



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

# Schedule

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## Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show

Thursday 03 September -  
Friday 04 September 2026  
Sydney Showground  
Sydney Olympic Park  
[www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au)



**This version issued 20 May 2026**

**Disclaimer**

The information contained in this publication is for the purpose of providing information to our Exhibitors and Show patrons. The information is correct at the time of printing, however, the information may be subject to change or amendments. Please check our websites for the most recent up to date information.



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

## Welcome from the President



On behalf of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS), I extend a warm welcome to all exhibitors in the 2026 Sydney Royal Wine, Beer & Cider, Distilled Spirits, Cheese & Dairy Produce, and Fine Food competitions. Your passion, dedication and pursuit of excellence continue to inspire and strengthen both your industries and our broader agricultural community.

A defining feature of the RAS is our proud commitment to supporting and promoting Australian produce and Australian producers only. Through Sydney Royal competitions, we recognise and reward excellence in Australian agriculture, shining a spotlight on the skill, innovation and dedication that makes our nation's food and fibre industries truly world class. This celebration of excellence spans the entire food supply chain – from grains through to our professional bakery competitions, and from dairy cattle in the showing through to our dairy produce shows. In this way, Sydney Royal uniquely connects paddock to plate, providing producers with opportunities for competition, benchmarking and recognition at every stage.

For all who enter, the benefits are considerable. These competitions provide the chance to benchmark against the best, exchange knowledge with peers, and gain insights that drive both personal and industry growth. For winners, the rewards extend even further – a Sydney Royal medal is a prestigious mark of distinction that can significantly enhance your brand's reputation. The award artwork can be proudly displayed in your marketing, signalling to consumers that your products meet the highest standards of quality and excellence. Medal success also brings valuable opportunities to showcase and share your products with the public at events like the Sydney Royal Easter Show and Grape, Grain & Graze, along with many other avenues to raise your profile.

We are also committed to the future. Across all competitions we continue to invest in training and development of the next generation of judges, preserving the integrity, expertise and passion that underpin Sydney Royal.

These competitions would not be possible without the vision and steady commitment of our judges, stewards, volunteers, Council and staff. Their dedication ensures the RAS maintains its proud tradition of delivering competitions that set the benchmark for quality and distinction.

To each and every exhibitor, thank you for sharing your craft, your produce and your story with us. We wish you every success in the 2026 Sydney Royal competitions and look forward to celebrating your achievements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John C. Bennett".

John C. Bennett, OAM  
President, Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

## **COMMITTEE AND OFFICIALS**

### **WINE COMMITTEE**

Mr A Barnes (Chair)  
Mr S J B Davies  
Ms S P Evans  
Ms L S Milan OAM  
Dr S J Walker

### **INDUSTRY ADVISORS**

Trish Barry  
Paul Bowker

### **STEWARD-IN CHIEF**

Ms Sally Evans

### **CHIEF STEWARD**

Mr Markus Patz

### **CHAIR OF JUDGES**

Mr Stuart Gregor  
LARK Distilling Co., Tasmania

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF JUDGES

Welcome to the third staging of the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show

The judges and all involved at the RAS were thrilled with the participation and quality of spirits entered in 2024 & 2025, so we go again. As I said last year, the Australian spirits industry has seen remarkable growth over the past 15 years but distilled spirits have long played a part in the rich history of Sydney Royal, with gin and rum being entered in miscellaneous drinks classes as far back as the 1870s.

Spirits in Australia continue to have their moment and while many distillers, and likely entrants in this year's show, are in their early stages of growth, the industry believes Australian spirits could and should be a \$1billion+ industry before the middle of the 2030s. In 2026 we have more than 800 distilleries in Australia, in every State and Territory making a huge array of spirits, liqueurs, ready-to-drink cocktails and non-alcoholic variants. We are glad so many of them choose to enter Australia's most famous Show.

As with all Sydney Royal Show categories our role as judges is twofold. To acknowledge the best Producers and help all Exhibitors hopefully "improve the breed" and for us to let consumers know who we think are the best Producers in the land at this point of time. I want to thank the RAS of NSW for having faith in the industry and in me to lead the judging of its Distilled Spirits Show for this third and final time. I do not underestimate the importance of this role and especially the huge honour of being the first Chair. Rest assured, there will be many better to come!

To Angus Barnes and the team at the Wine Beer and Spirits Committee, heartfelt thanks for getting this up and running, surviving and thriving in the nascent years of this Show – let's hope there is at least another century ahead of us . . .  
To all the Exhibitors, we wish you great good fortune and hope you learn something from entering the Show.

Cheers

Stuart Gregor

Chair of Judges

2026 Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show



## WHY ENTER THE SYDNEY ROYAL DISTILLED SPIRITS SHOW?

The **Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show** is one of Australia's most respected competitions, offering producers the chance to benchmark their products, gain expert judging feedback and elevate their brand through national recognition.

### The Value of a Sydney Royal Medal

A Sydney Royal medal is awarded through one of Australia's most rigorous and trusted judging processes. A Sydney Royal Gold Medal is a hallmark of excellence, delivering strong industry and consumer credibility.



### Benchmarking, Feedback & Commercial Advantage

Every entrant receives **confidential expert feedback**, providing insights for refinement and innovation. Medal-winning spirits benefit from enhanced commercial value, increased consumer trust and stronger visibility across trade and retail.

### Marketing & Promotional Exposure

Producers benefit from the RAS's annual **Consumer Marketing Campaign**, which promotes medal winners and champions to a wide consumer and industry audience.

### All-Australian Entries — A Core Sydney Royal Principle

Sydney Royal proudly champions **Australian agricultural excellence**. All entries must contain a **minimum of 85% Australian-origin ingredients and manufacture**, ensuring the competition celebrates products that reflect the strength, quality and integrity of Australian distillation.

To further recognise local achievement, the competition also awards **Best NSW Distilled Spirit**, highlighting outstanding excellence from a New South Wales producer.



## Exclusive Opportunities for Medal Winners

- **Use of official Sydney Royal medal artwork**

Gain the right to feature the prestigious Sydney Royal medal artwork across packaging, advertising, digital platforms and point-of-sale. This instantly communicates quality to consumers and offers strong differentiation on shelves and in marketing campaigns.

- **Access to a medal-winner marketing toolkit**

Receive a tailored set of marketing resources designed to help you leverage your achievement, including brand guidelines, promotional templates, digital assets and practical advice for maximising exposure across your marketing channels.

- **Listing in the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show Results online**

Benefit from an official online listing viewed by trade, media and consumers. This increases visibility, enhances credibility, and creates ongoing discovery opportunities well beyond the competition period.

- **Exposure at Grape, Grain & Graze Festival (1,000+ attendees)**

Showcase your medal-winning products directly to a highly engaged audience of trade professionals, enthusiasts and consumers. This event offers valuable tastings, direct feedback and potential sales opportunities.

- **Showcasing in the Medal Winning Stand in the Dome at the Sydney Royal Easter Show**

Participate in the most visited pavilion of the Sydney Royal Easter Show — the largest ticketed event in the southern hemisphere with more than 850,000 attendees — at a discounted Exhibitor rate. This delivers unmatched brand visibility and consumer engagement.

- **Invitation-only participation in Sydney Royal Talk & Taste activations**

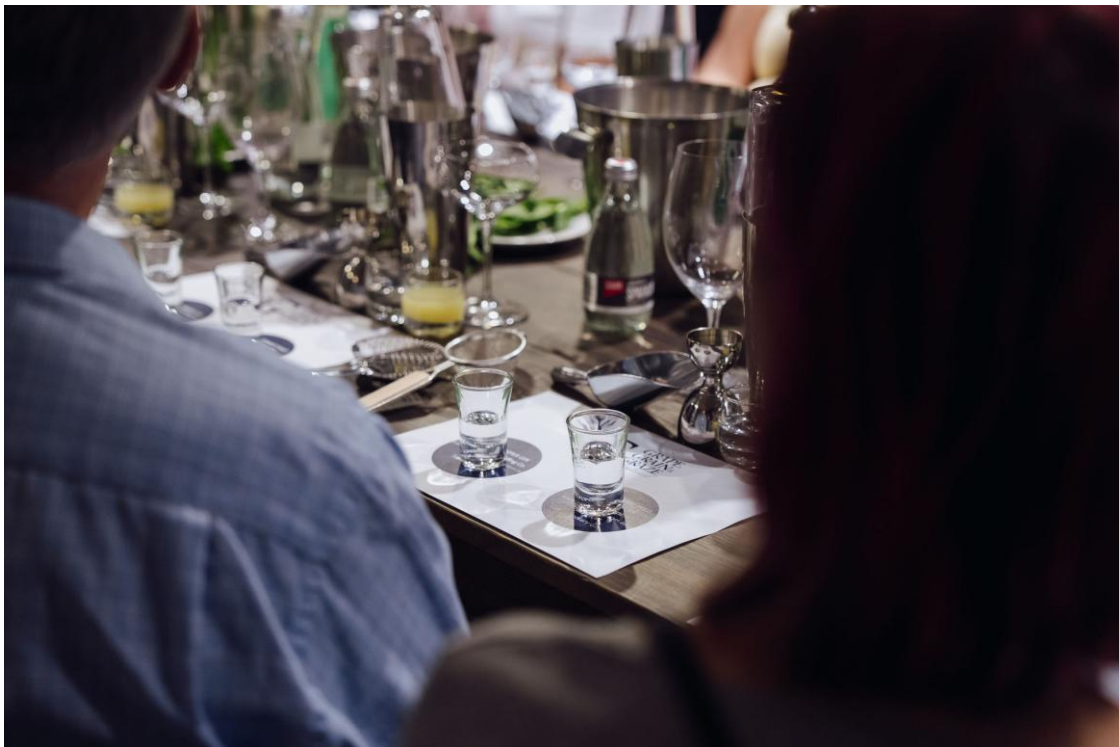
Engage directly with Show visitors through guided tastings, presentations and storytelling opportunities. These sessions offer high-value face-to-face interaction, product education and the chance to build loyal brand advocates.

- **Potential selection by Sydney Showground for major event supply**

Be considered for procurement opportunities to supply medal-winning products for high-profile Sydney Showground events, creating commercial pathways and extending the reach of your brand to large-scale audiences.

- **Champion products may be featured at the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show Awards Night**

Providing premium exposure to Exhibitors, trade professionals and industry media, and highlighting your product among the most celebrated spirits of the year.



**Grape Grain & Graze Festival Spirits Masterclass  
featuring Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Champion Products**

# Where excellence tells its story

20<sup>th</sup> Annual RAS of NSW President's Medal



Each year, a few remarkable Australian food and beverage producers take the next step in their Sydney Royal journey. The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW President's Medal recognises Champion producers whose dedication shines through every part of their business – demonstrating integrity, care and innovation in the way they produce, grow and give back.

Becoming a finalist is an opportunity to share your story – the people, values and vision behind your success – and to be recognised among producers helping shape a more sustainable, connected future for Australian food and agriculture.

It's much more than an award. It's acknowledgement of the passion and purpose that define your business, and a chance to open new doors through trusted recognition and genuine celebration.

When your product has earned Sydney Royal Champion status, now is your moment to showcase the story behind it and what makes your enterprise truly stand out.

**Ready to share the story behind your success?**

Learn more at [rasnsw.com.au/presidentsmedal](https://rasnsw.com.au/presidentsmedal)



## PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

The President's Medal is the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW's highest honour for food and beverage excellence, recognising Australia's most outstanding producers.

The President's Medal is unique in Australia, as it examines the entire business behind the award-winning product. Finalists undergo a comprehensive assessment of their practices across the full production journey and supply chain; from gate to plate; evaluating environmental stewardship, social responsibility, financial sustainability, governance, resilience, and contributions to their wider industry and community.

An invitation to enter the President's Medal is extended to Exhibitors whose products have achieved Champion or Trophy status in the:

- Sydney Royal Wine Show
- Sydney Royal Beer and Cider Show
- Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show
- Sydney Royal Fine Food Show
- Sydney Royal Cheese and Dairy Produce Show

Each President's Medal nominee embarks on a rigorous journey to review the business behind the Champion product, through written responses, video interviews, competitive shortlisting, and on-site visits, where they are dynamically evaluated on environmental sustainability, social responsibility, financial strength, resilience to climate and business shocks, robust succession and governance, and their power to share knowledge and shape industry impact.

As a President's Medal finalist, you join an exclusive circle of excellence, showcasing your brand in a premium stall at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, competing for prestigious prize money, and having the culinary spotlight at the Awards Function where your product is heroed in a curated celebration of craftsmanship.

The Presidents Medal winner will be announced at the 19th Annual Awards Function on **25th May 2026**, our congratulations to Distilled Spirits producer finalist Marionette along with our other five (5) finalist - Brokenwood, Mandolé Orchard, Norco Co-Operative, Stockyard Beef and The Yoghurt Shop.

Invitations to the 20th President Medal Competition will be extended to qualifying Exhibitors by the President in **September 2026**.

For more information visit the Presidents Medal webpage [rasnsw.com.au/presidentsmedal](https://rasnsw.com.au/presidentsmedal)



19<sup>th</sup> Annual Presidents Medal Finalist Marionette – 2025 Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Champion Liqueur

## SUPPORTING THE AUSTRALIAN DISTILLED SPIRITS INDUSTRY

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is a not-for-profit organisation that has been an influential force in the direction and development of Australian agriculture through competitions, education and events since its foundation in 1822. Today, through the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show, we are promoting and rewarding excellence in Australian distilling through several key initiatives.



### Networks

The Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show is committed to attracting the very best professionals as Judges and Stewards, providing an excellent environment for networking and professional development to all participants, resulting in benefits for the industry at large.

### Development of Judges

The judging panel for the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show is selected by Chair of Judges, Stuart Gregor and the RAS Wine Beer and Spirits Committee and aims to include a combination of distillers, educators, marketers, retailers, journalists and expert amateurs of distilled spirits from across Australia.

All judges are encouraged to complete WSET Spirits Level 2 training or higher.

The RAS offers Associate Judge positions to a range of young industry professionals. For more information visit

<https://www.rasnsw.com.au/competitions/food-beverage-and-produce/distilled-spirits/?currentTab=Judging-and-stewarding>



*Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show Officials*

## KEY INFORMATION

<b>ENTRY FEE</b>	<b>\$150</b> (incl. GST) per Exhibit
<b>APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY</b>	To enter online, visit <a href="https://www.rasnw.com.au/distilled-spirits">https://www.rasnw.com.au/distilled-spirits</a>
<b>INCORRECT AND INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY</b>	A Correction Fee of up to \$50 may be charged by the RAS, at its discretion, for each Application for Entry which is incorrect or incomplete. If an Application for Entry is not rectified in accordance with RAS' requirements, the Entry may not be accepted by the RAS.
<b>CLOSING DATE OF ENTRY</b>	Wednesday 24 June 2026
<b>DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS</b>	Exhibits are to be delivered in required quantities and with the appropriate identification labels supplied by the RAS from Monday 17 August to Thursday 20 August 2026 between 7.30am and 3.30pm weekdays only.  Exhibits must be delivered to Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park. Delivery details will be communicated to Exhibitors via email in Exhibitor Information Packs.
<b>JUDGING DATES</b>	Monday 3 September to Tuesday 4 September 2026. All judging is closed to Exhibitors and the general public.
<b>PUBLICATION OF RESULTS</b>	Online results listing scores for award winning Exhibits will be available for viewing at the conclusion of the Awards Presentation on Thursday 17 September 2026 and can be found at <a href="https://www.rasnw.com.au/distilled-spirits">https://www.rasnw.com.au/distilled-spirits</a> . Results will not be released prior to this date.  The Results Catalogue will be made available online as a PDF to all Exhibitors on Thursday 17 September 2026; this will also contain scores of the medal-winning Exhibits and Judges' Class comments.  Exhibitors will be posted a breakdown of their individual results, feedback per Exhibit, and applicable certificates in October 2026.
<b>SOCIAL MEDIA</b>	Follow us to stay up to date throughout the year! Facebook: <a href="#">@RASofNSW</a> Twitter: <a href="#">@ras_nsw</a> Instagram: <a href="#">@ras_nsw</a>
<b>EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR STEWARDING AND JUDGING</b>	If you are interested in becoming a Steward or Associate Judge, please complete the expression of interest form found at <a href="https://www.rasnw.com.au/competitions/food-beverage-and-produce/distilled-spirits/?currentTab=Expression-of-interest">https://www.rasnw.com.au/competitions/food-beverage-and-produce/distilled-spirits/?currentTab=Expression-of-interest</a> .  Please note that all Judges have been selected for 2026 however, we encourage you to express your interest for 2027 by completing the expression of interest form.
<b>CONTACT</b>	Wine, Beer and Spirits Event Manager Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Locked Bag 4317, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 Telephone (02) 9704 1199 <a href="mailto:distilledspirits@rasnw.com.au">distilledspirits@rasnw.com.au</a>

## EVENTS

## SYDNEY ROYAL DISTILLED SPIRITS SHOW AWARDS PRESENTATION

Thursday 17 September 2026 – The Stables Sydney Olympic Park

The **SYDNEY ROYAL DISTILLED SPIRITS AWARDS PRESENTATION** is a great way to celebrate the Champions and Special Prize winning Exhibitors, with an outstanding menu featuring many Sydney Royal Medal winning products matched with selected Champion Distilled Spirit and Beers.

Invitations will be extended to all Championship and Special Prize-Winning Exhibitors to attend this evening event, offering two (2) tickets per successful Exhibitor.



2025 Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Champion Products

## GRAPE, GRAIN &amp; GRAZE FESTIVAL

Saturday 19 September 2026

Participation in the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show not only benchmarks your distilled spirits against the best — it also unlocks access to one of Australia's most dynamic consumer tasting events.

If your spirit receives a gold, silver or bronze medal, it could be showcased to **more than 1,000 attendees** at the vibrant **Grape, Grain & Graze Festival**, giving consumers, trade and media a rare chance to taste the show's top results — many unveiled for the first time.

For Exhibitors, the festival delivers exceptional exposure and brand-building opportunities. You can **purchase a stall** to engage directly with attendees, pour your products, share your story and make onsite sales to a highly engaged, purchase-ready audience.

It's a powerful way to place your products in the hands of new customers, gain instant feedback and elevate your brand presence beyond the judging room. Contact the Wine, Beer & Spirits Events Manager for more information [distilledspirits@rasnsw.com.au](mailto:distilledspirits@rasnsw.com.au)



## 2026 SYDNEY ROYAL DISTILLED SPIRITS SHOW SPECIAL REGULATIONS

### 1. CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

A Condition of entering into the Competition is strict adherence to the following, collectively known as “the Regulations”.

- Conditions of Entry to Sydney Showground located at [www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au)
- General Regulations
- All Special Regulations in this Schedule

The Application for Entry and the Regulations constitute the whole agreement upon which Entries are submitted and the Exhibitor agrees that all representations and statements not appearing on the Application for Entry or in the Regulations are excluded. The General Regulations apply to all sections of the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show (“the Show”). The Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show Special Regulations apply to this section only. If there is any inconsistency between the General Regulations and these Special Regulations, the Distilled Spirits Show Special Regulations prevail. Copies of all Regulations are available from the administration office at the Showground. General Regulations are available at [www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au).

### 2. ELIGIBILITY OF PRODUCTS

All Exhibits must comply with the requirements of the Australian Food Standards Code for both product and packaging. In line with the Australian Taxation Office the Exhibitor must hold an Excise Manufacturer Licence. Exhibits not complying with these Regulations will be disqualified.

### 3. ORIGIN OF EXHIBIT

All Exhibits must be produced and manufactured in Australia and must be a minimum of 85% Australian origin. Each Exhibit must be the absolute property of the Exhibitor.

### 4. COMMERCIAL AVAILABILITY

Exhibits must come from a commercially bottled run, fulfill the specified requirements for volume at the time of delivery and be intended for sale in Australia within twelve months following judging.

### 5. STOCK-HOLDING REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 100 bottles of 500mL volume (equivalent to 50L) are required to be held in finished bottled stock at time of delivery.

### 6. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

No single Exhibit may be entered into more than one (1) Class and/or (one (1) RAS Competition.

Where an Exhibitor is permitted to enter more than one (1) Exhibit per Class, each Exhibit must be different and these differences are to be identified on the Application for Entry.

An Exhibit may not be entered in duplicate by more than one (1) Exhibitor. An Exhibit may be considered entered “in duplicate” if, in the opinion of the RAS:

- The Exhibit entered has the same or substantially similar Commercial or Brand Name, ingredients, or method or production as another, despite being produced by two or more separate Producers; or
- The Exhibitor implies to the end consumer that the Exhibit is the same product in any other way.

At the time of judging, if an Exhibit is determined to have been entered into the incorrect Class, the Exhibit may be disqualified without a refund of Entry Fee.

All Exhibitors must strictly comply with Auditing, Special Regulation 26. For an Exhibit to be eligible for judging, Exhibitors must ensure that all requirements as specified in the auditing Special Regulation are met. Exhibitors will risk the Exhibit being disqualified if requirements cannot be produced for auditing purposes.

### 7. COMMERCIAL TITLE

Exhibitors are required to detail the Commercial Titles of all Exhibits on the Application for Entry. Commercial Titles will be published in the Results Catalogue online and used for promotional material. Commercial Title includes, but is not limited to, the company name, the brand name and distilled spirits description, as it appears on the Exhibit’s primary commercial label.

The Commercial Title provided will be utilised in all Distilled Spirits Show publications during and after the judging. Medals and Awards are non-transferable and if an Exhibitor changes the name of a product, the scores, Medals and Awards may cease to apply. If an Exhibitor wishes to change the name of a product, the Exhibitor must contact the RAS to seek permission.

## 8. DEFINITION OF EXHIBITOR

An Exhibitor means a sole trader, partnership, company or body corporate, which in the opinion of the RAS:

- (a) Manufactures distilled spirits, RTD or non-alcoholic beverage; or
- (b) Has distilled spirits manufactured for them or it, for the purpose of sale by wholesale or by retail under the name or preferred business name of the Exhibitor as stated in the Application for Entry.

## 9. DEFINITION OF A PRODUCER

A Producer means the registered premises that manufactures the product entered in the Competition.

## 10. RECOGNITION

If there is a difference between the Exhibitor and the Producer, both the Exhibitor and the Producer will be recognised in all official announcements of results by the RAS, including announcements of Class results and mentions in the Results Catalogue.

When an Award is presented to an Exhibit, the Award will recognise the Exhibitor first and then the Producer.

## 11. CLASS TRANSFERS & WITHDRAWALS

It is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor to enter the Exhibit/s in the correct Class or be subject to disqualification without refund of Entry Fee.

The RAS may, at its discretion, without any liability and without the prior approval of the Exhibitor, disqualify or transfer an Exhibit into a different Class than that stated on the Application for Entry if in its opinion the Exhibit has been entered in the wrong Class.

All refunds of Entry Fees are at the discretion of the RAS. A full refund shall only be made if a withdrawal is submitted on 24 June 2026 (Closing Day of Entry).

After this date, if an Exhibitor wishes to withdraw an Exhibit, the withdrawal must be submitted by 20 August 2026. Only in special circumstances will a refund be considered at this point.

Exhibit substitution will not be permitted after the Closing Day of Entry.

## 12. STOCK REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDGING

Exhibits that proceed to judging of major Championships can pass through multiple rounds of judging. To ensure sufficient samples are available the following quantity of product is required to be submitted to the RAS for the judging of each Exhibit. If incorrect sample quantities are received, the Exhibit may be disqualified.

Class	Quantity required for judging
Classes 1-29	Two (2) x 500mL bottles (or equivalent volume)
Bitters (Class 29)	Two (2) x 150mL bottles (or equivalent volume)
Ready to Drink (RTD) (Classes 30-36)	Twelve (12) x 250mL cans (or equivalent volume)
Non-Alcoholic Spirit (Class 37)	Two (2) x 500mL bottles or twelve (12) x 250mL cans (or equivalent volume)

Exhibits must have commercial labelling on the front and back of the sample. All samples for an Exhibit must be supplied from the same batch.

## 13. PREPARATION OF EXHIBITS

The RAS will provide Exhibitors with a digital Exhibitor Information Pack which will include the following:

- (a) Identification label sheets that contain the Entry Number, QR Code and Class Number for each Exhibit. Identification labels should be printed as labels and firmly affixed to each Exhibit and **placed above or beside the back commercial label**, so that the Exhibit's identifying information is intact and all commercial labels are visible.
- (b) Exhibitor Confirmation Advice. It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to check the information on the Exhibitor Confirmation Advice is correct, and accurately reflects the Classes into which the Exhibits have been entered.
- (c) Courier and postal label instructions.
- (d) Map and delivery instructions.

It is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor to ensure that the correct identification labels are adhered to the correct Exhibit/s. Any Exhibit/s that are not labelled correctly are subject to disqualification without refund of Entry. Should you need to make amendments to your Exhibitor Confirmation Advice, please contact the Wine, Beer and Spirits Events Manager.

**14. DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS**

Exhibits must be delivered to the Distilled Spirits Show Supervisor, Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127. Delivery details will be supplied to Exhibitors closer to the delivery period. Exhibits must be properly marked with the RAS supplied identification label sheets and delivered from Monday 17 August to Thursday 20 August 2026 between the hours of 7.30am and 3.30pm. The RAS cannot be held responsible for any theft, loss, delay or damage during the transportation of entries.

**15. JUDGING**

All Judges are chosen on their industry knowledge and expertise, and come from a broad range of industry sectors, including but not limited to a combination of educators, distillers, marketers, retailers, journalists and expert amateurs of distilled spirits. Judging panels shall consist of one Panel Chair, two Senior Judges and up to two Associate Judges. The Chair of Judges oversees each panel and has the final power to arbitrate the awarding of points.

Within each Class all entries are allocated a Catalogue Number which is distinct from the Entry Number provided by the RAS.

Large Classes may be 'split' across a number of panels. Split Class judging is processed after each panel involved determines their 'top gold' from within their portion of the Class. The Panel Chairs will then re-convene with the Chair of Judges, re-taste in random order and determine the single top gold for that Class.

**16. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

All Judges are required to complete a Conflict-of-Interest Declaration.

Judges are not permitted to enter the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show as Exhibitors, unless a conflict of interest is declared. If a Judge is permitted to enter as an Exhibitor by the Committee, the Exhibitor/Judge will not be permitted to judge that Exhibit and/or Class.

If a Judge identifies a working relationship with an external supplier, consultant or contractor who is affiliated with or performs a judging role at the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show within the 6 months prior to entry, this would constitute a conflict of interest.

Exhibitors are also obliged to inform the RAS if such a conflict exists. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest from a Judge or Exhibitor can result in disqualification of the Exhibit from the Competition.

**17. JUDGING CRITERIA**

All Distilled Spirits will be judged on the following criteria:

Judging Criteria	Points
Colour / Appearance	10
Aroma / Nose	20
Flavour / Palate	40
Balance	10
Finish	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

**18. MEDAL AWARD LEVELS**

Judging is conducted using the 100-point scoring system. Awards shall be determined by the Judges on the following point scale:

- Gold medal for outstanding Exhibits gaining 90pts and over.
- Silver medal for excellent Exhibits gaining 82pts but fewer than 90pts.
- Bronze medal for quality Exhibits gaining 74pts but fewer than 82pts.

The Judges may make Awards only on the basis of Gold, Silver and Bronze medals and may at their absolute discretion decline to make an Award in any Class. In the case of multiple entries per Class, an Exhibitor may be awarded more than one Award in the same Class.

**19. CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SPECIAL PRIZES**

The full list of Championships and Special Prizes can be found in the Schedule following the Class listing.

Only Gold medal-winning Exhibits will be eligible to receive a Championship or Special Prize. Championships or Special Prizes may be withheld in instances where the Exhibits are considered by the Judges to be unworthy of the Award. Prize money shall not be awarded.

## 20. OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

Following the judging, the RAS may host an Awards Presentation, during which a selection of Award-winning Distilled Spirits are available for consumption. Successful Champion Award-winning Exhibitors are required to supply the following quantities of Award-winning Distilled Spirits by a date agreed on by the Exhibitor and the RAS. The supply of products will enable such winning products to gain exposure by being featured at the event, which may be attended by trade, sponsors, Exhibitors and Judges.

	Champion Exhibit
Classes 1-29	4 x 500mL bottles (or equivalent volume)
Bitters (Class 29)	4 x 150mL bottles (or equivalent volume)
Ready to Drink (RTD) (Classes 30-36)	24 x 250mL cans (or equivalent volume)
Non-Alcoholic Spirit (Class 37)	4 x 500mL bottles or 24 x 250mL cans (or equivalent volume)

Any Exhibitor who is unable to supply the Champion-winning Distilled Spirits will forfeit their Award.

### Please note:

If your Exhibit is selected to be highlighted at any Sponsor Event or at the President's Medal Dinner, we would appreciate being able to purchase additional quantities at cost price.

## 21. MEDAL ARTWORK

Medal and Champion-winning Exhibitors will be able to download their artwork from the 'myRAS' account after the results are released. This kit will contain Sydney Royal Award artwork, permission to use the trademark licence, regulations and guidelines of the artwork usage, as well as recommendations for marketing the Award won. Exhibitors will also receive a certificate denoting the Award won in the weeks following the conclusion of the Competition.

The use of the Award artwork is subject to the Trademark Terms & Conditions in accordance with the General Regulations.

The RAS agrees to grant the Show medal-winning Exhibitor a non-transferable Trademark licence to use the medal artwork. Should the Exhibitor wish to sell (other than by retail) the product which received an Award, the RAS must receive written notification from the Exhibitor detailing the buyer's full particulars as soon as the sale has taken place. Approval is at the discretion of the RAS.

Medal-winning Exhibitors must refer to the Award being won at the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show, not the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

In respect of any medal or special Award won for any Exhibit in this Section, an Exhibitor shall not advertise or allow to be advertised by any means whatsoever and in particular whether by broadcasting, pictorially or in writing, the fact of such medal or special prize unless such advertising shows clearly:

- (a) the name of the medal;
- (b) the year of the medal;
- (c) the medal or special prize won;
- (d) in the case of a special prize the full text of the conditions, if referred to therein, applicable to such prize.

An Exhibitor making improper use of medals or special Awards won in the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show for advertising purposes may be subject to disqualification from further Shows conducted by the RAS.

## 22. PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

The President's Medal is one of the most prestigious food and beverage awards in Australia. It promotes and rewards Champion Australian Exhibitors that meet the highest levels of social, environmental and commercial integrity.

Exhibitors of Champion products from the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show will be invited to participate in the President's Medal Competition. Champion Exhibits from across the Sydney Royal Wine Show, Sydney Royal Fine Food Show, Sydney Royal Cheese & Dairy Produce Show and Sydney Royal Beer & Cider Show are also invited to participate.

Exhibitors that become finalists will be required to provide adequate product quantities for purchase by the RAS for consumption and service at the President's Medal Award Night. Exhibitors will also be required to provide content, such as a business logo and images and quotes which will be used for marketing and promotional activities as prescribed by the RAS.

For more information on the President's Medal please visit <https://www.rasns.com.au/presidentsmedal>

### 23. EXCESS JUDGING STOCK

Please refer to Special Regulation 12 for information about stock required for judging. Please note all Exhibits become the property of the RAS once delivered. Excess stock may be used for promotional purposes including (but not limited to) VIP and media tastings, presentations, Exhibitor and trade tastings, consumer events, education and displays.

The RAS conducts an annual sale, using a portion of excess distilled spirits show stock, to benefit the industry. All proceeds will fund Industry scholarships, grants and other initiatives. Proceeds will not become part of the Distilled Spirits Show working capital nor benefit the RAS.

For more information on the Scholarships & Grants please visit <https://www.rasnsw.com.au/foundation/>

Exhibitors will be given the opportunity to opt-out of participating in this initiative during the Application for Entry.

### 24. MISREPRESENTATION

- (a) Exhibitors must not misrepresent the Exhibit(s) or make improper use of the Exhibit(s). Should the Exhibitor be deemed to be misrepresenting the Exhibit(s) by the RAS, the Exhibitor may be subject to disqualification from further Shows conducted by the RAS;
- (b) Any Exhibitor falsifying their attainment of the product may be disqualified from further Shows conducted by the RAS;
- (c) The RAS reserves the right to take infringement action against the Exhibitor; and
- (d) The RAS reserves the right to report the misuse or misrepresentation to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and/or Office of Fair Trading for further action.

### 25. PROTESTS & DISQUALIFICATIONS

Each Exhibitor shall accept the Judges' decision on the merits of the respective Exhibits. A protest may be provided to the RAS in writing within seven (7) calendar days of the announcement of the Awards by the Exhibitor with an Exhibit in the Class to which a protest relates. Notification of protest must be made to the Wine, Dairy & Fine Food Events Manager at [distilledspirits@rasnsw.com.au](mailto:distilledspirits@rasnsw.com.au)

Should the RAS deem that the Exhibit does not meet the requirements of the Schedule, the Exhibit may be disqualified without a refund of Entry Fee. An Exhibitor who in the opinion of the RAS breaches any of these Regulations may be disqualified by the RAS from exhibiting at any of its future Shows.

An Application for Entry received from an Applicant who has been disqualified from Exhibition by the RAS shall not be accepted during the period of such disqualification. Should any such application be accepted, it shall, when discovered, be deemed void and the Entry Fee, Exhibit and any Award made to such Applicant shall be forfeited to the RAS. Where an Exhibit or an Exhibitor is disqualified and their prize is forfeited, the RAS may (but is not obliged to) promote the Exhibit next in order to that prize.

### 26. AUDITING

- (a) The RAS may appoint any person (an 'Auditor') to undertake random pre-judging and post-judging audits relating to any Exhibit entered into the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show.
- (b) An Exhibitor must co-operate with and do all things reasonably required by an Auditor in connection with any Audit and adhere to arrangements that have been made between the RAS and the Exhibitor.
- (c) The Exhibitor must keep on file, maintain and extract of such records as are required to demonstrate the truth and accuracy of all information stated in the Exhibitor's Application for Entry.
- (d) Each Exhibitor hereby consents to an Auditor, in the conduct of an Audit, to enter, with reasonable notice, the Exhibitor's premises as nominated and inspect all product, books, electronic and hard copy records thereon, or to request relevant documentation electronically for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of any information stated in the Exhibitor's Application for Entry.
- (e) An Exhibitor undergoing a distilled spirits Audit must permit the Auditor to take from the Exhibitor's premises up to two (2) samples (at no extra charge) taken at random from the stock on hand of any Exhibit for comparison with the original Exhibit.
- (f) The RAS may also obtain retail samples sourced from the marketplace to compare with the original Exhibit. A random sample of all entries will be targeted for this type of audit in 2026.
- (g) The RAS reserves the right to audit Exhibits within twelve (12) months following the Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show.

If the Exhibitor fails to comply with these provisions, or as a result of the Audit, any discrepancy is disclosed, or a sample taken is not identical with the original Exhibit, the RAS may:

- (a) cancel any Award won by the Exhibitor;
- (b) disqualify the Exhibitor from further Exhibition for such period as the RAS considers appropriate.
- (c) publish to such persons, as the RAS considers appropriate, the fact of any such cancellation and/or disqualification in respect of the Exhibit and the Exhibitor.

The RAS may publish in any medium the results of any such inspection or analysis. Neither the Exhibitor nor any other Person shall have any claim against the RAS or against any Councillor, member, employee, agent or representative in respect of any matter published as contemplated by paragraph (c) of this Special Regulation 26.

**27. POWER TO CANCEL OR ALTER**

The RAS may, without assigning a reason:

- (a) Alter the Closing Date of Entry for the Competition;
- (b) Remove any Exhibit from Sydney Showground or cause any Exhibit to be removed from Sydney Showground;
- (c) Alter the conditions of the Competition, including but not exclusive to the judging conditions and process followed;
- (d) Rule that an Exhibit or Exhibitor may not compete or is ineligible to compete;
- (e) Alter the date, time or place on or at which the judging or Awards Presentation is scheduled to take place;
- (f) Alter a Judge scheduled to Judge the Event.

Notification of change will be listed on <https://www.rasnsw.com.au/distilled-spirits>

Whilst every effort will be made to release results on the date indicated, the RAS reserves the right to:

- (a) Defer announcing results until the Chair of Judges' report is finalised;
- (b) Cancel the Event

The rights set out above apply notwithstanding:

- (a) The RAS' acceptance of an Entry;
- (b) Inclusion of an Entry in the Results Catalogue;
- (c) The issue of any other document.

**28. WORKPLACE SURVEILLANCE ACT**

RAS operates surveillance cameras from Sydney Showground Security and these are located in and around facilities requiring security monitoring for the safety or security of individuals or property. RAS also has access to Sydney Olympic Park security cameras and vice versa. Please note that security camera monitoring is continuous and ongoing and it is deemed that a person, by entering the Showground, consents to this photographing, filming or taping. RAS strictly complies with the Workplace Surveillance Act 2005.

## CLASS LISTING

### GIN

Class No.	Class Description	Special Requirements
1	Gin – Classic Dry	London Dry, cannot be coloured or artificial. Juniper must be the predominate botanical. Minimum 37% ABV.
2	Gin – Contemporary	Aromatic, use of botanicals to be more dominant than juniper. Minimum 37% ABV.
3	Gin – Old Tom	Sweeter and predominantly juniper to replicate 'Old Tom' style. Minimum 37% ABV.
4	Gin – Navy	Must identify style on Application for Entry. Minimum 57% ABV.
5	Gin – Barrel Aged	Matured in cask or wooden cask. Minimum 37% ABV.
6	Gin – Fruit	Must be Australian grown fruit. Fruit and wine/grapes permitted. Minimum 37% ABV.
7	Gin – Other	Gin not eligible in any other Gin Class. Must identify style on Application for Entry. Minimum 37% ABV.

### VODKA

Class No.	Class Description	Special Requirements
8	Vodka – Classic	Unflavoured and neutral in style. Minimum 37.5% ABV.
9	Vodka – Flavour Distilled	Flavoured in the distillation process.
10	Vodka – Flavour Infused	Flavoured after the distillation process.
11	Vodka – Other	Vodka not other eligible in any other Vodka Class. Must identify style on Application for Entry.

**WHISKY**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
12	Whisky – Single Malt	Produced from 100% malted barley. Must be the product of a single distillery. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years.
13	Whisky – Blended	Produced from a combination of malt and/or grain. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years.
14	Whisky – Cask Strength	Minimum 55% ABV. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years.
15	Whisky – Grain	Made predominantly from grains other than malted barley. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years.
16	Whisky – Other	Whisky not eligible in any other Whisky Class e.g. Peanut Butter Whisky. Must identify style on Application for Entry. Sweeteners and flavouring permitted in this whisky Class only. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years.

**CANE SPIRIT**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
17	Cane Spirit	Distilled from cane sugar, sugar cane juice or molasses.
18	Cane Spirit – Spiced	Less than two years in maturation wooden cask or unaged.

**RUM**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
19	Rum – Overproof	General definition of dark rum. Minimum 50% ABV. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years. Distilled from cane sugar, sugar cane juice or molasses.
20	Rum – Underproof	General definition of dark rum. Maximum 49.9% ABV. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years. Distilled from cane sugar, sugar cane juice or molasses.
21	Rum – Spiced	General definition of spiced rum. Matured in wooden casks for a minimum of two years. Distilled from cane sugar, sugar cane juice or molasses.

**BRANDY**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
22	Brandy	Minimum age of two years.

**LIQUEUR**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
23	Liqueur – Fruit	Must be Australian grown fruit. Minimum 15% ABV.
24	Liqueur – Coffee	Dominance of coffee in overall product. Minimum 15% ABV.
25	Liqueur – Rum	Rum base. Minimum 15% ABV.
26	Liqueur – Gin	Gin base. Minimum 15% ABV.
27	Liqueur – Whisky	Whisky base. Minimum 15% ABV.
28	Liqueur – Other	Liqueur not eligible in any other Liqueur Class e.g. Amaro. Must identify style on Application for Entry. Minimum 15% ABV.

**ALTERNATIVE SPIRIT**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
29	Alternative Spirit	Any distilled spirit that is not eligible for any other Class e.g. agave, schnapps, absinthe, bitters, vermouth, unaged whisky. The base spirit must be Australian and distilled in Australia. Must identify style on Application for Entry.

**READY TO DRINK (RTD)**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
30	Ready to Drink – Gin	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia.
31	Ready to Drink – Vodka	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia.
32	Ready to Drink – Whisky	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia.
33	Ready to Drink – Cane Spirit	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia.
34	Ready to Drink – Rum	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia.
35	Ready to Drink – Liqueur	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia.
36	Ready to Drink – Other	Must have a spirit base and mixer. Spirit base must be produced and distilled in Australia. Ready to Drink not eligible in any other Ready to Drink Class. Includes Ready to Drink Exhibits containing multiple spirits.

**NON-ALCOHOLIC SPIRIT**

<b>Class No.</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Special Requirements</b>
37	Non-Alcoholic Spirit	Exhibit must be distilled and marketed as a non-alcoholic distilled spirit. Maximum 0.5% ABV. Regardless of style, non-alcoholic distilled spirits Exhibits are to be entered in this Class only.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS, TROPHIES AND SPECIAL PRIZES

### **Champion Traditional Gin**

Eligible Class: 1

#### **2025 Winner:**

TRIPLE JUNIPER GIN  
NEVER NEVER DISTILLING CO  
Class No. 1 / Cat No. 24

### **Champion Contemporary Gin**

Eligible Class: 2

#### **2025 Winner:**

BRIGHT NIGHT WILD TASMANIAN GIN  
BRIGHT NIGHT SPIRITS  
Class No. 2 / Cat No. 75

### **Champion Other Gin**

Eligible Classes: 3-7

#### **2025 Winner:**

NAVY STRENGTH GIN  
FOUR PILLARS DISTILLERY  
Class No. 4 / Cat No. 125

### **Champion Vodka**

Eligible Classes: 8-11

#### **2025 Winner:**

WILD DOG VODKA  
BLUE MOUNTAIN GIN COMPANY  
Class No. 8 / Cat No. 141

### **Champion Single Malt Whisky**

Eligible Class: 12

#### **2024 Winner:**

TRIA PRIMA ENCHANTRESS  
TRIA PRIMA  
Class No. 12 / Cat No. 160

### **Champion Grain or Blend Whisky**

Eligible Classes: 13-16

#### **2025 Winner:**

MARY ANN  
FLEURIEU DISTILLERY  
Class No. 14 / Cat No. 196

### **Champion Cane Spirit or Rum**

Eligible Classes: 17-21

#### **2025 Winner:**

CASK STRENGTH RUM  
BANKS & SOLANDER DISTILLERY  
Class No. 20 / Cat No. 213

### **The JJ McWilliam Memorial Perpetual Trophy for Best Brandy**

Eligible Class: 22

#### **2025 Winner:**

ST ANGES XO  
ST AGNES DISTILLERY  
Class No. 23 / Cat No. 224

**Champion Liqueur**

Eligible Classes: 23-28

**2024 Winner:**

CARETAKER'S COTTAGE BLACK FOREST  
MARIONETTE  
Class No. 24 / Cat No. 230

**Champion Alternative Spirit**

Eligible Class: 29

**2025 Winner:**

AUSTRALIAN ABSINTHE  
NEVER NEVER DISTILLING CO  
Class No. 31 / Cat No. 282

**Champion Ready to Drink**

Eligible Classes: 30-36

**2025 Winner:**

FOUR PILLARS GIN  
FOUR PILLARS DISTILLERY  
Class No. 32 / Cat No. 287

**Champion Non-Alcoholic Spirit**

Eligible Class: 37

**2025 Winner:**

Not Awarded

**The Chair of Judges Annual Prize**

This Annual Prize is supported by the RAS of NSW. Awarded to the Exhibit that impressed the Chair of Judges the most that did not get an award elsewhere.

**2025 Winner:**

TELEMACHUS  
FLEURIEU DISTILLERY  
Class No. 12 / Cat No. 166

**Best NSW Distilled Spirit**

Eligible Classes: 1-36

**2025 Winner:**

CASK STRENGTH RUM  
BANKS & SOLANDER DISTILLERY  
Class No. 20 / Cat No. 213

**Best Distilled Spirit of Show**

Winners of the following Champions and Trophies are eligible: Traditional Gin, Contemporary Gin, Other Gin, Vodka, Single Malt Whisky, Grain or Blend Whisky, Cane Spirit or Rum, The JJ McWilliam Memorial Perpetual Trophy for Best Brandy, Liqueur, Alternative Spirit, Ready to Drink.

**2025 Winner:**

ST ANGES XO  
ST AGNES DISTILLERY  
Class No. 23 / Cat No. 224

## NOTES



GRAPE,  
GRAIN &  
GRAZE  
*Festival*

19 SEPTEMBER 2026  
HOWIE PAVILION & LAWN  
**SYDNEY**  
SHOWGROUND

## Sip the afternoon away

Spend an afternoon with friends tasting 1000+ medal winning wines, beer & cider, plus Sydney Royal award-winning produce at the Grape, Grain and Graze Festival.

**Saturday, 19 September 2026**  
**Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park**

Be the first to know! Get access to early bird tickets by signing up to be notified when they are on sale here:  
[www.rasnsw.com.au/events/grape-grain-graze/](http://www.rasnsw.com.au/events/grape-grain-graze/)

**Celebrating excellence in Australian agriculture**



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW



The RAS thanks the sponsors of the 2026 Sydney Royal Distilled Spirits Show for their valued support in celebrating excellence in Australian agriculture and regional communities.



**Food  
Authority**



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW