Ekka

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

Presented By: BOQ

STUDENT CHEESE COMPETITION 2027



RNA | THE ROYAL NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

Welcome from the President



The Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) presented by the Bank of Queensland (BOQ) continues its proud tradition of recognising excellence and achievement through its 2027 competition program.

Since the first Ekka in 1876, competitions have been at the heart of the Show, providing generations of Queenslanders with the opportunity to showcase their skills, passion and dedication.

In 2026, almost 23,000 entries were received across 59 competitions, supported by a $759,000 prize pool. More than 5,000 exhibitors took part, contributing to the strongest entry numbers in more than five years as the Ekka celebrated its 150th anniversary.

Driven by strong demand in this milestone year, many sections reached entry capacity, including Led Steer, which recorded a record number of cattle. Several Arts and Cookery sections also achieved their highest participation in a decade.

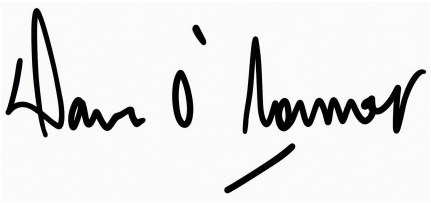
The 2026 Ekka welcomed more than 423,000 people through the gates, with the past two shows attracting the largest crowds in almost 20 years.

In 2027, the Ekka will run for nine days from Saturday 7 to Sunday 15 August, across two weekends.

For more than 150 years, the Ekka has remained committed to championing agriculture and showcasing the best of Queensland, including though our diverse competition program.

As the new RNA President, I look forward to building on this proud legacy and continuing to champion the people, industries and communities that make Queensland so special.

Best of luck with your entries. We look forward to celebrating your achievements at the 2027 Royal Queensland Show.



Dan O'Connor OAM
RNA President

Ekka
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SATURDAY 7 AUGUST – SUNDAY 15 AUGUST 2027

STUDENT MADE CHEESE COMPETITION

Councillor
Mr Ari McCamley

Chief Judge
Mr Russell Smith

APPLICATIONS TO ENTER OPEN	Monday 16 November 2026
TEACHER CHEESE WORKSHOPS	Monday 10 May 2027 – Friday 14 May 2027
APPLICATIONS TO ENTER CLOSE	Sunday 8 August 2027 at 5.00pm
FOOD SAFETY PLAN DUE	Friday 27 August 2027 by 5.00pm Email to entries@rna.org.au
ENTRY FEES	$3.15 per entry, per class All entry fees are inclusive of GST
MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER CLASS	12 entries per school per competition class
DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS	Friday 3 September & Monday 6 September 2027 8:00am to 3.30pm. Deliveries after 3.30pm MUST be arranged prior. No entries will be accepted before or after these dates. **Deliver to:** Ekka Competitions Team Brisbane Showgrounds, Loading Dock 600 Gregory Terrace BOWEN HILLS QLD 4006
JUDGING	Wednesday 8 September 2027 & Thursday 9 September 2027
WORKSHOP AND AWARDS PRESENTATION	Friday 10 September 2027 from 11:00am Exhibition Building - Upper Brisbane Showgrounds 601 Gregory Terrace BOWEN HILLS QLD 4006
COLLECTION OF EXHIBITS	Friday 10 September 2027 from 12.30pm to 1.00pm Exhibition Building - Upper 601 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, QLD 4006

LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
PRIZES AND PRIZEMONEY SUBJECT TO CHANGE
NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER CLOSE OF ENTRIES

SUPPORTED BY

Thank you to the following sponsors of the Student Made Cheese Competition.

Red Ribbon





If you are interested in becoming a supporter of the Competition, please contact:
E:tfoster@rna.orgau. | T: 07 3253 5145

GENERAL REGULATIONS

The attention of Exhibitors is drawn to the fact that all entries that are accepted will be subject to the *Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland Act* 1971, as well as to the By-Laws, General Regulations of the Association and any Competition Specific Regulations which appear in this schedule.

Judging will be performed by a panel of Judges appointed by the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland (RNA). No refunds will be made after close of entry.

No refunds will be given for entries not presented or not adhering to the schedule regulations.

NOTICE TO INTENDING EXHIBITORS

Entries for the Royal Queensland Show can ONLY be made online through our Exhibitor Portal. Entries submitted other than on the online portal will be returned to the Exhibitor and, unless all requirements are submitted online by 5.00pm on the Application to Enter closing date, as shown in the Schedule, they will not be considered.

As a condition for acceptance of all entries, all exhibitors/competitors agree to the following:

- All information submitted as part of my exhibitor profile is true and correct, including taxation status and bank account information.
- Neither myself nor my family members will indulge in any social, professional, or other interaction with an official or judge contracted or subcontracted by the RNA before or during the Royal Queensland Show.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

You can be assured that the privacy of your personal information is of the utmost importance to us. The information provided by you in any application for membership or application to enter is used by the RNA to offer member services or to organize and conduct competitions at the Royal Queensland Show. By applying for membership or entering such competitions you consent to provide such details as your name, address, and exhibit details. Competition information may be made available to the media and included in RNA publications.

The exhibitor irrevocably consents to the RNA publishing or reproducing in any manner whatsoever any particulars or information in relation to their exhibits; the publication or reproduction may be in a printed form or visual image through electronic means and/or on the internet. Your information will not be disclosed without your consent for any other purpose unless required by the law. By providing your email address you are consenting to receive communications from us relating to the Royal Queensland Show. For full privacy details visit https://www.rna.org.au/our-policies/

PRIZE MONEY

1. Prize Money stated in the Schedule excludes GST.
2. All Prizes and Prize Monies are SUBJECT TO CHANGE at the discretion of the Competition Committee
3. GST will be added to the Prize Money for Exhibitors who are registered for GST purposes.
4. Prize money will be paid into your nominated bank account by 31 October following the Show.
5. The Association will provide a "Recipient Created Tax Invoice" to Exhibitors who are registered for GST purposes
6. All cash prizes and trophies must be claimed within six months from the closing date of the Royal Queensland Show. Prizes not claimed by that date will be considered to have lapsed, and the amount will become a donation to the Association. (RNA By-Laws)

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. The Brisbane Showgrounds are a designated Workplace within the meaning of the *Workplace Health and Safety Act* 2011 and exhibitors/competitors are required to ensure that they and all persons under their direction or control, including their contractors or sub-contractors, comply with all requirements of the Act and the RNA holds each exhibitor responsible to discharge its obligations to provide and maintain a safe place and system of work during occupation by the exhibitor of any area of the Showgrounds.
2. Each exhibitor/competitor will assess the risk to themselves, staff, volunteers, family, other exhibitors, RNA staff, show visitors, children and any person foreseeably affected by the presentation of their exhibit.
3. Risks identified by exhibitors/competitors will be eliminated or controlled by the exhibitor/competitor and particular attention will be paid to ensuring public safety and safety of other exhibitors/competitors.
4. Exhibits will only be held and handled by competent persons whose experience is known to the exhibitor/competitor.
5. A "No Smoking Policy" will be strictly adhered to and policed by exhibitors/competitors and all are advised that the use of Primus stoves, any heating or lighting appliances of a like character, or any naked light, is strictly prohibited in the pavilions.
6. Any exhibitors/competitors intending to bring electrical equipment to the Showgrounds will be required to ensure that such equipment is fitted with residual current protection and that all electrical leads, tools and appliances have been inspected by a licensed electrical contractor and currently tagged. The use of double adaptors is prohibited, and all power boards must also be tested and tagged.
7. All exhibitors/competitors will comply with the requirements of the Act and its Regulations and Standards in every other respect. This is essential for the safety of all exhibitors/competitors and the general public. The *Workplace Health and Safety Act imposes* very severe penalties in the event of noncompliance with its provisions. Anyone who do not comply will not be allowed to exhibit at the Royal Queensland Show.
8. The Brisbane Showgrounds is subject to a Special Facility Licence issued under the Liquor Act 1992 and strict laws related to the consumption and possession of liquor across the Brisbane Showgrounds site. The consumption or possession of liquor outside of the

licensed bar areas is not authorised by the RNA and in many cases may be an offence for which on the spot fines can be issued by Police and Liquor Licensing Investigators.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

140. It there is any inconsistency between By-laws 141 -162 and any other By-laws of the Association, By-laws 141 - 162 will prevail.

141. The functions of the Disciplinary Committee shall be to hear and determine all complaints, allegations and other matters relating to:

a. prohibited substances, as defined in these By-laws or Sectional Regulations.
b. any alleged breach of the Rules, By-Laws and Regulations of the Association by an exhibitor and relating to an exhibit or to a competition, except if the alleged breach is of a kind that the Chairman of a Sectional Committee considers is of a less serious nature and should properly be dealt with by the Sectional Committee, and
c. any other alleged breach of the Rules, By-Laws and Regulations of the Association that may be referred to Disciplinary Committee pursuant to By-Law 145.

155. The Disciplinary Committee may announce its decision orally or in writing. A decision that is announced orally shall have effect in accordance with its terms.

156. If the opinion of the Disciplinary Committee is not unanimous, the decision of the majority shall prevail. If the Disciplinary Committee are equally divided on any question concerning the guilt or innocence of a person, the question shall be resolved in that person's favour.

157. If the Disciplinary Committee considers that there has been a breach of the rules, By-Laws, or regulations of the Association, it may impose such a penalty as it considers to be appropriate, including without limitation:

a. a reprimand.
b. a monetary fine (payable at such time/s as the Disciplinary Committee may determine)
c. withdrawal or withholding of any award or ribbon.
d. disqualification in respect of any class.
e. expulsion from the Showground.
f. where the person concerned is a member, a suspension or termination of that membership.
g. a ban.
h. exclusion.
i. prohibiting a Person from exhibiting or competing at the current Show or at any future Show.
j. a direction that an Exhibit be removed from the Showground.
k. any other mandatory requirement; and
l. any other penalty provided for in other regulations of the Association.

158. There shall be no appeal from any decision of the Disciplinary Committee.

INSURANCE

170. The RNA may (but is not obliged to) take out a policy of insurance in respect of the legal liability on the part of an Exhibitor for loss or damage suffered by a third party caused by any act or omission of an Exhibit or the Exhibitor.

171. The RNA, RNA Staff Members and Officials of the RNA are not liable to any Exhibitor if the RNA fails to take out a policy of insurance effectively protecting any Exhibitor or Exhibit, or if any such policy does not operate to indemnify the Exhibitor in respect of the loss or damage in question.

REGULATIONS & BY-LAWS

All Entries and Exhibitors are subject to RNA Regulations and By-Laws set out in this schedule as well as other By-Laws that may pertain to this competition. The RNA always reserves the right at its absolute discretion without assigning any reason to:

a. substitute a Judge when necessary.
b. re-allocate Judging days for a particular breed.
c. if entries numbers require an extra Judge, appoint an additional Judge if necessary.

Full copies of the RNA By-Laws may be obtained upon application to the Competitions Department. If you are unsure of any of the rules stated in this schedule or your eligibility to enter the competition, please contact the entries department at entries@royalqueenslandshow.com.au

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

The RNA's ABN is 41 417 513 726

WITHDRAWLS AND REFUND

All withdrawals and requests for a refund must be submitted in writing (via post or email) to the RNA Competition Coordinator prior to the commencement of the Show. Any refund requests made in respect of a horse or livestock exhibit must also be accompanied by a veterinary certificate.

A $50 administration fee will be charged and deducted from the overall refundable amount.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Exhibitors must comply with all applicable Working with Children Legislation.

The Exhibitor agrees to produce on demand, at least 1 month before Competition, evidence of working with children checks for themselves, their employees or volunteers who are involved in a child-related role or have direct unsupervised contact with children.

GENERAL COMPETITON REGUALTIONS

THE COMPETITION COMMITTEE

The Competition Committee is responsible for the organisation and conducting of a Competition and has, subject to the By-Laws, the authority to make any determination upon any matter.

The Committee is empowered to do all things necessary or desirable to that end, and any decision or discretion of the Committee referred herein may be exercised in such manner as the Committee deems fit, with the Committee being the final arbiter on any matters arising in relation to the Competition.

DEFINITION OF AN EXHIBITOR

'Exhibitor' means the person on whose behalf and in whose name the application for entry is lodged. For the purposes of the By-Law, the definition of 'Exhibitor' includes the representatives and agents of an Exhibitor. Person includes a natural person, firm, partnership, company, or corporation.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

All entries are accepted subject to the *Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland Act* 1971, as well as to the By-Laws, General Regulations of the Association, any Competition Specific Regulations, and conditions which appear in this schedule.

NOTE: All By-Laws and regulations will bind everyone who participates in any event or enters any Exhibit with the RNA or who enters upon the Showground or who otherwise deals with the RNA for any purpose.

A copy of the RNA Rules and By-Laws are here.

APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY

All entries for Competitions for the 2027 Royal Queensland Show will be online.

There will be NO OFFLINE processing facility for Competitions.

To enter online, visit Competitions and Displays

INCORRECT AND INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY

A Correction Fee of up to $50 may, at the RNA's discretion, be charged for each Application for Entry which is incorrect or incomplete.

If an Application for Entry is not rectified in accordance with RNA requirements, the entry may not be accepted.

EXHIBIT CONFIRMATION AND TAX INVOICE

An Exhibit Confirmation Advice will be issued upon finalisation of entry through the Exhibitor Portal.

COMPLIANCE WITH DIRECTIONS

The Exhibitor must fully comply with the directions and requests of the Association. Without limitation, directions and requests of the Association may apply to the entry of the Exhibit, the conditions of entry, the Exhibitor, the conditions of the Event, the conduct of the Exhibitor, the conduct of the Event, the decision of the Judge or the award of prizes.

JUDGING

The Council will select Judges and Stewards for all Sections and fill any subsequent vacancies.

The RNA always reserves the right at its absolute discretion without assigning any reason to:

(a) substitute a Judge when necessary.
(b) re-allocate Judging days for a particular class.
(c) If entries numbers require an extra Judge, appoint an additional Judge if necessary.

An Exhibit shall not receive an award if in the opinion of the Judge it is unworthy of such award.

Any conduct likely to cause the judging or results in a competition to be determined other than upon the true and proper merits of each Exhibit may constitute 'Misconduct' for the purposes of the By-Laws.

PROTESTS

A protest against a Judge's Award must:-

(a) be in writing addressed to the Chief Executive, and signed by the person lodging the protest;
(b) be lodged by delivery to the Chief Executive's Office within twenty-four hours of the making of the Award;
(c) give the name and address of the person lodging the protest, and where two or more persons join in the protest, state which one of those persons is authorized to receive correspondence or notices on behalf of all;
(d) set out in reasonable detail particulars of the matter complained of including but not necessarily limited to the number of the Class and the Award protested against;
(e) be accompanied by a deposit of $50.

STUDENT CHEESE REGULATIONS

1. Entries in the Student Made Cheese Class can be from Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Students. Schools are restricted to twelve (12) entries per competition class.

2. No late entries will be accepted.

3. Entries must be received and payment in full online at www.ekka.com.au no later than 5.00pm on Friday, 6 August 2027.

4. Only cheeses made under DFSV Food Safety Plan can be entered. All required Food and Safety documents for auditing must be completed and submitted to the RNA by 28 August 2027. Please email all audit documents to: entries@rna.org.au.

5. Following the close of entries, exhibitors will receive an electronic label from the RNA via email. The label must be affixed to each entry, along with the corresponding packaging and carton, prior to delivery. Only labels supplied by the RNA are to be used and must display the following information:

    - Best Before Date (8 weeks after cheese is made)
    - Date of Production
    - School Name
    - Student Name
    - Name of Cheese e.g. “Jane’s Camembert”

6. The Association will not be responsible for the loss of, or any damage whatsoever to exhibits en-route to, during judging or whilst entries are exhibited subsequent to judging. All exhibits must be delivered to and collected from the judging venue at the exhibitor's own expense.

7. Exhibitors may collect exhibits on Friday 10 September 2027 after the conclusion of the presentation. Any exhibits not collected at this time will become the property of the Royal National Agricultural & Industrial Association of Queensland and may be disposed of.

8. The Association reserves the right to declare no competition in any class in which there are less than three entries.

9. Results will be emailed to the address provided on the nomination form within one week of the awards presentation. If the school is present on the day, a printed results sheet can be collected at the presentation.

10. All cash prizes and trophies must be claimed within six months from the closing date of the Royal Queensland Show. Prizes not claimed and prize cheques not presented by that date will be considered to have lapsed, and the amount will become a donation to the Association

WORKSHOPS

The RNA Teachers' Cheese Making Workshops support both primary and secondary curriculum areas including Chemistry, Biology, Food Studies, and Science 21. They are a unique professional development opportunity for educators.

The workshops are a mandatory prerequisite for schools entering the Ekka Student Made Cheese Competition. The workshops

Led by internationally renowned dairy expert Russell Smith, these free workshops are the only ones in Australia approved by Dairy Food Safety Authority for classroom cheese making.

The Camembert and Blue Cheese workshops follow very similar processes during the workshop; however, there are significant differences in the maturation stage after production, which result in the distinct characteristics of each cheese. You may complete either workshop, and resources for both cheeses will be provided to you following the sessions.

Camembert Workshops: Mon 10 May – Wed 12 May 2027
Blue Cheese Workshop: Thu 13 May - Fri 14 May 2027

Expressions of interest close 18 December 2026. Teachers must complete the form HERE. Successful applicants will be notified in late January/early Feb 2027.

It is recommended two teachers per school attend to retain information.

JUDGING

Prizes will be awarded on a first, second and third basis only.

Scale of points for judging

Points:	
Flavour and Aroma	10
Body and Texture	6
Presentation	4
TOTAL	20

PRESENTATION

The presentation will be held in conjunction with the Student Made Cheese Competition. Awards for each class will be presented during the event on Friday, 10 September 2026.

Following the awards presentation, a feedback and tasting session will be held. A competition judge will be available to provide in-person feedback on exhibits, and exhibitors will have the opportunity to sample entries from other schools.

All schools must register their attendance through the ticketing page which will be available after the competition closes. RSVPs are due by Tuesday, 7 September 2026. Each school may bring up to two teachers and eight students.

STUDENT MADE CHEESE COMPETITION

Class 1 **Mould Ripened Cheese - White**
Entries to be from Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Students.
First : Rosette, $200, Trophy; Second : Rosette, $150; Third : Rosette, $75

Class 2 **Mould Ripened Cheese - Blue**
Entries to be from Primary, Secondary or Tertiary Students.
First : Rosette, $200, Trophy; Second : Rosette, $150; Third : Rosette, $75

BEST CHEESE IN CLASS 1 AND 2 FROM EACH SCHOOL
Awarded to the highest scoring cheese from Class 1 and Class 2 from each school.
Certificate

Ekka

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COMPETITIONS

