



Media Release

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## The hunt is on for Australia's top drops

The hunt for Australia's finest wines has begun with entries now open to the prestigious Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS).

The popular competition last year attracted 1600 entries from 264 wineries across the nation.

It is the ultimate test for winemakers to compete against industry peers and be judged by some of Australia's most respected and experienced professionals.

This year the RNA is excited to announce a competition overhaul confirming its place as one of the most respected and progressive wine shows in the country.

Chief Judge PJ Charteris has unveiled a new panel of judges who he has carefully selected to reinvigorate the 2014 RQWS.

After the success of the revamped 2013 show, PJ decided to follow on the same path with a dynamic mix of judges ranging in age and skills.

"I'll be adding a fifth panel of judges allowing even greater discussion and opportunity to uncover the finest wines," Mr Charteris said.

"Having the fifth panel will also allow me to add depth and experience to an already focused judging team. I'm looking forward to working with this new expert panel and unearthing Australia's best talent."

This year there will be a new class structure for ease of entry, this means a more streamlined and modernised entry system with more meaningful results. Wine will be entered dependent on its variety, blend, type and vintage.

Organisers are confident entry numbers and quality of product will be strong in 2014 as the show continues to go from strength to strength. The winners will be announced at the RQWS Gala Awards Dinner at the Royal International Convention Centre, Brisbane, on Tuesday July 8.

### 2014 Highlights Summary:

- Entries open 28 March and close 9 May 2014
- New 5<sup>th</sup> panel of judges to allow greater discussion and breadth of knowledge
- Chief Wine Judge - PJ Charteris
- New class structure for entries to include variety, blend, type and vintage
- Awards announced at Gala Dinner on 8 July at the Royal International Convention Centre

Entries close 9 May 2014. Go to [www.rqfws.com.au](http://www.rqfws.com.au) for further information

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