Ekka

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

Presented By: BOQ

SCHOOL GARDEN 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.

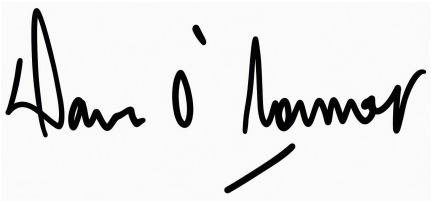
The 2026 Ekka welcomed more than 423,000 people through the gates, with the past two shows attracting the largest crowds in almost 20 years.

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
ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW
Presented By: BOQ

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

SATURDAY 7th – SUNDAY 15th AUGUST 2027

SCHOOL GARDEN COMPETITION

SUPPORTED BY BRUNNINGS

Council Steward

Cr. Robin McLay

APPLICATIONS TO ENTER CLOSE	Friday 16th July 2027
ENTRY FEES	$6.50 per entry
COMPETITION ELIGBILITY	Entries open Prep to Year 6 students
DELIVERY OF EXHIHIBITS	Wednesday 4th August 2027, 8am – 5pm Each competition entry must be delivered directly to the judging area. If the exhibit is not delivered before judging time it will not be eligible
COLLECTION OF EXHIHIBITS	Monday 16th to Tuesday 17th August 2027, 8am – 5pm. PLEASE NOTE: All entries not collected on the above dates will be disposed of.
DELIVERY & COLLECTION LOCATION	Ekka Ag Education Hall, Royal International Convention Centre, Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills. Additional Delivery details will be provided after entries close.
VEHICLE ACCESS	From Wednesday 28th July 2027 all vehicles driving onto the Brisbane Showgrounds MUST display an RNA Vehicle Access Permit on their dashboard to gain entry. This is NOT a parking permit – it is for exhibit drop-off purposes only. Please note there will be no exemptions to this rule.
JUDGING	Thursday 5th August 2027
PRESENTATION	Saturday 7th August 2027 – 10am Ekka Ag Education Hall

---

NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER THE CLOSE OF ENTRIES

Please note: Potting mix, seeds and growing trays will be available for collection from the Brisbane Showgrounds. Please email balexander@rna.org.au if you require these products.
Only eligible to entries of the competition

SUPPORTED BY

The RNA wishes to thank the following supporter who have contributed towards prize money of the SCHOOL GARDEN competition.

Brunnings

GARDEN CITY PLASTICS GCP

Mr. Fothergill's

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the School Garden competition, please contact the Sponsorship Team | E: sponsorship@ekka.com.au | T: 07 3253 3928

SCHOOL GARDEN COMPETITION

The 2027 School Garden competition theme is Mini Farm & for our rural schools (120km > Ekka), we have introduced "School-In-A-Box".

Schools are invited to design, build, and grow a mini farm to be showcased in the Ag Education Hall at the 2027 Royal Queensland Show (Ekka).

School-In-A-Box is for our schools in rural areas in Queensland who want to tell us all about their school or town.

Background: Farmers have grown and harvested crops since the beginning of time. A successful farm requires a variety of workers and animals.

Aim: Students will create a mini farm that reflects their dream farm. It should include crops, animals, farm machinery, vehicles, and people, but feel free to be creative!

Size: Maximum garden size is 30cm (w) x 48cm (L) x 8cm (deep in soil).

Materials: The plants may be grown from seed, taken as cuttings from an existing garden, or purchased/donated from a nursery.

Thanks to our generous sponsors, each entrant will receive a black grow tray, sphagnum moss and seeds.

These items will be available for collection from the Brisbane Showgrounds. Please email balexander@rna.org.au if you require these products.

Entry Requirements: Most of the planning, design, and construction must be completed by students.

Schools must submit an A5 sheet with the farm's name, school name, student's name, and three facts about the farm.

Mini farm examples:
The farm includes - the workers on the farm, the animals of the farm and a healthy crop grown from seeds. The farm has fences and a homestead. The people and animals on the farm can be made from air dry clay and then painted.

HOW TO GROW A MINI FARM

Kit
- Seeds
- Sphagnum Moss
- Tray

What is Sphagnum Moss? A broad term for the 400 odd types of moss growing in peat bogs, marshes and wetlands

1. Soak sphagnum moss in water. It will swell and soak the water up like a sponge. Make sure all the moss is soaked well and then squeeze out excess water.
2. Fill the tray with damp sphagnum moss.
3. Spread the seeds on top and place them in a warm spot with bright, indirect, natural light.
4. Germination should occur in around 3 – 7 days.
5. Mist daily with water from a spray bottle.
6. Move tray into a sunnier spot as plants develop (morning sun for an hour or so is ideal).
7. Continue to mist and monitor moisture. Adding a small amount of diluted seaweed solution or diluted liquid fertilizer to the spray bottle. Once the plants have roots it will give them an added boost.
8. Happy Farming!

"SCHOOL-IN-A-BOX"

Make a lightweight model of what grows in the area you live in.

It could be a model of your school garden, your local park or the crops grown on your farm.

Include some written information about the area you live in.
- What's it called?
- Where is it in Queensland?
- What is special about it?

Kit
- Box
- Sphagnum Moss
- Coconut Fibre
- Stencils of simple cut outs
- Stencil of background landscapes
- Template of map showing location & distance from Ekka
- Template of Place Name – written information about your area

1. Unpack box and look at materials provided
2. Set up box as it will be displayed
3. Now turn this box into a garden
4. College, paint. Collect seed pods, sticks, bark and interesting objects from around the area. Use items like cereal boxes, jar lids and other recyclable objects. Use dried foliage and flowers. Take Photos and drawings.
5. Glue or fix securely all the pieces in the box. Remember it will be delivered to the Ekka via post. (Try putting the lid on and giving the shake test to test construction



SCHOOL GARDEN REGULATIONS

1. There is no maximum number of entries per school.
2. Each school must nominate at least one teacher as the main point of contact with the RNA.
3. Students must include an A5 sheet with their entry, listing the farm name, school name, student's name, and three facts about the farm. The sheet must be no larger than one A5.
4. Garden entries must be self-supporting and cannot be hung or attached to any buildings or fixtures.
5. Schools are responsible for the delivery and collection of exhibits to and from the judging location at their own expense.
6. When delivering the entry, you will be required to wear closed-in shoes and a high-visibility vest while onsite.
7. Schools participating in the "School-In-A-Box" category must ensure their entries are posted to the RNA by **Wednesday 4 August 2027**. Please address entries to:
   Competitions Team – Brendan Alexander
   Brisbane Showgrounds
   600 Gregory Terrace
   Bowen Hills QLD 4006
8. Entries will be judged according to a set points scale:
9. Each entry will receive 3 x One Day Passes for the 2027 Royal Queensland Show (Ekka).

Points:	
Design links to theme	10
Workmanship	5
Creativity	5
TOTAL	20 per judge

NB: School In A Box Competition
Please note that any entries submitted for the *School-In-A-Box* competition **will not be returned** unless the submitting school provides a **prepaid, self-addressed postal satchel** with their entry. Entries without a satchel will be disposed of at the conclusion of Ekka.

Class 1 **Prep to Year 3 – Mini Farm**
First: $200; Second: $100; Third: $50
Supported by Brunnings

Class 1A **Year 4 to Year 6 – Mini Farm**
First: $200, Product; Second: $100; Third: $50
Supported by Brunnings

NB: Entries for the "School-In-A-Box" category will be accepted for both Class 1 and Class 2. However, participating schools must be located more than 120km from the Ekka, and all entries must be posted back to the RNA by **Wednesday 4th August 2027**.

Class 2 **Prep to Year 3 – School-In-A-Box**
First: $200; Second: $100; Third: $50
Supported by Brunnings

Class 2A **Year 4 to Year 6 – School-In-A-Box**
First: $200, Product; Second: $100; Third: $50
Supported by Brunnings

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 sub- contracted 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 and 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 License 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

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

INSURANCE

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.

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.

BIOSECURITY REQUIREMENTS

The following conditions will apply to stock and vehicles moving onto the Brisbane Showgrounds.

All Queenslanders have a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) under the *Biosecurity Act 2014 (Qld)*. Failure to comply with the GBO is an offence.

The GBO means every person has a legal duty to take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise biosecurity risks under their control. For exhibitors, this includes ensuring animals, fodder, bedding, equipment, and

vehicles entering the Showgrounds are free of disease and pests and managed to avoid the spread of contaminants.

Exhibitors must –

- Prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk associated with their animals, equipment, and materials
- Minimise the likelihood of causing a biosecurity event and limit the consequences if one occurs.
  Follow all instructions given by RNA officials, Council Stewards, or authorised Biosecurity Queensland officers.
- Ensure all documentation (e.g. NVDs, health declarations, movement records) is accurate, current, and complete.
- Immediately report any suspected disease, pest, or contamination to RNA staff or Biosecurity Queensland.

The RNA and exhibitors share responsibility under the GBO. The RNA manages the venue, but each exhibitor remains responsible for the animals and materials they bring onto the grounds. Compliance with these requirements is essential to protect the health of livestock, exhibitors, and the broader agricultural industry.

Entry Requirements

All livestock entering the RNA Showgrounds must meet national Johne's Disease requirements.

- Any animal showing signs of disease or illness (warts, ringworm, pinkeye, etc.) will not be permitted.
- Animals suspected of being infected, or from herds not cleared by Biosecurity Queensland, will not be accepted.
- Only cattle tick free livestock will be allowed entry.

Species Specific Requirements

- Dairy Goats – Herds must be accredited free for Caprine Retrovirus (CRV) / Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE).
- Dairy Cattle – A minimum J-BAS 7 is required. The RNA will cross reference entries with Biosecurity Queensland's restricted list.

NSW Livestock Owners

Paperwork must be checked with RNA/DAF staff on entry. Border crossings at Kirra/Tweed Heads and Mt Lindsay are not permanently staffed – exhibitors must make arrangements in advance.
Owners must notify Kirra Yards (07 5536 4714) at least 24 hours before return.

Additional Poultry & Avian Influenza Requirements

- Exhibitors must sign declarations confirming birds are free of Avian Influenza, have not been in contact with infected flocks, and feed/water is protected from wild birds
- Handling of birds must be minimal; pens must be disinfected between use.
- Any bird showing illness (e.g. nasal discharge) will be isolated immediately.
- In the event of an outbreak, poultry areas will be locked down and affected birds destroyed under biosecurity protocols

.

BVDV – Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus (Pestivirus)

- While not mandatory for Ekka, exhibitors are strongly encouraged to vaccinate, isolate new animals, and monitor stock.
- PI (persistently infected) cattle are not prohibited but may be isolated.
- All cattle must be accompanied by the National Cattle Health Declaration covering BVDV test/vaccine status

eNVD (Electronic National Vendor Declaration)

- Exhibitors must use the eNVD app or system when consigning cattle to Ekka.
- Each exhibitor must complete their own consignment (one per exhibitor).
- The Showgrounds PIC is QDBB0228.
- All livestock must travel directly to and from the Showgrounds with completed eNVD paperwork

NLIS Traceability

All livestock must remain traceable on the NLIS system. Any animals sold during the Show must be updated on NLIS by the purchaser immediately after departure.

Hendra Virus Vaccination (Horses Only)

All horses attending or competing at the Royal Queensland Show must be vaccinated against the Hendra Virus.

- Proof of current vaccination status must be provided at the time of entry.
- Exhibitors must provide the horse's microchip number (recorded at the first vaccination).
- Only horses registered as "protected" on the Zoetis database as at 1st August 2025 will be eligible to enter the Showgrounds.
- Horses will be scanned and verified by RNA's accredited veterinarian on arrival.
- Horses failing to meet Hendra compliance by the due date will be ineligible to compete and no refunds will be issued.

The decision to vaccinate a horse is at the exhibitor's discretion. The RNA is not liable for any illness, death, loss, or claim arising from vaccination or contraction of Hendra Virus.

Ekka

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW

Presented By: BOQ

COMPETITIONS

