

2026 Hawkesbury Show

24th – 26th April 2026

Beef Cattle Schedule



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Table of Contents

2026 Program of Events.....	3
Entry Information.....	4
What’s New for the 2026 Hawkesbury Cattle Section	5
<i>‘Golden Oldies’ Paraders’ Competition</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Led Commercial Breeders Class.....</i>	<i>5</i>
Conditions of Entry & Exhibition	6
Additional Exhibitor Information	8
Animal Welfare Policy	8
Exhibit Classes and Descriptions.....	9
<i>Interbreed Group Classes</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Jackpot Classes.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Bull Classes</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Female Classes</i>	<i>10</i>
Hoof & Hook Competition.....	11
Cattle Entry Form.....	16
Beef Cattle Junior Judging Entry Form	17
Beef Cattle Paraders’ Class Entry Form.....	18
Cattle Fitting Challenge Entry Form	19
<u>Waiver</u>.....	1920

2026 Program of Events

Friday 24th April

10:00 am	Education Friday Workshop
	Judging Talk and Techniques
	Junior Judging Classes
	Junior Judging Oral Presentations
3:00 pm	Charity Auction
	Heifer Jackpot
	Bull Jackpot
	Heifer Fitting Challenge

Saturday 25th April

8:00 am	Ring 1: Tropical and European Breeds
	Ring 2: Small and British Breeds
	Interbreed Class
	'Golden Oldies' Paraders' Class
	Lunch
1:00 pm	Grand Parade
	Paraders' Class
	(Juniors followed by Seniors)
5:00 pm	Exhibitor BBQ

Sunday 26th April

7:00 am	Weigh in for all steers & heifers
	Led Commercial Breeders Class
	Best School Exhibit Judging
9:00 am	Non-kill and Hoof & Hook Led
	Judging
	Hoof & Hook Unled Judging
	Final Presentation
3:00 pm	Bump out

Please join and keep an eye out on the [Hawkesbury Show Cattle Section Facebook Group](#) for further updates as we get closer to the show!

Entry Information

Entry Fees for 2026

Class	Fees Per Class
Student Cattle & Non-Kill Classes	\$15/class
Bull/Heifer Jackpot	\$30/entry
Team of 3 Fitting Challenge	\$15/team
Junior Paraders' & Judging	\$5/class (via online or mail-in)
Steer/Heifer Hoof & Hook	\$70/entry
Carcase Jackpot	\$30/entry
Golden Oldies	\$5 nomination, \$10 buy out (<u>cash required on the day</u>)

NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED ON THE DAY

Entry Details

- Online Entries
 - Available on the ShowDay website
 - Online entries must be paid for via credit card
- Mail-In Entries
 - The form for mail-in entries can be found at the back of the schedule
 - Payment can be made by cheque (to Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association), or credit card ONLY. (*CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED THROUGH MAIL*).
- Entries Close
 - Both mail-in and online entries will close at 6:00 pm on Friday, 10th April 2026
- Late Entries
 - No late entries will be accepted
 - Please refer to the Cattle Committee email or committee member contact details for any assistance required prior to the entry closing date
- Prize Money
 - Prize money won during the Show will be paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to the account details provided to the Chief Steward during the show
 - If the bank details provided are incomplete or incorrect, HDAA will take all reasonable efforts to contact prize winners to confirm payment details
 - HDAA seeks to finalise all prize money payments by the end of May
 - Queries regarding unpaid prize money can be addressed to the Show Office via email at info@hawkesburyshow.com.au

What's New for the 2026 Hawkesbury Cattle Section

The Hawkesbury Cattle Committee is excited to introduce several new additions to the cattle schedule for 2026, offering fresh opportunities for exhibitors, schools, and spectators to participate and enjoy the program.

‘Golden Oldies’ Paraders’ Competition

A fun and good-spirited new class for our experienced cattle handlers!

- Open to participants over 25 years of age
- Exhibitors and spectators may nominate a participant for a \$5 buy-in
- The nominated handler may:
 - Parade the animal, OR
 - Pay a **\$10 buy-out** fee to avoid parading!
- Individuals may be nominated **up to 5 times**
- Participants **must be physically capable of parading an animal** and have prior parading experience.
- Buy-ins and outs will require **cash on the day** to the cattle office.
- Held on **Saturday, 25th April**, before the lunch break.

Come and have a laugh, support your favourite handlers, and enjoy a light-hearted competition that celebrates long-time cattle show supporters.

Led Commercial Breeders Class

A fantastic new class supporting the commercial side of the industry. This class provides schools and exhibitors with the opportunity to:

- Exhibit **commercial females not registered with any breed society**
- Receive feedback and assessment in a formal show environment
- Participate alongside stud exhibitors in a recognised competition

This class will be judged on **Sunday, 26th April**, in the morning and is open to animals that do not meet stud breed registration requirements.

Conditions of Entry & Exhibition

1. Breeds will be judged as per the program: European, British, Tropical and Small
2. Breed and age MUST be stated on the entry form. The age of the exhibit is taken as of the 1st April 2026.
3. No animal under 9 months may be entered in its own class; the exhibit must be shown on its dam.
4. All cattle must be on the grounds by 6:30 pm, Saturday, 25th April 2026.
5. All cattle must be fully prepared by 8:30 am on the day of judging and must remain on the grounds until 4:30 pm.
6. Exhibitors travelling over 200 km may request an exemption to amend departure time, but this MUST be noted on the entry form and approved by the committee prior to the show. Early departure requests will not be considered on the day of the show, and exhibitors/exhibits will have to remain on the grounds until 4:30 pm.
7. Bedding for animals is NOT provided. Exhibitors must supply their own bedding.
8. All cattle must arrive with a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) tag already attached to the animal. Any animals arriving without this will not be allowed to be unloaded onto the showground property.
9. All exhibits must be free of infectious diseases.
10. Bulls 12 months and over must be fitted with a nose ring.
11. Bulls under 12 months must be led with a bulldog grip.
12. Bulls must be adequately supervised to the satisfaction of the stewards to ensure that they do not pose a danger to the general public.
13. All females must be led with a bulldog grip.
14. The Cattle Committee's decision is final in all matters related to this schedule and the exhibition of cattle. The Chief Steward and Committee reserve the right to refuse entries and to change, merge, or remove classes where necessary.
15. All stock must be adequately supervised for the duration of the Show.
16. No entries will be accepted on the day.
17. The following documents must accompany each entry:
 - a. Breed certificate for each animal (except commercial exhibits). All registered cattle must comply with the regulations of the relevant Breed Society.
 - b. Property health declaration.
 - c. Negative pestivirus test for each exhibit.

18. All persons in the Cattle Area, including exhibitors and assistants, must complete a “Risk Warning” Indemnity/Waiver form:

- a. The form is available at the end of this schedule or on the Show website
- b. Forms MUST be completed at the Cattle Office if not submitted in advance
- c. A wristband will be issued upon submission and must be worn when taking part in cattle activities
- d. Exhibitors under 18 years old must have the form signed by a parent or guardian

Documents required under Clauses 17 and 18 must be submitted by 4:00 pm on Friday, 10th April 2026 to hdaa.cattle@gmail.com, or posted in hard copy to reach the HDAA Office by 6:00 pm the same day

Additional information that must be stated on the entry form:

1. Day of arrival
2. If stalling is requested next to a specific exhibitor.
3. Whether an entry pass is required for a transport carrier (see below)

Additional Exhibitor Information

Grand Parade

All ribbon winners from Saturday's judging must participate in the Grand Parade at 1:00 pm. All exhibitors are strongly encouraged to parade their animals. A \$100 cash prize will be awarded for the "Best Cattle Exhibit on Parade".

Transport Carriers

To enable free entry of stock carriers, exhibitors must apply as part of their entry for a carrier gate pass. Carrier details and delivery/collection days must be supplied, as passes are barcoded and date-specific. Passes will be sent to exhibitors, who are responsible for ensuring carriers have them. Without a valid pass, carriers will be charged at the gate.

Carriers must enter via Gate 3 and leave immediately after unloading. Exhibitors are asked to be considerate so that as many competitors as possible may be housed under cover.

Please also refer to the "Rules and Regulations of the Association" available on the Show Website.

Animal Welfare Policy

The Hawkesbury District Agricultural Association (HDAA) is committed to ensuring the welfare and proper treatment of all animals on the Showground. Exhibitors must care for their animals in accordance with the Animal Welfare Policy. Breaches may result in removal from the grounds and/or referral to the RSPCA.

Exhibitors and attendants must take all reasonable steps to ensure appropriate animal care, noting that the public is present throughout the day. Animal welfare includes, but is not limited to:

1. Suitable housing
2. Appropriate management
3. Adequate nutrition
4. Responsible care
5. Humane handling
6. Veterinary treatment

Exhibit Classes and Descriptions

Interbreed Group Classes

Class No.	Class Name	Description
2050	Breeders Group	1 Male & 1 Female of the same breed, owned by one exhibitor. Must be entered in general classes.
2051	Pair of Females	2 Females under 24 months owned by one exhibitor. Must be entered in general classes.
2052	Pair of Bulls	2 Bulls under 24 months owned by one exhibitor. Must be entered in general classes.
2053	Sires/Dams Progeny	2 Progeny owned by one exhibitor. Must be entered in general classes.

Jackpot Classes

Class No.	Class Name	Description
2001	Interbreed Junior Bull Jackpot	\$30 entry. No limit on entries. Entrants must be entered in a Saturday general class. Net pool distributed as prizemoney.
2002	Interbreed Heifer Jackpot	\$30 entry. No limit on entries. Entrants must be entered in a Saturday general class. Net pool distributed as prizemoney.
2003	Fitting Challenge	\$15 per team. Teams of 3 aged 8–25 (minimum 1 under 18). 30 minutes prep. Animal must be entered in Saturday general classes.

Bull Classes

Class No.	Age
2011	9 to under 12 months
2012	12 to under 14 months
2013	14 to under 16 months
2014	16 to under 18 months
2015	18 to under 20 months
<i>Junior Champion Bull</i>	
<i>Reserve Junior Champion Bull</i>	
2016	20 to under 24 months
2017	24 to under 30 months
2018	30 months and over
<i>Senior Champion Bull</i>	
<i>Reserve Senior Champion Bull</i>	

Female Classes

Class No.	Age
2019	9 to under 12 months
2020	12 to under 14 months
2021	14 to under 16 months
2022	16 to under 18 months
2023	18 to under 20 months
<i>Junior Champion Female</i>	
<i>Reserve Junior Champion Female</i>	
2024	20 to under 24 months
2025	24 to under 30 months
2026	30 months and over
<i>Senior Champion Female</i>	
<i>Reserve Senior Champion Female</i>	

Hoof & Hook Competition

Conditions of Entry

1. The decision of Stewards on all matters pertaining of incidental to the competition shall be final, conclusive and binding on all nominations for the competition.
2. The Committee reserves unto itself the right at any time, without being liable, for any loss or damage which may be sustained.
3. The Committee will not be responsible for any damage, accident, loss or death pertaining to the competition.
4. All cattle must have a National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) tag fitted prior to arrival on the Showground. All cattle will be scanned upon arrival to the Showground.
5. All cattle must have tested negative to pestivirus, and test results must be submitted with entries along with a health declaration.
6. All exhibitors must sign and lodge a Risk Warning/Indemnity & Health Declaration.
7. All cattle must be free of infectious disease.
8. All exhibits must have a management tag to identify them for judging.
9. All exhibits must be transported to Hawkesbury Showground to be judged live in either the led or unled hoof section of the competition. Cattle transported directly to the processor without participating in the live hoof judging will not be accepted as part of the hook competition and consequently disqualified.
10. All cattle will be subsequently transported to Certified Meat Co (Wilberforce) upon completion of live judging.
11. All exhibits will be sold to Certified Meat Co over the current grid price for that week, unless prior arrangements (e.g. personal use) have been organised.
12. Cattle entered into the unled section must be docile enough to be safely handled throughout the weighing, judging and transportation process. Cattle that pose a risk or danger to themselves, other exhibits and the Committee/exhibitors, due to temperament issues, will be disqualified at the discretion of the Chief Steward. Following disqualification, the exhibitor will be required to make their own arrangements to transport the animal off the Showground.
13. All cattle entered in the Hoof and Hook Competition must fall within the liveweight range of 360 – 480kg, with a 5 kg allowance on either side.

14. Any cattle that exceed the liveweight limit will be moved into the Led Commercial Competition or disqualified and will not be eligible to participate.
15. If the animal is deemed ineligible for the competition, then the exhibitor/s of the cattle must make other arrangements.
16. All led cattle must be restrained by nose ring or nose grip.
17. The use of Hormone Growth Promotants (HGP's) are not permitted for this competition
18. Stewards may use their discretion and refuse any entry to an animal deemed to be unfit for competition i.e. temperament, weight, health or specifications.

Competition Details

- Live judging on Sunday 26th April, starting with led cattle at approximately 9:00 am, followed by unled classes.
- All cattle entered in Hoof and Hook competition must be on the grounds by 10:00 pm on Saturday night, 25th April.
- Carcase presentation and a sausage sizzle with light refreshments will be announced on the Hawkesbury Show Cattle Section Facebook Page, and entrants will be notified.

HDAA and Certified Meat Co have entered into an agreement that all funds pertaining to carcase sales will be paid to the HDAA within 28 business days of processing of the cattle. Following the receipt of the funds the HDAA will then pay out exhibitors within 14 business days.

ENTRIES CLOSE at 4:00 pm on Friday 10th April 2026

Late entries will not be accepted

Entry Fees for Hoof and Hook

Class	Fees Per Entry
All Carcase Classes	\$70 per entry
Additional Hoof/Hook Jackpot Entry	\$30 per entry

Market Specifications - Hook

Weight Category	Liveweight (kg)	Carcase Weight (kg)	P8 Rump Fat (mm)	10th/11th Rib Fat (mm)
Lightweight	360 – 400	180 – 220	4 – 9	3 – 8
Middleweight	401 – 440	220 – 260	5 – 10	4 – 9
Heavyweight	441 – 480	260 – 300	6 – 11	5 – 10

Hoof & Hook Prize Money

Class	1st	2nd	3rd	Ribbon
Hoof	\$25	\$15	\$10	✓
Hook	\$25	\$15	\$10	✓

Hoof & Hook Classes and Descriptions**Carcase Jackpot Class**

Class No.	Description
2100	<p>Exhibitors must nominate tag numbers and pay the \$30 additional entry fee. Led and Unled exhibits are eligible. Jackpot prize awarded to the highest scoring entrant of the carcase portion of the competition. Winner does not need to be Grand Champion. You must be in it to win!</p>

Led Classes

Class No.	Class Name	Description
2101 HH1	Lightweight	360 – 400 kg
2102 HH2	Middleweight	401 – 440 kg
2103 HH3	Heavyweight	441 – 480 kg

Unled Classes

Class No.	Class Name	Description
2105 HH5	Lightweight	360 – 400 kg
2106 HH6	Middleweight	401 – 440 kg
2107 HH7	Heavyweight	441 – 480 kg

Pen of 2 Carcase Competition

Class No.	Description
2109	Exhibitors nominate 2 animals. Points from each animal combined for a total score. Free to enter.

Champion Pen of 2 Carcase: ribbon & part of prize pool

Reserve Champion Pen of 2 Carcase: ribbon & part of prize pool

Led Steer/Heifer Commercial Competition

Class No.	Description
2110	Any commercial animal not eligible for Stud/Hoof/Hook classes. Classes will be divided based on entries.

1st Place: \$25, 2nd Place: \$15, 3rd Place: \$10

Champions & Special Awards

All Champion, Reserve, and special awards are drawn from a total prize pool of **from \$2,125**. All 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes above are fixed.

Category	Award
Carcase	Highest Yielding Carcase
	Lightweight Champion
	Lightweight Reserve Champion
	Middleweight Champion
	Middleweight Reserve Champion
	Heavyweight Champion
	Heavyweight Reserve Champion
	Champion School Exhibit on the Hook
	Grand Champion - Led
	Grand Champion – Unled
	Supreme Overall Champion
Led Section	Lightweight Champion
	Lightweight Reserve Champion
	Middleweight Champion
	Middleweight Reserve Champion
	Heavyweight Champion
	Heavyweight Reserve Champion
Unled Section	Lightweight Champion
	Lightweight Reserve Champion
	Middleweight Champion
	Middleweight Reserve Champion
	Heavyweight Champion
	Heavyweight Reserve Champion
Champion Awards	Champion School Exhibit on the Hoof
	Grand Champion – Led
	Grand Champion – Unled
	Supreme Overall Champion
Pen of 2	Champion
	Reserve Champion