



2009 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD

Conducted by
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

• REGULATIONS AND ENTRY CRITERIA

This award is conducted by the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia Inc who will be duly responsible for selecting the State winner during the course of each Royal Adelaide Show.

All entrants who enter the award must provide an undertaking that they will abide by the regulations and entry conditions as set out and to abide by the decisions of the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia Inc.

The rules and regulations apply to all three levels of this award: Country Show Society, Association and State levels.

The award will be run by qualification through country shows to association finals with a State Final being held at the 2009 Royal Adelaide Show.

AIMS:

- To highlight the importance of youth in rural South Australia and in particular the agricultural show movement.
- To identify and encourage enthusiastic, skilful, industrious and unselfish young people.
- To give young people a forum to express their views through education and experience and develop closer links with the primary industries in South Australia.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

Entrants must:

- Apply for and complete the entry form.
- Provide information indicating their reasons for applying for entry together with curriculum vitae; indicating work experience, community participation and agricultural show involvement.
- Residents of South Australia or who reside in Victoria but live no further than 50 kilometres from the Post Office of the town of the South Australian Show Society making the selection.
- Be aged between 20 and 30 years inclusive at the date of their local show.
- Enthusiastic and knowledgeable about rural life and affairs and agricultural shows.
- Be able to spend the required time at the local show, association level finals and be available to attend the Royal Adelaide Show between 4:30pm Friday 4th September 2009 to 10:00pm on Tuesday 8th September 2009.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

- Entrants must wear smart casual clothing suitable for an Autumn or Spring Show.
- Entrants to be judged in accordance with the following guidelines:

Country Show Involvement.....	15 points
Community Involvement	15 points
General and Rural Knowledge	20 points
Personal Presentation/Personality	20 points
Ambitions/Goals.....	10 points
Communication Skills	10 points
Dinner/Interview/General Interaction	10 points
TOTAL.....	100 points

• AWARD STRUCTURE

Country Show Society Level

All entrants must complete the award entry form. Show Societies may only select one award winner each year, with other placegetters eligible to re-enter the following year. The participant selected at the Country Show Society Level represents that Society at the Association Final. If the representative at Society level is unable to represent the Society in the Association Final judging, then that Society may select another participant to be their representative (eg runner up at a local level if there is one).

Association Level

Finalists at the Association level must be able to attend both an interview with a judging panel and a lunch/afternoon tea/dinner function held on the same date at a time and venue stipulated by the association. If a finalist is unable to attend both then the Show Society will need to select another participant to be their representative (eg runner up).

The Association Secretary must forward the entry form of the Association winner to the Agricultural Societies Council immediately following the Association Final. A recommendation is for all Association Finals to be held during the autumn in the same year as the State Final at the Royal Adelaide Show. If the Association Winner is unable to attend the State Final, then the Runner up will be asked to take their place.

State Level

The winner selected at the Association level represents that Association in the State Final to be conducted from the 4th - 8th September during the 2009 Royal Adelaide Show. The winner of the State Final is the Rural Ambassador Award winner for that year, and will represent South Australia at the National Rural Ambassador Final.

Eligibility to Re-enter

The winner of a previous State Final is not eligible to enter the Rural Ambassador Award again. Previous state finalists are eligible to enter the award a maximum of 2 times, with a minimum gap of 5 years after their 1st state final. After this period they are eligible to enter at Country Show level, and proceed through the various levels until they reach their 2nd State Final.

Judging Panel

One of the judges at all three of the levels (Country Show Society, Association and State) needs to be a past Rural Ambassador State Finalist, with Show Societies and Associations encouraged to invite Ambassadors from other areas to be judges. A list of Rural Ambassador contact details is available from the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia Inc secretary.

Variations to Regulations

Requests for variations to or exemptions from these Regulations are to be made in writing and forwarded to the Association Secretary and the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia Inc by the 1st March 2009. The Agricultural Societies Council reserves the right to vary the Rules and Regulations. Any variations approved will be notified in writing.

Awards/Prizes

Country Show Societies and Associations are to be responsible for determining the prizes at their own levels.

The winner of the State Final will receive \$5000.00 in prize money and the two equal runner ups will receive \$1000.00, with all three having the opportunity to participate in a study tour travelling to New Zealand the following March/April. Fourth and fifth placegetters will have the opportunity to attend a major interstate show. Prize Winners to advise of availability for New Zealand study tour and interstate exchanges within 30 days of the State Final. Any cancellation of prizes must occur 60 days prior to departure. All Association winners will be invited to participate in a leadership/personal development course. Finalists will need to accept prizes within 12 months otherwise the prizes will be unredeemable. All finalists will receive an RM Williams clothing package and be accommodated, wined and dined by the Agricultural Societies Council during their period of attendance at the Royal Adelaide Show.

(The State Final awards/prizes may be subject to alteration).

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Outlined below are recommendations for the level of commitment that will be expected of Rural Ambassadors at Country Show Society, Association and State levels.

These are to be used as a guide only and it is up to the discretion of Rural Ambassador entrants, Show Societies and Associations as to whether they are adhered to, but it will be encouraged.

The level of commitment which people can offer will depend on employment, family, sporting, study and other commitments so this will vary between individuals.

Country Show Society Level

- Entrants will attend their local show
- Entrants offered an invitation to attend the official opening of the show
- Entrants offered an invitation to attend the show's official luncheon/afternoon tea etc
- Winner of the Award to accompany the official party at the show
- Winner to be encouraged and supported in the writing of thank you letters to the Show Society and sponsors
- Entrants offered a position on the Show Management Committee or other sub committees

Association Level

- Association Winner invited to attend all of the Association Shows
- Association Winner offered an invitation to attend the official opening of each show in the association
- Association Winner offered an invitation to attend each show's official luncheon/afternoon tea etc and to accompany the official party at the show
- Association Winner to be encouraged and supported in the writing of thank you letters to their Association and sponsors
- Association Winner offered a position as an Association Delegate and invited to the Association AGM and other relevant functions
- Country Show winners invited to attend Association AGM and other relevant functions

State Level

- The State Winner is encouraged to attend a country show from each Association during their 12 months as the state winner
- Associations encouraged to invite the State Winner to attend one of their Shows
- The State Winner offered an honorary position on the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia Executive as an observer
- All State Finalists to be utilised as judges at local and association levels, with Show Societies and Associations encouraged to invite State Finalists from other Associations
- All State Finalists are encouraged to write thank you letters to the Agricultural Societies Council of South Australia Inc and other sponsors