

Special Regulations of the Melbourne Royal *Woodchop Championship*

1. The rules appearing in this Schedule form part of the Regulations and conditions of entry to an Event at The Melbourne Royal Show (Show). In the event of any inconsistency between the Melbourne Royal General Regulations and these rules, the General Regulations shall prevail to the extent of the inconsistency unless the General Regulations provide otherwise.
2. Scratchings must be notified to the Woodchop Handicapper by 5pm on the day prior to the event. Competitors not notifying of scratchings may be fined \$50.
3. The logs and billets will be any variety of timber and any length approved by the Stewards at their absolute discretion. The diameter of all logs will be as uniform as possible.
4. When entering all Competitors must submit their last win and handicap and a list of their last four performances anywhere, irrespective of association or state, together with the name of the backmarker. An entry will definitely not be accepted unless the last win and the last four performances for each class of event entered are stated on the back of the entry form. This applies to all Competitors.
5. The contest will be chopped in heats and finals, according to the number of entries.
6. All logs and billets will be numbered, and will be drawn randomly.
7. The first and second competitors in each heat, unless otherwise stated, shall compete in the final.
8. No Competitor will be allowed to make any axe marks on their log or to the foot holes or dog holes before their handicap starting time as allotted by the Handicapper.
9. No persons, other than Competitors and officials, will be allowed in the arena during the contest.
10. Axes must entirely sever logs in two parts; Competitors who sever logs with the aid of pushing or pulling will be automatically disqualified.
11. Competitors must be at their places prior to the advertised time of starting. Events will commence at their advertised starting time notwithstanding the absence of any competitor.
12. Each Competitor shall wear long white trousers, white boots or shoes and a singlet or shirt which must be of a colour considered by the Steward-in-Chief to be appropriate to the State in which they reside or appropriate to the particular event in which the Competitor is competing. Singlets or shirts provided by sponsors must be worn in the allocated events.
13. A Competitor's apparel must at all times be kept clean, tidy and free from excessive grime throughout the period of the Show. Stewards reserve the right to request that a Competitor to change into a presentable uniform prior to their event. This means that clean white pants and singlets must be worn to each day of competition.
14. Competitors in finals should not leave the arena between end of final and presentation of awards and they must remain in the same apparel.

15. No advertising matter of any kind shall be displayed or be visible on the wearing apparel of any Competitor, without prior approval of the Steward-in-Chief, except that the insignia or Coat-of-Arms for countries, states, association show societies, clubs or other bodies may be worn on the singlet or shirt front subject to the prior approval of the Steward-in-Chief.
16. All place winners must ensure their woodchop uniform is worn for all presentations. Under no circumstances should casual jackets, jumpers or caps be worn during the presentation ceremony. Competitors may be fined for not adhering to this rule.
17. In any association or club team races, the association or club uniform singlets are to be worn.
18. Any Competitor who holds the right to compete in novice events, forfeits the right to compete as a novice of an event when they have won a single handed open handicap event anywhere in Australia. This rule applies Australia wide and is irrespective of prize money. A Competitor who claims to be a novice may be required by the Steward in Chief to make a statutory declaration to this effect.
19. Melbourne Royal may appoint a Disputes Committee for the Woodchop Competition and any decision of this Committee shall be final in all respects whatsoever save only for any decisions or directions of Melbourne Royal. No decisions, directions or determinations made by the Disputes Committee, or Melbourne Royal for the purposes of the Woodchop Competition shall be called into question in any manner or in any proceedings whatsoever.
20. Competitors must use clamps as supplied by Melbourne Royal in all standing block events.
21. A Competitor who wins an event after the posting of marks may be re handicapped for any subsequent event or events. Melbourne Royal reserves the right to re handicap a Competitor before an event has commenced.
22. Every care must be exercised to keep axes and saws covered. Axes and saws MUST NOT be carried among the general public unless so covered. Competitors should note the terms of rules 8.1 and 8.2 of the General Regulations. All axes shall have a pin (minimum size 3mm) placed through the axe as near as possible to the centre of the handle area.
23. Logs situated in a reserved area adjacent to the dressing room will be provided to enable competitors to test their axes. Competitors shall not be permitted to test their axes in the arena.
24. In the underhand events, all Competitors must finish on their logs.
25. In a tree felling event any Competitor chopping in a previously cut board hole will be automatically disqualified.
26. Under no circumstances are Competitors permitted to enter the log enclosure without the permission of the Log Steward.
27. In all sawing contests, saw cuts shall be started as close as possible to the front end of the log and shall not be more than 100mm in from the edge of the top side. Oil may be used on the saw immediately prior to the commencement of the contest. In sawing contests the saw must saw through the log from one side only.
28. In sawing contests, the wedger shall stand behind the log and if any wedger in any way touches or guides a saw or touches or guides that portion of the log which is being cut off, the Competitor or team concerned shall be automatically disqualified. The wedger's apparel must conform with Special Regulation 12.
29. Definition: "Behind the log" in this regulation shall be interpreted to mean the opposite end of the log to the saw cut.
30. In the 400mm diameter butcher blocks, one member of each team shall open a scarf and cut the log approximately half way through, the first cutting member of the team on ceasing to cut shall retire to their neutral area and visually indicate to their partner, in a manner prescribed by Stewards, that the other team member is to complete the cut by opening a scarf on the opposite side of the log.

31. As listed in Special Regulation 19, any decision of a Steward with respect to any matter related to the Woodchop Competition shall be final and any regulations, conditions, rules or guidelines, which may be expressed to apply to the Woodchop Competition shall in no way be construed as limiting the discretion of the Stewards to conduct the events in such manner as they think fit.
32. Inscribed sashes and ribbons, presented by Melbourne Royal will be awarded to the first, second and third prize winners of Events 1 to 26 inclusive.
33. Woodchop Competition event times and dates will be announced in the Catalogue

PAYMENT OF PRIZE MONEY

34. Prize money as stated in the relevant Prize Schedule includes GST, if applicable. By indicating that you are GST registered you are agreeing to receive a Recipient Created Tax Invoice (RCTI) for any prize money won, and for prize money to include GST. All prizemoney will be paid out via EFT only.

ALCOHOL

35. Consumption of alcohol in the arena or dressing rooms by Competitors is prohibited at all times. Any Competitor found consuming alcohol shall be fined \$50 and disqualified from competing or participating that day and at the discretion of the Steward-in-Chief, may be disqualified for the rest of the competition.

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

36. An immediate fine of \$50 is applicable to unacceptable behaviour in the arena and further competition is not allowed until payment of fine. This behaviour includes swearing, temper displays, axe misuse, abuse or obvious disagreements with officials, Committee Members and disagreements with others.
37. Any competitor removing chips or touching the scarf with their hand, or any part of their body will incur disqualification.