



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

# *Schedule*

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## Sydney Royal Fine Food Show - Aquaculture

February 2026  
Sydney Showground  
Sydney Olympic Park  
[www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au)



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### **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

## **FINE FOOD COMMITTEE**

Mr M Bullen (Chair)

Mr A Barnes

Mr L Bowtell

Mr S Davies

Mr J Dorahy

Ms S Evans

Ms L Milan OAM

Mr H White OAM

## **HONORARY COUNCILLORS OF COMMITTEE**

Mr G Andersen OAM

Mr G Mason

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## WHY ENTER THE SYDNEY ROYAL FINE FOOD SHOW?

The benefits of entering the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show ("the Competition") include:

- Rigorous score-based evaluation, allowing you to compare your product against industry benchmarks.
- Individual confidential product feedback on every Exhibit, provided by experienced Judges.
- Opportunity to win a prestigious Sydney Royal Award, demonstrating that your product has achieved a high level of quality and positive recognition from industry peers.

Sydney Royal Award-winners are given further opportunities such as:

- Access to the Sydney Royal medal artwork for winning Exhibits. This artwork provides the winning producer with a distinct marketing advantage and can be used to enhance advertising, promotional material and packaging.
- Access to the marketing promotional kit to assist medal winners to make the most of their achievement.
- Opportunity to present and promote medal-winning products at the iconic Sydney Royal Easter Show, Australia's largest ticketed event attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors every year.
- Opportunity to be invited as an Exhibitor at the Sydney Royal Talk & Taste at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, where you can talk and sell your medal-winning products directly to consumers.
- Opportunity to be handpicked by Sydney Showground to supply your medal-winning product at hundreds of events that happen on site throughout the year, including at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.
- Opportunity to be selected to showcase and sample your medal-winning produce at the Grape, Grain & Graze Festival, a public facing event held in September each year.

### President's Medal

Exhibitors of top-ranking Champion Exhibits will be invited to participate in the President's Medal Competition.

Since its inception in 2006, the President's Medal has recognised the pinnacle of excellence in Australian food and beverage production, with only the best of the best nominated to compete.

Six Champion Exhibitors from the Wine, Beer & Cider, Cheese & Dairy Produce, Fine Food, and Distilled Spirits Shows are selected to undergo a rigorous, independent assessment of their business practices, evaluating performance across six core pillars: Environmental sustainability, social responsibility, financial viability, climate and business shock resilience, succession and governance, and knowledge sharing and industry impact.

This comprehensive evaluation framework is what makes the President's Medal one of the most prestigious and future-focused honours in the Australian food and beverage industry.

For more information, visit the [President's Medal webpage](#).



## THE BEST OF THE BEST

18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RAS OF NSW PRESIDENT'S MEDAL AWARDED TO TATHRA OYSTERS

The President's Medal is the only award of its kind in Australia, celebrating not just exceptional product quality but the entire journey from paddock to plate.

Awarded by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, it recognises a producer who stands above the rest for their commercial success, environmental footprint and social impact.

Finalists must first win a Champion Medal or Trophy in a 2024 Sydney Royal Competition - Wine, Beer & Cider, Distilled Spirits, Cheese & Dairy or Fine Food - making them the best of the best.

This year, eight remarkable finalists competed for the honour. One has set a new benchmark.

**Congratulations to the 18th Annual  
President's Medal Winner  
Tathra Oysters / Nelson Lagoon Cocktail Bag**



Discover their story at  
[www.rasns.com.au/presidentsmedal](http://www.rasns.com.au/presidentsmedal)

## SUPPORTING THE AUSTRALIAN FOOD INDUSTRY

The Royal Agricultural Society of NSW 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 Fine Food Show, we are promoting and rewarding excellence in the Australian food industry.

### Networks

The Sydney Royal Fine Food 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 Fine Food Show is selected by the Fine Food Competition Chair of Judges and the RAS of NSW Fine Food Committee who aim to include a combination of food industry educators, product retailers, product users, chefs, manufacturers, food journalists, technologists from Industry, and other specialists and Industry groups. To actively develop the Associate Judges, in conjunction with TAFE NSW the RAS of NSW conducts two annual accredited sensory training programs.

. For more information about judging, visit: <https://www.rasnsw.com.au/sydney-royal-wine-dairy-fine-food/>. To express interest to participate in the program, please email [finefood@rasnsw.com.au](mailto:finefood@rasnsw.com.au)

### Sponsors

The Sydney Royal Fine Food Show - Aquaculture Competition gratefully acknowledges support from the NSW Food Authority.

### Industry Supporters

The Sydney Royal Fine Food Show supports Australian agriculture and is actively involved in industry events such as The Narooma Oyster Festival and South Coast Food and Wine Festival to promote food excellence in regional areas.



## KEY INFORMATION

2026 SYDNEY ROYAL FINE FOOD SHOW - AQUACULTURE	
APPLICATIONS FOR ENTRY	To enter online, visit <a href="http://www.rasnsw.com.au">www.rasnsw.com.au</a> The Sydney Rock Oyster Classes open for entry in October 2025. Remaining Aquaculture Classes will be judged in August with entries opening in May 2026.
ENTRY FEE	<b>\$138</b> (incl. GST) per Exhibit
CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRY	Wednesday 26 November 2025
DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS	Exhibits are to be delivered in required quantities and with the appropriate identification labels supplied by the RAS on <b>Monday 2 February &amp; Tuesday 3 February 2026 between 9am and 4pm</b> . Exhibits must be delivered to Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park. Delivery details will be communicated to Exhibitors via email in Exhibitor Information Packs. Further details indicated in Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulation 12.
JUDGING	Wednesday 4 February 2026
EVENTS	<b>Grape, Grain &amp; Graze Festival - September 2026</b> Celebrate the winners of the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show and all things Australian Wine, Beer & Cider, Distilled Spirits, Cheese & Dairy Produce and Fine Food. This event is open to the general public. For more information, visit: <a href="http://www.rasnsw.com.au">www.rasnsw.com.au</a> An exclusive opportunity for Sydney Royal Medal Winners. Benefits of participating as an Exhibitor include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The opportunity to promote your brand and increase product awareness by way of taste testing;</li> <li>• Showcase specific medal-winning products and your business to generate direct sales;</li> <li>• Opportunity to network and sell to possible industry professionals attending the event;</li> <li>• Exposure via the RAS marketing channels and social media;</li> </ul> If you wish to express interest to be an Exhibitor at the 2026 Grape, Grain & Graze Festival, please email <a href="mailto:grapegraingraze@rasnsw.com.au">grapegraingraze@rasnsw.com.au</a> .
PUBLICATION OF RESULTS	Online results listing, scores and medals awarded for all Exhibits will be available for viewing at the conclusion of judging. In addition, the Results Catalogue will be made available online as a PDF to all Exhibitors the month following the Sydney Royal Aquaculture Competition; this will contain scores of medal-winning Exhibits, as well as Judges' Class comments. Exhibitors will be posted a breakdown of their individual results, confidential feedback per Exhibit, and the applicable certificates in March 2026.
EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR STEWARDING AND JUDGING	If you know anyone interested in becoming a Steward or Associate Judge, please complete the Expression of Interest form available at <a href="http://www.rasnsw.com.au">www.rasnsw.com.au</a>
SOCIAL MEDIA	Follow us to stay up to date throughout the year. Facebook: <a href="https://facebook.com/RASofNSW">facebook.com/RASofNSW</a> Instagram: <a href="https://instagram.com/ras_nsw">@ras_nsw</a> X (formerly known as Twitter): <a href="https://twitter.com/ras_nsw">@ras_nsw</a> #finefoodshow #sydneyroyal
CONTACT	<b>Sydney Royal Fine Food Events Manager</b> Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Locked Bag 4317, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127 Telephone (02) 9704 1353 <a href="mailto:finefood@rasnsw.com.au">finefood@rasnsw.com.au</a>



## FINE FOOD - AQUACULTURE SPECIAL REGULATIONS

### 1. COMPETITION CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

A condition of entering into the Competition is strict adherence to the following General Regulations of the Royal Agriculture of New South Wales, 'Regulations':

- a) General Regulations (online at [www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au) for all Sydney Royal Competitions); and
- b) These Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulations (containing specific rules for these Competitions)
- c) Key Terms and Conditions included in the Application for Entry online (via the 'myRAS' online Competition portal); and
- d) Conditions of Entry to Sydney Showground located at [www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au)

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 Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulations are excluded, unless otherwise authorised by the RAS. The Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulations apply to all sections of the Show. If there is any inconsistency between the General Regulations, and these Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulations, the Fine Food - Aquaculture 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. MINIMUM TOTAL WEIGHT/VOLUME REQUIREMENTS

Minimum Exhibit means the Exhibit must comprise of a total weight or a total volume as specified for each Class.

Exhibitors must provide the minimum Exhibit quantity as outlined in the Class table, under Size/Volume/Weight, No: of Samples Required. This ensures that an adequate quantity of product is available for each round of judging and allows for a fresh sample to be available should the Exhibit proceed to the Championship judging stage.

### 3. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

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 of 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.

An Exhibitor may be awarded more than one (1) Award in any one (1) Class.

No single Exhibit may be entered in more than one (1) Class.

To qualify as 'branded' for the purposes of the Aquaculture Competition, the product must be marketed under a 'brand name' that is underpinned by a range of specifications that provide a consistent product/experience to the customer at all times.

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

The Exhibitors commercial label must reflect the product description in Classes entered.

All Exhibitors must strictly comply with Auditing, Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulation 22. For an Exhibit to be eligible for judging, Exhibitors must ensure that all requirements as specified in the auditing Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulation are met. Exhibitors will risk the Exhibit being disqualified if requirements cannot be produced for auditing purposes.

### 4. 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 brand name and product description as it appears on the Exhibit's primary commercial label.

### 5. COMMERCIAL AVAILABILITY

Exhibits must meet the following criteria for Commercial Availability. Exhibits may be disqualified if they are not commercially available at the time of judging.

- (a) Each Exhibit entered must be the absolute property of the Exhibitor and must be commercially available in Australia or in the market available for export as an identifiable Australian product, or both.
- (b) Exhibits must be taken from a normal production run/farming cycle and must be identical to those commercially available.
- (c) On request by the RAS, Exhibitors will be required to submit details regarding their Exhibit's approximate annual production, as well as where and when the Exhibit is commercially available, prior to Competition.
- (d) At the time of judging, the RAS may conduct an audit to compare Exhibit samples with those commercially available.
- (e) All Exhibits must comply with the requirements of the Australian Food Standards Code for both product and packaging.

### 6. ELIGIBILITY OF PRODUCTS

All Exhibits must comply with the requirements of the Australian Food Standards Code for both product and packaging. Exhibits not complying with the Australian Standard will be disqualified;

- (a) All Exhibits must comply with the requirements of the Australian Food Standards Code for both product and packaging. Exhibits not complying with the Australian Standard will be disqualified.
- (b) Wholesale products must be accompanied by a Nutrition Information Panel and ingredients listing;
- (c) No Exhibit is to be previously sampled by the Exhibitor before being submitted for judging; and
- (d) All Exhibits are to be delivered via a suitable and appropriate food transport vehicle and upon delivery the Exhibits become the property of the RAS.

### 7. DEFINITION OF EXHIBITOR

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

- (a) Manufactures or processes fine food produce, or;
- (b) Has product manufactured, packaged or processed under contract for the purpose of sale under the registered business name of the Exhibitor as stated on the Application for Entry.
- (c) All Exhibitors who have their product made under contract must identify the Producer on their Application for Entry.

Applications for Entry in the name of deceased person(s) are not eligible for entry.

### 8. DEFINITION OF PRODUCER

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

### 9. RECOGNITION

Both the Producer and the Exhibitor 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.

### 10. CLASS TRANSFERS & WITHDRAWALS

- (a) 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.
- (b) 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.
- (c) If an Exhibitor wishes to withdraw an Exhibit, they must do so in writing to the Fine Food Events Manager. Any withdrawal accompanied by a request for a refund will only be considered if received before the Closing Date of Entry as advised by the Schedule. Please note that the granting of refunds of Entry Fees at any time is entirely at the discretion of the RAS and meeting the date requirement is not a guarantee of receiving a refund. No substitution of products will be accepted once entries have closed. The products which have been entered in the online Application of Entry are those samples that are required to be delivered for judging.
- (d) All refunds of Entry Fees are at the discretion of the RAS. A refund of Entry Fees shall not be made unless a notification of withdrawal is received by the RAS before the Closing Day of Entry. After this date, if an Exhibitor wishes to withdraw an Exhibit, they must do so in writing to the Fine Food Events Manager. Only in special circumstances will a refund be considered at this point.

To withdraw an Exhibit in part or in full, Exhibitors must log into their online Competition entry system account and select the Classes they wish to withdraw for each Exhibit and complete the withdrawal process.

### 11. PREPARATION OF EXHIBITS FOR DELIVERY

The RAS will provide Exhibitors with a digital Exhibitor Confirmation Pack that will include the following:

- (a) Identification labels that contain the Class number, Catalogue number and QR code for each Exhibit. Identification labels should be firmly affixed to each Exhibit, so that the identifying information is intact and all commercial labels are visible where required.
- (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) Delivery labels; and
- (d) Site Map and key delivery instructions which must be followed to ensure the Exhibits are delivered to the correct location.

Should you require additional identification labels or need to make amendments to your Exhibitor Confirmation Advice, please contact the Fine Food Events Manager by emailing [finefood@rasnsw.com.au](mailto:finefood@rasnsw.com.au)

Failure to supply the minimum requirements outlined for each Class may affect your opportunity to participate in the Championship round due to an insufficient amount of product delivered. All Exhibits must also be taken from a normal production run/farming cycle and must be identical to those commercially available at the time of judging.

## 12. DELIVERY OF EXHIBITS

All Exhibits must be delivered to the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show Supervisor following location and key delivery instructions as per detailed in your digital Exhibitor Confirmation Pack. The RAS cannot be held responsible for any theft, loss, delay or damage during the transportation of Exhibits.

All Exhibits are to be delivered via a suitable and appropriate food transport vehicle which is temperature controlled, in accordance with the Food Standard Australia New Zealand guidelines, which include keeping the food protected from contamination and if the food is potentially hazardous, keeping it cold (5°C or colder for frozen products) or hot (60°C or hotter).

Method of delivery is at the discretion of the Exhibitor, however **it is recommended that perishable Exhibits are not sent via post/courier.**

The RAS may at its discretion and without any liability or prior approval of the Exhibitor, disqualify an Exhibit which may not comply to the minimum requirements outlined in the schedule or if Exhibits do not comply with food safety guidelines and regulations as mentioned above.

## 13. 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 industry educators, product retailers, product users, manufacturers, food journalists, technologists from industry, and other specialists and industry Judges. The Chair of Judges oversees each panel and has the final power to arbitrate the awarding of points.

All entries are judged 'blind' and assessed on their own merits against a set of criteria. Judges shall not have access to an Exhibit other than from the plate containing it, which is presented to them by Stewards. Judges shall not at any time prior to the announcement of Awards have any access to or any knowledge of the identity of the Exhibit.

Within each Class, all Exhibits are allocated a methodical catalogue number which is distinct from the barcode number provided by the RAS.

## 14. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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

Judges are not permitted to enter the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show as Exhibitors, unless a Conflict of Interest is declared and accepted by the Fine Food Committee. If a Judge is permitted to enter as an Exhibitor in the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show, the Exhibitor/Judge will not be permitted to judge the Class in which their Exhibit is entered or any subsequent Championship containing the related Exhibit.

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 Fine Food Show, this would constitute a conflict of interest. A Judge will not be permitted to participate in judging that Class or any subsequent Championship containing the related Exhibit if they have provided consultation services relating to the Exhibit within the six (6) months prior to entry.

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

## 15. 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 90.00pts and over.
- Silver medal for excellent Exhibits gaining 82.00pts but less than 90.00pts.
- Bronze medal for quality Exhibits gaining 74.00pts but less than 82.00pts.

The Judges may make Awards only on the basis of Gold, Silver and Bronze medals. Prize money shall not be awarded.

Judges may in their absolute discretion decline to make an Award in any Class.

## 16. MEDAL ARTWORK

Medal and Trophy winning Exhibitors will be able to download their artwork from their 'myRAS' account 48 hours after the results being 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 of transferring medal artwork to the new owner is at the discretion of the RAS.

Medal winning Exhibitors must refer to the Award being won at the Sydney Royal Fine Food 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 conditions, if referred to therein, applicable to such prize.

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

### 17. CHAMPIONSHIPS, TROPHIES & ANNUAL PRIZES

Only Gold medal winning Exhibits will be eligible to receive a Championship Award. Championships may be withheld in instances where the Exhibits are considered by the Judges to be unworthy of the Award.

All Classes enable their Exhibits to qualify for at least one Championship and Annual Prize, unless stated otherwise in the Competition Schedule. The process for determining the Champions is that the highest scoring Gold medal winning Exhibits from each eligible Class are re-tasted blind by an expanded Panel of Judges and ranked according to the Borda Count Method.

Perpetual and Perennial Trophies remain the property of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW. Ownership of the Trophy does not pass to the winning Exhibitor. However, winners will be presented with an Annual Prize and the Exhibitors name will be engraved on the Trophy.

Supporter prizes are provided by third parties and the RAS advises that any such prize may be subject to change or amendment occurring at any time, thereby making the original information published incorrect.

### 18. PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

The President's Medal is one of Australia's most prestigious awards recognising excellence in food and beverage production. It promotes and rewards Champion Exhibitors that demonstrate the highest levels of environmental, social, and financial sustainability, as well as innovation, resilience, and industry leadership.

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

Finalists will be required to:

- Supply adequate quantities of their product for purchase by the RAS for consumption and service at the President's Medal Awards Presentation.
- Provide promotional assets, including a business logo, product images, and quotes, to be used across RAS marketing and communications.

For more information, please visit the [President's Medal webpage](#).

### 19. POWER TO CANCEL OR ALTER

The RAS may, without assigning a reason:

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

Notification of change will be listed on [www.rasnsw.com.au](http://www.rasnsw.com.au).

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

- Defer announcing results until the Chair of Judges' report is finalised;
- Cancel the Event.

The rights set out above apply notwithstanding:

- The RAS' acceptance of an entry;
- Inclusion of an entry in the Results Catalogue; or
- The issue of any other document.

### 20. EXCESS JUDGING STOCK

All Exhibits once lodged become the property of the RAS. The RAS reserves the right to use excess stock as an RAS fundraising tool in line with the RAS Charter, for example, to fund scholarships and grants to further the Fine Food Industry. Excess stock may also be used for media opportunities, educational initiatives and events.

### 21. 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 to be made to the Fine Food Events Manager at [finefood@rasnsw.com.au](mailto:finefood@rasnsw.com.au)

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 and may be subject to disciplinary action.

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.

Should the RAS deem that the Exhibit does not meet the requirements of the Schedule, or has been entered into the wrong Class, the Exhibit may be disqualified without refund of the Entry Fee.

**22. AUDITING**

- (a) The RAS will appoint any person (an 'Auditor') to undertake random pre-judging and post-judging audits relating to any Exhibit entered into the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show to ensure they conform to the Schedule and the Australian Food Standards Code.
- (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 a copy 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 but upon no less than seven (7) calendar days' prior notice, to enter the Exhibitor's premises as nominated and inspect all products, books, electronic and hard copy records thereon, for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of any information stated in the Exhibitor's Application for Entry.
- (e) An Exhibitor undergoing an Audit must permit the Auditor to take from the Exhibitor's premises up to three (3) samples of the stock on hand of any Exhibit for comparison with the original Exhibit.

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:

- (f) Cancel any Award won by the Exhibitor;
- (g) Disqualify the Exhibitor from further Exhibition for such period as the RAS considers appropriate;
- (h) 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 this Fine Food - Aquaculture Special Regulation.

**23. 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 to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and/or Office of Fair Trading for further action.

**24. WORKING WITH CHILDREN**

Exhibitors must comply with all applicable Working with Children Legislation.

Exhibitors over the age of 18 years, who are involved in a child-related role or have direct unsupervised contact with children, must produce evidence of Working with Children Checks to the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW, at least one (1) month prior to Competition.

**25. WORKPLACE SURVEILLANCE ACT**

The 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. The 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. The RAS strictly complies with the Workplace Surveillance Act 2005 (NSW).



**26. ORIGIN OF EXHIBIT**

All Exhibits must be farmed in Australia by licensed growers/processors and meet all relevant State regulations and requirements including Australian Shellfish Quality Assurance Program and relevant State and Federal Food Safety Requirements.

**27. JUDGING CRITERIA**

Sydney Rock Oysters will be judged on the following criteria:

Judging Criteria	Points
Uniformity (External)	8
Shape (External)	8
Presentation (External)	4
Condition & Appearance (Internal)	12
Colour (Internal)	4
Meat Fullness (Internal)	4
Flavour (Taste)	20
Richness (Taste)	10
Length of Flavour / Aftertaste (Taste)	10
Texture & Firmness (Taste)	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

**AQUACULTURE CLASSES**

Class No.	Class Description	Size/Volume/Weight	No. Of Samples Required	Special Requirements	Preparation by RAS for Judging
1	<b>Sydney Rock Oysters – Boutique Volume</b> Annual Production Volume between 500 - 4999 dozen.	At the time of Entry, Exhibitors are to specify the industry standard oyster size of the Exhibit, as outlined by the Department of Primary Industries.	3 dozen	To be supplied unopened, with cleaned external shell.	For visual judging, Sydney Rock Oysters will be shucked and turned and presented in the lower cupped shell.  For tasting, all oysters will be shucked and presented un-rinsed in the lower cupped shell in their own liquor.
2	<b>Sydney Rock Oysters – Commercial Volume</b> Minimum Annual Production Volume 5000 dozen.	<b>Small</b> Exhibitors are to provide the industry standard size of 55mm, 30g <b>Medium</b> Exhibitors are to provide the industry standard size of 55-70mm, 30-50g <b>Large</b> Exhibitors are to provide the industry standard size of 70mm, 50g			

**AWARDS**

**CHAMPION BOUTIQUE SYDNEY ROCK OYSTER** (Class 1)

**CHAMPION COMMERCIAL SYDNEY ROCK OYSTER** (Class 2)

Annual Trophy sponsored by **NSW Food Authority**.

## NOTES



The RAS thanks the sponsors and supporters of the 2026 Sydney Royal Aquaculture Competition for their valued support in celebrating excellence in Australian agriculture and regional communities.

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