

Melbourne Royal Sheep Competition *Special Regulations 2026*

1 Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 Definitions

The following definitions apply unless the context requires otherwise.

Agent includes any person, agent, association or corporation engaged by or on behalf of the Exhibitor and any person acting or purporting to act on the Exhibitor's behalf (including any person who is an invitee of the Exhibitor and regardless of whether the person is remunerated or not).

Body includes any society, organisation or body within or outside Australia having similar objects to Melbourne Royal and, without limitation, includes:

- Royal Agricultural Society of the Northern Territory Inc;
- Royal National Agricultural & Industrial Association of Queensland;
- Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia;
- Royal Agricultural Society of NSW;
- Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania;
- Royal National Capital Agricultural Society;
- Royal Agricultural Society of WA; and
- any breed association or society recognised by Melbourne Royal.

Breed Society means a society, organisation and body that defines their breed standards and records pedigrees.

Business Day means a weekday on which banks in Melbourne are open for business.

Chief Executive Officer means a person occupying or acting in the position of Chief Executive Officer of Melbourne Royal.

Closing Date means the date and time set out in the Relevant Schedule after which entries for the Event will not be accepted by Melbourne Royal.

Drug has the meaning set out in the Relevant Schedule.

Entry Form means an entry form (or online equivalent) supplied by Melbourne Royal for an Event.

Event means the Sheep Competition. Event also includes the period of bump-in and bump-out for the Event and the period of the Event competition.

Event Participant includes judges, stewards, contractors, spectators, Exhibitors and all persons present at the Venue during the Event.

Executive General Manager of Agriculture means a person occupying or acting in the position of Executive General Manager of Agriculture of Melbourne Royal.

Exhibit means the animal, person or item entered into an Event by an Exhibitor.

Exhibitor means the owner of the Exhibit, and if the owner is less than 18 years of age, the parent or guardian of the owner who signs the Entry Form. The Exhibitor is the person showing the Exhibit and is responsible for the Exhibit entry. The Exhibitor may include the Owner, Lessee or Agent of the Owner or Lessee and may be an individual, syndicate or company.

Inspector means a person described as such in the Regulations.

Judge means a person appointed by Melbourne Royal to judge an Event.

Livestock Manager means the person occupying or acting in the position of Livestock Manager of Melbourne Royal.

Motor Vehicle includes a truck, trailer, float and stock transporter but does not include a caravan.

Melbourne Royal means The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria Limited t/as Melbourne Royal (ACN 006 728 785).

Regulations means: the rules, regulations and conditions of entry set out in the Relevant Schedule; these Special Regulations; and the rules, regulations and conditions of entry set out on the Entry Form for the Event.

Relevant Schedule means the Schedule which applies to the particular Event in which the Exhibitor has submitted or proposes to submit an entry in accordance with these Regulations.

Schedule means a Schedule of events and prizes issued by Melbourne Royal and without limitation, a reference to a Schedule includes a reference to the rules, regulations and conditions set out in the Schedule.

Show means the Melbourne Royal Show.

Showgrounds means the Melbourne Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria and includes without limitation all areas owned, used, rented or leased by Melbourne Royal.

Steward means a person occupying or acting in the position of steward.

Venue means the site or location at which the Event is held.

Veterinary Surgeon means a veterinary surgeon appointed by Melbourne Royal.

1.2 Interpretation

Headings are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation. The following rules apply unless the context requires otherwise.

- a. The singular includes the plural and conversely.
- b. A gender includes all genders.
- c. If a word or phrase is defined, its other grammatical forms have a corresponding meaning.
- d. A reference to a person, corporation, trust, partnership, unincorporated body or other entity includes any of them.
- e. A reference to a Regulation is a reference to a Regulation of these Regulations.

- f. A reference to a Regulation, rule or condition of entry is to the regulation, rule or condition of entry as amended, varied, supplemented, novated or replaced, except to the extent prohibited by these Regulations.
- g. A reference to a right or obligation of any two or more persons confers that right, or imposes that obligation, as the case may be, jointly and severally.

In the event of an inconsistency between the Special Regulations and a Schedule, the Special Regulations prevail to the extent of the inconsistency unless otherwise provided.

2. Entries

2.1 Requirements for Entering an Event

- a. Entries in the Melbourne Royal Sheep Competition must be received at the Melbourne Royal's Administration Office located at Melbourne Showgrounds, Epsom Road, Ascot Vale, Victoria 3032 by the date stipulated in the Important Information for Exhibitors section of the Schedule.
- b. All entries must be accompanied by the applicable fees, your property's Ovine Brucellosis Accreditation Certificate that states the Flock Accreditation No. and Expiry Date and a National Sheep Health Declaration (Version July 2019) signed by the Exhibitor or authorised agent.
- c. The onus is entirely on the Exhibitor to submit particulars on time.

2.2 Excessive Entries

- a. In the event of more entries being received than can be accommodated, ewe entries will be reduced to one in each class from any one Exhibitor.
- b. If necessary, the number of sheep of each breed from any one Exhibitor may also be reduced to a figure determined by Melbourne Royal. The Exhibitors will have the right to nominate the sheep to be withdrawn should this reduction be necessary.

2.3 Entry Fees

- a. The cost of entry can be found in the Information for Exhibitors in the Schedule. Entry fees include bedding.
- b. The entry fee entitles the Exhibitor to enter the animal in all eligible classes.
- c. The entry fee becomes the property of Melbourne Royal on receipt by Melbourne Royal and, without limitation, the entry fee in respect of an entry which is withdrawn, or which does not satisfy the requirements for entry or conditions of eligibility will not be refunded.

2.4 Substitutions

- a. Exhibitors will have the option of nominating substitute entries, of which all details must be completed in the space provided in the entry form. If an Exhibitor wishes to Exhibit a substitute animal in lieu of the original nomination, advice must be made using the Substitution Form and must be in the hands of Melbourne Royal no later than 5:00pm on the nominated Substitution Close Date.

3. Withdrawals and Non-Attendance

3.1 Withdrawals

- a. All withdrawals must be made in writing and submitted to the Melbourne Royal Livestock Section by 5:00pm on the specified Withdrawal Date listed in the Information for Exhibitors.
- b. Where any Exhibitor fails to show any Exhibit entered in the Show, and it has not been withdrawn in accordance with Regulation 3.1(a), the Exhibitor will be required to pay a fine of \$50.00 per Exhibit not shown. Any such late notification of withdrawal must be in writing, and delivered to the Livestock Superintendents Office on the day of arrival.

3.2 Non-Attendance

- a. Exhibitors unable to present an Exhibit for any reason must notify the Melbourne Royal's Livestock Section in writing of the withdrawal before 7:00am on the day each Class is scheduled to take place.
- b. If an Exhibitor fails to show any Exhibit entered in the Show without having given notice in accordance with Regulation 3.2(a), that Exhibitor may be prohibited from showing any further Exhibits.

4. Exhibits

4.1 Ownership of Exhibits

- a. The Exhibit must at all times be the property of the Exhibitor.
- b. The Exhibit must be bred by the Exhibitor, or owned by the Exhibitor for a period of over one year.
- c. If ownership of an Exhibit changes after the submission of the Entry Form, Melbourne Royal must be notified in writing of the ownership change no later than 14 days prior to the date of Exhibition. Melbourne Royal may, if requested in writing by the purchaser, and at its absolute discretion, amend the Entry Form by endorsing thereon the name of the purchaser as the owner of that Exhibit.
- d. An Exhibit which is not the property of the Exhibitor at the time Melbourne Royal receives the entry and/or at the time of judging will be ineligible for the event.

4.2 Eligibility of Exhibits

- a. Entries will only be accepted from Exhibitors holding current financial registration with the relevant breed society or association.
- b. No Exhibit in the Pair Ordinary Classes can compete in Single Ordinary Classes and vice versa.
- c. Sheep need not be entered by name or tag number, except when otherwise stated, and no particulars other than the breeders' name and stud will be published in the Show Catalogue.
- d. Sheep must be identified by tag number and date of shearing on the Inspection Form. The Inspection Form is provided by Melbourne Royal prior to inspection to qualify as an Exhibit and become eligible to compete.

4.3 Preparation of Exhibits

- a. Exhibitors or their employees are not permitted to prepare (i.e. trim, etc.) Exhibits in any passageway or in any judging area in the pavilion after 5:00pm on the day prior to judging day.

- b. No preparation (including trimming) of shorn sheep will be permitted after the commencement of inspection unless extenuating circumstances exist, and permission is granted by the Melbourne Royal
- c. The granting of such permission is entirely at the discretion of Melbourne Royal.
- d. No trimming will be permitted after judging except with the permission of Melbourne Royal.
- e. No tattooing of Exhibits is permitted on the Showgrounds.
- f. The washing of legs of Poll Dorset sheep is not permitted on the Showgrounds.
- g. Exhibitors are not permitted to use powders or other substances on the face and/ or colour on legs and feet in the preparation of Exhibits.

4.4 Inspection of Exhibits

- a. Every animal exhibited in the Sheep section must be inspected by an Inspector appointed by Melbourne Royal at the inspection times.
- b. All Exhibitors are to comply with the inspection times outlined in the timetable.
- c. The Inspector or Inspectors shall examine all sheep entered for breed characteristics and class eligibility.
- d. If inspection cards are not handed in, Exhibits will not be inspected and are therefore not eligible for judging.
- e. Exhibits not in their allotted pens at the time of Inspection may be disqualified by Melbourne Royal. Any decision or determination of disqualification is entirely within the discretion of Melbourne Royal and shall not be challenged or called into question in any proceedings or in any manner whatsoever.
- f. Any sheep found to be not visibly and legibly tattooed in accordance with their breed regulations may be liable to be disqualified by Melbourne Royal.
- g. No Exhibit may have their teeth filed or ground.
- h. Lambs at foot are eligible to compete in lamb classes and must be held when not in their pen.

- i. In accordance with Regulation 8.6, the dams of sheep entered in the lamb classes must not be brought on to the Showgrounds unless they are entered for exhibition in another class.
- j. Disqualified Exhibits shall not be offered for sale on the Showgrounds. Exhibitors of disqualified Exhibits may remove them from the Showgrounds at the direction of Melbourne Royal.

4.5 Tampering with Exhibits

- a. It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to ensure the animal is not subject to prohibited practices, prior to and whilst on the Showgrounds.
- b. Melbourne Royal may make or cause to be made, any test of any Exhibit to determine whether any drug or other substance has been administered to the Exhibit and may take possession of any such Exhibit for any of the aforesaid purposes and detain such Exhibit for such period as Melbourne Royal deems necessary. Procedures for the testing of prohibited substances may include random tests on Exhibits.

4.6 Disapproved Exhibits

- a. The owner or Exhibitor of any Exhibit disapproved of as an Exhibit by the Melbourne Royal or a Veterinary Surgeon of Melbourne Royal must immediately upon notice to that effect remove such Exhibit from the Showgrounds. Melbourne Royal reserves the absolute right to decline to receive entries in future years from any person who Exhibits stock that is not in the opinion of Melbourne Royal, up to a satisfactory standard, that is not exhibited in reasonable Show condition, or that is not given proper attention during the Show. Such a decision or determination is entirely within the discretion of Melbourne Royal and shall not be questioned or challenged in any proceedings or in any manner whatsoever.
- b. Exhibits must not be rugged after judging during the hours the Show is open to the Public. Exhibitors will be liable to a fine of \$150.00 for every infringement of this Regulation.

4.7 Scan Fees and Scanning Cards

- a. All rams must be scanned (excluding ram lambs born after 1 April of the current year, Black & Colored, Merino and Valais Blacknose rams do not require scanning).
- b. All Texel, Hampshire Downs and White Suffolk Ewes must be scanned.
- c. Scan fees must be paid at time of entry.
- d. Rams required to be scanned that are not scanned will not be eligible to be shown.
- e. Each Exhibitor will be issued with a scanning card after the required animals have been scanned. Scanning cards are required to be worn in the Judging Ring.
- f. If scanning cards are not displayed, the Exhibit may not be eligible for a prize.

4.8 Arrival and Departure of Exhibits/Exhibitors

- a. All Exhibitors are to comply with the arrival and departure times allocated, unless otherwise notified directly by Melbourne Royal. Times for arrival and departure are listed in the Timetable.
- b. Priority may be given to Exhibitors that have a considerable distance to travel.
- c. All Exhibitors arriving prior to the official Show opening must wear high visibility vests whilst within the Melbourne Showgrounds.
- d. A Confirmation of Entries document will be issued prior to the Show and is required to gain entry to the Melbourne Showgrounds.
- e. Upon arrival at the Showgrounds, Exhibitors are to collect their Stock Attendant Passes from the Superintendent's Office once Exhibits have been penned and will be issued in accordance with the formula outlined in the Information for Exhibitors section of the Schedule.
- f. Exhibits may not be removed from the Showgrounds until after the set departure time, unless otherwise directed by the Superintendent.

5. National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS)

- a. All sheep are required to have a NLIS tag attached when attending the Show.
- b. All sheep born after 1 January 2017 will be electronically scanned upon arrival at Melbourne Showgrounds. All electronic scan data will be uploaded to the NLIS database by Melbourne Royal.
- c. Any lamb born at Melbourne Showgrounds will be fitted with a Melbourne Showgrounds NLIS tag in its ear.
- d. All sheep born on or after 1 January 2017 must be identified with an electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag before being consigned to an agricultural show in Victoria or elsewhere in Australia.
- e. All sheep born before 1 January 2017 must be identified with either a visually readable or an electronic NLIS (Sheep) tag before being consigned to an agricultural show.
- f. All tagged sheep will be scanned and reported to the NLIS database.
- g. NLIS FROM 2019: From 1 January 2019, all sheep and non-exempt goats introduced from interstate and born after 1 January 2017, must be electronically tagged before being dispatched from a Victorian property (including Showgrounds).

6. Health And Standard Of Exhibits

6.1 General Health of Exhibits

- a. An Exhibitor who detects or suspects any illness amongst any of his/her Exhibit/s whilst they are at the Showgrounds must:
 - i. report this fact immediately to the Livestock Manager;
 - ii. ensure that the Exhibit/s is/are contained within its/their accommodation area/s unless advised otherwise by the Livestock Manager or a member of Melbourne Royal veterinary panel on duty.
 - iii. Where feasible to do so, contain soiled bedding from the Exhibit/s within its/their accommodation area.
- b. The Exhibitor may consult a private veterinary surgeon in respect to the illness only after the above action has been taken.

- c. Exhibits proved unsound by the attending Melbourne Royal Vet will be removed from all future competition and classes for the Show until presented fit for competition by Melbourne Royal Vet at the expense of the Exhibitor.

6.2 Physical Soundness

- a. All male animals must be completely entire and deemed physically sound. Any male animal not deemed to be completely entire and physically sound by Melbourne Royal's Veterinary Surgeon shall not compete or be offered for sale on the Showgrounds. Any marks of speying on females shall disqualify them from competing.

6.3 Health Declaration

- a. All sheep Exhibitors are required to complete and submit the National Sheep Health Statement.

6.4 Ovine Johne's Disease

- a. The Melbourne Royal Sheep Competitions will be conducted under the guidelines as set out in the Johne's Disease Market Assurance Program (SheepMAP).
- b. Exhibits must comply with the following:
 - i. come from properties located in a Regional Biosecurity Area; or
 - ii. are tested negative to OJD through one of the following four means:
 - Faecal 350: A test of 350 representative sheep over 2 years of age (or all sheep over 2 years of age in smaller flocks) by Pooled Faecal Culture (PFC) or equivalent test in pools of up to 50 sheep. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.
 - Abattoir 500: At least 500 sheep, over 2 years of age, have been submitted to an abattoir in the past 24 months, in 1 or more lots, have been examined and all found negative for OJD. The sheep must have been on the property for at least 2 years.
 - Abattoir 150: At least 150 sheep, over 2 years of age, have been submitted to an abattoir in the past 12 months, in 1 or more lots, have been examined and all found negative for OJD. The sheep must have been on the property for at

least 2 years.

- Other: Postmortem examination by a SheepMAP vet with no indication of OJD, or other negative test.

OR

- iii. are approved vaccinates through one of the means outlined below:
 - Approved Vaccinate: A sheep that is identified by an NLIS (sheep) 'V' tag and is:
 - Vaccinated with an approved OJD vaccine by 16 weeks of age; or
 - Vaccinated with an approved OJD vaccine after 16 weeks of age, when the flock:
 - was in the SheepMAP, or
 - had undertaken a negative Faecal 350 test in the two (2) years preceding the vaccination, or
 - had a Negative Abattoir 500 status at the time of vaccination.

6.5 Ovine Footrot

- a. All Exhibits must be declared free of Virulent Footrot within the National Sheep Health Declaration to be eligible for competition.

6.6 Ovine Brucellosis

- a. All Exhibits must come from an Ovine Brucellosis accredited free stud.
- b. During the entry process, all Exhibitors must provide proof of their current Ovine Brucellosis accreditation including the Flock Accreditation No. and Expiry Date.

7. Documents for Presentation Whilst at the Showgrounds

- a. Animal Registration papers, AAR microchip papers, and birth certificates, or certified photocopies thereof, are not required to be submitted to Melbourne Royal or to accompany an Application for Entry.
- b. Such documentation will be required to be on hand whilst the Exhibitor and the Exhibits are on the Showgrounds and must be produced upon request for perusal by the Melbourne Royal authorised person, or otherwise specified by Melbourne Royal.
- c. Failure to produce such documents if requested will result in the Exhibit being ineligible for the Event.

8. Conduct of Exhibitors

8.1 General Conditions of Entry

All Exhibitors and/or persons entering the Showgrounds are required to adhere to the Conditions of Entry whilst on the Showgrounds.

8.2 Compliance with Rules and Regulations

- a. Where an Exhibitor fails to comply with any of the Regulations, Melbourne Royal may impose one or more of the following penalties on the Exhibit or Exhibitor or both of them:
 - i. Disqualification;
 - ii. Suspension;
 - iii. A fine;
 - iv. Order the Exhibit, the Exhibitor or any associated Agents or invitees be removed from the Melbourne Showgrounds; or
 - v. Any other penalty as deemed appropriate in Melbourne Royal's absolute discretion.
- b. All penalties will be decided by the Executive General Manager of Agriculture or appointed representative, and the Chair of the Sheep Committee, will be informed of the outcome.
- c. Without limiting the above, Melbourne Royal may forfeit an award, and upon the forfeiture, the Exhibitor must return any ribbon, money, prize card or other evidence of that award to Melbourne Royal immediately after receiving notification of the forfeiture.

8.3 Compliance with Directions

- a. The Exhibitor must fully comply with the directions and requests of Melbourne Royal and any of its representatives.
- b. Without limitation, directions and request of Melbourne Royal may apply to the entry of the Exhibit, the Exhibitor, the conditions of the Event, the conduct of the Exhibitor, the decision of the Judge or the award of prizes.
- c. Exhibitors who fail and/or refuse to comply with directions may be liable for disqualification and for non-acceptance of entry at future Melbourne Royal Shows.

8.4 Statements

The Exhibitor must not make a statement regarding an Exhibit, which in the opinion of Melbourne Royal is fraudulent, false, erroneous, misleading or deceptive or likely to mislead or deceive.

8.5 Unacceptable Behaviour

- a. Melbourne Royal is committed to providing a fair and equitable venue for all participants, free from all forms of harassment, bullying and violence. The following behaviours will not be tolerated and may result in the Exhibitor/persons being removed from the Showgrounds and/or disqualified from the competition and formal procedures initiated:
 - i. violence;
 - ii. bullying;
 - iii. harassment;
 - iv. sexual harassment;
 - v. unlawful discrimination;
 - vi. victimisation.
- b. Persons breaching acceptable standards of behavior may be banned from entering future Melbourne Royal Events and/or the venue.

8.6 Animals and Livestock Restriction

- a. Unless Melbourne Royal gives prior written approval, pets, animals, or livestock, other than Exhibits, must not be brought onto or permitted to enter or remain on the Showgrounds.
- b. Registered assistance dogs are permitted but proof of status must be provided on request by any Melbourne Royal Official.

9. Powers of Melbourne Royal

9.1 Power to Refuse to Accept an Entry, Exhibit or Exhibitor

Melbourne Royal may refuse to accept an Entry, an Exhibit or Exhibitor or any of them.

9.2 Power to Cancel or Alter

- a. Melbourne Royal may:
 - i. alter the Closing Date for an Event, or the Closing Date for receipt of any particular entry;
 - ii. remove, or cause to be removed, any Exhibit from the Melbourne Showgrounds;

- iii. amend any entry for an Event to, without limitation, substitute an alternate competition or class for the competition or class in which the Exhibit is or was entered;
 - iv. alter the conditions of any Event;
 - v. refuse to display an Exhibit;
 - vi. rule that an Exhibit or Exhibitor may not compete or is ineligible to compete;
 - vii. alter the date, time or place on or at which any Event is scheduled to take place or to be judged;
 - viii. alter the Judge scheduled to judge any Event;
 - ix. cancel any Event; or
 - x. cancel, amend or merge classes offered in the Event.
- b. The rights set out above apply notwithstanding:
- i. Melbourne Royal's acceptance of an entry for an Event;
 - ii. Inclusion of an entry for an Event in the Event Catalogue
 - iii. The issue of an exhibit ticket to an Exhibitor or in respect of an Exhibit or an Event; or
 - iv. The issue of any other document to an Exhibitor or in respect of an Exhibit or an Event.

9.3 Mutual Recognition

Melbourne Royal may recognise, act upon and enforce any penalty imposed by a Body on an Exhibit or Exhibitor at any time.

9.4 Further Proceedings

Melbourne Royal may conduct further proceedings in relation to any matter concerning an Exhibitor, Exhibit, Agent or Owner or potential Exhibitor, Exhibit, Agent or Owner, and impose any suspension, fine, disqualification, withdrawal or forfeiture of an award, handicap, reprimand, warning or any other penalty, irrespective of whether a Body has already imposed a penalty on the Exhibitor, Exhibit, Agent or Owner.

9.5 Reciprocal Arrangements

Melbourne Royal may enter into reciprocal arrangements with a Body in relation to any matter concerning an Exhibit, Exhibitor, Agent or Owner or potential Exhibit, Exhibitor, Agent or Owner.

10. Judging

10.1 Timetable of Judging

- a. A timetable of judging of all Classes is available on the Melbourne Royal website and is subject to change at any time.
- b. Melbourne Royal accepts no responsibility if judging times conflict with one or more Classes or Events in which an Exhibitor may be entered. Where conflict does occur, it is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to notify a withdrawal from either Class.

10.2 General Guidelines

- a. Any animal entered that can be proved to the satisfaction of the Judge to have received hormones shall be disqualified. The decision or determination of the Judge shall be final and shall not be called into question in any proceedings or in any manner whatsoever.
- b. Except as otherwise directed, every attendant of an Exhibit whilst parading such Exhibit either before a Judge be dressed in a neat and tidy manner, including long trousers. Sheep Exhibit numbers and scanning cards must also be displayed during judging, unless otherwise directed.

10.3 Interference

- a. The Exhibitor, any Agent of the Exhibitor or persons in charge of the Exhibit must not consult, influence or interfere with a Judge or attempt to consult, influence or interfere with a Judge or do any other thing which may influence or interfere with a Judge's freedom of choice or judgement unless it is expressly authorised by the Relevant Schedule or the Judge themselves.

10.4 Substitute Judge

- a. Melbourne Royal reserves the right to substitute a Judge.

10.5 Decisions

Except as otherwise expressly provided in the Regulations, the decision of a Judge will be final.

10.6 Interbreed Tie

- a. In the event of a tie during the interbreed judging, the following regulations apply to ensure separation:
 - Step 1 Countback: Sheep with the most firsts is declared the winner, if a draw remains after firsts are counted, it goes down the line until a separation occurs.
 - Step 2 Overjudge: In the event of a tie after the countback is completed, an Overjudge will be selected by the Sheep Committee. The Overjudge's decision is final.

11. Prizes

11.1 Prize Money

- a. 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.
- b. Prize money will be paid after the Show.
- c. Melbourne Royal has allocated prize money to Ordinary classes for each breed. No money is allocated to Special or Group classes unless otherwise stated.

11.2 Prize Ribbons

- a. Ribbons may be awarded up to 6th place as follows:
 - i. 1 to 10 Exhibits per class: 1st, 2nd & 3rd ribbons.
 - ii. 11 to 20 Exhibits per class: 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th ribbons.
 - iii. 21 to 30 Exhibits per class: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th ribbons.
 - iv. Over 30 Exhibits per class: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th ribbons.
- b. The colour of each ribbon will be as follows: 1st Blue, 2nd Red, 3rd White, 4th Yellow, 5th Green, 6th Brown.
- c. The Judge is under no obligation to award the prizes listed in the table where the Judge considers in its absolute discretion that such prize or prizes are not to be awarded.

12. Protests

12.1 Restricted to Class

- a. Protests may only be made by Exhibitors with Exhibits in the class to which the protest relates.

12.2 Protest to Livestock Manager

- a. An Exhibitor or competitor may protest against an inspector's decision only.
- b. A protest must be made to the Livestock Manager and lodged at the Livestock Superintendent's office before 6:00pm on the day the decision in question has been made.
- c. Such protest must be accompanied with a \$250 (incl. GST) deposit which will be forfeited to Melbourne Royal if in the opinion of Melbourne Royal the protest is unfounded, frivolous or vexatious or not upheld. Melbourne Royal will determine in their absolute discretion the process to be adopted in considering any protest, sanction or other penalty.
- d. The decision of the Executive General Manager of Agriculture is final and the Exhibitor will not have any right of appeal in respect of the Executive General Manager of Agriculture's decision.
- e. No reasons for the decision shall be required.

13. Drug Testing

13.1 Procedure

- a. At the conclusion of each individual breeds judging, the Melbourne Royal reserves the right to undertake drug tests on Exhibits entered in the competition.
- b. Drug means any substance capable of affecting the performance or behaviour of an Exhibit by its action upon the central or peripheral nervous system, the cardiovascular system, the respiratory system, the alimentary digestive system, the muscular-skeletal system, or the urogenital system including without limitation, analgesics, anti-histamines, anti-inflammatory agents, blood coagulants, diuretics, hormones and their synthetic counterparts, cortico-steroids, anabolic steroids, local anaesthetics, muscle relaxants and tranquillisers.

- c. At the discretion of Melbourne Royal, there will be blood testing of Exhibits after they compete in their ordinary classes and/or blood testing at the end of the competition.
- d. The random selection of animals to be tested will be drawn using a random number generator with all sheep catalogue numbers included in this process.
- e. The test conducted will include a blood sample(s) of the animal(s).
- f. Where Exhibits are tested for Prohibited Substances, the Exhibitor or Agent will be required to sign sample labels and sample identity cards relating to any samples taken from the Exhibits. Where the Exhibitor or Agent refuses to sign the sample labels and/ or sample identity cards, the Exhibitor and/or Agent and/or the Exhibit shall be automatically disqualified.
- g. Exhibitors who have administered a recent antibiotic treatment to their animal need to produce a veterinary certificate citing these treatments.

13.2 Positive Results

- a. Should an Exhibit test positive to a prohibited substance or practice result, any costs associated with testing will be borne by the Exhibitor.
- b. If an Exhibit tests positive for a prohibited substance or is found to have had any Drug administered to it, the Exhibit, Exhibitor, the Owner of the Exhibit and any other person who Melbourne Royal deems to be in charge of the Exhibit, may be subject to a penalty referred to in Regulation 8.2 at Melbourne Royal's absolute discretion. Melbourne Royal further reserves the right to forfeit an award.
- c. It is no defence for a person prosecuted for this offence to plead that they were unaware that a drug had been administered to the Exhibit. It is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor to ensure that their Exhibit is drug-free whilst on the Showgrounds.

13.3 Notification of Results

- a. Melbourne Royal reserves the right to notify any Body and Breed Society of any Exhibit that produces a positive test. Melbourne Royal may share details as to the name of the Exhibit, the Exhibitor, the Owner, the nature of the test and result, the penalty imposed and any other information in Melbourne Royal's discretion.

14. Most Successful Exhibitor Awards

- a. The Most Successful Exhibitor Awards in all breeds will be calculated from placings in Ordinary Classes as follows:
 - i. Classes with 1 to 10 entries: 1st 3 points, 2nd 2 points, 3rd 1 point.
 - ii. Classes with 11 to 30 entries: 1st 4 points, 2nd 3 points, 3rd 2 points, 4th 1 point.
 - iii. Classes with over 30 entries: 1st 5 points, 2nd 4 points, 3rd 3 points, 4th 2 points, 5th 1 point.
- b. Placings in Trophy Classes, Objective Measurement Classes and Group Classes will not be taken into consideration when deciding these awards. Such classes are indicated by "Special" following the class description.
- c. In the event of a tie, two points will be allotted for Champion Awards and one point for Reserve Champion Awards. If a tie still exists, a count back approved by Melbourne Royal will be made to determine the winner.

15. Sheep Sales

- a. Sheep not paraded before the Judge shall not be eligible for sale.
- b. This Regulation does not apply to the sheep that is not rejected in a paired class where the Inspector rejects one of a pair.

16. Objective Measurement Classes

- a. All entries in the Objective Measurement classes must be drawn from the Ordinary classes.
- b. The winning Exhibit in these classes is not eligible for Championships or Most Successful Exhibitor Awards unless it has won its Ordinary class.
- c. An approved operator will measure Exhibits entered in Objective Measurement Classes.

17. Ewes In Lamb

- a. An ewe entered as “with lamb of her own breed progeny at foot” may be transferred to the class provided for ewes of her age if she has not lambed prior to judging day, and vice versa.

18. Shorn And Unshorn Sheep

- a. All sheep in the ASSBA Breeds, Texel and Poll Dorset Classes (except shorn sheep) over 18 months old must have been fairly and evenly shorn between 1 August of the preceding year and 31 March of the current year.
- b. Corriedales must be shorn on or after 1 July of the preceding year.
- c. In accordance with the classes entered, Merino Exhibits must be shorn as at 15 August of the year prior or as at 1 March of the current year.
- d. The minimum wool length for Poll Dorsets and ASSBA Breeds (Shortwool) in all woolly classes shall be 4cm. Exhibits of shorn sheep, except those entered in Romney Classes for Machine Shorn, must be closely and evenly shorn on or before 1 September of the current year with wool length under 2cm unless otherwise stated in individual breed regulations.
- e. Sheep entered in Romney Classes for Machine Shorn must be machine shorn with standard thickness combs on or after 1 June of the current year.
- f. Corriedale sheep entered in shorn classes may not have more than 5cm of wool on any part of its body at the time of inspection.
- g. Border Leicester sheep must be shorn in accordance with the regulations appearing at the beginning of that section.

- h. No Longwool sheep (except Romney and Border Leicester) entered in a shorn class may have more than 4cm of wool on any part of its body at the time of inspection and no Shortwool sheep entered in a shorn class may have more than 2cm of wool on any part of its body at the time of inspection.
- i. Exhibits in the wool are not eligible to be entered in the classes provided for shorn sheep, and if found to be so entered shall be removed from the Showgrounds.

19. Advertising

- a. Exhibitors are permitted to display cards over the pens allotted to them stating that an animal is for private sale. These cards are not to exceed 30cm x 25cm.
- b. No other advertisement or notices (except by permission of the Melbourne Royal) are permitted on or in any stalls or buildings.
- c. Each Exhibitor is permitted to display one sign 60cm x 120cm in size provided that such sign carries only the stud name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and web address.

20. Pens and Cleaning

- a. Mucking out of pens is to be carried out between 8:00pm and 7:00am. These times will be strictly enforced.
- b. Exhibitors must keep the pens allotted to their animals clean and give proper attention to their stock throughout the Show.
- c. Exhibitors must complete cleaning of pens occupied by their Exhibits before 7:00am each day that sheep are at the Show.

21. Bedding

- a. Melbourne Royal will arrange for the strawing of all pens prior to the Show.
- b. The charge for each pen is included in the Entry Fee.
- c. Straw is allocated per pen on one bale upon arrival, and half a bale top-up during the Show.
- d. No bedding other than straw may be used in pens.

22. Storage and Accommodation Lockers

22.1 Storage Lockers

- a. Limited storage lockers are available on site, subject to availability and a fee, and will be allocated by Melbourne Royal. Exhibitors must apply by completing the relevant section when entering.
 - Storage locker prices include a key deposit which will be refunded on return of locker key. Refunds will be issued on the return of the key. Lost or non-returned keys incur a replacement fee.
 - Lockers must be vacated, and all gear removed as soon as possible but, in any case, not later than the end of departure times for the applicable group, or such earlier time advised by the Livestock Manager or Superintendent.
 - Melbourne Royal will endeavor to return any item left behind in lockers, but is not responsible for any loss or damage

22.2 Accommodation Lockers

- a. Limited accommodation lockers are available, subject to availability and at a fee, and will be allocated by Melbourne Royal. Exhibitors must apply by completing the relevant section when entering.
- b. Due to limited accommodation lockers, Melbourne Royal reserves the right to limit allocation in an effort to accommodate all Exhibitors.
- c. Exhibitors must pay a locker key bond as security before lockers are issued. Payment to be made at acceptance.
- d. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to return the locker key prior to departure. Lost or non-returned keys incur a replacement fee.
- e. Lockers must be vacated, and all gear removed as soon as possible but, in any case, not later than the end of departure times for the applicable group, or such earlier time advised by the Livestock Manager or Superintendent.
- f. Melbourne Royal will endeavor to return any item left behind in lockers, but is not responsible for any loss or damage.
- g. The hiring of lockers will be subject to additional terms and conditions.

23. Fire And Electrical Safety Regulations

- a. The Exhibitor must not smoke, cook or heat water by any means whatsoever or use any device involving naked flame in or near any animal pavilion, stall, pen or locker.
- b. The Exhibitor must not use mains powered electrical devices in or near any animal pavilion, stall, pen or locker of any Exhibit and/or alter or interfere with any electrical wiring, switch, plug or socket whatsoever on the Showgrounds.
- c. Nothing in Regulation 23(a) prohibits the use of main powered electrical appliances which are, in the opinion of Melbourne Royal, essential to animal care, or the use of a light-bulb in a locker if the light-bulb is fitted in the socket provided.
- d. Melbourne Showgrounds is a completely smoke-free venue. Smoking is at all times prohibited and any persons wanting to smoke will need to exit the grounds to do so.
- e. All electrical appliances and leads must carry a current safety tag. Any electrical appliance or lead without the appropriate tag will be confiscated by the Superintendent.
- f. Persons who breach this Regulation 23(a) to 23(e) may be required by notice from Melbourne Royal to forthwith remove themselves and their Exhibits from the Showgrounds. The Exhibitor and Exhibits concerned may be prohibited from entry to one or more future Shows. The determination of Melbourne Royal in this regard shall be final and not be called into question in any manner or in any proceedings whatsoever. An Exhibitor, upon receipt of a notice pursuant to this regulation, shall forthwith remove all his Exhibits and failing such removal by the Exhibitor within the time prescribed by Melbourne Royal, Melbourne Royal may remove or cause to be removed all the animals concerned and all costs and expenses of such removal shall be borne by the Exhibitor and shall be refunded to Melbourne Royal.

24. Vehicle Parking

- a. With the prior consent of Melbourne Royal, vehicles ('vehicle' which includes motor vehicle, truck, stock transport, trailer, and float), of an Exhibitor may enter the Showgrounds or any area under Melbourne Royal control.
- b. Parking for vehicles will be available and Exhibitors must apply for parking by completing the relevant section when entering and forward the fee with the competition entry fee.
- c. There is to be no camping on the Showgrounds, or any area leased by Melbourne Royal under any circumstances.
- d. Any vehicle, located on the Melbourne Showgrounds, or any area leased by Melbourne Royal, shall be at the sole risk of the owner.
- e. Melbourne Royal accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage, including loss or damage caused by negligence of Melbourne Royal, its officers, employees, or agents to any vehicle, or the contents of any vehicle, located on Melbourne Royal's property on the any area leased by Melbourne Royal.
- f. Any vehicle entering or remaining on the Showgrounds, or any area under Melbourne Royal control, in contravention of this Regulation 25 or of any other parking rules or restrictions, may be removed from the Showgrounds, or any area under Melbourne Royal control, by Melbourne Royal and stored. Any costs incurred by Melbourne Royal pursuant to this Regulation must be paid by the Exhibitor.

25. Consent of Images

Exhibitors, Owners and competitors agree to Melbourne Royal publishing or reproducing information and images associated with them and with their Exhibits at any time, in any medium, for any purpose. This includes live streaming of video, if utilized at the Show.

26. Surveillance

Melbourne Royal operates surveillance cameras which are located in and around facilities requiring security monitoring for the safety and security of individuals and property. Please note that security camera monitoring is continuous and ongoing, and it is deemed that a person, by entering the Showgrounds, consents to this photographing, filming or taping. Melbourne Royal strictly complies with the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*.

27. Cancellation of the Show

In the event that the Melbourne Royal Show is to be partially or fully cancelled for any reason whatsoever, the Exhibitor and/or owner of the Exhibit shall not pursue Melbourne Royal for the recovery of any loss or damages. It is acknowledged by the Exhibitor that the society has no duty to have a Show in any particular year and that this clause operates as a complete defense for the Event Organiser to any such action.

28. Indemnity

The Exhibitor indemnifies and keeps indemnified Melbourne Royal and all of its Representatives ('Representatives' meaning relevant employees including volunteers, agents, members, officers, directors, auditors, advisors, partners, consultants, contractors and related entities) from and against all actions, claims, demands, losses, damages, costs, expenses and liabilities including without limitation, consequential loss and loss of profits (whether arising under statute, from negligence, personal injury, death, property damage or infringement of third party rights) for which Melbourne Royal or its Representatives is or may be or become liability in connection with the Exhibit, the Exhibitor or the relevant Event, including the Melbourne Royal Show.

29. Information Handling

Melbourne Royal is bound by the National Privacy Principles of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) and other applicable laws governing privacy. Please refer to the privacy policy which can be found at: www.melbourneroyal.com.au/privacy/

29.1 Collection of Personal Information

- a. Without limiting Melbourne Royal's privacy policy, Melbourne Royal may collect, hold and use personal information about Exhibitor, their family members, invitees or Agents.
- b. The types of information that may be collected include names and contact details, credit card details, qualification, results of the Exhibitor's entry into the relevant Event and any reprimand, fine, disqualification, withdrawal of an award or penalty imposed on the Exhibitor in connection with the entry of the Exhibit in the relevant Event. Information may also be collected from other Bodies relating to the Exhibitor's entry into events held by that Body including, without limitation, reprimands, fines, disqualifications, withdrawals of awards or penalties imposed.
- c. Personal information is collected for the purpose of administration of Events and the Show, as well as related purposes including, without limitation, promoting the Events and the Show, maintenance of records of information relevant to qualifications for future events, maintenance of health and safety records in relation to Event, applicable insurance cover for Events and making claims under Melbourne Royal's insurance for incidents which involve an Exhibitor and occur during an Event.
- d. Personal information may also be used for the purpose of informing Exhibitors about other events and services. Melbourne Royal may send an Exhibitor publications and information about other events and services unless the Exhibitor indicated to Melbourne Royal that the Exhibitor does not want to receive such publications or information.

29.2 Sharing of Personal Information

- a. Without limiting Melbourne Royal's privacy policy, Melbourne Royal may share information which has been collected under Regulation 29.1 with other organisations and service providers to assist in administering the Events and the Show, including co-sponsors of Events and health service providers, indemnity or insurance providers or other Bodies, or any entity that may subsequently administer the Event.
- b. Melbourne Royal may also publish winners' details on its websites or publications or disclose information about an Exhibit and Exhibitor to the media for the purposes of publishing articles on the Exhibit/Exhibitor's participation in the Event, unless the Exhibitor has requested that the Exhibitor's personal information not be published or disclosed for these purposes.
- c. Melbourne Royal will disclose information of the Exhibitor and Exhibit if an Exhibit is found to produce a positive test as per Regulation 13.3.
- d. Melbourne Royal may also disclose information if otherwise required by law.

30. Governing Law

These Regulations are governed by the law of the State of Victoria, Australia.