



2016 Parkes Showgirl Competition

What is the Parkes Showgirl Competition about?

Our town has a lot to offer - not just farming, but retail, services and supporting industries that are all vital to a thriving rural town.

The Parkes Showgirl competition is looking to find a vivacious young woman to be an ambassador for all of the Parkes and wider community. The winner of the Parkes Showgirl Competition will become the face of the Parkes Show. The winner also has the opportunity to go on to compete to at the zone finals and may even go on to be the Land Sydney Royal Showgirl!

Why enter?

By participating in the Parkes Showgirl you will be amazed at the personal, professional and networking opportunities that can open up for you. It will maximise your self esteem and give you the chance to promote yourself or your interest groups.

As well you have the chance to win approximately \$1500 in prizes donated by local businesses, increase your exposure to the wider community, meet with community leaders and increase your awareness of local show and community.

When and where?

Judging - When: Saturday 13 August 2016, 1:00 - 4:00 pm - Judging Interviews and Afternoon Tea

Judging - Where: Kadina B&B, 22 Mengarvie Road, Parkes
Presentation Event - Parkes Golf Club, starting at 6:00 pm

At The Show All Showgirl entrants are honorary guests at the 2016 Parkes Show on Tuesday 30 August 2016. The announcement of the winner is made at the official opening of the Show on the Tuesday after the luncheon, at approximately 3:00 pm

What You Need to Do!

Complete an entry form available at the Parkes Show Office in Welcome Street, or email kaye@parkesshow.org.au for an electronic copy

What are the rules?

- a. Aged 18-24 as at 1 May 2017, and be a permanent resident of Australia.
- b. You must live, work or be educated within the Shire of Parkes for at least three months before the local Showgirl Competition
- c. Previous entrants in the Showgirl Competition are welcome to enter, however, if you have represented Parkes at a previous Zone final you are not eligible to enter.
- d. The Parkes 2016 Showgirl winner must be available to attend the Zone Final which will be held here in Cowra on the 4 March 2017.

Further information for Showgirl Entrants

The Showgirl competition aims to find a young woman to act as an ambassador for rural NSW with her role involving many official and informal duties both at the Sydney Royal Easter Show and during her travels interstate and overseas.

It is not a beauty pageant. Most importantly the Showgirls must have a genuine interest in and some knowledge of rural NSW. The competition encourages the participation and subsequent awareness of rural woman's contribution and involvement in both local communities and rural NSW as a whole (see notes on "Rural" below)

Rural - Do not be concerned if you do not belong to a farming family. Rural refers to communities in the country areas. However, it might be helpful if you have some knowledge of the agricultural industries of the area, and the businesses.

The competition plays a significant role in the overall development of rural youth within this country and boasts incredible support from entrants, sponsors and organisers. Sponsorship at a state level is worth over \$44,000.00 in cash and prizes which does not take into account local show competitions.

The contestants are judged on personality, confidence, ambition and life goals, general knowledge, rural knowledge, presentation and speech. Finalists are also asked to demonstrate knowledge of their local community and current affairs and apart from their general ambassadorial qualities, show interest in rural affairs.

The winning Showgirl from each local Show Society is selected by a panel of three judges and remains Showgirl until the next year's show. She could be asked to perform various tasks such as presenting prizes for agricultural events and to be on the Showgirl Committee for the next year's event.

Judging Day

Judging will be on Saturday 13th August at Kadina B & B. Judging will be late morning to afternoon, but ultimately the commencement time will depend on the number of girls taking part. Once again, depending on numbers, the day will include lunch or afternoon tea, which is included in the judging program. Each participant spends individual time with the 3 judges and this will be further explained.

The day concludes with a Presentation Evening at the Parkes Golf Club commencing approximately 6:00 pm where each entrant is introduced to the guests present. Girls are encouraged to invite family and friends to make up a table. Tickets are available at the Show Office for entrant's guests. During the evening, each girl will be required to make a short speech (a couple of minutes) to introduce themselves to the guests. This is not part of the judging points. Some ideas for this are as follows - interests and passions, their job (if they have one), contributions to the community or wider community, hobbies studies and goals etc. The winner is not announced at this function but at the opening of the show Tuesday 30 August 2016.

Show Day

All girls are presented to the community on the Tuesday afternoon when the winner will be announced. Once again, entrants must be dressed suitably. Following the announcement all entrants are formerly escorted from the ring to cars then to the President's room for refreshments and perhaps further show activities.

As one's job will allow, the girls are encouraged to participate (suitably sashed) in activities on Monday and Tuesday, moving amongst the activities of the show with members of the committee. Entrants are guests of the show society for luncheons etc. Entrants are asked to present at the President's Room at the Show Ground at approx 11:00 am on the Tuesday.

The Chief Showgirl steward is Lisa Bicket who will be happy to answer any questions – phone 0427 652 262

QUESTIONS YOU MAY BE ASKED IN YOUR INTERVIEW

At the Local Level:

- a. Local attractions
- b. Local State and Federal representative's names
- c. Are you employed or studying
- d. Discussions on your part of the country
- e. Primary Production
- f. Industries
- g. Areas of Local Interest
- h. Current Affairs topics, State, Federal, International
- i. Hobbies, sport and Leisure commitments, Personal life goals
- j. Community and volunteer involvements
- k. Your view of the showgirl competition
- l. Why have you entered
- m. What have you to offer the Parkes Show Society if you are the winner

At Zone Level:

- a. International event knowledge
- b. National leaders including agriculture-associated Ministers
- c. Universal agricultural issues eg. Climate change, Water security, food shortages
- d. Community Involvement
- e. RAS – Royal Agricultural Society
- f. ASC Agricultural Societies Council (governing body of all show societies in NSW)

Judging Criteria

You will be judged on the following:

Personality	/20
Confidence	/10
Ambitions / Goals	/10
Presentation	/15
Diction / Speech	/15
Knowledge of Local Area	/10
Community Contribution	/10
Local and current Affairs	/10

DRESS PRESENTATION FOR EACH EVENT

Judging: Clothing should be young, modern and stylish. Something that would be appropriate for a job interview

Hair and makeup should be simple and neat

Showgirl Presentation Evening: Dressy, semi formal, for men suits or jackets and ties.

The Showground: Same as for the judging. You could use the same outfits. Shoes – flats would be wise for show ground activities