



## N°16 MARCH 2023

*(most of the topics addressed in this newsletter are more detailed on our web site)*

### Message from the president

The publication of our guide on organising competitions for the blind recognition of grape varieties and appellations is intended to encourage our member brotherhoods to develop this activity, so that it can provide opportunities not only for conviviality around wine traditions but also to increase and recognise individual expertise in wine tasting.

**Alan Bryden**

### General assembly : back to face-to-face

Our 2023 General Assembly marked the return to a face-to-face meeting, after two years impacted by the COVID pandemic. About fifty participants were present for a busy agenda which allowed to validate an attractive calendar of international events until 2026. The lunch at the Musée du Vin and the "Parisian" dinner in the evening at the Maison de

l'Alsace allowed everyone to renew the conviviality that is our "raison d'être!"  
(see on our website the detailed communiqué on the GA 2023)

### 3 new wine brotherhoods members of F.I.C.B.

Since 2022, 3 new wine brotherhoods have been admitted as members of our federation. :

**The Confrérie de Saint Romain en Bordelais et Pays Libournais** (France),

**The Brotherhood de Bratovstina**, Croatia,

**The Confrérie de Saint Bacchus de Guyane**, our first member based in South America.

Welcome to F.I.C.B. to all our new brothers and sisters in wine!

### An attractive agenda of F.I.C.B. events

In addition to our **52nd International Congress planned in Portugal** at the end of May/beginning of June 2023, our General Assembly has ratified an attractive programme of

international events until 2026:

- . a **"wine discovery tour to Slovenia"** from 18 to 22 July 2023 organised by our two Slovenian member brotherhoods (registration open until 1 June 2023)

- . our **2nd International Wine Tasting Challenge**, organised by the Order of Ladies of Pannonia, confirmed from 23 to 28 May 2024 in Hungary

- . a **"wine discovery tour to Piedmont"** to be organised in 2025 by the Knights of the Truffle and Wines of Alba

- . Our **53rd International Congress** will take place in the Provence-Côte d'Azur region of France in 2026, organized by the Illustrious Order of the Knights of Medusa, the brotherhood of Provence wines.

*(see details on the website)*

### Board of administration

At our GA 2022, **Patrick BEROD**, Procureur of the Ordre de la Channe

(Switzerland) had been elected to succeed Marie-France Derkenne as member of the Board.



At our GA 2023, **Patrick Pons**, Grand Master of the Illustrious Order of the Knights of Medusa was elected to succeed Jean-Pierre Boyer as member of our Board and Vice-president for the South of France.



### Promotion of the F.I.C.B. multilingual lexicon

Our lexicon in 5 languages (DE, EN, ES, FR, IT) of common vine and wine terms is available online on our website in PDF format (one per

language). This lexicon, produced with linguists and also with experts from our brotherhoods, should enable our members to communicate better with each other and with their wine contacts.

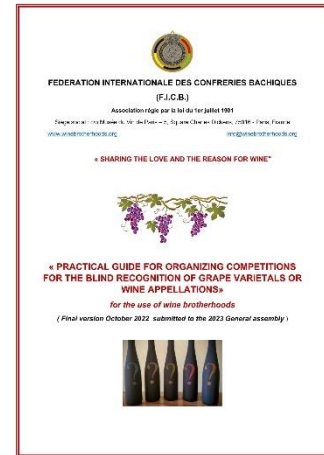


### Publication of the F.I.C.B. Guide on organizing competitions for the blind recognition of grape varieties and appellations



This guide was adopted at the 2023 G.A., in French and English. It provides the elements for drawing up the rules for blind recognition competitions. The organisation of such competitions according to a common scheme will allow emulation and exchange between the brotherhoods and should also attract new generations of wine lovers. The guide, which is based on the experience of our members, can be downloaded from our website, and it is up to

each brotherhood or federation to apply it to develop its own rules according to its situation (wine-growing region or not, local or national brotherhood).



### The F.I.C.B. website has been renovated

[www.winebrotherhoods.org](http://www.winebrotherhoods.org)

Our revamped website went live in early 2023. In addition to improving the clarity and simplifying the sections, it allows us to better highlight F.I.C.B. events and those of our members, and to build visitor loyalty by subscribing them to our Newsletters and sending them messages when new articles are published. It includes enriched sections on wine museums and art and wine.

### F.I.C.B. 2024 General assembly

Note on your diaries: the 2024 F.I.C.B. General assembly will take place on **Saturday 27, 2024 in Paris**