



The Australian Wine Industry Code of Conduct

By Cecily Zhu, Code Secretariat

+ Origins of the Code

- Launched in December 2008
- Purpose of the Code
 1. To establish a common framework for winegrape supply contracts
 2. To provide a dispute resolution system to manage disagreements
- Endorsed by Australian Vignerons (formerly Wine Grape Growers Australia) and Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA)



+ Application of the Code



- Voluntary
- 41 signatories
- Fairness and transparency
- Dispute resolution
 - Early intervention
 - Appointment of independent expert



Winegrape Purchase Agreements

Minimum requirements

- In writing
- Clear and concise, plain English
- Parties to the Agreement
- Duration of Agreement
- Fixed price and/or clear statement about how final price will be determined
- Terms of payment
- Tonnage and vineyard details
- Winegrape standards, assessment and harvest
- Delivery and freight
- Acceptance and rejection
- Title in winegrapes
- Professional advice

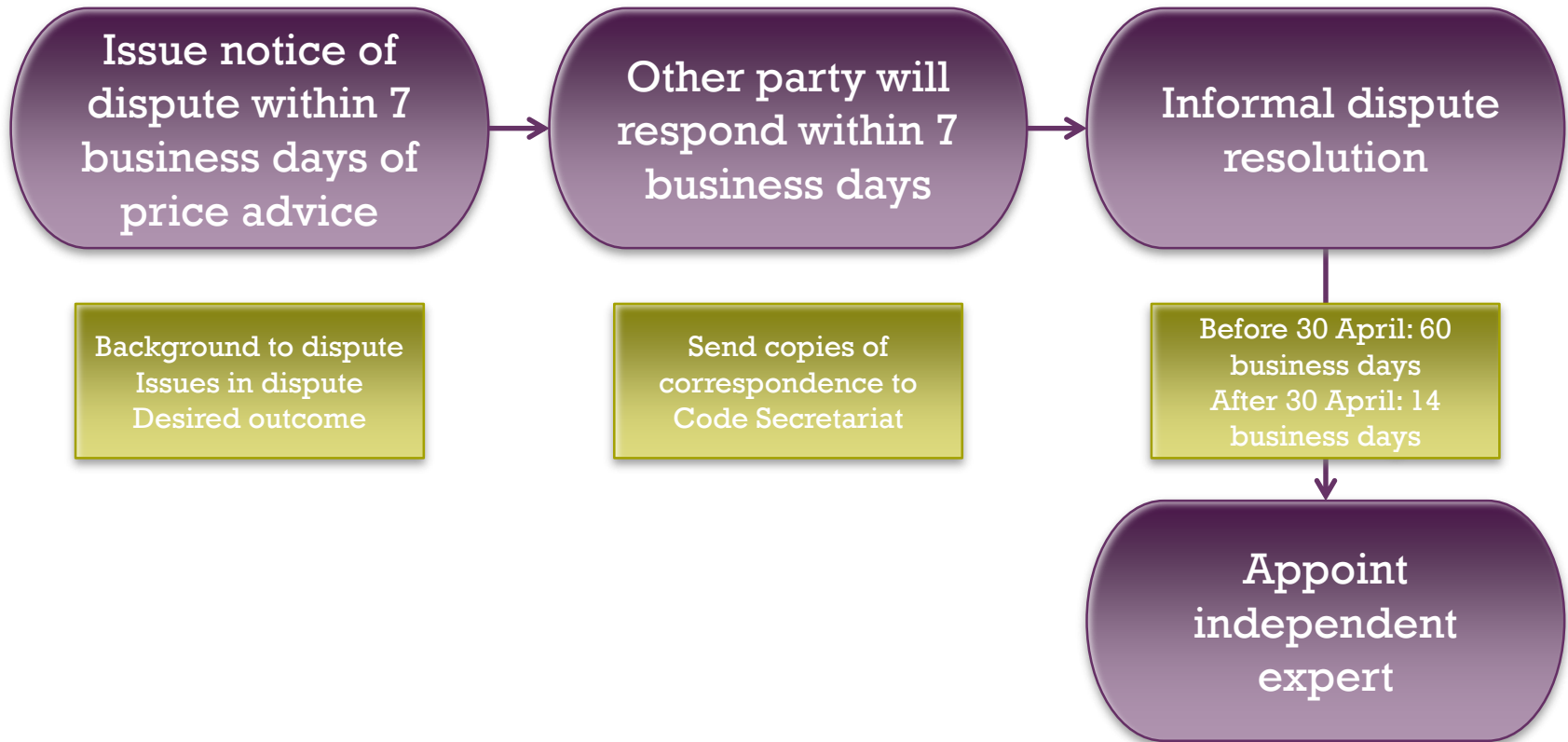


Dispute Resolution

1. Winegrape
price

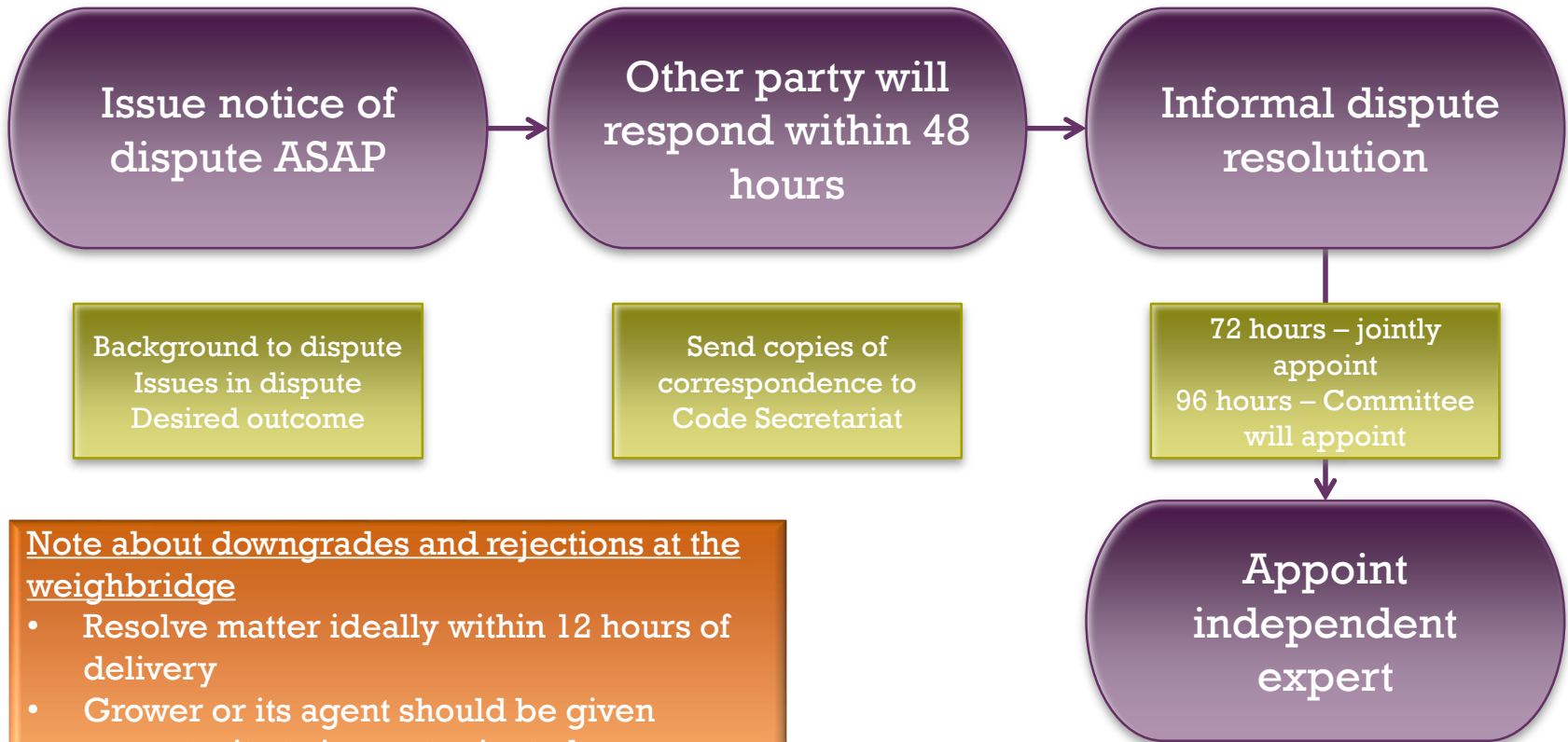
2. Downgrades
and rejections in
the vineyard

+ Disputes over winegrape price





Disputes over downgrades and rejections in the vineyard



Note about downgrades and rejections at the weighbridge

- Resolve matter ideally within 12 hours of delivery
- Grower or its agent should be given opportunity to inspect rejected or downgraded winegrapes
- No independent expert required by Code

+ Breaches of the Code



- Complaint of a breach of the Code must be referred to the Committee in writing
 - Name of signatory and party bringing the complaint
 - Nature of the complaint
 - Desired outcome
- Committee will investigate complaint
- If breach has occurred, Committee will provide reasons and remedy or penalty if applicable
- Party can be removed as signatory to the Code if breach is not remedied
- Committee can recover reasonable costs from grower if complaint is found to be invalid



The Australian Wine Industry Code of Conduct

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