



LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL SPIRITS COMPETITION

INTERNATIONAL RULES AND SHIPPING GUIDELINES

2025 Los Angeles International Spirits Competition
Judging April 1 – 3

Early Bird Deadline February 14 - Entry Deadline February 28 - Shipping Deadline March 7

1. To enter, please visit the competition website www.laspiritscomp.com and click on the *Enter Spirits Competition Here* link.
2. **ENTRY FEE** – Early Bird - \$280 per entry received by January 13, 2025, \$305 per entry beginning January 14, 2025. Payment may be made by credit card: Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, by U.S. check payable to: “Los Angeles County Fair Association”, or by wire transfer. Please email a copy of the wire transfer to the Competitions office at competitions@fairplex.com. Entry fee must accompany entry form to be eligible for competition.

***Early bird entry fees must be paid by January 13, 2025, to qualify.**

***All other entry fees must be received by the entry deadline February 28, 2025, to enter the 2025 competition.**

Wire Transfer Information:

Bank: Fifth Third Bank

Bank Address: 38 Fountain Sq Plaza, Cincinnati, OH. 45202

Account Name: Los Angeles County Fair Association Fairplex General Account

1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona, CA 91768 USA

Beneficiary Account Number: 7029167520

ACH/Wire Routing Number: 042000314

Swift: FTBCUS3C

Bank Representative Contact: Blanca Salcedo + 1 (630) 801-2846

Reference: Spirits Competition

3. **SHIPPING** - International Spirits will be received now until March 7, 2025, for the Los Angeles International Spirits Competition. Shipments will be received weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. All spirits entered **MUST BE SHIPPED PREPAID.**

All samples should be packed with the entry form on the inside and the name of the producer marked clearly on the outside.

The Los Angeles International Spirits Competition will acknowledge receipt of Spirits. The Los Angeles International Spirits Competition is not responsible for any shipping or customs charges. International shipments of Spirits must be cleared by a licensed broker with applicable importing licenses. If you have an importer, it is best to use your own importer. If you do not have an importer, you can contact Mark Newman with Accolade Brands, mark@accoladebrands.com to provide this service.

INTERNATIONAL SHIPMENTS

- **Registered FDA Number:** You must obtain registration with the FDA. If you have an FDA registration number, you might need to renew your account information with the FDA. Renewals must be completed by December 31, 2023. Otherwise, a new registration will be required; <https://www.fda.gov/food/online-registration-food-facilities/food-facility-registration-user-guide-step-step-instructions>. An Authorized US Agent is required for all new and renewed FDA Permits.

⁽¹⁾ Entry fees are non-refundable

⁽²⁾ Entries after submitted, become property of the Los Angeles International Spirits Competition

- **FDA Prior Notice:** Mark Newman with Accolade Brands, mark@accoladebrands.com, can assist with this service. You must file a Prior Notice with FDA online before shipping. <https://www.fda.gov/food/importing-food-products-united-states/prior-notice-imported-foods>. If you are unsure about filing the FDA Prior Notice you can contact Mark Newman at Accolade Brands to perform this service for those producers that do not have an importer or FDA US Agent (fees below).
- **TTB SAMPLE WAIVER (COLA WAIVER):** All sample shipments to the US must be accompanied by a TTB Sample Waiver issued to a Federal and State Licensed Importer. The typical waiting time is five to seven business days if all the paperwork is in order.
- Please complete a Proforma Invoice that includes the quantity, name of the Spirits, the type (i.e., white, red or a varietal name) and the alcohol content. YOU MUST DESIGNATE THAT YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR ALL U.S. CUSTOMS CHARGES ON YOUR INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING DOCUMENTS OR AIRWAY BILL. If this is not done properly, your shipment could be delayed until we receive payment for these charges. If the shipment is large enough for commercial airfreight, we must collect estimated tax, duty, and customs charges in advance. The commercial value for samples is typically one Euro per bottle and this should be stated on a pro-forma invoice.
- Option 1: Use UPS, or FedEx. Please charge your FedEx or UPS Account and include the payment of all Customs Charges. The shipment must be DDP, Tax and Duty to be paid the producer. We require a credit card number just in case you have not completed the shipping forms correctly and you will only be billed for any excess charges or taxes that are billed to our account for your shipment.
- Option 2: Airline airfreight or DHL. This is usually a more expensive option than UPS or FedEx
- **All Spirits Bottles must have a label affixed to the back of the bottle that contains the US Government Warning:**

The phrase “Contains Sulfites” and the phrase “Trade Samples – Not for Resale.” The words “Government Warning” must appear in capital letters and in bold type. The remainder of the statement may NOT appear in bold type. The statement MUST appear as a continuous paragraph. The statement reads as follows and should be 2mm to 3 mm in size.

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH EFFECTS.
 (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS OUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH ROBLEMS.
Trade Samples – Not for Resale – Contains Sulfites

4. The Los Angeles International Spirits Competition is April 1-3, 2025.
5. April 7, 2025, the competition results will be posted www.LASpiritsComp.com. The Los Angeles International Spirits Competition offers award seals for purchase.
6. May 2 - 26, 2025 is the Los Angeles County Fair. Display of all award-winning Spirits, Gold Medal Spirits Tasting and Spirits Education Seminars in the Los Angeles International Wine, Spirits & Beer Marketplace.
7. **Spirits entered in the competition will become the property of the Los Angeles International Spirits Competition.**