

## **RULES OF ENTRY FOR THE 2026 V D'OR AWARDS**

### **Article 1 – Principles and aims of the V d'Or Awards**

The V d'Or Awards are organised by Vinexposium, a simplified joint stock company with a share capital of €2,922, with its registered office at 10 rue Condillac – 33000 Bordeaux, registered with the Bordeaux Register of Trades and Companies under no. 822 686 192 (hereinafter referred to as the “Company”).

The V d'Or award stakeholders in the wine and spirits sector who provide innovative solutions aimed at expediting the resolution of major industry challenges.

The V d'Or are awarded following a vote by the V d'Or Judging Panel and during an official awards ceremony that takes place the day before Wine Paris 2025. Winners also benefit from visibility during Wine Paris.

Entry entails unreserved acceptance of these rules and the decisions handed down within the framework of the V d'Or Awards.

### **Article 2 - Registration terms and conditions**

**2.1** The V d'Or Awards are open free of charge to all wine and spirits professionals, that can present one or more products, materials, experiences, services, solutions, initiatives or strategies (hereinafter referred to as the “Initiatives”), through an international call for entries, in accordance with the following conditions (hereinafter referred to as the “Applicants”):

- Applicants must not be members of the Judging Panel,
- They must accept these rules without restriction or reserve,
- They must have sent their entry no later than 2 October 2025 at 23:59 PM (CET).

The Initiatives must imperatively:

- have been implemented, officially announced or achieved convincing results after 1 January 2024,
- belong to one of the categories listed in Article 2.3 of these rules.

The conditions of entry are cumulative.

**2.2** Entries for the V d'Or awards are made online, in the dedicated section of the website at [www.vinexposium.com/en/vdor](http://www.vinexposium.com/en/vdor). Applicants can submit their entry by completing the information requested in the online form.

The entry of the Applicant will be definitively confirmed and final by clicking on “Submit my entry”. By confirming their application, Applicants agree to fully take part in the process through to its completion.

An acknowledgement of receipt confirming the entry will be sent by email to every Applicant having submitted their entry.

Any entry that is incomplete or does not fulfil the criteria set by the Company will be rejected.

Applicants must solemnly declare that all information provided is accurate and truthful and undertake to avoid any omissions or inaccuracies that could mislead the judging process. In the event of a proven irregularity, the Judging Panel reserves the right to revoke the company's status as a Nominee or to withdraw an award already granted and may communicate the reasons for this decision publicly.

Applicants furthermore must solemnly declare not to contact the members of the Judging Panel nor communicate to them any element of any nature about their Initiative, outside of the website designed for that purpose. Any infringement will lead to the immediate rejection of the application.

**2.3** Entries are open to eligible Initiatives in one of the following 3 categories:

1. Best Sustainability Initiative V d'Or
2. Best Education and Transmission V d'Or
3. Best Innovation V d'Or

Applicants may present one or more Initiatives, as the number of entries per candidate company is not limited. Any company presenting several Initiatives must complete one entry for each Initiative presented.

The V d'Or Judging Panel reserves the right to reassign the initiative to a different category if it sees fit. This reassignment will be conducted subject to the prior consent of the Applicant, who will be contacted by email.

#### **Article 3 – V d'Or Awards timeline**

- Deadline for registration of completed entries: 2 October 2025 at 11:59 PM (CET).
- Announcement of Nominees: from 1 December 2025.
- Announcement of the Winners during the V d'Or Award Ceremony: 8 February 2026.

#### **Article 4 – Assessment of entries by the Judging Panel**

The members of the Judging Panel are appointed by the Company. They are professionals in the wine and spirits industry operating in one of the following professional categories: producers, wholesale buyers, retail buyers, employees of a collective organisation, technical and scientific experts, economic and marketing experts.

The Judging Panel will score the entries based on the observable and measurable elements provided by entrants.

## **Article 5 – Designation of Nominees and Winners**

5 Initiatives in each category will be shortlisted according to the criteria set out in Article 2 and Article 4 of these rules (hereinafter referred to as the “Nominees”) and will be invited to attend the V d’Or Award Ceremony.

The company undertakes to notify all Applicants of the outcome of their entry before 31 December 2025. This notification will be sent to the email address provided by each Applicant on registration. The Company accepts no liability for any mistakes in the email address supplied by the Applicant or any issues with the Applicant not receiving the email.

Among the Nominees in every category, the V d’Or Judging Panel designates an Award Winner representing the winning initiative in the relevant category. The names of the Award Winners are kept confidential until they are officially revealed during the V d’Or ceremony on 8 February 2026.

## **Article 6 – Awards**

**6.1** Winners will be awarded a “V d’Or” trophy by the Company for their category at the V d’Or Award Ceremony.

Nominees and Winners may mention this in their own advertising. Any commercial or advertising reference to the nomination or the trophy received as part of the V d’Or awards must specify:

- For Winners: the exact wording “2026 V d’Or Awards” and the category of the Initiative.
- For Nominees: the wording “Nominated (or shortlisted) for the 2026 V d’Or Awards” and the category of the Initiative.

The prizes awarded have no value of approval or accreditation in any way.

**6.2** The Winners will be presented to the public during Wine Paris 2026. Nominees and Winners may be the subject of a presentation to the public throughout the duration of the Wine Paris 2026, through a printed document or a presentation.

### **Article 7 – Intellectual Property**

Each Applicant certifies that the Initiatives presented complies with applicable regulations and accepts the full responsibility for any defects in the aforesaid Initiatives, for which the Company or the Judging Panel cannot be held liable.

Applicants shall acknowledge and respect all regulations applicable during Wine Paris, whether enacted by the public authorities or by the Company, in order that the Company cannot be held liable.

In view of the international dimension of the Company and Wine Paris, the Initiatives presented at the V d'Or Awards come from multiple countries and are intended to be marketed worldwide. The Applicants undertake that Initiatives comply with the legislation of their home country or of countries where they want to market their products.

Consequently, the Company or the Judging Panel cannot be accused of promoting Initiatives non-compliant with the French or European legislation.

Applicants must state that they hold all intellectual property rights for Initiatives presented to the Company and have been duly authorised by the intellectual property rights holder, the Company cannot be held responsible therein, in particular in the event of a dispute with a third party.

Applicants shall also guarantee the Company that the elements transmitted are original and have borrowed no original element or one protected by any intellectual property rights. In this respect, Applicants shall hold the Company harmless as regards any action for infringement or any action arising from claims of copyright concerning the elements transmitted.

It is the responsibility of Applicants to ensure that their intellectual property rights have been preserved and the relevant patents filed. Pursuant to the terms of Articles L611-11 and L611-1 of the French Intellectual Property Code, in order to be admissible, patents must be filed in France no later than six months after the invention has been disclosed to the public.

The Company accepts no responsibility regarding the commercial or non-commercial use of the Initiatives presented as part of the V d'Or Awards that may infringe Applicants' rights.

Furthermore, the elements presented in the context of the V d'Or Awards by the Applicants are provided to the Company under the sole responsibility of the Applicants, who alone bear all possible rights. They declare that these elements do not in any way violate intellectual property rights or any other third-party rights. The Applicants release the Company from any liability in this regard and shall indemnify the Company for any damages it may suffer and shall hold it harmless against any action brought against it in connection with these elements.

## **Article 8 – Authorisations – Image rights**

**8.1** All Applicants taking part in the Competition also expressly authorise the Company and Vinexposium Group to use, from the announcement of the Nominees, the name of the Initiatives presented and of the Nominees, the brief description and pictures, whether animated or not, and all the elements transmitted by the Applicants as part of their entry in the V d'Or Awards, for all communication purposes related to the V d'Or and to the promotion of the Company and of Wine Paris, for five years from the date of their nomination and apply to all media, including paper, magnetic, optical, digital, computer, web, (notably the social networks), telematic, electronic or other media, known or unknown at this time, now or in the future.

**8.2** The Nominees or Winners authorize the use of their name, address and photograph in any publicity or promotion related to the V d'Or Awards and Wine Paris. Furthermore, the results of the V d'Or Awards, and the names of the Nominees and Winners may be released to the press and will be subject to a special promotion.

**8.3** Applicants, for no charge, expressly authorises the Company and the Vinexposium Group to and/or any third party designated by the Company:

- take during Wine Paris or during the V d'Or Award Ceremony, should they wish to do so, photos and videos featuring the Applicants and members of their team, as well as any Initiatives,
- use any such images freely on all media and in particular for the purposes of advertising (including on the internet) in France and worldwide for a period of five (5) years beginning from the award of the trophies,
- cite and reproduce, for no charge, its trademark and company name as a commercial reference for the purposes of communication on any media (including the internet) in France and worldwide for a period of five (5) years beginning from the date of the acceptance of these rules.

## **Article 9 – Personal Data**

Personal data on each Applicant collected for their participation in the V d'Or Awards and, when appropriate, in order to allow the presentation of an award, are collected and treated in pursuance of the regulations relative to the protection and the collection of personal data.

Collected data are intended exclusively for the Company. They may be disclosed to the service contractors and subcontractors hired by the Company for the purposes of the organisation and/or management of the V d'Or Awards.

Each Applicant has the right to access and the right to correct data concerning them and, if applicable, the right to remove, the right to oppose the processing of these data, the right to delete and to limit their processing and the right to the portability of their data, which they can exercise at any time by writing, by e-mail or post, to this address: VINEXPOSIUM – Les V d'Or – 10, rue Condillac – 33000 Bordeaux or [privacy@comexposium.com](mailto:privacy@comexposium.com). Any Applicant also has the right to lodge a claim with the CNIL (French data protection agency).

Personal data are kept for the duration of the V d'Or Awards 2026 and for a period of 5 years after the last expression of interest by the Applicant. Datas necessary to establish proof of the said relationship, those necessary for the execution of the present rules and those necessary for the Company to comply with the legal and regulatory obligations to which it is subject are kept in accordance with the provisions in force.

#### **Article 10 – Modification**

The Company reserves the right to shorten, extend, postpone, or cancel the V d'Or Awards, at any time and without notice or obligation to justify its decision, and to modify all or part of the conditions of access and/or the terms of implementation of the V d'Or Awards, in case of force majeure or events beyond its control, without its responsibility being engaged nor any compensation being claimed.

In such circumstances, the Company will make its best efforts to inform the Applicants as soon as possible.

Any Applicant will be deemed to have accepted this modification by participating in the V d'Or Awards from the effective date of the said modification.

#### **Article 11 – Languages of the V d'Or Awards**

Rules of the Competition are published in English and in French. In case of contradiction between this translation of the General Conditions of Participation and the French version thereof, only the French version shall prevail.

#### **Article 12 – Consultation of the rules**

The rules of entry are available on Vinexposium's website. The rules can be obtained by writing to: VINEXPOSIUM – The V d'Or Awards – 10, rue Condillac – 33000 Bordeaux.

### **Article 13 – Complaints and disputes – Governing Law – Jurisdiction**

Application in the V d'Or Awards is subject to full acceptance of all clauses contained in these rules.

If one or more provisions of this Agreement are declared null and void or deemed to be invalid, this shall not affect the validity and enforceability of any remaining provisions.

Applicants admit that by applying in the V d'Or Awards obligatorily submits them to French law, in particular for any dispute that may arise from the V d'Or Awards or that may be directly or indirectly related to it, without prejudice to any rules of conflict of laws that may exist. Any dispute arising about the V d'Or Awards will be settled amicably between the Company and the Applicant. The Commercial Court (Tribunal de Commerce) in Nanterre shall have jurisdiction over any dispute concerning the interpretation or execution of these rules.

In the event of a proven breach in these rules, the Company shall be entitled to exclude the Applicant, without the Applicant being able to claim any compensation and without prejudice to any compensation that the Company may claim.

Any dispute or claim relating to the V d'Or Awards must be made in writing and sent to Vinexposium by post and will not be taken into consideration after 8 February 2026.

No telephone or written request concerning the interpretation or application of these rules, the mechanisms or procedures of the V d'Or Awards, or the designation of the Nominees and Winners will be answered.