PRESS RELEASE

**8th June 2017**

**Cape Port & Portuguese Cultivar Wines at the 2017 CAPPA Challenge**

A panel of esteemed South African wine judges chaired by Christine Rudman (CWM) , which included Cathy van Zyl (MW), Dr Winnie Bowman (CWM), Colin Frith (Hon.CWM) , Raymond Noppe (CWM) and newcomer Gregory Mutambe were in attendance for this year’s Cape Port Producers Association (CAPPA) Port & Wine Challenge.

A very worthy Boplaas Cape Tawny NV took Gold Best in Class and was the Overall Trophy winner. Following closely for overall top score, Delaire Graff Cape Vintage 2015 scored a fine gold and took Best in Class in the Cape Vintage category.

Also in the Cape Vintage Class, Gold medals went to Boplaas Cape Vintage Reserve 2013, De Krans Cape Vintage Reserve 2014 (tied runners up). Museum Class golds went to Boplaas Cape Vintage Reserve 2005 (Best in Class) as well as Boplaas Cape Vintage Reserve 2006.

Best in Class for a Late Bottled Vintage went to Axe Hill Winery for the Axe Hill Cape LBV 2010.

Best in Class Cape Ruby went to Boplaas and runner – up was Aan de Doorns Wine cellar.

A successful Boplaas garnered 5 out of a total 7 gold medals and topped their achievement with Boplaas Touriga Nacional 2015 as Best in Class for the Red wine category!

Best in Class for the white wine category was the Stellenbosch Vineyards’ Credo Limited Release Verdelho 2016.

The Top Ten Red wine category was led by Boplaas Touriga Nacional 2015 and included in alphabetical order Axe Hill Machado 2015, Bergsig The Family Friend 2015, Boplaas Woolworths Portuguese Connection 2015, Boplaas Gamka 2015, Boplaas Tinta Chocolat 2015, Boplaas Woolworths Tinta Barocca 2015, Boplaas Daniel’s legacy CWG 2015, De Krans Tinta Roriz 2015, Peter Bayly III 2013.

Commenting on the results, Christine Rudman remarked that there was an improvement in certain of the categories over 2016; the Red wines produced from Portuguese varieties, showing gentler handling in the cellar and were bound to be lovely food wines. The Cape Vintage class the stand out in the Cape Port category, where there was focus and energy with a refined styling and balance between power and suppleness, with very long ageing potential. The museum class (entries from 2005, 2006 and 2007) seemed to affirm this where she remarked that the wines were still in perfect condition, showing no decline at all – and in fact they still had a good future ahead!

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