

Friday 5 August, 2022

Ekka is back! Historic return of the Show

TOMORROW history will be made when the gates to the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) presented by RACQ open for the first time in three years.

The Ekka's historic return comes after Queensland's biggest and most loved annual event was cancelled in 2020 and 2021.

RNA Chief Executive Brendan Christou said the RNA was thrilled to finally be reuniting the country and the city and community sentiment for the show's return was very strong.

"After two years without a show, we look forward to bringing back this beloved Queensland institution," Mr Christou said.

"We are hoping for a bumper show and it's time for us all to come together again and enjoy the People's Show.

"It has been wonderful seeing our beef exhibitors showcasing their cattle on the Main Arena this week during Ekka Beef Week.

"For our farmers, to have the Ekka finally back after two years provides much needed respite and highlights the many challenges they face such as drought and flood.

Mr Christou said tomorrow the public can join in the celebration of agriculture and show their support for our farmers.

"We're looking forward to seeing everyone come together again to enjoy the best of Queensland, including our beloved competitions, the animals, rides, showbags, amazing entertainment and iconic strawberry sundaes.

"It's great to finally be able to stage the show after the hardships the community has been through with lock downs and restrictions.

"The Ekka is loved by so many - it's full of family traditions and wonderful childhood memories and we can't wait to welcome everyone to the 2022 Show."

The gates to the 143rd Ekka will open at 9am. Tickets to the Show are only available online at www.ekka.com.au

Day 1: Saturday 6 August – HIGHLIGHTS

MEDIA DOORSTOP:

11.30am with RNA President David Thomas or Chief Executive Brendan Christou on Heritage Hill overlooking the Main Arena.

JUDGING HIGHLIGHTS:

- From 9am - Canine judging - Working Dogs at the Sushi Hub Canine Pavilion and Obedience at Stockman's Rest
- From 9.30am - Shorthair Kittens judging, Sushi Hub Cat Precinct
- From 10am - Woodchop and Sawing, Woodchop Arena
- 10am & 2pm - Live Cookery judging, Ch 7 Pavilion
- 10.30am - Stud Beef Parade of Champions, Main Arena
- 11am - Stud Beef Santos Champion of Champions judging, Main Arena
- 1pm - Alpaca & Alpaca Fleece judging, Ch 7 Pavilion
- 2pm - Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards, Main Stage in the Ch 7 Pavilion
- 3.30pm - Natural Fibres Make and Model Competition judging, Main Stage in the Ch 7 Pavilion
- 4pm - Australian Young Farmer Challenge, Main Arena

THE BEST BEASTS OF SHOW

Stud beef competition judging continues tomorrow, with the best of the best on show. The contenders for the big beef cattle prizes will be paraded on the Main Arena at 10.30am in the Parade of Champions, before they're judged at 11am. The coveted blue ribbons being handed out include The Basingthwaight Trophy Champion of Champions Bull sponsored by Santos – it's sure to be one big beast! In 2019 an Angus took out the top prize. Beef cattle entry numbers have been strong this year, with 1,300 head of cattle on show.

When: Parade of Champions and Champion of Champions judging from 10.30am, Main Arena

COOKERY JUDGES TO CRITIQUE THE CAKES

Ekka judges will cast a tough eye over a selection of Cookery Competition entries, in the popular Live Cookery Judging. The classes to be critiqued are gingerbread man, banana cake, rosella jam combination and boiled fruitcake. The baked and boiled entries will be put to the taste test in front of Ekka visitors, giving them a rare insight into the judging process.

When: 10am (gingerbread man and banana cake) & 2pm (rosella jam combination and boiled fruitcake), Fine Arts Demonstration Stage, Ground Floor, Ch 7 Pavilion

HARD AT WORK CANINES

The incredibly smart working dogs will be judged tomorrow in the Canine Competition presented by Sushi Hub. The paw-some breeds include the Australian Cattle Dog, Border Collie, German Shepherd and Welsh Corgi. The intelligent working dog breeds are used in a range of industries including

agriculture, the police force and security. Meanwhile Obedience judging will take place at Stockman's Rest, showcasing the relationship between the clever canines and their handlers.

When: From 9am, Working Dogs judging at the Sushi Hub Dog Pavilion and Obedience judging at Stockman's Rest

PURR-FECT KITTENS

Preened to purr-fection, the cutest shorthair kittens will be judged in the Cat Competition presented by Sushi Hub. Breeds include the Abyssinian, Tonkinese, Sphynx and Munchkin. You won't want to miss the cutest kitties of show!

When: From 9.30am, Sushi Hub Cat Precinct

BATTLE OF THE BICEPS

More than 40 men and women will compete in the Australian Armwrestling Federation Queensland Championships. They're sure to strong arm some fans as they test their strength in lightweight, middleweight and heavyweight classes in a double elimination competition. The competitive arm wrestlers range from world title contenders to husbands and wives.

When: From 10am, XXXX Stockmen's Bar & Grill

Ekka Essentials:

- Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) August 6-14, 2022
- Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Queensland
- Gates open at 9am
- Tickets are available online only at www.ekka.com.au

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

The 2022 Ekka Media Kit is available to download. It is the most comprehensive information guide to the show – to download please visit www.ekka.com.au/media/media-kit/



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ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

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AUGUST 6-14 2022

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