

Special Regulations

Melbourne Royal *Alpaca & Alpaca Fleece Competition*

The Regulations appearing in this Schedule form part of Melbourne Royal's General Regulations and conditions of entry to an Event at Melbourne Showgrounds. In the event of any inconsistency between the General Regulations and these Regulations, the General Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency unless the General Regulations provide otherwise.

Close of Entries

1. Entries in the Alpaca competition must be received at Melbourne Royal's Administration Office located at Melbourne Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria, 3032 by the date stipulated in the Information for Exhibitors section of the Schedule. All entries must be accompanied by the applicable fee, Alpaca Herd Health Status Declaration Form and the International Alpaca Register (IAR) number of each Exhibit entered. Entries can be submitted by the due date either on paper forms or by the online entry process.
2. The onus is entirely on the Exhibitor to submit particulars on time. There will be no reminder from Melbourne Royal staff.
3. In accordance with General Regulation 9.2, Melbourne Royal reserves the right to amend, consolidate or cancel classes offered in this competition schedule.

Entry Fees

4. The cost of Entry Fees can be found in the Information for Exhibitors in the Schedule. Entry fees for Alpacas does not include bedding. Bedding is included in the 'pen' charge.
5. The entry fee entitles the Exhibitor to enter the animal in all eligible classes. Please specify selected classes on the Entry Form or in the online entry process.

Parking

6. Limited parking for vehicles, including trucks and floats will be available. Apply when entering and forward the fee with the competition Entry Fee.
7. There is to be no camping in the Melbourne Royal Truck Park under any circumstances.
8. Any vehicle, including trucks, stock transports, trailers, and horse floats, located on the Showgrounds, or any area leased by Melbourne Royal, shall be at the sole risk of the owner. Melbourne Royal accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage, including loss or damage caused by negligence of Melbourne Royal, its officers, employees, or agents to any vehicle, or the contents of any vehicle, located on Melbourne Royal's property on the any area leased by Melbourne Royal.

Arrival and Departure of Exhibits

9. All Exhibitors are to comply with the arrival and departure times allocated, unless otherwise notified directly by the Melbourne Royal Competition Coordinator. Times for arrival and departure can be found in the Information for Exhibitors section of the Schedule. Departure times are as prioritised by the Superintendent with preference for earlier departure slots to long distance travelers.

Period of Exhibition

10. All Exhibitors are to comply with the period of exhibition times allocated, unless otherwise notified directly by the Melbourne Royal Competition Coordinator. Times for the Period of Exhibition can be found in the Information for Exhibitors section of the Schedule.

Exhibitors' Meeting

11. At the direction of the Chief Steward, Exhibitors may be required to attend a Coordination meeting on the first day of judging in the judging ring.

Bedding

12. No bedding, other than straw, may be used in pens.

Cleanliness of Pens

13. Mucking out of pens is to be carried out.
14. Exhibitors must keep the pens allotted to their animals clean and give proper attention to their stock throughout the Show. Exhibitors are advised to provide their own feed and water containers.

Advertising

15. Decoration of pens is encouraged. Promotional signage is permitted within the bounds of pens up to 180cm above floor level. No signage or other promotional material may be placed in public access walkways.
16. Stud promotional banners may be displayed in the industry display area by arrangement with the Superintendent.
17. Display of Show ribbons other than those awarded at the current Melbourne Royal Alpaca Competition is prohibited.

Registration

18. Each Exhibit's IAR number must be included with the Entry. Failure to provide this number with the Entry will deem that animal ineligible for exhibition at the Show.
19. Only the registered owner of an Exhibit, or his/her authorised agent may sign an Entry Form.

Health Regulations

20. All entries must be accompanied by the Alpaca Herd Health Declaration Form (Version June 2013) signed by the Exhibitor or authorised agent, and a Government Veterinary Officer if applicable. Failure to sign the Alpaca Herd Health Declaration Form will render all Alpacas of an Exhibitor ineligible to be exhibited.

21. Alpaca Competitions will be conducted under the guidelines as set out in the Johnne's Disease Market Assurance Program (AlpacaMAP).
22. Alpacas traveling from interstate must comply with the requirements of Victorian legislation.

Exercising of Animals

23. Alpacas are to remain in their pens during the day and exercising is only allowed at specified times as nominated by the Superintendent.

Inspection of Exhibits

24. All Exhibitors are to comply with the inspection times allocated in the Information for Exhibitors section of the Schedule. All Alpacas must be registered with the IAR and carry an approved brass tag showing the Alpaca's IAR number.
25. Every animal exhibited in the Alpaca section will be subject to inspection carried out by an Inspector appointed by Melbourne Royal.
26. The Inspector or Inspectors appointed by Melbourne Royal shall then examine all Alpacas for genetic faults, colour, class and IAR number.
27. If there is no IAR tag present in the ear of an Exhibit, official confirmation by the registrar (in hard copy) must be provided by the owner to the Chief Steward that the ear tag has been recently lost and that the new tag has been ordered and paid for. Replacement tag orders and payments must be lodged with the registrar a minimum of one week before the date of Show. Failure to present such advice at inspection will result in disqualification of the animal.
28. No Exhibitor shall, to the best of their knowledge, exhibit any alpaca showing any signs or symptoms of disease at the time of exhibition. All male alpacas must be completely entire and deemed physically sound. Any alpaca not deemed to be completely physically sound by the appointed Melbourne Royal Inspector or a Veterinary Surgeon shall not compete.

29. The Inspector or Chief Steward will classify all entries for colour, and has the power to transfer an Exhibit to the class which, in their opinion, should have been entered. The Chief Steward will combine or split classes as he / she sees fit.
30. Alpacas not in their allotted pens and available for inspection at the official times may be disqualified by the Chief Steward. Exhibitors must be in attendance at time of inspection and will be required to assist.
31. Exhibits of Huacayas must carry a minimum fleece length of 50mm and a recommended maximum length not exceeding 130mm.
Note: Huacaya 12 months and older must be shorn regularly so that no more than 15 months fleece is carried at the time of showing. Suri must be shorn regularly so that no more than 14 months fleece is carried at the time of showing.
32. Any animal found to have lice infestation must be removed from the Showgrounds immediately along with any other Alpacas present that belong to the same Exhibitor.

Correct Animal Colour Classification

33. An Alpaca is to be shown in the appropriate colour class, when it is predominantly that colour. Any colour variations will be assessed at the Judge's discretion.
34. A predominantly grey Alpaca (grey, rose grey) is to be shown in a grey class, whether or not it has any other coloured spots present, and any colour variations will be assessed at the Judge's discretion.
35. Exhibits shall not have fleece of a different colour to that of the blanket removed from an animal to a level below that of the blanket fleece.

Age of Alpaca

36. Alpacas must be entered into the correct class at their age on the first day of the Royal Melbourne Royal Show.

Judging

37. The following regulations shall be read subject to General Regulations 11.1 to 11.6 of the General Regulations.
38. Judging will be as follows: alternating between Suri and Huacaya beginning with Junior, Intermediate, Adult, Senior and Mature. Classes will complete the Male and Female of each section before proceeding to the alternate breed.
39. The Huacaya Sire's and Dam's Progeny will proceed after the judging of the Huacaya Supreme Champion.
40. The Suri Sire's and Dam's Progeny will proceed after the judging of the Suri Supreme Champion.
41. All Exhibitors shall, upon arrival at the Show, obtain their pen position and class numbers from the Shed Steward. Exhibit numbers must be worn and clearly displayed by the handler whilst in the Show Ring and must show age of animal in months and the number of months of fleece the alpaca is carrying.
42. All handlers showing animals must be competent in the handling of their Exhibit, or removal from the Show Ring may be requested by the Judge. It is recommended that children not exhibit large animals that they cannot control.
43. All Exhibitors must place their animals in the pens allotted by the Stewards and must not be moved or removed except by order of the Chief Steward.
44. Only one fleece that has been shorn in the 18 months prior to the Show may be shown from any one animal. It is recommended that fleeces be placed in bags, made of satin or similar material, or heavy duty plastic. Plastic garbage bags should be avoided.
45. All fleeces being shown, including wether fleeces, must be the bona fide property of a financial member of the Australian Alpaca Association (AAA).

46. Exhibitors when submitting fleeces must attach to the fleece the number supplied for that class (no names).
47. Winning fleeces will be displayed at the Showgrounds for the duration of the show.

Misconduct of Exhibitors and Members

48. A violation of any rule by the Exhibitor shall be reported to the Chief Steward in writing by either the Judge, a steward or exhibitor within one hour of the alleged incident occurring.
49. Misconduct may also be reported by the Judge, a Steward or Exhibitor to the Chief Steward in respect of actions of an exhibitor or member present at the Show that is considered to be prejudicial to the industry. Such actions may include but not be limited to:
 - a) A demonstration of dissatisfaction with a Judge's decision, including refusal to accept an award.
 - b) Altercations with Show Officials, Exhibitors or the general public.
 - c) Abusive or foul language or rude gestures in public.
 - d) Mistreatment of an animal.
50. Written complaints shall be lodged with the Chief Steward within one hour of the alleged incident occurring. Written complaints received by the Chief Steward shall be immediately investigated and if sufficient grounds for the complaint are confirmed the matter shall be reported to Melbourne Royal for appropriate action under the appropriate Grievance Procedure.

Protests

51. The following regulations shall be read subject to General Regulations 12.1 to 12.6 of the General Regulations.
52. Only an Exhibitor may lodge a protest against another Exhibitor or a Show official. The protest shall be lodged in writing together with a deposit of \$50, which shall be refunded if the protest is upheld.

53. The sole grounds for a protest shall be a breach of the Regulations and protests shall be lodged with the Chief Steward within one hour of the alleged incident occurring.

The Chief Steward shall set up a Protest Committee prior to the commencement of the Show. The Committee shall comprise the Chief Steward as the Chair and two ordinary members not associated with the alleged incident. A meeting will be convened within 30 minutes of the protest being received. The Protest Committee shall immediately investigate the protest and if found to be valid initiate appropriate action.

Dress Code

54. All Exhibitors leading stock in the Judging Ring or on Parade shall wear a black shirt, black trousers or skirt and clean closed black shoes. AAA branded shirts are allowed but not necessary. No shorts or short dresses, open shoes or hats.
55. Black clothing must in no way show any insignia or any descriptive markings indicating the Exhibitor's name and/or stud name or prefix.
56. The Chief Steward may disqualify an Exhibitor for incorrect attire.

Prizes

57. Rosettes or ribbons may be awarded up to 6th place as follows:
Up to 10 exhibits per class:
1st, 2nd & 3rd rosettes or ribbons.
11 to 18 exhibits per class:
1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th rosettes or ribbons.
19 or more exhibits per class:
1st, 2nd, 3rd 4th 5th & 6th rosettes or ribbons.
The Judge is under no obligation to award the prize where he/she considers in his/her absolute discretion that such prize, or prizes, are not to be awarded.

Sire's Progeny Classes

58. Group of two males, females or males and females (no wethers), six months and over. Not necessarily owned or bred by the one Exhibitor, but all the progeny of the one sire and drawn from the Ordinary classes. The class will only be conducted if there are at least two entries.
59. Only one progeny from any one dam may be shown in each sires progeny group unless the progeny have been born at least eleven months apart.
60. Entries close for Sire's Progeny Class at a time determined by the Chief Steward and the Alpaca Superintendent. Exhibitors will be advised upon arrival at the Showgrounds of this time.

Dam's Progeny

61. Group of two males, females or males and females (no wethers), six months and over. Not necessarily owned or bred by the one Exhibitor, but all the progeny of the one dam and drawn from the Ordinary classes. The class will only be conducted if there are at least two entries.
62. Alpacas entered for the Dam's Progeny class must have different sires and must be born at least eleven months apart.
63. Entries close for Dam's Progeny Class at a time determined by the Chief Steward and the Alpaca Superintendent. Exhibitors will be advised upon arrival at the Showgrounds of this time.