

OUR COMPETITIONS

A

Apiculture presented by Marsh

Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater (H-14)

The Apiculture Competition can be found in a buzzing area of the Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater. Entries include extracted honey, pollen, comb honey, mead (an alcoholic beverage made by fermenting honey with water) and beeswax - even amazing beeswax sculptures. Adding to the competition, live bee demonstrations will take place daily, revealing the wonderful intricacies of the bees' unique environment. Judging takes place in the lead-up to the show on Saturday 4 August at 10am, with the entries then displayed over the 10 days of Ekka.

Gary Kiesecker (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0418 761 789

B

Beef Cattle

Main Arena (L-8)

Beefing up the Ekka is Australia's largest annual cattle competition - a true display of bringing the country to the city. Around 1,600 head of beef cattle descend on the Brisbane Showgrounds each year to be paraded, judged and displayed across 432 classes in stud beef, 27 in led steer and 14 in prime beef. Nowhere else will you see so many cattle so close to a city's CBD. The Stud Beef Competition alone is the largest showing of stud beef in the southern hemisphere. For more information and judging times, head to page 20.

Gary Noller (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0408 700 949

Bush Poetry

Flower and Garden Stage, The Old Museum (D-15)

Queensland's most poetic will take to the stage at The Old Museum to belt out some bush ballads. These passionate poets will each get six minutes of fame, reciting everything from Banjo Patterson to their own original work. The open and school classes will be judged on Saturday 11 August from 9.30am. You'll also find around 20 talented bush poets performing on the Sheep Shearing Stage in the RACQ Animal Nursery during show.

Catherine Sinclair (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0429 025 521

C

Canine - Championship Canine Competition presented by Black Hawk - NEW Tiny Tots Competition & feature show

Dog Pavilion, Animal Boulevard (Q-13)

The pawsome Canine Competition presented by Black Hawk is one of Ekka's largest and most popular competitions, attracting on average 2,300 entries. From Border Collies and Beagles to Pomeranians and Poodles, more than 200 breeds will be on show to marvel at. The stakes will be high with judges flying in from France, Costa Rica, Brazil and Mexico to put these dedicated dogs to the test. New this year is a Tiny Tots Competition, where children aged seven and under will show off their favourite stuffed toy dogs in the judging ring - super cute! This will be held on Saturday 11 August at 12pm. Other highlights include the brand new Feature Utility Dogs Show (August 14), the popular Dances with Dogs (August 19) and the adorable Best Puppy In Group (August 19). Tails will also be wagging when the Champion of Show is crowned on August 19.

Lionel Blumel (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0419 798 779

Cats - Championship Cat Competition presented by Black Hawk

RACQ Animal Nursery (O-12)

Preened to purr-fection, more than 50 breeds of cats will be judged and displayed in the Cat Competition presented by Black Hawk. From long haired Ragdolls to short haired Siamese and even cute kittens, they'll all have their mew-memnt in the spotlight. Judges will fly in from the USA and New Zealand for this popular competition, with a selection of awards announced including the Supreme All Breeds Cat of Show (August 18). Other highlights include the Kitten Feature Show (August 19) starring the cutest cats and the Cat Breed Showcase (August 10, 15, 16 and 17) giving Ekka visitors insight into the meow-nificent world of felines.

Lionel Blumel (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0419 798 779

D

Dairy Cattle

Main Arena (L-8) - NEW location

Sure to be a-moo-sing is the Dairy Cattle Competition. Cream of the crop cattle will be showcased across six breeds - Ayrshire, Guernsey, Illawarra, Jersey, Holstein and Brown Swiss. This year the cows will



be judged on the Main Arena which seats around 20,000 people, meaning more people will get to see this udderly popular competition. The cows will be marked on both the quality of their milk and appearance, with a highlight the Supreme Dairy Cow of Show judging on Friday 17 August from 9am. For more information and judging times, head to page 22.

Duncan McInnes (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0418 198 349

Dairy Goats

The CRT Pavilion, Level 1 (I-5) - NEW location

They've goat milk and are ready to compete at Ekka in one of the largest annual gatherings of dairy goats in Queensland. The Dairy Goat Competition will see breeds including Anglo-Nubian, Australian Melaan or Australian Brown, British Alpine, Saanen and Toggenburg judged on their physical attributes and their ability to produce top quality dairy products. Judging will take place on Thursday 16 August from 9am, with a highlight the Dairy Goat Junior Handlers. These young competitors don't kid around - see them decked out in white coats parading around their beloved animals.

Duncan McInnes (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0418 198 349

E

Education on Show

The Old Museum (D-15) - NEW location

The Education on Show competition showcases work by Queensland students. In honour of the 2018 Commonwealth Games being held

in Queensland this year, the competition follows a 'hero' theme. Students are encouraged to identify someone they consider to be a hero, exploring all fields including medical, arts, science, sporting, political and volunteer work - even family and friends. The entries in the Education on Show competition will be displayed at The Old Museum over the 10 days of show.

F

Fine Arts

Lower Royal International Convention Centre (F-12)

- *Cookery (includes Cake Decorating) NEW live judging classes*
- *Creative Art and Craft*
- *Painting and Drawing*
- *Photography*
- *Sculpture*

The Fine Arts competitions are always a show favourite, with visitors marveling at more than 3,000 entries across Cookery, Creative Art and Craft, Painting and Drawing, Photography and Sculpture. This year is the very first time part of the Cookery Competition will be judged during show, with the introduction of live judging classes. Four classes - Boiled Fruit Cake, Chocolate Bar Cake, Orange Marmalade and Anzac Biscuits - will be judged on the Fine Arts Demonstration Stage in front of Ekka guests, giving them a rare and interesting insight into the judging process. The Cookery Competition will also see professional and amateur cooks whip up delicious chutneys and perfect patty cakes, while the most creative decorated cakes will also be on display. In Painting and Drawing, talented artists will showcase different styles from watercolour to soft pastels, while those with a good eye, including school students, will submit their most impressive work in Photography. Some of Queensland's most creative



types will be unearthed in the Art and Craft Competition, with entries including calligraphy, crochet, fashion and knitting. While in Sculpture, magnificent masterpieces will be displayed across three classes - Representational (inspired by and based on the real world), Abstract and or Stylised and Outdoor. There is also a Fine Arts Demonstration Stage where Ekka goers can brush up on their craft skills.

FINE ARTS DEMONSTRATION STAGE HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT	WHEN
Live Judging Classes - Boiled Fruit Cake & Chocolate Bar Cake	10am August 10
Live Judging Classes - Orange Marmalade & ANZAC Biscuits	2pm August 10
Art In Bark Association	2pm August 11
Crochet Australia	10am August 12
Spoon & Bowl Carving	10am August 13; 12pm August 15; 2pm August 16
Queensland Cake Decorators Association - Brisbane North Branch	12pm August 13
Queensland Spinners, Weavers & Fibre Artists	2pm August 13, 15, 17 & 19
Calligraphers of South East Queensland	10am August 15 & 18
A Little Cake Place	2pm August 19

Susan Hennessey (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0408 862 702

Fleece Breeds

Stock Pavilion (N-4)
and RACQ Animal Nursery (O-11)

- Alpaca and Alpaca Fleece
- Angora and Mohair Fleece
- Prime Lambs
- Sheep
- Wool

Animals and their fleece will be judged in the Fleece Breeds competitions. Ekka guests will compare their winter woolies to the prize-winning wool, alpaca fleece and mohair in the RACQ Animal Nursery, while the angoras (15 Aug), alpacas (18 Aug) and sheep (16 Aug Open classes and 17 Aug School classes) will be paraded and judged in the Stock Pavilion. Highlights include the angora and sheep school classes, with three angora goats from each school shorn and their fleeces skirted in the Production class (16 Aug at 9am) plus the School Breeder's Group classes (17 Aug at 9am).

William Roberts (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0428 722 535

Flower and Garden

The Old Museum (D-15)

- Floristry - New competition
- Potted Plants presented by Nursery and Garden Industry Queensland
- Rocky Point Verge Garden Competition
- Horticultural Display

The Old Museum will be home to a brand new gardening competition



this year. The Floristry Competition will feature five classes, with entrants to create wedding table (professional and student classes) and corporate table centerpieces to be displayed at The Old Museum. There will also be two Mystery Box Challenges on the Flower and Garden Stage, featuring an Aussie backyard theme. Budding florists will be given a selection of flowers, horticultural materials and accessories and will have 90 minutes to create a pedestal display live on stage. The Potted Plants Competition is back for a second year and covers a wide variety of plants from ferns and palms to bonsai, cacti and orchards, while the Horticultural Display Competition features vibrant living displays, put together by those in the horticulture industry, from professional organisations to community groups, design students and individuals. Those wandering around The Old Museum will also come across the entries in the Verge Gardens Competition. A verge garden features ornamental, native or edible plants and is grown on a footpath to beautify an area.

Robin McLay (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0419 797 377

H

AMIC Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods - First time held during Ekka

XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill (O-6)

From leg ham to kabana, the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's AMIC Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods Competition will be held during Ekka for the very first time. Usually held at the Brisbane Showgrounds outside of show, the competition will now draw a crowd at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill on Tuesday 14 August from 9am. There are seven competition classes - Boneless Leg Ham; Leg Ham on the Bone; Bacon Rashers; Cooked Corned Silverside; Pre-Cooked Sausage; Jerky and Kabana.

Horses

Main Arena (L-8)

Stud Sales Ring(P-4)

- *Thoroughbred (including Fashions on the Field)*
- *Horse - colours return*
- *Showjumping - New Junior Riding class*
- *Farriers and Blacksmiths*

The Horse competitions feature some of the best groomed animals at Ekka, with more than 15 breeds on display over the eight days of judging (August 12 to 19). For the first time in three years, the beautiful colours will be judged in the Horse Competition, including Appaloosas, Paints, Pintos and Palominos (Sunday 19 August). While a highlight in the Showjumping Competition will be the new Junior Jumping Take Your Own Line class (Tuesday 14 August at 3pm) with kids from 14 years of age jumping a course in any order they choose, to get the quickest time. Also not to be missed is the spectacular Six Bar Jump (Friday 17 August at 4.30pm) which will see professional riders jump six bars set at ascending heights. The riders will even be wearing microphones this year, so they can explain their tactics to the audience. Just as spectacular is the Showjumping Grand Prix on Sunday 19 August at 3pm. Meanwhile Thoroughbred Day on Monday August 13 will bring some glitz and glamour to Ekka. Now in its 12th year, the day will showcase the beauty and versatility of thoroughbred horses while offering \$30,000 in cash and prizes, along with the title of Supreme Champion Thoroughbred. Also held on Thoroughbred Day is the Fashions on the Field Competition presented by Moët & Chandon which will see entrants strut their stuff in their most stylish formal spring season race wear (more information on page 73). Another highlight is the Farriers and Blacksmiths Competition (August 17 to 19) held in the Sales Ring. It's the largest farriers and blacksmiths competition in the Southern hemisphere and will see professionals in farriery and blacksmithing go head to head in designing and shaping metal into horse shoes over hot flames. For more information and judging times, head to page 24.



Ian Ferguson (Ring Master and Councillor in charge)
T 0410 319 449

L Little Sprouts sponsored by Vegepod, Just Veg, Rocky Point and Garden City Plastics - NEW competition

The Old Museum (D-15)

The brand new Little Sprouts Competition will see kindy and daycare kids have fun growing carrots at their school, while learning where their food comes from. The kids will then bring their carrot pots to Ekka on Saturday 18 August at 10am, where they'll harvest their crunchy crops in front of the judges. Prizes will be awarded for the biggest carrot and the funniest looking carrot. Nine kindergartens and daycare centres have entered this new competition.

Robin McLay (RNA Councillor in Charge)
T 0419 797 377

P Paddock to Palate

- *Paddock to Palate Competition presented by Mort & Co*
- *2017/18 Paddock to Palate Wagyu Challenge*

The Paddock to Palate Competition is the nation's richest beef competition of its kind, tipping the scales with \$46,000 in prize money. The three phased competition, which is now in its 21st year, comprises best aggregate weight gain over 100 days (70 days for trade); a carcass competition and an MSA eating quality competition. More than 600 head of cattle have been entered this year, with the competition judged prior to the show and the overall winners announced at an

Awards Presentation Breakfast at the Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS on August 10 at 7.30am. Meanwhile, Australian Wagyu producers will also cash in, with \$10,000 in prize money up for grabs in the four phased 2017/18 Paddock to Palate Wagyu Challenge. The 400 day Wagyu competition, which was launched in April last year, comprises best aggregate weight gain; a carcass competition; carcass value and finishing in a beef taste off. The Wagyu winners will also be crowned at the Awards Presentation Breakfast.

Gary Noller (RNA Councillor in Charge)
T 0408 700 949

P Pisciculture presented by PETStock - NEW school challenge

Lower Royal ICC at PETstock Fish (G-12)

The Pisciculture Competition makes a splash each year, with a range of breeds on display from common goldfish, fighting fish, tropical and freshwater fish to crustaceans and amphibians. New this year is the PETstock School Challenge, which will see 10 schools each create an aquatic ecosystem in a fish tank. The challenge will teach school students the technique involved in designing and decorating aquariums. Meanwhile, the 26 fighting fish classes will be back for a second year, to be judged on Friday 10 August from 10am. The fish will be marked on five qualities including aggression - see them go head to head through their glass tanks. Some of the competitors have even flown their prized fighting fish over from Thailand, while others have imported them from overseas. All other classes (excluding fighting fish) will be judged in the lead-up to show on Wednesday 8 August from 2pm.

Don Chandler (RNA Councillor in Charge)
T 0407 110 320



Poultry, Birds and Eggs - NEW Red Factor Canaries classes

The CRT Pavilion, Level 1 (I-5) NEW location

A wonderful flock will be on display in the high-flying Poultry, Birds and Eggs Competition. There are new classes in Red Factor Canaries this year - they're beautiful birds and unlike other canaries, their colour can be influenced through eating pigmented foods. The competition will also continue to showcase a variety of exquisite poultry and birds, with this year's poultry features being large hard feather - other than old english game, waterfowl and turkey. Judging of the competition will take place a day before show (Thursday 9 August), with the awards presentation held on Saturday 11 August at 10.30am.

Don Chandler (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0407 110 320

Produce

Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater (H-14)

- Giant Pumpkin Competition presented by Pillow Talk
- Giant Vegetable Competition presented by Marsh
- Youth in Agriculture

Produce of all shapes and sizes will be on display in the Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater over the 10 days of show. The Giant Pumpkin (judged in May) and Giant Vegetable (judged Thursday 9 August from 10am) competitions showcase the 'out of the ordinary' produce, from pumpkins weighing between 100-200kg to unusually long corn cobs. While the Youth in Agriculture Competition will see four schools - Caboolture State High School, Dalby State High School, Lockyer District High School and Woodenbong Central School - put together large produce displays featuring everything from fruit and vegetables to grasses and grains. The competition will be judged

prior to show, with the awards presentation taking place on Friday 10 August at 9.30am.

Q

Quilts Across Queensland

The Old Museum (D-16)

Stunning modern and traditional style quilts will be on display inside The Old Museum. The Modern Quilts class is back for a second year, with exhibitors asked to enter contemporary and creative designs. Characteristics of modern quilts include the use of bold colours and prints, improvisational piecing and alternate grid work. The colourful quilts on display include the award winners - Best of Show, Best Use of Colour, Hangers' Choice Award and Viewer's Choice Award. The Quilts Across Queensland competition has been running for 17 years, with both professionals and amateurs entering.

Liz Allen (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0427 733 515

R

Race Around Ekka presented by Activate Entertainment

Throughout the grounds

Students from grades 7 to 12 will have the chance to become budding filmmakers as they race around Ekka - planning, scripting, directing, shooting, editing and producing TV commercials and documentaries. The competition is divided into three classes (class one - Years 7 and 8; class two - Years 9 and 10; and class three - Years 11 and 12), with



students in classes one and two creating a 30 second ad highlighting the agricultural aspects of the show and students in class three making a 90 second documentary on Ekka's competition entrants. The first place winners will receive a half-day short film and television production with Visual Effects Workshop.

§

AMIC Sausage King and Best Butchers Burger Flower and Garden Stage, The Old Museum (D-15) - NEW location

Queensland's best snags and beef patties will sizzle at the Ekka. The Queensland State Finals of the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's AMIC Sausage King and Best Butchers Burger competitions will now be held on the Flower and Garden Stage on Sunday 19 August from 9.30am. The popular Sausage King Competition is now in its 18th year and discovers the best sausages in the state, while the Best Butchers Burger has been running for eight years and unearths the tastiest beef patty.

Angus Adnam (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0413 058 588

Hy-line Brown School Egg Laying Competition The CRT Pavilion, Level 1 (I-5) - NEW location

Back for a second year, the Hy-line Brown School Egg Laying Competition is one worth chirping about. Sixteen schools from across Queensland and northern New South Wales were given six young hens in April, which they've been caring for and will have laying in time for Ekka. The schools will be judged on their three best birds, the eggs collected and a project outlining how they reared the hens. Judging

will take place on Saturday 18 August at 10am, with teachers and students from each school present.

Don Chandler (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0407 110 320

Sheep Dog Trials Main Arena (L-8)

The clever canines in the Sheep Dog Trials never disappoint. The remarkable working relationship between the entrants and their trusted best friends will be on show, when sheep are herded in the Main Arena. The skilful dogs will be judged on cast, approach, bridging, obstacle and general work, with the competition held across four days - August 12, 14, 16 and 18 at midday. The finals will then take place on Sunday 19 August at 4.30pm.

Ian Ferguson (Ring Master and Councillor in Charge)

T 0410 319 449

School Garden Competition presented by Total Building Maintenance The Old Museum (E-14)

Budding horticultural students will get creative in the School Gardening Competition, with this year's theme 'bringing biodiversity back to our backyard.' Students will create a garden habitat that provides a suitable home for a variety of living species and attracts native flora and fauna. The backyard garden will incorporate numerous natural elements, such as water and shelter that encourage and attract birds, lizards, butterflies and insects. The competition is a chance for school students to learn and apply their gardening skills in a fun, competitive environment. Judging will take place on Sunday 12 August at 1.30pm.



School Scarecrow Competition presented by Total Building Maintenance

The Old Museum (E-15)

Students will create some frightfully fun scarecrows in the School Scarecrow Competition. There are two classes this year, with class one to create a scarecrow that will attract animals rather than scare them away and class two to create a scarecrow that resembles their teacher. Judging will take place on Wednesday 8 August at 5pm, with the awards held on Friday 10 August at 10am on the Flower and Garden Stage.

Robin McLay (Councillor in Charge)

T 0419 797 377

W

Woodchop and Sawing - NEW Australia vs New Zealand competition

Woodchop Arena (C-11) New location

The iconic Woodchop and Sawing Competition has been held at Ekka for more than a century, with axemen and women competing for a share in more than \$100,000 in prizes. The competition has a new home this year, with the Woodchop Arena now located near Gate 6. The all-weather indoor space was purpose built earlier this year and will make woodchop one of the most entertaining arenas at the show. One of the competition highlights this year is the Open Men's Invitational - Australia vs New Zealand, to be held at Ekka for the very first time. This international competition will see eight of the best woodchoppers from each country battle it out in underhand, standing block, tree-felling and sawing on August 14, 15 and 17 at 7pm. Another competition favourite is the Jack and Jill Double Handed Sawing Championship on August 11. Competitors travel from right across

Australia and as far as New Zealand to be at the show - some are even fourth generation.

John Cotter (RNA Councillor in Charge)

T 0418 466 891

Y

Young Judges presented by Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges - NEW competition section

Several locations around grounds

The next generation of Ekka judges will be in action in the Young Judges Competition. Around 100 students from Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges, universities and high schools will put their judging skills to the test across competitions from beef cattle to fleece breeds. A new competition section to be judged this year is photography. The competition includes a Junior Class for under 16 year olds and a Senior Class for 16 to 25 year olds.

Gary Noller (RNA Councillor in charge)

T 0408 700 949

Young Farmers Challenge presented by Arrow Energy

Main Arena (L-8)

A flurry of coloured shirts, moleskins and broad-brimmed hats will erupt on the Main Arena on Saturday 11 August at 4.30pm for the Young Farmers Challenge presented by Arrow Energy. It's a relay-style event made up of eight team challenges incorporating everyday farm life, including carrying hay bales, rolling up a swag, constructing a cattle yard and harvesting potatoes. The Young Farmers Challenge



presented by Arrow Energy will pit eight teams against each other - all aiming to secure the glittering title of Queensland's Champion Young Farmers.

NEW THIS YEAR:

- Canine - new Tiny Tots Competition and Feature Utility Dogs Show
- Dairy Cattle - now judged in the Main Arena
- Dairy Goats - now judged in The CRT Pavilion, Level 1
- Education on Show - now displayed at The Old Museum
- Fine Arts - new live judging classes in Cookery
- Flower & Garden - new Floristry competition
- AMIC Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods - first time held during Ekka
- Horses - colour breeds will now be judged in Horse and there is a new Junior Riding class in Showjumping
- Little Sprouts - new competition where kindy and daycare kids will grow carrots
- Pisciculture - new PETstock School Challenge where 10 schools will each create an aquatic ecosystem in a fish tank
- Poultry, Birds and Eggs - new classes in Red Factor Canaries and new poultry feature which is large hard feather - other than old english game, waterfowl and turkey. The competition also has a new location - The CRT Pavilion
- AMIC Sausage King and Best Butchers Burger - now judged at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill
- Hy-line Brown School Egg Laying Competition - now judged in The CRT Pavilion
- Woodchop and Sawing - now held in the new Woodchop Arena.
- Open Men's Invitational - Australia vs New Zealand to be held at Ekka for the very first time
- Young Judges - new competition section with photography added

EKKA'S LARGEST COMPETITIONS IN 2017

Canine	2,295
Horse	2,267
Woodchop & Sawing	2,015
Poultry	1,689
Stud Beef	1,284
Photography	1,240
Creative Art & Craft	979
Painting & Drawing	965
Cookery	937
Education on Show	854
Cookery	774