

## Miscellaneous documents from the BCAWA files:

The following documents may be of interest. They are presented in no particular order

1. A one page history of the BCAWA logo prepared by Chas Plant (undated)
2. A 2001 review of the Criteria for BCAWA Silver Pin Awards
3. The original (?) Certificate of Incorporation under the Society Act
4. A Brief History of BCAWA – author unknown, 1998
5. A Draft of Guidelines on Event Liability by JRK, 1995
6. 1998 Strategic Planning Questionnaire ,
  - a. Questionnaire
  - b. Final Report,
  - c. Strategic Planning Committee recommendations
  - d. BCAWA Executive Summary
  - e. Mailing to all clubs re Planning Questionnaire results
7. A list of the Cumulative BCAWA Competition points from 1973 to 1990. The system is explained at the start of the table. It could be updated, but until 1990 we only worked on 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes. The introduction of the medal system means that very many people would have to be added to the table as the number of “winners” increased greatly. I prefer to leave this as a historic document.

Robin McNeil 2019

## The BCAWA Logo



The familiar British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association logo had its beginnings in the gift shop at the Parducci Winery in Ukiah. On one of the early Cal Tours, **Bill Collings** bought a tie tack there in the form of a bunch of grapes.

In early 1977, **Bill** and his wife **Joan**, thought it would make a good basis for a BCAWA membership pin. A design was decided on with a BCAWA "ribbon" added. 75 brass pins and 25 of sterling silver were ordered from Pressed Metal Products on Alexander Street in Vancouver.

The A. W. C. National Competition was being held in Calgary on July 10<sup>th</sup> 1977, and the B. C. Winemakers attending were anxious to have their identifying symbols. Their pins were delivered by Greyhound to Calgary late on Competition day.

While the brass version was available for purchase by all BCAWA Members, the sterling silver one was originally proposed as an award for the "Wineperson of the Year". When this was found to be too difficult to define, it was suggested that all Executive Members should get one. This idea was discarded as being too self serving, and the final decision was made that the Silver Pin should be awarded for service. This practice continues today.

When the original stock of pins was exhausted, a new lot was ordered. The design was somewhat modified, with the "ribbon" getting a border.



The fourth edition of the BCAWA Competition Handbook appeared in January 1980. For the first time, its cover sported a printed copy of the BCAWA pin design executed by **Sal Robinson**. **Sal** later created a computerized version.

**Sal's** computer design has subsequently been used for all sorts of purposes, from letterheads to nametags. BCAWA's current President, **Jack Ziebart** has added some colour, and you can see it at BCAWA's Internet website.

A third version of the pin has been designed by **Clem Joyce**, using the original version of the grapes, the bordered ribbon and more finely detailed grape leaves.





## **A REVIEW OF THE CRITERIA FOR BCAWA SILVER PIN AWARDS**

**November 1996**



### **Purpose:**

To review, update and formulate criteria for the awarding of BCAWA Silver Pins.

### **History,**

The pin was proposed in 1976-1977 by a club member to serve as a unifying symbol for all BCAWA member clubs. The grape cluster with ribbon was adopted during that time. The initial cost was \$4.25 per pin which some member clubs considered outrageous. The first award was made in 1977.

Originally, BCAWA Executive had discussed an award for the "Wineperson of the Year" but this was felt difficult to define. When the pin was proposed there was discussion that the Executive have silver pins to acknowledge their service to BCAWA, with brass pins for regular members. A subsequent Council Meeting determined that this was perhaps somewhat self-serving; that the Silver Pin should be awarded for service to the home-winemaker and the various winemakers organizations as the Executive Committee sees fit "Service" was defined as an acknowledgement of the efforts of the "invisible" person; the individual who is always there, can be counted on, and be counted on consistently, who has contributed on many levels - not for one service performed many times or for one outstanding deed.

### **Sources:**

The recommendations following have been determined through reading of old minutes; from the precedents established by the criteria used to award previous winners; and the combined experiences and memories of this committee, which comprises in total nearly 75 years of BCAWA membership.

### **Recommendations:**

The history of the awards indicates that there are two categories:

#### **Regular and Special**

**Regular:** An individual who belongs to a member club and qualifies by their **service**, participation, support not only to their home club but by direct involvement with other

home-winemaking organizations.

These qualifications are defined as follows:

- Service: To their club: - served on the executive, committees
- BCAWA/AWC: - Club delegate
- served on executive, committees
- Participation: - Attends club meetings, BCAWA Councils
- Participates in forums or programs (Speaker, etc.)
- Supports: - Home club functions
- other member club functions
- BCAWA/AWC functions

... by personal attendance, entering wines, judging/stewarding, etc.

(Note: It is expected that while a candidate may not have accomplished all of the above, the range of his/her contribution should be exceptionally well rounded.)

**Special:** An individual or organization; who, while not necessarily a club member, has actively supported BCAWA and the activities of the home-winemaker over an extended period of time by providing services, information, hospitality; a 'friend'.

[Examples of this category would include:

- John Parducci - (Parducci Wine Cellars, California)
- The Grapevine - (Editor, Tom Robinson)
- Ron Taylor - (Andrés Wines, Spagnols)
- John Armstrong - (AWC Founder, AWO)]

#### **Nominations:**

It is the recommendation of this committee that nominations for the Silver Pin Award be accepted from

- i. BCAWA Executive;
- ii. Member Club Executives;
- iii. Individuals who are members in good standing of member clubs.

Nominations should be written and specific as to status (i,ii,iii) of the nominator **and**, naturally, outline the services of the nominee.

#### **Acceptance/Rejection:**

The acceptance or rejection of any nominee is the ultimate responsibility of the BCAWA Executive Committee. However, they may choose to designate a specific

subcommittee to review nominations and make recommendations.

**Conclusion:**

The Committee respectfully submits this report for approval and adoption; with the final recommendation that it be accepted by the Executive Committee and not be debated at a Council Meeting.

- Joan Collings
- Charles Plant
- Tom Robinson

<p><a href="#"><u>Click here for the nomination form</u></a></p>	<p><a href="#"><u>Home</u></a></p> 
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## Nomination form for the BCAWA Silver Pin Award



The Silver Pin award is to recognize those who have made substantial contributions in furthering home winemaking through service, participation, and support.

Nominations are in either of two categories.

### **Regular Pin Award**

This award is for Individuals who belong to a member club and qualify by their service, participation, support not only to their home club but by direct involvement with other home-winemaking organizations. These qualifications are defined as follows:

**Service:** Club executive or committees  
 BCAWA or AWC Club delegate  
 BCAWA or AWC executive or committees

**Participation:** Attends club meetings, BCAWA meetings, participates in forums or programs outside the home club (speaker, etc.)

**Supports:** Home club functions  
 Other member club functions  
 BCAWA and AWC functions

By personal attendance, entering wines, judging, stewarding, etc.

*(Note: It is expected that while a candidate may not have accomplished all the above, the range of his/her contribution should be exceptionally well rounded.)*

## **Special Pin Award**

This award is for an individual or organization; who, while not necessarily a club member, has actively supported BCAWA and the activities of the home-winemaker over an extended period of time by providing services, information, hospitality; a "friend" of BCAWA.

[Examples of this category would include:

- John Parducci -- Parducci Wine Cellars, California
- The Grapevine -- Editor, Tom Robinson

- Ron Taylor -- Andres Wines, Spagnol's
- John Armstrong -- AWC (Founder) AWO]
- Spagnols – Wine making supplier

### **Nominations:**

Nominations will be accepted from the any individual who is a member in good standing of a member club.

### **Approval**

Nominations received by 1 April will be sent to those past recipients of the Silver Pin who remain active within BCAWA. Their replies will be sent to the BCAWA Secretary in a provided envelope. Those envelopes received by the Secretary by the date of the Provincial Competition will be opened by the BCAWA Executive during the afternoon of the Provincial. If 75% or more affirmative votes have been received, the award will be made during the evening ceremonies. (Abstentions will be counted as affirmative votes.)

### **Past Pin Recipients**

Bill Collings  
Cam McLean  
Charles Plant  
Sal Robinson  
Tony Pearson  
John Parducci  
Malcolm Faviell  
Sapagnol's  
Dave Richie

Joan Collings  
Margaret Fairholm  
Margret Kerry  
Ted Underhill  
Jack Ziebart  
Murray Mackie  
Jack Kouwenhoven  
Ginger Baccus

Lou Curnick  
The Grapevine  
Tom Robinson  
Ron Taylor  
Clem Joyce  
Jock Fairholm  
John Armstrong  
Sonia Garlinge

<b>NOMINATION FOR THE SLIVER PIN AWARD</b>
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I  
nominate: \_\_\_\_\_

of  
club: \_\_\_\_\_

The above nominee has served BCAWA and AWC

as: \_\_\_\_\_

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The nominee has participated in inter-club meetings, BCAWA/AWC Council, forums, and programs

as: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Attach a separate page detailing the service, participation, and support this nominee has contributed in furthering home winemaking.*

Nominated by  
(print): \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member of club: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominations may be made throughout the year. The completed form must be in the hands of the BCAWA Secretary no later than 1 April for the award to be presented in the current year.*

*For the Special Silver Pin award submit a written nomination.*

Do not write in this space. For Sliver Pin holders only.

Yes

No

*If you have any problems printing this form send an email request to the BCAWA webmaster for a form in MS Word format.*

BCAWA Home



copy

NUMBER: S-33505



**SOCIETY ACT**

CANADA  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

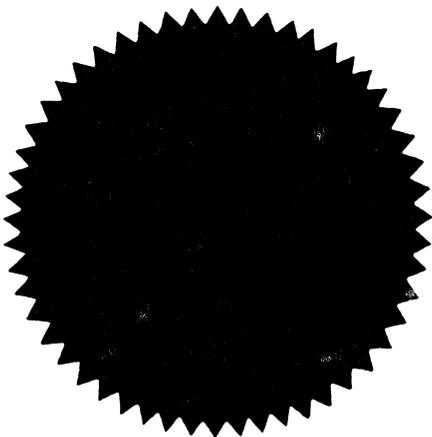
**CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION**

*I Hereby Certify that*

**BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION**

has this day been incorporated under the *Society Act*

*Issued under my hand at Victoria, British Columbia  
on April 19, 1995*



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Powell".

JOHN S. POWELL  
*Registrar of Companies*

# **British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association**

## **A Brief History**

Amateur winemakers have been around for a long time in British Columbia. European immigrants brought traditional winemaking methods with them; Armed Forces veterans returning from Europe after the Second World War brought a new interest in wine.

Good raw materials for winemaking were not readily available – B. C.'s first commercial winery made its wine from loganberries.

Wine Art opened its first store, on Broadway in Vancouver, in 1957. They offered Spanish made grape concentrates and the like. The law required them to have their windows covered with brown paper so passers by couldn't see what was being offered for sale within.

Reefer trailers started appearing in vacant lots on the east side of Vancouver in the fall. They sold lugs of Zinfandel, Palomino and other grapes grown in California's Central Valley.

Trailers of these grapes could also be found in the parking lot at Spagnol's at the east end of Ewen Avenue across the Queensborough bridge.

In the early 1960's the first winemaking clubs started organizing and by the end of the decade amateur winemaking was doing well in B. C. Several wine clubs held annual invitational competitions, to each of which was invariably attached a social event. Thus the winemakers in the Fraser Valley, Penticton, Victoria, Vancouver, Coquitlam and North Vancouver all got to know each other quite well.

There was another competition, run by the Penticton Harvest and Grape Festival each fall. Of course, this was a good opportunity to obtain grapes from the Okanagan and Similkameen. Labruscas were grown in abundance and turned into "foxy" wines. French hybrids such as Seibel 10878 or Baco Number 1 made a much better product. A white grape of dubious parentage called "Okanagan Riesling" was probably the most widely used white grape.

It is interesting to note, in the light of today's (1998) debate about "varietal wines", that pretty well all wines at this time were pure varietals. There really was no other choice.

Realizing it would be more fun if all Winemakers attending the Grape Festival were all under the same roof, some members of the Bacchus Alumni club of Abbotsford undertook a bit of organizing. Many will remember the times at the Flamingo Motel in Penticton.

On a separate note, in May 1971 an event occurred that would help keep B. C. Amateur Winemakers in touch with each other – The Grapevine was born. The founders were from four different clubs; Cordova Bay, VINOVAN, Bacchus Alumni and Vancouver. The Grapevine continues to this day as an autonomous newsletter providing competition results, club news and winemaking topics to members of B. C. wine clubs.

During the 1971 Penticton Grape Festival, the Penticton Winemaker's Guild hosted a dinner on the "S. S. Sicamous". The date was September 24<sup>th</sup>. At that dinner were about 150 amateur winemakers representing ten or so wine making clubs from all over the Province. A suggestion was made that some sort of provincial wine making organization might be a good idea.

The direct result of this was a committee known as PIC – the Provincial Investigation Committee. The five committee members came from VINOVAN, Bacchus Alumni, Coquitlam and the Vancouver Amateur Winemakers Association.

Over a series of meetings during the ensuing year, PIC constructed a questionnaire and circulated it to all clubs. It collected the results, analyzed them and devised a set of "Operating Parameters".

By the fall of 1972, interest in the now annual Penticton gathering had grown to the point that the year's Host Club, VINOVAN, had to book the entire Pilgrim House motel and make arrangements for the overflow to be accommodated at the Stardust Inn across the way.

On the morning of September 16<sup>th</sup> 1972, twenty one winemakers from ten different clubs attended the final meeting of PIC in the Wayfarer's Room of the Pilgrim House.

The "Operating Parameters" plus a set of proposals for a Provincial Competition were unanimously approved for presentation to a General Meeting in the evening. A slate of officers to serve as the first executive was selected. It included members from Bacchus Alumni, Burnaby Vinegar Flies, Coquitlam Winemakers and VAWA.

The essence of the "Operating Parameters" was as follows:

Name: British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association.

Objectives:

Assist in organizing meetings involving all clubs

Assist in organizing a B.C. amateur winemaker's competition

Assist both organized clubs and those wishing to become organized in whatever ways possible.

Deal with outside organizations as necessary

Although it wasn't written into the objectives, it was clearly understood from the very beginning that BCAWA would be the servant of the clubs and would have no business interfering in their internal affairs in any way. This principle has been carefully adhered to through the years.

Proposals for the Provincial Competition were:

BCAWA to set down the governing rules.

Implementation of the competition and attendant social event to be carried out by Host Clubs.

The General Meeting approved the whole package and The British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association was in business.

The date of the first Provincial Competition was set for May 26<sup>th</sup> 1973. The classes were established to be the same as those in the Amateur Winemakers of Canada National Competition. Those classes distinguished wines by purpose rather than by ingredient. There were two beer classes, light and dark, and a cider class. In addition two classes for B. C. grapes, red and white, were established.

VAWA was the first Host Club. Members of the Competition Committee were from Bacchus Alumni and VINOVAN as well as from the Host Club.

Two file folders containing the experience gained from running the first Competition were passed on and promptly lost. Out of this was born the "Competition Handbook", 23 purple pages run off on a "ditto" machine.

Today (1998) the eighth revised edition of the Handbook is available on computer disc, and when printed out, runs to well over 50 pages. It contains, of course, information specific to the BCAWA competition. However it goes beyond that and includes information useful to any group wishing to set a competition or even a private tasting. Everything from equipment lists to sample scoring sheets is there. Two quite different scoring systems are described in detail.

In the early days, Judges for the Provincial Competition were found in the wine profession, outside the ranks of amateurs. Reasons for this included concerns about conflict of interest and lack of knowledge about the judging abilities of amateurs. It was just assumed that professionals would be competent.

At the October 1973 BCAWA Executive meeting, a report was commissioned to "...correlate available information and ideas concerning the possible formation of a Provincial Guild of Judges."

The report was submitted in February the following year. It took three more years to actually get the concept off the ground.

In September 1976, the BCAWA Secretary received a detailed proposal for the establishing a Guild of Wine Judges. The BCAWA Council accepted the proposal. A committee was appointed, and the then Winemaster at André's Winery retained to design and run the first training program.

The program ran for 15 weekly two hour sessions from February to June 1977. The final session was an exam. All 18 participants passed.

The Judges Guild at this point consisted only of people from the lower mainland, and action was taken to get people on Vancouver Island involved.

An early training session held in Victoria had to do with threshold and discrimination testing of various wine components – acidity, bitterness, sweetness etc. The test solutions had been made up using Vancouver tap water. The palate rinsing water was from the Victoria water supply. The difference was so pronounced that the session was a complete failure.

The effort continued, however, and the Vancouver Island branch of the Judges Guild became established. For some time, there was much travelling across the waters to attend Guild sessions on either side. At a certain point, interest on the part of mainland members began to drop off, and Guild activities came to be held exclusively on the Island. Latterly, efforts have been made to revive training programs on the mainland.

The original "Operating Parameters" under which BCAWA was founded have long since been replaced. First by a more formal "Constitution and By-laws", and more recently by a new set of regulations in part imposed on BCAWA when it chose to be included under the Society Act. This latter move was made necessary by the possible threat of law suits arising from third party liability actions.

Finances have from time to time been a problem, and in times past chocolate bar sales and raffles helped out. People got sick of chocolate and raffles became illegal. Today an important part of our funding comes from the "Silent Auction" held in conjunction with the Competition. This event would not be the success it is without the generosity of many Clubs and Individual Members, and in particular Commercial Supporters such as Spagnol's.

BCAWA first hosted the Amateur Winemakers of Canada National Competition in 1975, and has done so roughly every four years since. In some cases, individual Clubs did the hosting, though many times the job was done by members of several Clubs working together.

For many years, BCAWA held its Annual General Meeting and its Competition at different times of the year. Eventually it was decided to bring these two events together on the same weekend. That is what happens today.

The AGM, as are all General Council Meetings, is open to all BCAWA Members. They are free to offer their opinions on all matters brought up. Voting, however, is confined to a single Delegate from each Member Club.

The elected officers of BCAWA consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Steward (usually from the next Host Club) National Director and four other Directors. Various Committees and the position of Archivist are by appointment. The Executive meets a few weeks prior to each Council Meeting, of which there are three including the AGM.

BCAWA can be found on the Internet at:  
<http://nanaimo.ark.com/~jziebart/index.html>

Archives, October 30 1998.

# British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association

## Guidelines on Event Liability

*Note: This document is merely a set of guidelines. Although they are recommended, they are not a mandatory set of rules backed by By-Laws. Each BCAWA member club is free to apply them as they see fit, and to augment them to meet local needs. Feedback on them is always welcome.*

### **Purpose**

To provide the means whereby BCAWA meetings can be held in a responsible, liability-free, manner. In the event of legal action against them BCAWA, its members or the members of a BCAWA club, who have followed the guidelines, will have a strong defence against liability for events occurring during or following meetings. The guidelines are based on the principles and legal requirements of the Serving It Right Program as they apply to BCAWA Provincial and Local club and committee meetings, and recommends how they might be applied at various meetings.

The essence of this new initiative is to provide a common set of guidelines, based in law, that can be used to demonstrate that BCAWA members are continually informed of, and follow, practices at their meetings that ensure responsible behaviour, including especially the 'Duty of Care' required by the Occupier's Liability Act. It has been argued that any person or group responsible for holding a meeting is in effect the Occupier, with responsibility for the 'duty of care' of those attending. Non-compliance with this responsibility is the basis for most law suits.

### **Background**

The question of liability insurance has been a matter of ongoing study and concern for more than two years. [\*When was it started?]. In 1995 a major BCAWA initiative was taken to limit liability by formally registering the British Columbia Amateur Winemaking Association as a non-profit organization, in accordance with the British Columbia Societies Act. During the same year it became clear that the current cost of liability insurance had risen to the point where it had become unaffordable. More significantly, past legal precedents showed that having insurance may in fact attract liability suits, rather than providing protection.

The BCAWA Council passed a motion at the Fall '95 Council meeting acknowledging that the current cost of BCAWA event insurance is prohibitive and, even if obtained, would not likely provide full liability protection. Instead the Council decided that a more prudent course was to avoid event liability at meetings by providing guidelines for the use of BCAWA members.

A second motion appointed a sub-committee to develop guidelines to address Event Liability, modeled on BC's 'Serving It Right Program'. This program was developed by Government and Private sectors of the BC Hospitality Industry to promote the principles and procedures to be used for responsible management of public and private events where liquor is being served.

The sub-committee's Terms of Reference were to prepare guidelines that embodied those principles and practices described in the Serving It Right program which would be relevant to all BCAWA

members. Under the BCAWA Constitution, BCAWA members are the member clubs. The guidelines were to be prepared in a form that would make them valuable for all categories of meetings that are held under the BCAWA umbrella.

## **Approach**

This document is to be considered as a guideline. It is issued as the result of the work of the sub-committee appointed by the BCAWA Executive. It is recommended for initial use on a trial basis by member clubs, which are invited to provide comments and suggestions for improvements. Once proven to a member club's satisfaction, then it should remain visible and be referred to on an ongoing basis. Its regular application will in effect be a form of liability protection.

It is not intended that the subject of liability will continue to occupy a lot of the future time of the Executive or Council, nor will formal approval of these guidelines be sought from members, unless specifically proposed and passed in Council. The intent is to provide guidance, rather than a formal set of rules, so that those responsible for holding meetings can be alert to their potential liability and can take the responsible steps needed to show that they regularly act in accordance with their legal 'Duty of Care'.

Although most BCAWA meetings do not require a Liquor Control Board license, legal responsibilities also extend to the Occupier's Liability Act. It is this act which is usually the focus of law suits. For this reason the section of the Serving It Right Program which deals with occupier liability provides an essential basis for responsible BCAWA action.

Every Licensee is required by law to fulfil the responsibilities described in the Serving It Right Program. In turn the law also allows the licensee to exercise control in specific ways. This authority is the foundation of the program. In the case of BCAWA, everyone attending a meeting needs to be informed and to understand that the persons responsible for the conduct of each BCAWA meeting have some of the same rights and responsibilities to exercise their authority. Likewise, those attending the meeting in any capacity are required to behave responsibly too.

## **Legal Aspects**

The following information has been adapted for BCAWA use. It is based on the Licensee Program Manual which is part of the Serving It Right self-study package:

Attitudes to the use of alcohol are changing; now everyone who makes alcohol available is expected to be responsible for ensuring that it is consumed responsibly. Society no longer tolerates overservice of alcohol.

Those who assume responsibility for a function where alcohol is being served need to:

- understand their responsibilities;
- be sure that they can be carried out;
- show concern for participants' safety;
- understand the principles courts use to assign fault.

The Serving It Right Program is mandatory for Licensees and Servers in the industry. It establishes the principles and practices needed for the responsible service of alcoholic beverages; courts may not assign liability differently just because BCAWA 'managers' and 'servers' are volunteers.

In licensed establishments the manager and servers are required to exercise control by:

- withholding alcohol from those intoxicated or under age;
- removing intoxicated persons from the premises;
- barring entry to intoxicated persons;
- maintaining adequate lighting to observe and avoid potential problems;
- not consuming liquor while working.

The Occupier's Liability Act addresses the principle of 'duty of care'. Occupier(s) can be considered to be those who have control of the premises.

- on premises, the duty owed is safe condition of the premises, good behaviour of third parties and of servers;
- off premises the duty owed is to an injured participant and/or to third parties affected;
- the determining considerations are based on whether the actions taken by the Occupier were reasonable and with sufficient foresight. For example, courts have ruled in the case of overindulgence, the supplier of alcohol must either provide a place to sleep it off or ensure someone is responsible to see the intoxicated person home safely.

The overall strategy for demonstrating responsible management control has three parts:

- controlling access
- controlling through prevention
- controlling through intervention

When Control by Intervention is necessary:

- assess the situation carefully;
- delegate specific responsibilities;
- take the action required;
- record key details of what you did, why and the outcome.

## **The effects of Alcohol on the Body**

Intoxication occurs when alcohol enters the blood stream. The actual amounts required to reach levels of unsafe behaviour and impairment vary according to body weight. This relationship is shown in Appendix B, the Drinking Driving CounterAttack chart. Certain drugs can increase the intoxicating effect by as much as five times. People in good physical condition have a higher ratio of muscle to fat and are somewhat less affected by alcohol than less fit people of the same weight. For the same reason women, having a higher percent of fat, tend to absorb more alcohol than men of the same weight and condition.

Once in the blood stream, 90% of the alcohol is eliminated through the liver. With time the Blood Alcohol Count (BAC) drops at an hourly rate of .015 until sober. Drinking coffee, exercise and cold showers do not change this elimination rate.

The number of drinks consumed determines the amount of alcohol which enters the body, but there are several factors that influence the rate at which it is absorbed into the bloodstream.

The rate may be dramatically increased when combined with drugs or medicine such as cough syrups. Carbonated drinks such as champagne and liquor with carbonated mixers also increase the rate of absorption and may lead more quickly to intoxication.

The rate of absorption is slowed down by eating food. The type of food determines how long the alcohol and food are held in the stomach before being absorbed into the blood stream. Foods high in fat, such as french fries or hamburgers are held for two or three hours, whereas pasta, say, is digested much more quickly.

The rate of absorption is also slowed by anxiety, since the stomach secretes a substance that slows down digestion. Be ware of those that try to overcome this effect by drinking more and faster. Once they succeed in relaxing, the absorption rate will increase dramatically.

## **Implementation**

BCAWA member clubs are invited to implement these guiding principles and practices in two steps. First the club executive should review this guideline and decide to adopt it in principle, then second take specific steps to apply it at meetings. These guidelines include several actions that need to be settled during the second implementation stage

True, individual member clubs may want to make modifications to suit local needs and custom, however it is strongly recommended that the underlying principles and practices described here be adopted. When the guidelines are widely and consistently applied a clear image of province-wide, responsible behaviour will be evident in the community at large.

It is recommended that all members of BCAWA clubs should become familiar with this guideline. Once endorsed locally, a written copy could be included as part of 'New Member Handout Material'. In addition each club should consider selecting one member, or preferably more, who regularly attend meetings and ask them to take the Serving It Right course. Taking the course is a simple matter, involving reading a short manual and completing a self-administered open book examination. The cost is \$48, which presumably will be born by clubs for those to be assigned the responsibility. Incidentally this qualification is useful to have as it is required in order to obtain a Special Occasion Licence. In addition the club may want to provide copies of the Serving It Right Manual for each Executive member.

## Actions to Consider

In order to undertake the actual implementation consider the items in the following table:

	Actions	Considerations
1	Decide who will have regular responsibility to ensure that Event Liability planning and monitoring is in effect at each meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- assign to person who has taken the Serving It Right program, or</li> <li>- assign as duty of a specific office, e.g. V.P.</li> <li>- ensure back-up is available if needed</li> </ul>
2	Decide on usual responsibilities of selected person, e.g.. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- display warning notice</li> <li>- make announcement</li> <li>- oversee pouring</li> <li>- set member consumption maximum</li> <li>- set own consumption maximum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what relevant materials will person display</li> <li>- what verbal message/reminder will person give to all</li> <li>- what means will person use to oversee dispensing of liquor</li> <li>- what quantity/person will be permitted during the meeting</li> </ul>
3	Decide on control responsibilities of selected person <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- limit excess consumption</li> <li>- ensure safe passage home</li> <li>- make record of incidents/witnesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- how will others be involved</li> <li>- what means used to take keys, call taxis, ask a person to leave</li> <li>- what form of record to use as evidence</li> </ul>
4	Decide on means of informing new members about Event Liability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- verbal explanation of their responsibilities</li> <li>- provide a copy of the guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- who will brief</li> <li>- who will provide guidelines</li> </ul>
5	Decide means to monitor program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- discussion by President</li> <li>- member feedback</li> <li>- minutes to record feedback</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- is the mood of members cooperative/ hostile</li> <li>- what will keep things positive</li> <li>- what to do to make the 'Duty of Care' welcome</li> </ul>
6	Encourage members to take the Serving It Right program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- pay all/part of the fee</li> <li>- stress need for 'Duty of Care'</li> </ul>
7	Consider steps to reduce liability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- serve coffee/tea to buy time</li> <li>- stop pouring before meeting ends</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- how long before meeting ends</li> </ul>

This is a sample notice that can be displayed at each club meeting to reinforce the BCAWA commitment to the responsible management of member meetings.

*Tear off along this line and add the relevant club name as a heading*

---

## Notice

The Policy of this Club, as a member of the British Columbia Winemakers Association, is to conduct all meetings in accordance with the responsibilities described in the British Columbia 'Serving It Right' program. To this end:

1. The club strives to conduct its affairs at all times in such a manner as to ensure that it does not incur any liability to its members or any third party;
2. A qualified member is assigned and introduced at each meeting to oversee the responsible consumption of alcohol and is given the authority to do so;
3. If and when the need arises, each member is required to cooperate with the assigned member as necessary to ensure the safety of others attending, both during and following the meeting;
4. Each member planning to drive is expected to be aware of and stay within his/her consumption limit as determined by the Drinking Driving Counterattack program;
5. All members and their guests are reminded of their responsibility to each other, in accordance with the principles of Duty of Care;
6. Any member who has reason to believe that another member is intoxicated to the point where he/she is not legally permitted to drive is responsible to inform the assigned member referred to above
7. Members and guests are encouraged to make suggestions that further the goals of safe and responsible performance of all aspects of the club's activities.

January, 1996

**Drinking Driving CounterAttack**  
**Blood Alcohol Content Chart**

Drinks	1	2	3	4	5
100 lbs	.043	.087	.130	.174	.217
125 lbs	.034	.069	.103	.139	.173
150 lbs	.029	.058	.087	.116	.145
175 lbs	.025	.050	.075	.100	.125
200 lbs	.022	.043	.065	.087	.108
225 lbs	.019	.039	.058	.078	.097
250 lbs	.017	.035	.052	.070	.087
STOP NOW make this your limit			UNSAFE for driving		IMPAIRED above legal limit

**How to use the Chart:**

1. Find the column with the number of drinks in the top row;
2. Find the line that matches the approximate body weight;
3. The figure where 1. and 2. intersect is the estimated BAC;
4. Deduct from line 3. the figure below which is next to the number of hours since the first drink. This will compensate for the body's elimination of alcohol.

1 hr...015	2 hr...030	3 hr...045	4 hr...060	5 hr...075	6 hr...090
------------	------------	------------	------------	------------	------------

If the resulting BAC is .050 or more, driving is unsafe. Over .080 is illegal.

**Warning:** Some drugs and medicine (e.g. cough syrups) can increase impairment levels by as much as five times.

In this table 1 drink = 12 oz.(340ml) beer, or 1 1/2 oz.(45ml) liquor or 5 oz.(150ml) wine. These are average drinks.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR WINEMAKERS ASSOCIATION

1988 survey

STRATEGIC PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Are you aware of the following?  
Please circle yes or no.

Provincial Competition	yes	no
BCAWA Annual General Meeting	yes	no
Council Meetings	yes	no
Grapevine	yes	no
Educational Seminars	yes	no
California Wine Tours	yes	no
B.C. Guild of Wine Judges	yes	no

2. How important are these programs to you?  
Please circle the number for your response.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not at all Important
Provincial Competition	2	1	0
BCAWA Annual General Meeting	2	1	0
Council Meetings	2	1	0
Grapevine	2	1	0
Educational Seminars	2	1	0
California Wine Tours	2	1	0
B.C. Guild of Wine Judges	2	1	0

3. Which of the following BCABA Provincial Competitions did you attend?

- I have never attended a BCABA Provincial Competition.
- 1983 or before
- 1984
- 1985
- 1986
- 1987

4. If you did attend the 1987 BCABA Provincial Competition in Vancouver, which aspects of the convention were important in your decision to attend? If you did not attend, please go to question 5.

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not at all Important
Desirable location	2	1	0
My club pays expenses	2	1	0
Social functions	2	1	0
As a Wine Judge	2	1	0
As a Wine Steward	2	1	0
To meet others interested in wine making	2	1	0
Other: Please specify			
_____	2	1	0
_____			

Please go to question 6

5. If you did not attend the 1987 BCABA Provincial Competition in Vancouver, which aspects were important in your decision?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not at all Important
Lodging too expensive	2	1	0
Program was not worthwhile	2	1	0
Registration fee too high	2	1	0
Undesirable location	2	1	0
Other: Please specify			
_____			
_____			

6. Which of the following BCAWA Provincial Competitions did you enter wine#?

- I have never entered a wine
- 1983 or before
- 1984
- 1985
- 1986
- 1987

7. If you entered wine in a competition, how do you rate?

	Agree	Too Critical	Unhappy
Competition Organization	2	1	0
Judges selected	2	1	0
Comments (Judges)	2	1	0
Keeper trophies and ribbons	2	1	0

Other: Please specify

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8. The stated aim of BCAWA is "To develop and share the skills of making wine, beer and cider." Is this adequate and appropriate for:

- to-day
  - to-day and short term (1 year)
  - to-day and long term
  - Comments: \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- 

9. Listed below are six (6) stated objectives to achieve the foregoing aim. How important do you think it is for BCAWA to perform each of these functions?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not at all Important	No Opinion
Establishing and maintaining communications amongst local, provincial and National Associations with similar aims.	3	2	1	0
Acting, as necessary as a Liasion between B.C. Amateur Winemakers and representatives of other such-like organizations.	3	2	1	0
Giving assistance to winemaking clubs as requested: such as helping to organize new clubs, providing speakers and making available printed information.	3	2	1	0
Helping to organize an annual competition.	3	2	1	0
Encouraging the organization of Wine, beer, ale and cider makers where the interchange of ideas and information may take place.	3	2	1	0
Encouraging and assisting the B.C. Guild of Wine Judges.	3	2	1	0

10. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements by circling the appropriate number. Where 5 is Strongly agree and 1 is Strongly Disagree. Use 3 if you don't know, have no opinions, or are neutral towards any issue

	Strongly Agree	4	Don't Know	2	Strongly Disagree
BCAWA effectively represents all Clubs' interests	5	4	3	2	1
BCAWA serves your clubs needs in:					
Education	5	4	3	2	1
Competitions	5	4	3	2	1
Wine Appreciation	5	4	3	2	1
Geographic location of Member Clubs cause conflict and a lack of co-operation within the association.	5	4	3	2	1
Outgoing club executives of member clubs cause conflict and a lack of co-operation within the association.	5	4	3	2	1
In the future, services and programs offered by other associations are likely to reduce my reliance on BCAWA for such services.	5	4	3	2	1
A form of membership should be available to Winemakers who are not affiliated with a wine club.	5	4	3	2	1
BCAWA is effective in recommending programs and services to AWC.	5	4	3	2	1
BCAWA programs and services are designed for my type of winemaking	5	4	3	2	1

11. During the past five years, have you served as a member of the executive or on a committee in any of the following organizations?

Your wine club?	yes	no
BCAWA	yes	no
BC Guild of Judges	yes	no
AWC	yes	no
Other: Please specify		

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12. In your opinion, decreased attendance at inter-club competitions by participating members of wine clubs can be attributed to

Geographic location	yes	no
Lodging too expensive	yes	no
Social function too expensive	yes	no
Too much time from work	yes	no
Other: Please specify		

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13. How long have you been a member of a wine club?

- less than 1 year
- 2 - 5 years
- 5 - 10 years
- more than 10 years

14. Some wine-club members believe that more time should be devoted to education at regular wine-club meetings. How do you feel about this?

- Strongly agree
- Agree somewhat
- Not sure/don't know
- Disagree somewhat
- Strongly disagree

15. How do you feel about an educational seminar in conjunction with the AGM?

- Strongly agree
- Agree somewhat
- Not sure/don't know
- Disagree somewhat
- Strongly disagree

16. How do you feel about educational seminars in conjunction with the Provincial Competitions?

- Strongly agree
- Agree somewhat
- not sure/don't know
- Disagree somewhat
- Strongly disagree

17. How suitable would educational seminars at an AGM or Provincial Competition of the following lengths be?

	Most Suitable	Somewhat Suitable	Not at all Suitable
----- a breakfast seminar	2	1	0
----- a half-day seminar	2	1	0
----- a one-day seminar	2	1	0

18. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements by circling the appropriate number.

	Strongly Agree		Don't Know		Strongly Disagree
Increase BCWA membership; by establishing regional chapters due to geographical location.	5	4	3	2	1
Regional Chapters to have Executive Board representation	5	4	3	2	1
Feasibility of BCWA compensating these Regional Chapters for reasonable expenses to attend executive & council meetings.	5	4	3	2	1

19. Comments:

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Final Report

Introduction

In January 1988 a questionnaire was developed to carry out a survey of Amateur Winemakers associated with various winemaking clubs in the Province. There were several interrelated purposes for the study: To ascertain Amateur Winemakers' perceptions about the BCAWA, to obtain feedback about proposed direction for the BCAWA which would be useful to the BCAWA Strategic Planning Committee, and to obtain Amateur Winemakers' opinions about various educational issues relating to winemakers.

Organization of this Report

The questionnaire designed for this survey consisted of three sections:

- Part one : Wine Club Organization
- Part two : Wine Making Education
- Part three : About you.

Sampling Procedures

Early in this project it was decided to forward sufficient questionnaires to all of the clubs in order that every member would have an opportunity to respond. A conservative estimate of 40% returned rate would be an adequate number for the proposed analysis. However, there was concern that we have some large clubs and some with very few members. In view of this, it was hoped that the Club Presidents would ensure a maximum return rate of the smaller clubs.

Return Rate

All the responses received were used for data analysis; there were 106 questionnaires returned.

It is reasonable to assume that the respondents in some way felt more strongly about the issues in question. For example, in answer to question 3, "Which of the following BCAWA Provincial Competitions did you attend?" it was noted that there was a steadily declining number from 1986 (n = 21) to 1983 (n = 51). Although the numbers are small relative to the entire sample, this example does illustrate the probability that more "committed" people are slightly more likely to respond to a survey such as this.

Results

Part One : Wine Club Organizations

Awareness of BCAWA Services and Programs

The first two questions of the questionnaire concerned the respondent's awareness of, his/her perceived importance of various programs and activities of the BCAWA. Virtually all respondents were aware of the Provincial Competition and the Grapevine, 89% were aware of the BCAWA AGM, and 26% think it very important. The Grapevine is known by 97%, and the Guild of Wine Judges by 88%. California Wine Tours by 94% and Educational Seminars by 45%.

The Grapevine is perceived as the most important task of those listed, followed at a great distance by Educational Seminars. It is important to note that Educational Seminars are perceived as "somewhat important" or "very important" by 89% of the respondents.

Provincial Competitions

In 1984, 13% attended the Provincial Competition; only 9% of the respondents in 1985; 11.6% in 1986 and 14.% in 1987. The major reason for not attending the Provincial Competitions were explored in question 5. Of the reasons suggested "desired location" was the most important at 78% of the respondents. Cost of lodging were very important deterrents for 41%. It is noted that the frequency and missing valid percent is for some reason extremely high in question 4 and 5 ranging from 73% to 88%. It is important to keep in mind that responses to these questions are based on a small number of respondents. The reason for this has not been determined.

### Provincial Competitions (continued)

The percentage of wines entered in competitions from 1984 to 1987 remained virtually the same at an average of 13%. It is interesting to note 98% of the respondents agree with the competition and organization; 91% agree with the judges selected; 75% with the Judges' Comments and 93% rate the keep trophies and ribbons satisfactory. Here again it is to be noted that the missing in question 7 vary from 57% to 63%.

### Aims and Objectives of BCWA

Only 12% of the respondents indicate that the aim is adequate for today, 15% for the short term and 73% for the long term. Communications and Liasion were considered very important by more than 50% of the responses. However, assistance, annual competitions and encouraging organization by more than 60%. Help from the B.C. Guild of Wine Judges is considered "scmewhat" and "very" important and by 89% of those surveyed.

Response to question 10 indicates the greatest number fall into the category of don't know, have no opinion, or are neutral towards any issue followed by strongly agree and very close by strongly disagree.

### BCWA and Clubs

A representation of 66% of the Amateur Winemakers have served in some capacity in their clubs. BCWA 13%, B.C. Guild of Judges 10% and AWC 4%.

Decreased attendance at inter-club competitions is attributed to lodging too expensive 71%, social functions too expensive 45%. Note that the missing range from 53% to 58%.

There is a steady decline in new membership. Members with more than 10 years account for 40%, 5 to 10 years 20%, 2 to 5 years, 26% and less than one year 14%.

### Part two: Wine Making Education

In response to question 14, 68% of the respondents indicated that they strongly agree that more time should be devoted to education at regular wine club meetings.

Question 15 and 16 presented respondents with the issue of seminars at the AGM and Provincial Competitions. 38% agree with seminars at the AGM while 26% don't know. The response to seminars at the Provincial Competition is scmewhat similar, only reversed 29% agree and 32% don't know.

In question 17, respondents were asked about optimum scheduling of educational seminars. It is noteworthy that the half-day seminar is most acceptable, with 62% stating that the half-day seminar is most acceptable, "most suitable". Breakfast seminars would be "most suitable" for 32% of respondents. Again more than 30% remained silent.

### Part three: about you

Question 18 asked respondents to indicate their degree of agreement or disagreement with statements about Regional Chapters and compensation for attending meetings. For this question, a verbal anchor ("strongly agree") was provided for the value 5, and for the value 3 ("don't know") and for the value 1 ("strongly disagree"). For analysis, the percentage of respondents circling values 4 and 5 is presented here. In response to the statement "Increase BCWA membership; by establishing regional chapters due to geographical location" 43% stated they did not know. A larger percentage 73% did not know if Regional Chapters should have Executive Board representation. On the issue of compensating these Regional Chapters for reasonable expenses to attend executive and council meeting 73% did not know.

## Comments

At the end of the questionnaire, respondents were encouraged to write in any other comments they had. About 15% of the respondents made some type of comment in this section. The majority of comments support the questionnaire. Of course, some of the comments are interesting, but irrelevant to the issues being explored in the survey.

A sample of comments is presented here:

What educational programs does BCAWA offer? Should BCAWA take on such an event as the Amateur Wine Clinics in conjunction with the Vancouver Wine Festival?

Education on making better wines is the way to go.

Informal exchanges are more valueable than organizations where proceedings become cumbersome

To develop and share winemaking skills requires an education program.

Invite professional winemakers to judge amateur wines.

## Discussion

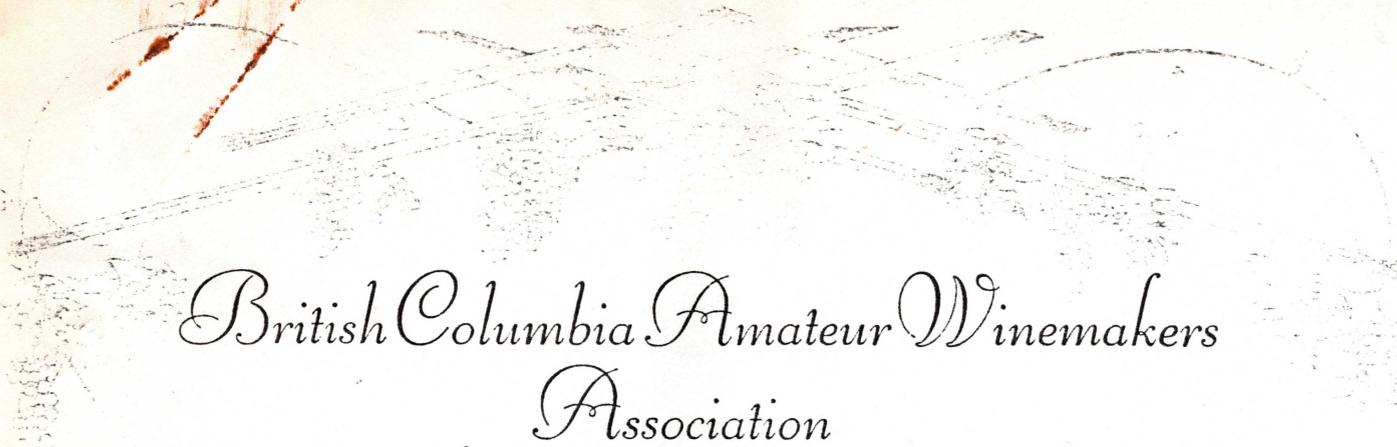
It is hoped that the questionnaire served to stimulate some knowledge about BCAWA, encourage discussion and new membership.

Of respondents who have attended inter-club competitions and the Provincial competition, cited the cost of lodging was an important deterrant.

Amateur winemakers appear to be relatively-well disposed towards education seminars, as evidenced by their responses to the questions and comments. Respondents seem best predisposed to the half-day seminars but were split on seminars in conjunction with the AGM and Provincial Competitions.

Concerning new membership, there is a slow-steady decline in new-member Amateur Winemakers. It seems probable that an education program would be viewed favourable by new members.

In summary, virtually all respondents agree with the present organization of the Competition. Favourable responses for the B.C. Guild of Judges and the overall performance of BCAWA. However, the responses indicate concern for to-day and the long term.



*British Columbia Amateur Winemakers  
Association*

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

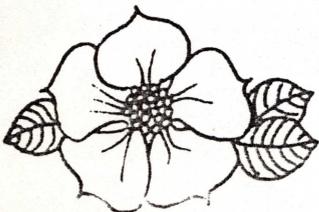
RECOMMENDATIONS

May 07, 1989

Members

Tom Robinson  
Jock Fairholm  
Margaret Fairholm

Ted Adye  
Marg Kerry  
Tony Pearson



BCAWA STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATIONS	IMPLEMENTATIONS	ACTION BY
<p>1. Reaffirm the aims and objectives of BCAWA by:</p> <p>a) Establishing and maintaining communications amongst local, provincial and national associations with similar aims.</p> <p>b) Acting, as necessary as a liaison between B.C. Amateur Winemakers and representatives or other such-like organizations.</p> <p>c) Giving assistance to Winemaking Clubs as requested such as helping to organize new clubs, providing speakers and making available printed information.</p> <p>d) Helping to organize an annual competition.</p> <p>e) Encouraging the organization of wine, beer and cider makers where the interchange of ideas and information may take place.</p> <p>f) Encouraging and assisting the B.C. Guild of Wine Judges.</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>BCAWA</p>
<p>2. BCAWA shall continue to be a member-driven democratic organization, as such, its parameters shall not be expanded to impose its authority on the internal affairs of Member Clubs.</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>BCAWA</p>
<p>3. BCAWA will host a luncheon on an annual basis for current wine club Presidents and Vice Presidents. This luncheon will be scheduled prior to the afternoon council meeting.</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>BCAWA</p>
<p>4. Continual revision of the BCAWA Handbook</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>BCAWA</p>
<p>5. BCAWA to produce a detailed Provincial Competition Manual including in its contents a standard comment sheet.</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>BCAWA</p>

RECOMMENDATIONS	IMPLEMENTATION	ACTION BY
<p>6. Clubs are encouraged to:</p> <p>a) Host Council Meetings, the Provincial Competition, AGM and the National Competition.</p> <p>b) Invite non-club members to enter an open class(s) in their competition(s) to promote wine club membership.</p> <p>c) Achieve greater membership in clubs, the formation of new clubs and the value of having Club and Provincial Competitions.</p> <p>d) Request assistance from BCAWA in planning educational programs to upgrade winemaking skills of their members.</p> <p>e) Include educational, technical hints and current items of interest to their members at club meetings.</p> <p>f) Have club correspondents and individual members continue to send their articles, reports, letters to the editor, etc., to the Grapevine.</p>	Immediate	Club Presidents
<p>7. Scheduling educational programs in conjunction with designated council meetings. The necessary funds required will be funded in part by BCAWA on a as required basis.</p>	Immediate	BCAWA Club Presidents
<p>8. Promote the benefits of association with BCAWA on a continual basis.</p>	Immediate	BCAWA Club Presidents
<p>9. The AGM agenda will include a club profile for the 12-month period prior to the meetings. The standard format to be developed by BCAWA.</p>	Future	BCAWA Club Presidents
<p>10. As BCAWA expands into areas and broadens its boundaries, all clubs should have representation at council meetings and the AGM through Directors at Large. (i.e., Clubs in the Okanogan, Kootenays and Northern Vancouver Island.)</p>	Long Range	BCAWA AGM

April 17 1999

**BCAWA SURVEY**  
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At summary of the survey tells us the following: For full details please refer to the full survey.

1. The lower mainland, which has 9 of the BCAWA Clubs, has the poorest attendance record at meetings and competitions.
2. Of the 23 clubs in BCAWA most meetings are attended by the same 8-10 clubs
3. Some clubs do not attend meetings because it is costly, members do not want to give up a Sunday, find little benefit in attending and when they do attend a few of the members monopolize the meeting.
4. The Constitution of BCAWA provides very little support to the clubs. They felt that the skills of making and appreciating wine, beer and cider are not shared readily. The encouragement and interchange of ideas of information needed is not instigated by BCAWA. Very few members understand our association with groups outside of BC. As far as assisting clubs with organizing clubs, providing speaker's etc. most clubs were not aware that this was available to them. Helping clubs organize provincial competition; most clubs felt this support was there.
5. Most clubs (15 of 18) said that some club members participate in provincial competitions with entries.
6. Those who don't enter in the provincials say its too costly, too far away and very little information is received on your judging sheets. It was suggested that if learning sessions were run at the provincials and varietal classes were added that more people would participate.
7. As far as attending the social events 4 responses out of 18 indicated the some members attend.
8. The reasons for not attending are; time and cost, intimidating, lack of interest and most awards go to few participants.
9. Only serious winemakers enter in other club competitions on a regular basis; most prefer to enter in their own competition only.
10. Again the club social functions are poorly attended for most of the same reasons as the provincials.
11. Most respondents indicated that they would like to see more organized seminars, receive more information on winemaking, establish judging guidelines that are uniform across the province and maybe Canada. The Grapevine, Guild and BCAWA should be one organized body (see #6 in survey for more details).
12. Respondents felt the BCAWA must become more of a leader and provide uniform support for the whole province.
13. The summary of additional comments was quite lengthy (see #10 in survey) but here are the highlights. Council meetings have time constraints, BCAWA must take a leadership role, the issues of varietals, the grapevine, the guild and new club membership should be streamlined.

The surveys had various approaches to the questionnaire. What I tried to do was summarize it as best as possible. The bottom line I believe is that we must change to keep with the times or we will not generate the interest that we need to keep BCAWA a viable organization.

Submitted by  
JOHN MATKOVICH

May 26, 1999

To all members of the British Columbia Amateur Winemakers Association.

This year we mailed to all clubs a questionnaire asking for your input which could help your association to establish a direction that could be beneficial to all members. The main concerns were:

1. Lack of attendance at General Meetings.
2. Lack of attendance at competitions.
3. Lack of interest or understanding of what the associations provides to its members.

I would like to thank the 15 clubs that responded to the survey. Each Club will get a summarized copy of the results.

The following are my recommendations as to what could be done to improve the overall participation and interest of the membership.

1. Most respondents felt that the 6 Purposes of the society listed in the BCAWA Constitution provided them very little support. They felt that the skills of making and appreciating wine, beer and cider are not shared readily. The encouragement and interchange of ideas or information needed is not instigated by BCAWA. Very few members understand our association with groups outside of BC. As far as providing speakers etc. most clubs felt that this could be provided as a document or list which could readily be used by the members.

RECOMMENDATION:

THE PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY AS STATED IN THE CONSTITUTION SHOULD BE REVIEWED AND DETERMINED HOW AND IF THE ASSOCIATION CAN BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF IT MEMBERS.

2. Members stated that they do not attend General Meetings for various reasons. Some reasons like distance and cost are things that little can be done about. Members suggest that there is a lack of control at meetings and a few members monopolize the meeting by speaking many times to the same subject.

RECOMMENDATION:

GENERAL MEETINGS SHOULD BE RUN BY PARLIMENTARY PROCEEDURES (ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER). THIS GIVES THE CHAIRPERSON BETTER CONTROL OF MEETINGS AND ALLOWS ALL PRESENT TO PARTICIPATE.

3. Members stated that their clubs do participate in Competitions with entries but very few of them attend social events outside of there own club. There were various reasons as to why members do not participate as you will see when you read the survey.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE ASSOCIATION CONSIDERS ENHANCING THE PROVINCIAL COMPETITION WEEKEND BY INCLUDING SEMINARS AND BOOTHS WHERE WINEMAKING SKILLS CAN BE LEARNED.

I could recommend other action items but if we can implement these three I believe that we could go a long way towards satisfying some of the needs of our membership.

Submitted on behalf of the BCAWA Executive by JOHN MATKOVICH

## **BCAWA SURVEY**

These are the results of the survey that was sent to all Clubs for input as to what BCAWA could do to improve the participation and interest of its members at meetings and Club and Provincial competitions.

The survey was sent to all the clubs in BCAWA. 15 out of 23 clubs and 3 individuals responded. The following is a summary of the comments received to the questionnaire.

### *1. Does your club attend any BCAWA meetings during the year?*

The survey indicates that 8-10 clubs attend BCAWA meetings on a regular basis.

Those who attend enjoy meeting other clubs and participating in discussions.

Those who attend feel that they receive a better understanding of the issues.

### **Areas for improvement.**

BCAWA meetings do not allow for any time for obtaining winemaking information that could be passed back to members.

Chairperson must have better control. Meetings are monopolized by a few members who speak on most issues and several times to some. This discourages new attendees from participating.

### **If you do not attend, which of the following reasons best describes your response.**

Too costly to attend. (many).

Members do not want to give up a Sunday.

Find very little benefit by attending.

When we attend we can't contribute because a few members dictate the direction of the meeting on most issues.

### *2. The constitution of BCAWA states that we have 6 purposes.*

Of the 18 responses, most members felt that the association provided very little to the Clubs in the way of support as the constitution states. They following are comments as submitted by members for each purpose.

- a) develop and share the skills of making and appreciating wine, beer and cider, without interfering with the autonomy of Member Clubs;

### **Comments.**

Only if you attend the Provincial Competition and ask will you get good information.

The Grapevine provides some information.

I learn more by attending Guild sessions.

Sharing skills and exchanging ideas could become a function of BCAWA if it:

- 1) Assumed responsibility for the Grapevine.
- 2) Staged workshops, symposiums, short courses.

Requires an education committee which provides advice on winemaking techniques with frequent updating in an easily readable form.

- b) encourage and assist the interchange of ideas and information among amateur makers of wine beer and cider.

**Comments.**

Of the 500 members probably 25 benefit. Is this success?

The Grapevine provides the most information.

BCAWA should organize more symposiums for the benefit of all clubs.

- c) establish and maintain communication amongst local, provincial and national associations with similar aims.

**Comments.**

Very few members understand our National Association.

Purpose essentially meaningless. VIAWA fills in the gaps that BCAWA doesn't address. AWO is the only other relevant provincial body but we do not have any regular communication channels with them.

Good umbrella to lobby against taxes on wine etc.

Grapevine covers the provincial scene; little national interest.

BCAWA and AWO should discuss ways of making their provincial competitions Varietal, thereby forcing AWC to create Varietal Classes. It's time to bring BCAWA into the 20<sup>th</sup> century now that we are entering the 21<sup>st</sup>.

- d) act as necessary, as liaison between BC amateur winemakers and representatives of other such-like organizations.

**Comments.**

This purpose was not responded to by many. It was included under the same comments as (c) by a few.

- e) give assistance to winemaking clubs as requested, help to organize new clubs, provide speakers and information.

**Comments.**

"If you look hard enough you can find some help". It should be provided to all clubs in an organized fashion so that they don't have to look for it.

Members would like more information on available speakers.

Best done by regional groups or established clubs.

BCAWA doing the best they can, but clubs do not take advantage of asking for help.

In general most clubs were not aware that this help was available.

f) help organize annual Provincial Competitions:

**Comment.**

The general feeling was that BCAWA provided adequate help with the organization of the Provincial Competition.

3) Does your Club participate in the Provincial Competition by submitting entries?

15 out of 18 respondents said that some of their members participate in the Provincial Competition.

**If no, why not.**

Shipping cost, distance.

Mixed value of judges comments do not help participants to improve their winemaking.

We should have seminars and booths where winemakers can learn (new) skills as part of the weekend. We need more education at this event.

We like the new judging methods and detailed sheets.

We would get more entries by adding varietal classes to the competition.

4) Does your club participate in the Provincial Competition by attending the social events?

Very few respondents indicated that their clubs attend the provincial social event.  
(4 of 18)

**If no, why not.**

When you consider time and money it is too expensive especially if you place little value in the social aspect.

Most people are too busy and involved in other social events.

Intimidating to new members especially if you do not know anyone.

Could be made more interesting for marginal participants.

Most awards go to so few participants. Awards session too long and boring.

5) Does your club participate in other club competitions and social events?

Most respondents indicated that they do participate in other clubs competitions but on a restrictive basis. The serious winemakers participate more for personal reasons with entries but the social aspect seems to be very restricted to the members club.

**If not, why not.**

Many members are not interested in other clubs competitions.

Distance, cost and benefit.

Create a "First time entry Category".

Too many people occupied with other activities on weekends.

6) What changes would you like BCAWA to make to interest your club's membership?

Organize affordable educational seminars. (6)

Provide more information on winemaking. (new equipment, supplies, speakers, basic equipment required for beginners). (4)

Use club competitions as the only means of selecting the wines that go forward to the provincial.

Introduce varietal classes. (5)

Administer the operation of the Grapevine.

The guild should be an arm of BCAWA rather than just another club.

Provide more technical articles in the grapevine.

Promotion of technical and judging guidelines that are uniform across the province and hopefully across Canada.

Make efforts to set up bulk purchase of grapes for all member clubs that may be interested.

7) What would your club like BCAWA to be?

Become a provincial association.

An educational organization that sponsors regional winemaking education sessions and one major conference annually.

More fun! Be a benevolent leader: currently too authoritative and cold.

8) What does your club offer other winemakers in the province?

Local judging, share winemaking knowledge with non-members.

Speakers, open competition, bulk purchase of grapes etc. many members in judge's guild.

Hosted provincial competitions.

9) Are you currently receiving BCAWA meeting notices?

100% YES

10) Include any comments you may have on behalf of yourself or your club.

Council meeting time constraints and desire to catch the ferry sometimes limits the value.

Stop divisional politics.

How do we get judge training in the Interior?

BCAWA needs to take a leadership role, not interfering with clubs autonomy doesn't mean being a shrinking violet.

Our club members feel they get little benefit from attending BCAWA meetings.

Our thanks to Rory for undertaking such an ambitious and controversial task. Excellent leadership shown here.

BCAWA must continue to change "Anything that stops changing, starts dying".

Distance to meetings and other events is the biggest problem.

Introduce VARIETAL classes in the Provincial Competition. There is not a single member in my club who makes Red Table or White Table wine.

The GRAPEVINE is a private publication, not a BCAWA newsletter, and the editor is free to pursue his own goals and biases. A lot of information never sees the light of day, or is twisted to suit a private agenda.

The Judges Guild should be organized as an arm of BCAWA with a professional approach to its responsibilities and receiving the respect that a body of its potential importance deserves. To allow the BC Guild of Wine Judges to be nothing more than "just another club" by their own admission and to allow its members to enter wines into competitions as members of the Guild rather than as members of clubs, makes a mockery out of competitions in BC. Especially true when most of the accredited judges won't even bother to turn out to judge at the Provincials.

What does it take to become a club in BCAWA? It seems that anyone can form a club in BCAWA by just sending in a letter and it's accepted. The criteria for membership should be more stringent. It seems that some clubs exist in name only.







