsch
3. Approval of Agenda Moved: Axel Kroitzsch Seconded Colin Nicholson
4. Approval of February 20, 2016 Minutes Moved: Axel Kroitzsch Seconded: Colin Nicholson

Attendees:

Executive

President

Mike Leeper - Vinovan

Vice President

John McMaster - VAWA

Secretary

Sharon Bierd - Saanich Sommeliers

Treasurer

John Matkovich - VinoVan

Chief Steward - 2017 Provincial Competition

tbd

Past President

Axel Kroitzsch - Langley

National Director

Doug Markin – Nanaimo Winemakers (absent)

Director at Large

Robert Martino

Director at Large

Johnathan Klink

Guild Master

Dave Ewen - VAWA

Appointed Positions:

Web Site

John McMaster- VAWA

Archivist

Robin McNeil Saanich Sommeliers

Club

Representative

Belcarra Wine Makers

Voting Attendee

Chilliwack Zymurgy

Rob Martino

Italvino Wine Club

Kevin Bramhoff Karin Young

Kamloops Wine Assoc.

Absent

Langley Fermenters

Absent

Nanaimo Winemakers

Axel Kroitzsch

Saanich Sommeliers

Absent

Sunshine Coast

Colin Nicholson

VAWA

Absent

Vintners of Coquitlam

John McMaster

Vintners of North Van (VinoVan)

Mike Lesperance

Bill Huva

Number of Voting Members at the Meeting: 7

Business Arising from the Minutes:

None to report

Reports

Presidents Report – Mike Leeper

Welcome to our “Serve it Right” meeting.

Earlier this year we said that BCAWA should help BCAWA Clubs increase their membership. Over the summer I have thought about BCAWA and how to perhaps make it better. For years I have thought that BCAWA and its member Wine Making Clubs had very poor communication. My main experience was as Vinovan's Chief Steward when I had to ask many times for other Clubs to submit wines in our competition. Often I did not know if my email messages were passed onto the individual members of each Club or not. Hopefully having 3 contacts for each club will make for faster communication and eliminate the worry that the recipient is unavailable due to travelling etc. The other observation has been that generally, BCAWA tries to take on too much work and lacks volunteers to see through the Action Plans mainly because its Executive is very busy with other activities.

The main activity that I propose for this year is to implement a BCAWA wide Club Crush on a bi-annual basis commencing the spring of 2017.

Treasurer John Matkovich

- As of (date): May 1, 2016 Total Cash and Inventory : 11,779.21
- Treasurer's report is attached to the minutes.

Discussion: Money is set aside for training and the allotment is not used.

Acceptance of the Treasure's Report Moved: John McMaster; Seconded: Bill Huva Passed

Provincial Chief Steward tbd

- Mike Lesperance will contact Italvino to see who is Chief Steward and will advise Mike Leeper.

National Directors Report – Doug Markin

1. 2016 AWC Competition - During the selection process for this year's AWC competition the majority of the entrants were very slow to let myself and the registrar know if they were actually going to enter their wines in the competition. There were a few entrants who never responded to the entry selection and we had to scramble at the last minute to select a replacement. If Winemakers do not want to enter their wines in the competition then they should let the Registrar and National Director know as soon as possible so that an alternate can be selected with the maximum amount of lead time possible.
2. Rank Order Scoring vs Medals – I have included the discussion from the AWC Executive in 2013 below for your reference. I did discuss this with the AWC Executive last year (not in great depth) and they were still of the same opinion stated below. I brought this up at our 2015 AGM and BCAWA was still holding fast to Medal judging as stated in Axels' comments at the bottom of the discussion.

RANK ORDER JUDGING – AWC Discussion 2013

From Alan Baker, 10th September 2013

There is another alternative that has been raised in oral conversation with AWC members in Nova Scotia, but not one that I particularly generates a favourable response in my mind. Still it deserves to be brought forward as a part of this discussion. The thought is that AWC need not follow the current system of Gold, Silver Bronze etc as is used by the various provinces. It could take a different tack and one that would be less costly by revisiting the use of First, Second, Third and Honourable Mention. This would reduce the number of medals to a Maximum of 4 per

Class. Members would still be able to receive current medals at the Provincial level and compete Nationally to determine which are the best in the country. As indicated above, in my mind, this has some limitations but the approach deserves to be considered.

From John Starr, 10th September 2013

This in reference to Alan's message in the sponsorship file. I'm giving it a new Subject to ease Ivan's work of sorting. This idea is something I ran up the flagpole some years ago. Nobody saluted, but as Alan said, it is worth looking at now. And yes, Alan and I did kick it around again one Friday afternoon at the Pub. Here is my rationale. The quality of judging at the Provincial level is now such that Provincial medal is a good and fair assessment of the quality of the wine. The quality of judging at the National level is the same as or very similar to that of Provincial judging. If Provincial and National medals are different, there is no way of determining which one is a more valid assessment of the wine.

I suggest that no-one can say that a National medal has a higher status or value than a Provincial one.

So, let each Province submit a few of their top wines in each class and have them judged by rank order. Since the wines will already have a medal. I suggest certificates for First to Fourth place. Clearly, if all the entries were Gold, the first place winner would truly be a Double Gold. What you think of this depends on how you rate your Provincial judging. If you think it is very good, you will expect your wines to win. If they don't, that says something about how your judging compares with other Provinces. I think it will also clarify some of the issues that came up after the last National. Finally, it will introduce an element of true competition into our National Competition. This is a radical idea but not a new one. This is the way it was done in the first years (at least 10) of AWC National Competitions. Then we did not have judges at the Provincial level that were qualified to do medal judging. Please give this some serious thought as you consider the options resulting from the cancellation of Winexpert medal sponsorship.

From Bill Rennie, 11th September 2013

Alan's suggestion is one that Alberta will readily support as we were never in favour of moving away from ranking, which first occurred for the 2001 competition. We have continued to do so for our Provincial Competition. This may inject new life into the National Competition, by returning to our roots (or perhaps Updated 4th December 2015 rootstock). Think of it as the Grey Cup of amateur wine making in Canada. We would also support the idea of a high quality certificate, but like the idea of allowing the host province to personalize it, within some reasonable guidelines. This effectively solves the issue of sponsorship and medals, and would keep the cost in a range that wouldn't deter entries.

From Axel Kroitzsch, 18th September 2013

We just had the BCAWA Meeting after the National competition and I brought up the proposed changes for medals and certificates. The opinion was unanimous: All clubs represented felt strongly that medal judging should be maintained rather than 1., 2., 3rd and honorable mention. Having said that, the preference was for medals rather than certificates. It was felt that should finances not allow for medals, certificates would be acceptable.

Discussion:

This is an on-going discussion among the provinces about medals vs ranking.

BC needs to ensure there are at least 2 medaled wines for each class to go to the Nationals any additional wines to be submitted to the AWC competition would be chosen. For example, 2016 Bordeaux and Zinfandel were over represented while other classes didn't have any entries.

Action Item:

Motion: BC will remain with the Medal system. Moved: John McMaster Seconded Bill Huva Passed

Motion: Publish the rules for entries into the AWC from BCAWA. Moved: Alex Kroitzsch Seconded: Mike Lesperance Passed

This past year a lot of gathering of information in commercial events has taken place. Sam and I have attended many commercial tastings and have some good news to give you. In every case when asked, the winemakers showed no resistance to the idea of a judging by the Guild. Many local wineries embraced the idea and there never was a question of our credibility.

Things we have observed the Guild should do are create lots of abilities for wineries to get recognition. I.e. Such as Best of type awards.

Create another level of four person panels to judge wines in judge off situations.

That we do not need to host a public side, necessarily, to a competition and that the judging can take place over an extended period of time, like a week or longer.

Wineries are already trained that entries will cost them \$45-\$199 and they will send three samples.

We saw how easy it was to take one of our comment sheets and convert it into a great description of that wine and that using comments from all members in a session really makes a nice full comment sheet. This can be one of the value added reasons a winery would have the Guild evaluate their wines as no other competitions give comment sheets.

We are currently working on a spring competition for the fruit wine sector. Having met with industry players, they have showed a strong desire to get their product recognition and are looking for a venue.

Judging at Existing Competitions

I had made contact with the North West Wine Summit and was asked to attend, so to observe, the judging of the Canadian entries being judged that day at Township #7 winery. I called Sam who was available and the two of us met there. We were treated with a great deal of respect and from our comments they could see we knew a lot already. By the end of the day we had an invitation for one of our judges to attend the American portion of the judging taking place on the Hood River in Oregon

What we got out of it was a lot of confidence for our method of training and our systems of running competitions. We created a high level of respect for the Guild and members abilities. Such that next year I negotiated two of our judges will go to judge and two will go to learn the backroom organizing of the flights. They will only use a judge once every five years so this could provide a venue for all members to eventually work through this competition.

Other Agenda Discussions

Website input

Website input ideas discussion brought out the understanding that the website is crap. It is necessary to have a complete rethink. First off we need someone to step up with contacts in graphics to design our look, then we need to start *listing* the *things* that should or *could* be on that website. It needs to have color and pictures that draw you into exploring the site. It needs to have each of your resumes of your wine experience and abilities. It could have a review page of the wines we have had in our sessions and a comment sheet on each.

Comment Sheets

We started creating comments sheets for those handmade wines provided for sessions and this is well received by those winemakers. By taking an average score of all at your session and everyone's descriptors it is easy to craft a nice comment sheet.

Some clubs are having their competitions on the same date which causes challenges to provide judges.

New Business

BCAWA Club Crush

Key discussion points

A BCAWA Crush would foster camaraderie and competition between the various BCAWA Clubs. With a strong mentoring program BCAWA and its members Clubs could then solicit new younger members

Notes (appended to the end of the report) have been sent to BCAWA Clubs for a response by November 30th.

Club Sharing Activities

Emails have proven to be very good tools to get information out quickly to clubs. BCAWA has a distribution list that can be accessed by clubs interested in sending out information.

BCAWA Club Representatives will take turns bringing wine and food to the BCAWA General Meetings.

Motion: BCAWA Executive will develop a rotating list of BCAWA Clubs to provide hosting wine and lunch to the BCAWA General Meetings and work with hosting clubs to find a location for the meeting.

Moved: John McMaster Seconded: Bill Huva. Passed

Upcoming Meetings

Next General Meeting February 27, 2017

Annual General Meeting – tbd

Meeting Adjourned: Moved: Axel Kroitisch Seconded by: Kevin Bramhoff

Treasurer's Report

British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association
Treasurer's Report October 13, 2016

Cash Balance as at May 1, 2016	\$ 9,047.21
Inventory May 1,, 2016	\$ 2,732.00
Total Cash/Inventory May 1,, 2016	\$ 11,779.21

Budget Forecast 2016/2017 Fiscal Year

<i>Forecasted Revenues 2016/17</i>	Budget	Actual	Balance
<u>Returned Funds</u>			
Competition Medals 2016	\$ 618.00	\$ 618.00	\$ -
Total Returned Funds	\$ 618.00	\$ 618.00	\$ -
<u>General Revenue</u>			
Club dues	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 335.00	\$ 1,165.00
Competition Share 2016	\$ 1,436.76	\$ 1,436.76	\$ -
AWC Competition share	\$ 480.00	\$ 480.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 15.00	\$ 0.32	\$ 14.68
Total General Revenue 2016/17	\$ 3,431.76	\$ 2,252.08	\$ 1,179.68
<u>Total Operating Revenues</u>	\$ 4,049.76	\$ 2,870.08	-\$ 1,179.68

Forecasted Expenses 2016/17

	Expense		Balance
Ferry/Travel	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
Secretarial	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
Web Site Maintenance	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
Meeting Rentals	\$ 600.00		\$ 600.00
Teleconferencing	\$ 400.00		\$ 400.00
Filing Fees (2016)	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ -
AWC Entries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AWC Dues	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
Club Education program allocation	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 50.00		\$ 50.00
<u>Total Operating Expenses</u>	\$ 2,775.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 2,750.00

<i>Budgeted Operating Revenue 2016/17</i>	\$ 1,274.76	\$ 2,845.08
<i>Cash Available May 1, 2016</i>	\$ 9,047.21	
<i>Budgeted Cash Balance May 1 2017</i>	\$ 10,321.97	
<i>Actual cash balance September 30, 2016</i>		\$ 11,892.29

Proposal for a BCAWA Club Crush - Report Back By November 30, 2016.

BCAWA, Mike Leeper, President

At the October 16, 2016 BCAWA Executive Meeting, the President, Mike Leeper, proposed that BCAWA implement an annual BCAWA Club Crush in 2017 with all participants using the same varietal from the same grower. While most Club Representatives indicated that they support the concept it was agreed that a document be immediately prepared by BCAWA so that each Club can review it with their members (by email if necessary) and report back to BCAWA by November 30, 2016 indicating the level of support by each Club.

General Description and Rationale

Early each year commencing in 2017 a volunteer committee of 3 BCAWA members would select either a red or white premium grape varietal (possibly fruit in future years) from a grower based in BC or the USA. Most likely it would be an existing grape grower who has an on-going relationship with one or more BCAWA clubs. The selected varietal would be based on a number of factors such as quality, price, availability, geographic area and general interest. Once selected for purchase a BCAWA "Grape Guy" would act as the co-ordinator for the purchase, transport and distribution of the grapes. The Grape Guy would be the sole contact with each club and the grape grower (to ensure that the grower is not pestered by many enthusiastic wine makers).

By March the Grape Guy would ask each Club to indicate the weight in pounds for the Club and by individual. After confirmation that the grower can supply the indicated weight of grapes each Club would collect the deposits from each member and provide the deposit and list to the Grape Guy. Prior to arrival of the grapes (or possibly purchase) BCAWA will organize a technical discussion about the various styles of wine made from the selected varietal followed by a tasting of the different styles of wine. The technical/tasting session will contribute to members' knowledge of yeasts, styles, additives etc. and the tasting will enable club members to improve their wine evaluation skills and socialize outside of their club setting. When the grapes are delivered it is expected the participants will help in the crushing/de-stemming of their grapes and socialize with other BCAWA members while undertaking the work and clean-up.

In the fall after the grapes have been distributed BCAWA will start a "Wine Making Email Thread" whereby winemakers can discuss the status of their musts and progress and can compare it to the comments of others. In Vinovan's Pinot Noir Club Crush this year members both young and old and new or experienced all said that the on-going exchange of information (74 comments) was the best way to learn about wine making.

BCAWA Club Crush Competition

Every year at the Provincial Competition BCAWA would have a Club Crush Class composing of 100% varietal of the Club Crush grape. For example, if the varietal is Merlot then the wine must be 100%. It cannot be blended with any other Merlot or any other varietals. The objective is to determine the Wine Maker who has the best Merlot based on yeast, technique and other additives such as tannins or oak. A Club Crush Competition would be held when red grapes have aged for 2 years and white grapes for 1 year or something similar. Due to the number of entries expected, wines would be judged Best in Class, Second, Third and Honourable Mention.

Benefits

The BCAWA Club Crush would foster camaraderie, discussions and competition between the various BCAWA Clubs while contributing to education about wine making and wine evaluation. With a strong mentoring program/buddy system BCAWA and its members Clubs could then solicit new younger, inexperienced members. The Technical/Tasting Seminar could be funded by BCAWA under the Education Fund.

Please note that the details can be agreed upon later. We only need a few volunteers to make this activity happen! Also no one is obliged to join in if they do not want to participate. Vinovan members have already reviewed it and support it as it appealed to many of the new younger members.