

More Ekka than ever.



Ekka

Media Release

30 April 2013

Show us your talent! Royal Queensland Show competitions OPEN.

Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) organisers are now calling for competitive entries across the show's 42 competition sections and 11,200 classes.

Chief Executive Brendan Christou said competitions were now officially open and encouraged Queenslanders to go online to enter.

"Our call for entries is the first signal that the Ekka is coming," he said.

"Whether you're a novice or standing Champion, if you have a talent, this is the time to have a go.

"We are aiming to beat last year's total entries number of 23,000 and with several new classes and competitions being offered this year, we are well on our way."

The Ekka stages competitions which seek to recognise and reward outstanding achievement in a range of areas from film, cattle and woodchop to cakes, vegetables, fish and ducks.

"It's a showcase of Australia's best produce, animals, talents and passions," said Mr Christou.

"Each year we bring in the expertise of national and international judging heavyweights – experts in their field - to judge entries vying for prestigious blue ribbons and the coveted Grand Champion awards.

"It was great to see 1,500 first-time competitors at Ekka last year, as well as competitors representing third, fourth and fifth generations, so we're looking forward to welcoming new competitors and welcoming back familiar faces."

This year's show has continued to expand and evolve with several new classes being introduced:

- The Canine Competition will run the new 'Breed Display Competition' to identify the best breed display, while the Obedience and Agility section has introduced new classes for Rally Obedience with the purpose of demonstrating a dog's usefulness as a companion of mankind, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the ring.
- The Stud Beef Cattle Competition welcomes a new Supreme Matron of Australia Competition.
- The Cookery Competition has many new additions for 2013 including two new tapenade classes, the separation of relish classes into tomato and any other variety, a variety pack class in the preserves cottage industry, and a new marmalade class for orange and citrus fruit combo.
- Creative Art and Craft goes outside the box with a new 'funky art' class.
- The Quilts Competition has introduced two new classes for collaborative quilts – professional and non-professional.
- The Sheep Section will now include open classes, expanding on the existing school competition.
- The Horse Competition has added extra/revised classes for Gypsy Cobs, Arabians and Friesians.
- This year's Woodchop Competition prize pool has increased by \$23,000 to more than \$90,000.
- The Led Steer Auction is now a Meat Standards Australia (MSA) pathway.

Celebrating the 136th show this year, the Ekka is truly unique in the Australian landscape and epitomises city meets country. With Grand Champion titles, blue ribbons and thousands of other awards and prizes up for grabs, this year's show promises to be the best ever.

The show provides visitors with an opportunity to personally speak to our regional farmers, learn about life in the country and taste some of the state's best produce, all while being metres from sideshow rides and showbags.

Awesome

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Ekka competitions can be entered online through <http://www.royalqueenslandshow.com.au/>

Show us your talent in the following Royal Queensland Show competition sections...

Agricultural Hall Apiculture; District Exhibits; Youth District Exhibits ; Fruit and Vegetables Industry Display; Youth Fruit and Vegetables
Beef Stud Beef; Led Steer; Prime Beef
Boer Goats
Bush Poetry
Canine Canine; Greyhound Stakes
Dairy Cattle
Dairy Goats
Education on Show
Feline
Fine Arts Cookery; Cake Decorating; Creative Art and Craft; Painting and Drawing; Photography; Sculpture
Fleece Breeds Alpaca and Alpaca Fleece; Prime Lambs; Angoras and Mohair Fleece; Sheep (Meat and Dual Purpose Breeds); Wool
Fruit Wine
Horse Thoroughbred; Horse; Showjumping; Farriers and Blacksmiths
Pisciculture
Poultry, Pigeons, Birds and Eggs
Quilts Across Queensland
Sheep Dogs Trials
Woodchop and Sawing
Young Judges

Ekka Essentials

- Royal Queensland Show (Ekka)
- August 8 – 17, 2013
- RNA Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Brisbane, Queensland
- Gates open at 9am
- Tickets are available from May 6, 2013 on the Ekka website (www.ekka.com.au)

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