



# Competition Outline

The Showgirl Competition is a significant movement across New South Wales and provides young women an opportunity to become involved in their local communities as rural ambassadors. As a Local finalist, Zone finalist or Sydney Royal Show finalist, the competition can open many professional and personal opportunities.

## **REASONS TO BECOME A YOUNG WOMAN ENTRANT:**

Local shows are an excellent medium to meet new people and are a platform for self-promotion. Competition can benefit both career and personal ambitions.

- \* Increase your exposure to the broader community
- \* Communicate and network with officials and other contestants
- \* Increase your involvement and understanding of your local Show and Community
- \* Develop a great understanding of Local, National and International affairs
- \* Meet with local community leaders.
- \* Participate in an interview in front of a judging panel
- \* Increase your self-esteem and confidence.
- \* Improve your public speaking, etiquette and presentation.
- \* Attend a personal development weekend and meet like-minded individuals.
- \* Attend a Zone Final and compete against other Showgirls for the opportunity to attend The Land Sydney Royal Showgirl Competition as a State Finalist.
- \* Attend community events as a Maitland Show representative

## **OPPORTUNITIES YOU MAY HAVE AS MAITLAND YOUNG WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

- \* Attending local Business Chamber meetings and networking events allows you to be a youth ambassador for Maitland and its community.
- \* Attend local community and Show Society events to meet with other people in Maitland and often converse with our Mayor for Maitland, Phillip Penfold, Local Member Jenny Aitchison, and Federal Member Meryl Swanson.
- \* Attend Maitland Show Committee meetings and be a youth advocate for the show. Helping at our show, running errands, serving judges and distinguished guests their lunches and drinks during the show, and handing out sashes in multiple events/competitions such as horses, donkeys, goats, and much more.
- \* Do multiple speeches at community events including speaking the Youth Address at the Maitland ANZAC service.





# Judging

Young Woman of the Year entrants are judged on personality, confidence, ambition and life goals, general and rural knowledge of their local community and current affairs, ambassadorial qualities, community involvement and experience/ knowledge in rural affairs. The criteria has not changed since the inception of the Showgirl competition in 1962, as the value of these skills and attributes has not diminished. Even after the Young Woman competition, most contestants continue to be women in their communities with purpose and ambition.

Below is an example of the score sheets they may use:

SYDNEY ROYAL AGSHOWS NSW YOUNG WOMAN COMPETITION

---

**THE LAND SYDNEY ROYAL AGSHOWS NSW YOUNG WOMAN COMPETITION**  
JUDGING SCORE SHEET – CUMULATIVE TOTALS

ENTRANT NAMES						
PERSONALITY (15 POINTS)						
CONFIDENCE (10 POINTS)						
AMBITIONS/GOALS (10 POINTS)						
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (LOCAL/AUST/INTERNATIONAL) (15 POINTS)						
RURAL KNOWLEDGE (GENERAL, LOCAL, SHOW) (15 POINTS)						
PERSONAL PRESENTATION (GROOMING, DICTION & SPEECH) (10 POINTS)						
VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION (10 POINTS)						
ON-STAGE INTERVIEW (10 POINTS)						
TOTAL ...../100						
GENERAL NOTES						

SYDNEY ROYAL AGSHOWS NSW YOUNG WOMAN COMPETITION

---

The Land Sydney Royal AgShows NSW Young Woman Competition  
Entrant Judging Score Sheet

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SHOW SOCIETY: \_\_\_\_\_

PERSONALITY		/ 15
CONFIDENCE		/ 10
AMBITIONS & GOALS		/ 10
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (Local/Aust/Intl)		/ 15
RURAL KNOWLEDGE (General, Local, Show)		/ 15
PERSONAL PRESENTATION (Grooming, Diction & Speech)		/ 10
VOLUNTEER/ COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION		/ 15
ON-STAGE INTERVIEW (if applicable)		/ 10
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>/ 100</b>





# Maitland Show Young Woman 2025/2026 Potential Questions

- \* Why did you enter in the Young Woman Competition?
- \* What year did Young Woman/Showgirl start and who won?
- \* Importance of the name change from Showgirl to Young Woman?
- \* What do you enjoy about the show and what do you think could be improved?
- \* How old is the show?
- \* What was this year's theme for the show?
- \* Show President?
- \* What are the show and young woman competition sponsors?
- \* Who were the last few Showgirls/Young Women?
- \* Show's history?
- \* What are some main attractions or things you enjoy doing around Maitland and why do you enjoy them?
- \* What was Maitland known for agriculturally before becoming developed and what are some of the things we still do in agriculture?
- \* What would you improve in your local community?
- \* Local Government members e.g.: Mayor, State Member, Federal Member, Prime Minister, Opposition Leader, Minister for Agriculture, Governor General?
- \* Do research on any local and state news, especially in agriculture, housing, finance- or anything you may think represents what your goals are for the Young Woman journey.
- \* Current international news.
- \* Research about primary animals that are used in Australian agriculture and any crops/vegetables.
- \* What are your rural interests or involvement in rural communities?
- \* What is your community involvement or how would you like to be involved in your local community?
- \* Give some examples of personal achievements or any achievements/goals you're working towards.
- \* Where do you see yourself in 5 years?





# Evening Event

The presentation dinner is a more formal affair. During the dinner, you will be invited on stage for a 2–3-minute speech about a subject to be confirmed, usually at the afternoon tea interviews (the order of speeches is generally confirmed as well). You will then be asked another 1-2 questions by the MC, potentially asking about your background or anything the judges may have yet to ask in your initial interview. The Judges will be looking for various criteria such as; mingling with guests and members of the show society, ability to address the audience in your speech, speech/dictation, deportment, confidence and personality. The winners will be announced on the night and slashed; the winner will need to make a brief speech generally thanking the judges, guests, sponsors and show society. Following this, all the girls will be asked to be photographed typically for the newspaper and show society pages.



## Tips for Your Speeches

- \* The first five seconds count; make an impression, do not waste it.
- \* Write your introduction as a couple of sentences and memorise them.
- \* Whatever you decide to speak on, present your ideas with conviction and say something valuable to others.
- \* Know our audience and who you are speaking to.
- \* Address the whole room. Engage by making eye contact with individuals in the audience.
- \* Content: purpose, ideas, language, structure and time.
- \* Delivery: confident body language, tone of voice and eye contact.
- \* Voice: natural, wrap your lips around your words, open mouth, clear dictation, project, fluent, rate, and pauses are okay as they reflect thinking.
- \* Use correct grammar, e.g. “Tom and I” rather than “me and Tom”, “We did this” rather than “We did this”, and “What are each of you doing later” rather than “What are you doing.” The website called Grammarly is a great tool to help with this.
- \* Smile, stand tall and proud as it’s just an achievement to be up on the stage and speaking.
- \* Remember: People are there to hear you speak; they don’t want to see you fail; they want to see you succeed. If you make a mistake, take a deep breath and move on.
- \* If you don’t know the answer to a question, don’t try and make things up; say, “I’m not quite sure about that. Can I get back to that question later?”



## Daywear / Interview

All Showgirl entrants are advised to wear a dress suitable for an interview and afternoon tea. Think 'smart business interview' when selecting your outfit! Avoid revealing attire, and we suggest that jewellery is kept simple. Enclosed footwear with or without a heel is advised with stockings/pantyhose. I would advise you to have a spare pair in your handbag, just in case. A purse or clutch is also important for pens, powder for makeup, and lipstick if you need it (please make sure your phone is turned off!). Don't wear a big bag that will get in your way when you shake the judge's hands- something that can sit easily on the floor by your chair.



# What To Wear

## Evening / Formal

You can never be too well dressed! The evening is a formal occasion requiring you to wear a dress, cocktail or formal is usually up to you. However, if you choose to go cocktail, wear a knee-length or below dress with minimal cleavage. If you wear something off the shoulder or strapless, something that covers your shoulders or a bolero is recommended, as well as closed-toe shoes if you are wearing something that isn't floor length. Your hair, makeup and jewellery should complement your outfit.



**SYDNEY ROYAL AGSHOWS NSW YOUNG WOMAN**

**Zone Final Groupings**

<b>ZONE 1</b> (Groups 1 & 2)	<b>ZONE 2</b> (Groups 4 & 5)	<b>ZONE 3</b> (Groups 6 & 7)	<b>ZONE 4</b> (Groups 13 & 14)	<b>ZONE 5</b> (Groups 3 & 12)	<b>ZONE 6</b> (Groups 10 & 11)	<b>ZONE 7</b> (Groups 8 & 9)
Alstonville Bangalow Bellingen Bonalbo Camden Haven Casino Coffs Harbour Comboyne Gloucester Grafton Kempsey Kyogle Lismore Macksville Maclean Mullumbimby Murwillumbah Nabiac Nimbin Taree Wauchope Wingham Woodenbong	Albion Park Berry Blacktown Bowral Camden Castle Hill Dapto  Hawkesbury Kangaroo Valley Kiama Luddenham Menangle Park Milton Minto Moss Vale Nowra Penrith Picton Robertson St Ives	Adelong Batlow Bega Bemboka Bombala Boorowa Braidwood Bungendore Canberra Candelo Cobargo Cooma Crookwell Dalgety Delegate Eurobodalla Goulburn Gundagai Gunning Jerrawa Nimmitabel Pambula Queanbeyan Tarago Taralga Tumbarumba Tumut Yass	Armidale Ashford Barraba Bingara Bundarra Brewarrina Dorrigo Glen Innes Gunnedah Guyra Inverell Manilla Moree Mungindi Narrabri Quirindi Tamworth Tenterfield Uralla Walcha Walgett Warialda Wee Waa	Baradine Binnaway Bulahdelah Cessnock Coonabarabran Dunedoo Dungog Gosford Gresford Gulgong Lithgow Maitland Mendooran Merriwa Morisset Mudgee Muswellbrook Newcastle Oberon Rydal Rylstone-Kandos Singleton Stroud Wyong	Bathurst Bedgerabong Blayney Bourke Canowindra Carcoar Cobar Condobolin Coonamble Cowra Cudal Cumnock Dubbo Eugowra Forbes Gilgandra Grenfell Gulargambone Koorawatha Molong Morongla Murrumburrah Narromine Neville Nyngan Orange Parkes Peak Hill Sofala Tooraweenah Trundle Trunkey Creek Tullamore Warren Wellington Woodstock Yeoval Young	Albury Ardlethan Ariah Park Barellan Barham Berrigan Bribbaree Cootamundra Corowa Culcairn Deniliquin Finley Ganmain Griffith Hay Henty Hillston Holbrook Illabo Junee Lake Cargelligo Leeton Lockhart Narrandera Silver City Temora The Rock Ungarie Wagga Wagga Wakool Walbundrie Weethalle Wentworth West Wyalong

**ZONE FINAL DATES – 31 JANUARY TO 28 FEBRUARY 2026**

**ZONE 1 – KYOGLE Saturday 14 February**

**Contact:** Ashleigh Dell

**Address:** 155 Lamberton Lane, Ettrick NSW 2474

**Phone:** 0497 861 605

**Email:** ashleigh@connecta.com.au

**ZONE 2 – ALBION PARK Saturday 21 February**

**Contact:** Diane McParland and Lexie Mayo

**Address:** 104 Factory Lane, Jamberoo NSW 2533

**Phone:** 0427 360 403

**Email:** sdmipc01@gmail.com

**ZONE 3 – GUNNING Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

**Contact:** Kelly Dowling

**Address:** 388 Felled Timber Road, Dalton NSW 2581

**Phone:** 0448 274 366

**Email:** nedkellyphillip@gmail.com

**ZONE 4 – WARIALDA Saturday 7 February**

**Contact:** Nicole Butler and Laura Lockhart

**Address:** 352 Oakey Creek Road, Warialda Rail NSW 2402

**Phone:** 0427 846 866 (NB)

**Email:** nicolesimmons2529@gmail.com

**ZONE 5 – MUDGEES Saturday 24 January**

**Contact:** Peyton Ford and Ninoska Birchall

**Address:** 25B Dewhurst Drive, Mudgee NSW 2850

**Phone:** 0457 552 944 (PF)/0487 174 394 (NB)

**Email:** mudgeeshowyouth@gmail.com

**ZONE 6 – EUGOWRA Saturday 28 February**

**Contact:** Janet Moxey

**Address:** PO Box 9, Eugowra NSW 2806

**Phone:** 0418 962 008

**Email:** secretary@eugowrashow.com.au

**ZONE 7 – GANMAIN Saturday 31 January**

**Contact:** Kristie Smith

**Address:** 1242 Pamandi Road, Grong Grong NSW 2652

**Phone:** 0429 311 277

**Email:** bksmith698@gmail.com