



An overview of the Showgirl Awards

The Queensland Showgirl Awards aims to recognise, develop and celebrate young female leaders in our communities.

Showgirls must have a genuine interest in, and knowledge of, regional Queensland. The Competition encourages the participation and subsequent awareness of the women's contribution and involvement in both local communities and rural Queensland as a whole.

The Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards have now celebrated over 40 years since its inception in 1983. The Competition has come a long way, with the Awards today providing an opportunity to excel in leadership, community involvement, professional development and confidence. It has given many women across Queensland the opportunity to become involved in or increase their involvement in one of the greatest traditions of Australia – their local agricultural show.

The Showgirl Awards are just one of the many ways young leaders in their community can be recognised by their local show. The Showgirl Awards, Rural Ambassador Awards and Young Judges Competition are all hosted by the Queensland Ag Shows – the governing body of all shows across Queensland. Our aim, along with developing connected and resilient women across Queensland, is to broaden the knowledge and participation of our youth in the Show Movement.

The Competition plays a significant role in the overall development of young, strong female leaders and the sustainability of the agricultural show movement within Queensland and boasts incredible support from entrants, sponsors and organisers. Sponsorship at a state final level is worth over \$50,000, which does not take into account local show competitions.

Each year the achievement level is heightened and broadened. The entrants meet other young women from across Queensland and gain great insights and personal development through this rare and very relevant experience. The winner of the Showgirl Awards will be awarded the title of the Queensland Country Life Showgirl and will represent Queensland Ag Shows for the following twelve months.

How to Get Involved

Women wishing to enter the Showgirl Awards at their local agricultural show do so by contacting their local Show Secretary or Showgirl Awards Coordinator. They will provide you with a nomination form and more details as to the process moving forward. If your show does not host a Showgirl competition or do not host a show for any reason, the show may nominate an entrant to represent the show at Sub Chamber Finals.

The following is a brief timeline of the process once you have decided to nominate for your local Showgirl competition, through to Sub Chamber Finals and State Finals:

- The Showgirl at a local level is selected in accordance with judging criteria outlined below. How a competition is facilitated at a local show level is at the discretion of each local show. Some Show Societies have the private judging prior to or on the day of their show with the announcement taking place during the show. Others might organise a dinner or ball prior to their show where the contestants are presented and the winner announced.



- The Showgirl will be expected to perform a range of duties at their local show. Again, this will vary depending on the Show Society, but may include public speaking, presenting prizes, volunteering on the gate or opening the show.
- The Showgirl retains the role for one year until the next show and could perform various tasks throughout the year which include assisting at other events hosted by the Show Society and assisting in organising the next Showgirl Competition.
- Following an entrant’s success at their local show, the Showgirl then goes on to Sub Chamber Judging. Each local Show Society is a member of one of 11 Sub Chambers who come under the parent organisation of the Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Societies (QLD Ag Shows).
- The Sub Chamber winner will then go on to the State Final for the Queensland Showgirl Awards, which is conducted by the QLD Ag Shows State Showgirl Committee.
- All State Finalists act as ambassadors for Queensland Ag Shows during their year as representatives of Queensland Ag Shows, their Sub Chamber, their local Show Society and all sponsors of the Showgirl Awards at any function to which they are invited during the year.

Judging

The winning Showgirl of a local Show Society is selected by a panel of preferably three judges who are nominated by the local Show Society or Showgirl Steward of that Society. The entrants are judged in accordance with ‘Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards Judging Sheet’ and total points are out of a total of 100 points:

15 points	Ambitions and Goals (Personal, Professional & Community)
15 points	General Knowledge (Local, State, National, International)
10 points	Agricultural industry awareness including how agricultural challenges affect our communities
15 points	Agricultural Show awareness and commitment
15 points	Community Participation
15 points	Personal Presentation & Leadership Qualities (Presentation/Conversation/Engagement with others)
15 points	On Stage interview (Public Speaking, Presentation, Confidence & Interview Responses)

Sub Chamber Finals

Sub Chamber Finals is the next step in the Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards after an entrant has been successful in becoming the Showgirl for their local show.

There are eleven Sub Chamber Finals in total. Each Sub Chamber Final will select a winning Showgirl who will represent that Sub Chamber at the State Finals of the Queensland Country Life Showgirl Competition during the Royal Queensland Show (the Ekka) in Brisbane.



Travel and Accommodation

It is suggested that Show Societies provide their Showgirl with support towards the necessary costs of attending Sub Chamber Final judging, such as accommodation in larger sub chambers where there is greater distance to travel to attend the finals.

The Coordinator of the Sub Chamber Final may have pre-booked accommodation at a suitable hotel/motel and will advise either yourself or your local Showgirl Coordinator of where this will be. Contact the Sub Chamber Finals Coordinator regarding accommodation.

Meals

The Show Society who is hosting the Sub Chamber Final will cover the cost of the judging events, such as either lunch and/or dinner that each Showgirl must attend. All other meals are required to be paid by the Showgirl.

Clothing

The Sub Chamber Finals organiser will provide more details as to dress code, however, the general rule of thumb is that all day time events, interviews, lunches etc. will require you to wear smart day wear. Night time events will be dependant on the dress code of the event itself, but may require you to wear after 5 wear, black tie or cocktail attire. If you have questions about the dress code once the Sub Chamber Finals organiser has provided you with details of the events, reach out to them or the outgoing Showgirl for guidance on what to wear.

Judges and Judging

Judging will take place similar to that on a local level. The panel will consist of three judges, preferably with a mixture of males and females, and entrants will be judged on the criteria listed above.

Post Sub Chamber Finals

The winner at Sub Chamber Final will receive an information pack regarding the State Finals of the Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards. There will be information that the nominated State Finalist will need to provide the State Showgirl Committee. **Completion and submission of this material to State Coordinator is essential.**

Enquiries

Should you have any queries regarding the Showgirl Competition at any level, please don't hesitate to contact the Queensland Country Life Showgirl Awards committee members:

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