

August 5, 2016

Ekka opens to sunshine, smiles and 30,000

From watching the crowning of the best stud beef in the nation to soaking up the sights and sounds of sideshow alley, by night's end about 30,000 people are expected to have attended the opening day of the 2016 Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) in Brisbane today.

Day one of Ekka delivered a host of highlights as tens of thousands of people basked in clear blue skies and plenty of sunshine.

Tonight His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC, Governor of Queensland and currently Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia will officially open the show in a ceremonial tradition which dates back to the first show in 1876.

Here's what's in store for Day 2 tomorrow at Queensland's most adored show:

MEDIA DOORSTOP: 11.30am with RNA President David Thomas or Chief Executive Brendan Christou on Heritage Hill overlooking the Main Arena.

Day 2: Saturday 6 August – JUDGING HIGHLIGHTS

- From 7am to 5pm– Farriers and Blacksmiths (Oval No 2) – Map ref: G4
- From 9am – Longhair kittens (RACQ Animal Nursery) – Map ref: N8
- 9.15am - RNA Premier Beef Presentation Prime and Led Steer Awards (Mumm Entertainment and Fashion Stage Royal ICC) – Map ref: F-10
- RNA Stud Beef and QCAS Young Judges Competitions (Main Arena) – 10.15am
- From 9am - 5pm - Canine Judging Group 3 Gundogs – Dog Pavilion – Map ref: P9
- 4.30pm - Queensland and Nationals Young Farmers Challenge (Main Arena)
- 10am -5pm – Jack and Jill Double Handed Sawing Championship (Woodchop Arena) Map ref: E-2
- 2.50pm - Boys (12-18 years) underhand champion (Woodchop Arena) Map ref: E-2.

Kittens with luscious locks

Possibly the prettiest and cutest animals on show at the Ekka, the longhair kittens with their luxurious locks will delight. The longhaired Persians, which date back to the 16th century, are the true princesses of the show and are not to be missed! There will also be Ragdolls, Maine Coons and Birmans on show, just to name a few! **WHERE – RACQ Animal Nursery. From 9am.**

Young Judges Competition

Students from Queensland Agricultural Colleges, universities, high schools and young farmers are given the opportunity to put their expertise to the test and develop their judging skills. The competition includes a Junior Class for under 15 year olds and a Senior Class for 15 to 25 year olds. From decorated cakes to stud beef, the next generation of Ekka judges will put their skills to the test.

Contact Ekka Media for exact locations and timings.

The Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show Cooking Stage

The perfect place for aspiring chefs, foodies and home cooks. Hosted by Dominique Rizzo, one of Queensland's leading female chefs, Ekka visitors will learn plenty of cooking tips and tricks. At 10.30am there will be a 'Know Your Cuts - Lamb' class, then at 11.30am Ekka guests can learn some tips from the 'Cooking with Beer presented by XXXX Brewing Co' class. **WHERE: Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion**

Woodchop - Jack & Jill Double Handed Sawing Championship

Check out the men and women duos in action at the Jack and Jill Double Handed Sawing Championship, as they put their stamina and strength to the test. This is one you won't want to miss! **WHERE: Woodchop Arena**

Young Farmers Challenge presented by Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges

A flurry of coloured shirts, moleskins and broad-brimmed hats will erupt on the Main Arena (August 6). The Young Farmers Challenge includes activities that are used on the land like building portable cattle yards, carrying hay bales plus many other activities. The Young Farmers Challenge will pit Queensland's finest farmers against their city counterparts—all aiming to secure the glittering title of Queensland's Champion Young Farmers.. **WHEN: 4pm-5.15pm**

Ancient art forges ahead

The ancient art of blacksmithing and farriery is now an essential part of the horse world. Watch on as professionals in this field go head to head competing against the best in Australia. Prepare to be mesmerised as they design and shape metal into shoes over hot flames and then craft it to fit perfectly on the horses hoof. **WHERE: Oval 2 from 7am-5pm.**

Chance to meet Chaser star

Come meet one of the smartest men on television, Channel Seven's supernerd Issa Schultz. One of the stars of Seven's quiz show The Chaser, Issa will mingle with fans when he tours the Ekka tomorrow and headlines a special meet and greet at 2pm at the 7 Live Studio in the Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion.

Ekka Essentials:

- Royal Queensland Show (Ekka)
- August 5 – 14, 2016
- Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Queensland
- Gates open at 9am
- Tickets are available online at www.ekka.com.au

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

The 2016 Ekka Media Kit is now available to download. It is the most comprehensive information guide to the show, to download please visit <https://www.ekka.com.au/media-centre/media-kit>

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Don't forget to follow us on social media #ekka



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