

Saskatchewan Liquor & Gaming Authority

Beverage Alcohol Quality Assurance Policy

Updated November 2024

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1.0 Purpose

SLGA's Beverage Alcohol Quality Assurance Policy strives to ensure that alcohol products in Saskatchewan are authentic, compliant with regulations, and safe for consumption.

2.0 Quality Standards

Suppliers must meet all quality standards set by Federal and Provincial regulatory bodies including but not limited to:

[Food and Drug Regulation](#)

[Health Canada](#)

[Health Canada maximum residue limits for pesticides](#)

[Health Canada list of permitted sweeteners](#)

[CFIA labelling requirements for alcoholic beverages](#)

[Health Canada list of permitted food additives](#) (Unlisted preservatives and additives are prohibited for use within the category of foods. The terms "unstandardized foods" and "unstandardized beverages" used in various tables also refer to unstandardized alcoholic beverages.)

3.0 Certificates of Analysis

3.1 Lab Testing

Each year, SLGA will randomly select several products to be tested, to ensure they meet all health requirements.

3.2 Response to Quality Concerns:

If any beverage alcohol products fail testing, the supplier will have to pay for them to be disposed of or shipped back.

If there are chemical or quality issues, SLGA will investigate and take appropriate action, such as holding stock or publicly recalling products. The supplier will be responsible for correcting the issue and covering costs, which could include rebates to SLGA, correcting packaging or labeling, returning products, or destroying them.

4.0 Product Recall

SLGA has two ways of recalling products: Class 1 and Class 2. They work with the NQAC and CFIA to figure out how serious the problem is, and which recall level is needed.

4.1 Class 1 recall:

Is a rare event when a product has a potential quality or safety issue, such as the presence of glass particles or a chemical contaminant that exceeds Canadian limits. When this happens, SLGA Product Manager (Saskatchewan member of NQAC) will coordinate with other departments to notify all retailers, isolate affected inventory, and provide a standard message for inquiries. The supplier and CFIA will provide follow-ups to safeguard in the future.

4.2 Class 2 recall:

Is when a product is discontinued from sale because of quality issues that don't affect people's health, like natural sediment or stale-dating. When a supplier notices a problem or when SLGA staff or customers report an issue, the SLGA Product Manager verifies the affected product and notifies the DC to hold it. Customer Relations informs all RSPs to check and isolate their inventory, and SLGA works on messaging and a plan to dispose of the product with the supplier. The affected product should be returned to the RSP it was purchased from.

4.3 Claims:

SLGA will inform all RSPs about the impacted product, along with the return and claim submission dates. SLGA will combine the claims, charge back the supplier and credit the relevant RSPs.

5.0 Policy Review

The SLGA QA Policy is reviewed annually to ensure effectiveness. Improvements are made based on audits, feedback from agents/suppliers, and SLGA clients.

6.0 Contact Us

If you have any questions about SLGA QA Policy, please direct your inquiries to:

David Merenick – Manager, Product Management and Supplier Relations: listings@slga.com.

7.0 Revision History

Date	Revisions Made
September 2018	Posted
November 2018	Edited: 3.2 Acceptable Certificates of Analysis/Laboratories Edited: font to improve spacing
April 2021	Edited: 3.1 Core Listed Product: CoAs are now required only once per product, each year, some randomly selected products will require a renewed CoA, mixer/variant packs now require only one CoA Edited: 3.4 Added Pre-Orders Edited: Improved formatting, word clarity Updated: 3.2 Acceptable Certificates of Analysis: added Prairie Tide Analytics to known accredited labs
August 2024	Updated Contact Us info
November 2024	Updated 3.0 Certificates of Analysis

