

Youth Alpaca Nowra

YOUTH PARADERS SCHEDULE

Judge:

Apprentice Judge:

Entry Fees: \$15.00 per entrant (includes entry to Showmanship & Stockmanship classes)

Entries close: 8th February 2024

No entries received by the Convener after 8th February will be accepted.

10th February 2024

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

SECTION 1 - OPEN SHOWMANSHIP SECTION

CLASS 2504 Senior: Aged 16 years to under 26 years

CLASS 2505 Intermediate: Aged 13 years to under 15 years

CLASS 2506 Junior: Aged 7 to under 12 year

STOCKMANSHIP CLASSES

SECTION 2 - OPEN STOCKMANSHIP SECTION

CLASS 2604 Senior: Aged 16 years to under 26 years

CLASS 2605 Intermediate: Aged 13 years to under 15 years

CLASS 2606 Junior: Aged 7 to under 12 years

SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

SECTION 3 - PRELIMINARY SHOWMANSHIP SECTION

CLASS 2704 Senior: : Aged 16 years to under 26 years

CLASS 2705 Intermediate: Aged 13 years to under 15 years

CLASS 2706 Junior: Aged 7 to under 12 years

STOCKMANSHIP CLASSES

SECTION 4 - PRELIMINARY STOCKMANSHIP SECTION

CLASS 2804 Senior: Aged 16 years to under 26 years

CLASS 2805 Intermediate: Aged 13 years to under 15 years

CLASS 2806 Junior: Aged 7 to under 12 years

1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1.1 ALPACAS USED IN THIS COMPETITION

- 1.1.1 All alpacas used in this competition must either be owned by the competitor or borrowed with the prior consent of the owner of the alpaca.
- 1.1.2 **An alpaca may only be used by one competitor in any given Youth Parader competition to be eligible for the Trainer Award or the Master Trainer Award**
- 1.1.3 The alpaca must be shown in a clean, well-fitted halter. A buckled halter is mandatory with a detachable lead.
- 1.1.4 Presentation is taken into account. The animal should have a body score of 2.5 or more and be presented to show standard. Obvious conformational faults may draw a maximum of 3 penalty points in any Division.
- 1.1.5 Alpacas may be shown in short or full fleece (not exceeding 12 months growth for Huacayas and 23 months growth for Suris)
- 1.1.6 Alpacas may be shared by prearrangement in Preliminary or Open divisions, but any one alpaca may be used no more than twice in any one age class. (Note to exhibitors: in showmanship section, four exhibitors will be in the ring together with their alpacas at a time, so an alpaca cannot be shared in a class of four exhibitors or less)
- 1.1.7 The entry form should include the IAR number and registered name of the alpaca, and be accompanied by the full name, postal address and date of birth of the handler. Where applicable, the name of the school and mentor stud should also be included.
- 1.1.8 All alpacas exhibited must be registered on the International Alpaca Registry of the AAA, including wethers, and ear tagged with an approved IAR brass tag. **Note if there is no ear tag present in the ear of the alpaca then official AAA confirmation in hard copy must be provided by the competitor to the chief steward that the ear tag has been recently lost and that a replacement ear tag has been ordered and paid for, otherwise the alpaca will be ineligible to compete.**
- 1.1.9 Alpacas used in Parader events must be at least 6 months old at date of show.

1.2 CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- 1.2.1 Entries in Open and Preliminary classes must be lodged by the closing date as per the Entry form. Late entries for Open and Preliminary Classes will not be accepted.
- 1.2.2 Ribbons will be awarded for placings at the discretion of the judge.
- 1.2.3 A competitor entering *only* Showmanship or Stockmanship is **not** eligible for a championship.
- 1.2.4 Stud/school names and banners may be displayed according to the rules of the host show committee.
- 1.2.5 **Alpacas must be penned by 8:30am Saturday 10th February and may not be removed from the showground until 3pm Saturday 10th February without prior approval from the Convenor.**
- 1.2.6 The chief steward may disqualify an alpaca not in its allotted pen as per the event halter schedule if applicable.
- 1.2.7 The chief steward has the authority to make any determination regarding classes, eligibility and disqualification. Any classes may be split, combined or cancelled, excepting that Open and Preliminary classes cannot be combined as a single class.
- 1.2.8 All competitors entering the show ring must be suitably attired as outlined below. No identification of the competitor stud may be visible but school representative attire is encouraged.
- 1.2.9 Pens are allocated in accordance with JD / Health Status and no changing of pens is permitted.

- 1.2.10 Participants must keep their allotted pens clean and tidy and their animals suitably attended to at all times during the show.
- 1.2.11 All alpacas and handlers compete at their own risk and the show committee is not responsible for any loss or damage or injury to any animal, competitor or person from any cause whatsoever.
- 1.2.12 The following are not permitted:
- 1.2.12.1.1 Sales signs of any description
 - 1.2.12.1.2 Display of ribbons/awards from other shows
 - 1.2.12.1.3 Any advertising/banners outside the allotted pens.
- 1.2.13 **All entries must be accompanied by a Herd Health Status Declaration All Participants must comply with the requirements for penning, exercising and exhibiting Alpacas from Assessed and Non-Assessed Herds**
- 1.2.14 **Participants must all complete an Indemnity and Waiver form before competition; for exhibitors under the age of 18, that form should be completed by a Parent/Guardian**

1.3 ELIGIBILITY

All ages refer to the age of the exhibitor on the day of the competition.

- Junior: Aged 7 yrs to under 12 yrs
- Intermediate: Aged 12yrs to under 16 yrs
- Senior: Aged 16 yrs to under 26 yrs

1.4 ATTIRE

- 1.4.1 Minimal standard of safe clothing obligatory for all Parader events e.g. closed shoes, long trousers, no loose jewellery and hair tidy/up.
- 1.4.2 Showmanship Section: Black trousers/white shirt or show coat or school uniform
- 1.4.3 Stockmanship Section: Neat rural/country smart dress codes will draw maximum points including: Hat, boots, belt, jeans/moleskins, collared long sleeve shirt.

1.5 MARSHALLING

- 1.5.1 Competitors must be marshalled in the designated marshalling area with their alpaca 15 minutes prior to the published start time for their class or/and one class prior to their class. **It is the responsibility of the competitor to check the event/marshalling board during the competition to know when their class commences.**
- 1.5.2 Older age classes will precede younger age classes
- 1.5.3 Competitors enter the ring from eldest to youngest.

1.6 STOCKMANSHIP COURSE (LAYOUT AND ROUTE)

- 1.5.4 Stockmanship course for all Stockmanship classes will be posted approximately one hour prior to the estimated start time of that class. It is the responsibility of the competitors to look up and study the course prior to marshalling for their event.
- 1.5.5 The judge or chief steward may give a verbal explanation of the course to Preliminary classes.
- 1.5.6 Junior class handlers (without their alpacas) may be taken on a walk-through of their course by the judge or chief steward.
- 1.5.7 **Under no circumstances should an alpaca entered for the Trainer Awards enter the Stockmanship challenge ring prior to its event. If this rule is breached the pair will be declared ineligible for the Trainer Awards.**

1.6 Time line

Time schedule may be available on the show website prior to the day of competition but these are approximate times only. Events will invariably run outside of the scheduled time line and handlers are expected to check the marshalling board during the day and listen out for announcements.

2. ALPACA YOUTH PARADERS COMPETITION

2.1 Description

The **Alpaca Youth Paraders Competition** is a new event in the showcase of alpaca activities, designed specifically by, and exclusively for, young people aged under 26 years of age. The Alpaca Youth Paraders competition consists of two *sections*:

- **Stockmanship**
- **Showmanship**

In each section, exhibitors may choose between three *divisions* of competition:

- **Introductory**
- **Preliminary**
- **Open**

Within the Open division, there exists a special class for Trainers, those exhibitors who have trained an alpaca specifically for this event.

Classes are divided by the age of the entrant into four *classes*:

- **Junior:** Aged 7 years to under 12 years
- **Intermediate:** Aged 12 years to under 16 years
- **Senior:** Aged 16 years to under 26 years

An exhibitor may enter either or both sections, and each in their division of choice, as defined by the rules. Places will be awarded in all classes.

The Trainer Award is available per class and a Master Trainer over all within any one division. Championships & Trainer Awards will be selected only from those exhibitors who have competed in both Stockmanship and Showmanship sections.

2.2 SHOWMANSHIP SECTION

The showmanship section is designed to demonstrate the handler's level of proficiency in the preparation, presentation, handling and understanding of their alpaca. This section is performed with the alpaca at halter. Penalty points will be taken off at the Judge's discretion for alpaca conformation considered as seriously below breed standard, or presentation seriously short of show standard.

- a. The first part is conducted in the context of the show ring, where exhibitors will be required to lead their alpaca into the ring, and parade it to the judge to its best advantage. An ideal performance comprises a poised, confident, neatly attired handler, whose alpaca is prepared to optimal show condition, and which alpaca complies readily with the handler in executing the manoeuvres required variously by the judge, steward and handler.
- b. The second part is conducted with the handler and their alpaca in a pen, constructed within the show ring. Exhibitors will be required to demonstrate to the judge, by way of brief interview and demonstration, their level of personal expertise in the understanding, general knowledge and husbandry of the alpaca. An ideal performance comprises an exhibitor who knows his/her own alpaca's body score, conformational strengths and weaknesses, and fleece attributes.

2.3.1 Showmanship Class Procedures

- a.) The ability to follow instructions and pay attention forms part of the handler's assessment.
 - i. Handlers enter the ring from eldest to youngest as advised by the marshalling steward.
 - ii. A maximum of four handlers will enter the ring at any one time. Each handler will then be required to perform individual manoeuvres with their alpaca (as previously demonstrated by the judge prior to the commencement of the class).

- iii. Handlers must also listen for instructions from the ring steward, who may have been given direction by the judge to ask for certain further manoeuvres.
- b.) The handler should walk on the alpaca's near side (left) holding the lead in the right hand approximately 20 cm from the snap attachment with the tail of the lead folded neatly in the left hand. The lead should not be used to pull the alpaca forward or the head up but should be positioned slightly to the left of the halter ring with no obvious pressure applied. When walking, the handler should be positioned slightly behind the eye of the alpaca.
- c.) During the class, handlers will line up as a group side by side, setting their alpacas up squarely for inspection, facing forward and in profile in accordance with judge's instructions.
- d.) For individual work, the handler should set up for inspection, standing with their feet in a 45 degree angled position off the alpaca's shoulder with boot toes pointing toward the alpacas feet. The handler must be aware of the judge's position so as to optimise the view of their alpaca at all times. While moving around the alpaca, the handler should slowly and smoothly change sides in front of the alpaca, assuming the same position on the right side as they had on the left side.
- e.) The judge will ask the handler to perform a variety of manoeuvres which may include some or all of the following:
 - i. Lead in a pattern set out by the Judge and halt at a set point
 - ii. To competently line up the Alpaca in a group side by side, stand their Alpaca squarely and to manoeuvre the Alpaca into side profile
 - iii. Display Teeth for the Judge
 - iv. To walk into a catch pen, close and secure gate
 - v. To remove the Halter safely and then to replace Halter with correct fit. Buckled halter to be used.
 - vi. Demonstrate "hands on assessment" (eyes, ears, muzzle, top line, tail) of their Alpaca. They may be asked to body score their alpaca and to assess the fleece and respond to questions about fleece and conformational traits present.
- f.) The judge will ask 3 questions regarding Alpaca anatomy, husbandry, and general knowledge of the Alpaca and Alpaca care. The handler may be asked questions about their own alpaca, alpacas in general or asked questions concerning names or locations of body parts.

2.4 STOCKMANSHIP SECTION

The Stockmanship section aims to demonstrate the skill of the handler in developing a sound working relationship with the alpaca over a series of challenges, known as stations, over a set course which aims to simulate conditions frequently encountered in the daily management of alpacas, either on a farm or in some public forum. Ideally, the handler will be able to demonstrate the existence of a relationship of trust and cooperation between him or herself and the alpaca.

2.4.1 STATIONS

(* denotes highest degree of difficulty)

Challenges may include but are not limited to:

- a. Bridges
- b. Ramp with step/s. 3 steps or more*
- c. Seesaw
- d. Flexibility or maneuverability around objects
- e. Change of pace
- f. Backing(as asked in the show ring) in a designated area. Straight backup 5 steps into a race (Easy) , Straight backup with poles on the ground 5 steps (moderate) Right Angle or L five steps backup with poles (difficult)*
- g. Side pass(as asked in show ring) over rail on ground, one direction only (moderate) both directions (difficult)*
- h. Load in a vehicle/horse float
- i. Go through a door, gate or similar passage, latching gate
- j. Tolerate handling by people other than the handler
- k. Go under a rail bar. Degree of difficulty depends on height. Lowering head height is more difficult.
- l. Tunnel. Degree of difficulty depends on height/Width/length*
- m. Pick up foot for examination as in toenail trimming– Front leg: Size of area acceptable varies the degree of difficulty ie inside small Circle as against large circle
- n. Encounter other people, animals or strange objects
- o. Tolerate a loud or noisy object

- p. Go through dangling or hanging ribbons or flags
- q. Put a towel or similar small sized cover over the alpacas back and remove during the course
- r. Go through curtains/archway
- s. *Change of surface, walk over tarpaulin, plastic, sand or plywood (easy) through water or rattling material* (Difficulty)*
- t. Walk over tyres, difficulty varies according to depth and layout.
- u. Tie alpaca demonstrating a safety tie or quick release knot
- v. Pivot turn guiding the hind quarters around inside a circle. Smaller circle denotes higher degree of difficulty*

2.4.2 The Preliminary Division will consist of 10 Stations of moderate difficulty.

2.4.3 The Open Division will consist of a minimum of 10 Stations, of which at least four will be set at a high degree of difficulty.

2.4.4 The course does not change across all age groups. The final course and placement, degree of difficulty, and the order of stations is the responsibility of the Judge.

2.4.5 Stockmanship Class Procedure

The pattern to be used during the section should be posted outside the ring at least one hour prior to the beginning of the class and earlier if possible. Alternatively the judge will perform a walk-through of the course just prior to the first pair's performance with all exhibitors encouraged to follow (without their alpacas).

- a.) The ability to follow instructions and pay attention forms part of the handler's assessment.
 - i. Handlers should enter the ring *eldest to youngest* as advised by the marshalling steward.
 - ii. Each pair (handler and alpaca) waits for the judge to indicate when to enter the course.
 - iii. Handlers must listen for instructions from the ring steward who may be directed by the judge to ask for certain manoeuvres, or for the pair to move on to the next challenge in the case of three refusals.
 - iv. Youth Parader pairs may be asked to leave the ring after the third refusal. The judge will indicate during the walk-through if this rule is to be enforced during the class.
- b.) Each pair performs in the ring solo
 - i. The scoring on the first challenge begins as soon as the pair enters the course and ends halfway between the first challenge and the next challenge, and so forth.
 - ii. The scoring on the last challenge ends when the pair leaves the course. After completing the course, the pair leaves the ring and awaits the completion of the course by all pairs. The scores will then be tallied and the final results announced. It is suggested, but not required, that the exhibitor brings their alpaca partner with them into the ring to accept their award.

2.4.6 Scoring Stockmanship

- a) Each challenge in the course is worth 10 points. The pair begins each challenge with the maximum 10 points. Points or point increments will be deducted based on the pair's performance over each challenge as they move through the course. Each pair's points total will then be tallied with the winner having the highest point total.
 - a. Ties are to be broken using ranked challenge named by the judge prior to the beginning of the class.
 - b. Any pair that changes the order or goes outside the course during their performance cannot place higher than a pair that completed the course correctly.
 - c. Repeating a Challenge is not considered to constitute breaking the course order.
- b) **2.4.7 Stockmanship dress code:** Collared shirt, jeans, Moleskins or black pants (belt optional), black or brown boots and Bush Hat. An extra point may be awarded for overall turn out.

c) Possible Deductions

- a. Each pair starts with full marks, and marks are then deducted according to the pair's performance on the course. Here is a list of possible deductions to assist you in your preparation:
 - Lack of team effort/handler rapport
 - Lack of flow, ie; touching pushing or pulling alpaca
 - Loud voice commands
 - Leading from the wrong side
 - Loose lead, which could lead to lack of control
 - Knocked down a challenge
 - Lack of attention by handler
 - Lack of attention by alpaca - inattentive to aids.
 - Off course

- Stepping outside or over a boundary
 - Rushing
 - Loss of control
 - Leaping
 - Balking
 - Refusal
 - Touching alpaca, e.g. pushing /shoving
 - Rough handling or excessive force/jerking
 - Poor sportsmanship
 - Dragging
- b. Safety hazards may require the judge to intervene at which time points will be deducted for each challenge following that intervention. Some of the possible hazards include:
- wrapping lead around hand ,wrist or arm.
 - Dangling (a safety hazard)
 - Hand on halter clip (a safety hazard)
- c. Should an Alpaca becomes loose at any point during course it will result in disqualification of that pair.
- d. Refusals are considered any one of the following:
- Firmly planting all four feet refusing to move
 - No response to pressure on the lead.
 - Refusing to be touched
 - Refusing placement of sash or ribbon onto alpaca
 - Stepping to the side of the challenge be it pole/tyre etc, to avoid the challenge
 - Taking step backwards ie two feet on the challenge and then backing off.

After a third refusal, the competitor will be directed to move on to the next challenge.

3 DIVISIONS – OPEN, PRELIMINARY AND INTRODUCTORY

3.1 OPEN DIVISION

Open classes are offered in all four age groups and are designed for advanced handlers who have:

- attended Youth Paraders training sessions / camp
- prepared their own animal or prearranged borrowed animal to display their skills
- an alpaca that is able to handle a high degree difficulty over the challenges
- trained their own alpaca and are eligible for the Trainer Award

Ribbons and Championships and Reserve Championships are awarded per age group with the Supreme Parader chosen from the highest point scorer. Within the open division the judge will select a Trainer Award in each age class, and the award of Master Trainer made to the Trainer achieving the highest score.

Entries in Open classes must be lodged by the closing date as per the Entry form. Late entries for Open Classes will not be accepted. However, at the discretion of the Chief Steward for Youth Paraders, and time permitting, advancing handlers wishing to display their skills may be placed in a non-competitive trial at the end of each session.

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR AGE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SUPREME CHAMPION TROPHIES

Competitors must compete in both Showmanship and Stockmanship sections for their age group to be eligible for an Age Championship or overall Supreme Champion.

Youth Paraders offers 4 age groups. All ages refer to the age of the exhibitor on the date of the event / show. The four age groups are defined as-

- **Junior:** Aged 7 years to under 12 years
- **Intermediate:** Aged 12years to under 16 years
- **Senior:** Aged 16 years to under 26 years

ALPACAS USED IN THIS COMPETITION

- All alpacas used in this competition must either be owned by the competitor, or borrowed with the prior consent of the owner of the alpaca.
- All alpacas exhibited must be registered on the International Alpaca Registry of the AAA.
- **An alpaca may only be used by one competitor in any given youth parader competition**
- The alpaca must be shown in a clean, well-fitted halter and lead. Conservative colours are suggested. The alpaca may not wear any other ornamental item, nor have toenails or fleece painted in any way.
- Alpacas may be shown in short or full fleece (not exceeding 12 months growth for huacayas and 23 months growth for suris)
- Training aids, such as clickers and treats, may not be used in the show ring.