

13 November 2018

## Good gourd – a grand for the grand champ

Entries are now open for the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) Giant Pumpkin Competition supported by Pillow Talk, with the iconic competition set to pack on the pounds for both the pumpkins and the prize pool in 2019.

It will be a grand for the grand champion, with the Heaviest Pumpkin of Show prize money to tip the scales at \$1,000.

School classes will also be set to squash records, with a total prize pool of \$400 up for grabs (a bonus of \$200 extra if their pumpkins can pack on more than 50kg.)

Primary school students will get real world learning, with the competition planting the seed (literally) about the importance of agriculture and the critical role it plays in our everyday lives.

The nine month science experiment is perfect for Prep to Year 4 and will allow them to nurture and observe how living things grow, change and use the earth's resources - and the results will be huge!

The gargantuan gourds will roll onto the Plaza at the Brisbane Showgrounds in May 2019 for judging, with the competition held outside of the August Ekka to take advantage of premium pumpkin growing season.

Newcomer Steven Fritz blitzed the competition earlier this year, with his larger than life pumpkin weighing in at a whopping 206kg and squashing previous pump-kings and father and son, Geoff and Tony Frohloff.

The competition is open to all green thumbs who think they're destined for big things, including farmers, youths and amateur gardeners.

For proactive pumpkin producers, Giant Atlantic pumpkin seeds and an information pack are now available by emailing [entries@royalqueenslandshow.com.au](mailto:entries@royalqueenslandshow.com.au).

Entries close 5pm Friday 26 April 2019, but it's best to plant the seeds by the end of December 2018, as the portly pumpkins take around four and a half months to mature

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