



164th MAITLAND SHOW 2026

“My Show – Making Memories”

13 - 14 - 15 February 2026



DONKEY SCHEDULE



“My Show – Making Memories”

Zero Tolerance to Abuse

Aggressive behaviour and any form of verbal or physical abuse towards any person including staff, members, volunteers, competitors or guests will not be tolerated on the Maitland Showground at any time

Anyone engaging in inappropriate behaviour at the Maitland Showground will be asked to change their behaviour, issued a formal warning, removed from the grounds or barred from entering the grounds in the future.



HUNTER RIVER AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION LIMITED

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General Information:

Entry Forms:

- Online entries via Maitland Showground webpage.
<https://maitlandshowground.com.au/msevents/maitland-show/competitions/>

Online entries close on Wednesday, 4 February 2026.

Please complete your entry and payment online.

- Or deliver your entry form by close **Wednesday, 4 February 2026 - 2pm**
To Maitland Showground Office
50 Blomfield Street, South Maitland 2320 (Office hours M-F 9am to 2pm)
Phone: 02 4933 5052
Payment: Cash or Eftpos only

Entry Fees \$2.00 per class for online entries.
\$3.00 per class for entries on the day. To be dealt with by Christine Berry.
No refunds are available.
For cancellation due to inclement weather, please phone or text Christine Berry.

Showground PIC: NE369034

Chief Steward Christine Berry OAM Call/Text 0497 580 598

Ring Steward: Kellie Hornby-Howell

Judge: Mr Stirling Keayes

Judging Location: Maitland Showground, Woodchop area.
All animal to be on the ground by 9am, preferably earlier

Judging Time& Date: 9:30am, Sunday 15th February 2026.

Prize Ribbons Best Prepared and Presented Donkey and Handler.
1st, 2nd and 3rd prize ribbons awarded

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Champion Donkey
Reserve Champion Donkey
Supreme Campion Donkey
Highly Commended Junior
Highly Commended Senior
Donkey 'Giddy-Up' Gymkhana (All Competitors)

Sponsored by: Friends of the Donkeys (gofundme)

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-save-a-donkey-sanctuary-destroyed-by-a-flood>



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Condition of Entry for exhibitors:

1. Understand that the judge's decision is final.
2. Be ready for your class and enter the ring on time when called in.
3. Marshall's and Steward's directions must be followed.
4. Competitors must circle around the judge in a clockwise direction.
5. Overtaking on the outside of a slower competitor/donkey is acceptable if they are slower at the walk.
6. Exhibitors must acknowledge the judge with a nod when the individual study of the exhibit is about to occur.
7. Address only the Steward if necessary.
8. It is polite to shake the judge's hand when ribbons are being awarded.
9. Competitors congratulate successful place getters.
10. Classes may be split into size/breed/age categories at the discretion of the judge. That is, Irish, English, Australian, Mammoth and Miniature, Small, Standard and Large Standard sizes.
11. Riders must wear an approved hard hat. Spurs are prohibited.
12. Drivers must be 16 years or over, or otherwise, accompanied by an experienced adult driver.
13. Snigging class is judged on handler and donkey's combined skill.
14. Obstacle classes are timed events.
15. Various classes suggested: experienced, beginners and novice open to all ages.
16. Dress code applies. Western, rural, English, formal attire. Boots, hat, collared shirt, and tie/bolar/neck-kerchief.
17. Jacks 2 years and over must wear a stallion chain/bridle and stallion bit. Jack handlers must be 18 years or over.
18. Novice section (i.e., first show for handler or donkey who did not win a ribbon) may be split into novice handler and novice donkey classes.
19. All tack and harness must be clean, well fitted and appropriate for classes.
20. Proportions must be complimentary re donkey and rider.
21. Any donkey deemed unfit or unsound will be ineligible for entry into the ring.
22. No dogs are allowed on the showground.

We thank our sponsor for supporting the Donkey Section at Maitland Show



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DONKEY

CLASSES

In-Hand Classes -Conformation

- 801 Best Prepared and Presented Donkey and Handler.
- 802 Led Jack - Open Class, Any Age
- 803 Led Jenny - Open Class, Any Age
- 804 Led Gelding - Open Class, Any Age
- 805 DABSA registered Donkey, Open Class, Any Age, Any Gender

Donkey `GIDDY-UP`

- 806 (a) Led obstacle course judged on skill
- (b) Led obstacle course judged on time



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