ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of WA

RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD 2019

28 SEPTEMBER - 5 OCTOBER 2019 | PERTHROYALSHOW.COM.AU

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY *of* WA

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RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD 2019

The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia gratefully acknowledges the generous support and sponsorship provided by the Rendezvous Hotel, Scarborough.

The Rural Ambassador Competition is a national competition aimed at young adults from rural areas who have a passion for living and working in their communities.

The competition aims to discover the next generation of rural leaders who have the desire to represent and promote their community, their region and their state. Successful entrants are given the opportunity to meet and network with like-minded representatives from around the state, around the country and around the Commonwealth. You will meet state and federal decision makers and leaders in agriculture and education, be able to input your point of view, ask hard questions and make important contacts.

The only requirement for entry is a passion for agriculture and rural Australia, and a desire to challenge yourself and have a good time.

So if this sounds like you, contact your local Agricultural Society for entry details.

COMMENTS FROM PAST ENTRANTS

HARRIS THOMPSON, 2018 STATE WINNER

“Winning the 2018 Rural ambassador award for the RAS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA is a real dream come true for me. I hope in my role as Rural Ambassador I can raise much needed awareness for the need to support your local Agricultural show.

I am very passionate about showing and hope to spread some of my passion to people to encourage them to participate in their local show. I also endeavour to support and attend as many shows in the state this year and promote the award and encourage anyone between the age of 20-30 to enter. I have met some great people and hope to stay in touch. “

LUKE HALL, 2017 STATE WINNER

I would love for there to be a specific subject and assessment in all schools devoted in agricultural studies. I am then sure people in the general community would have an appreciation of the basics of farming practices. With better education and communication, farmers would have the shared support they need to ensure best practices continue. Community being educated of where food comes from explaining of the issues to the broader community would be lessened to what exists now exposed from ill-informed parties , or what see and hear from social media.

Education is the only way for our community to learn about how and why we farm the way we do, through education it will ignite a flame in a person who has otherwise had no exposure to the industry, helping to make technological breakthroughs in all levels of Agriculture, or find the solution to a problem we never knew we had. Who knows, exposing agricultural studies in the early years that would be background of their knowledge, a decision or policy maker could make beneficial changes to the industry all because they were taught the basics in school.

BRAD KUPSCH, 2016 STATE WINNER

2016 Rural Ambassador Brad Kupsch, a mixed grain and livestock farmer from the Allanooka region, is using his appointment to inspire others to look at agriculture as a rewarding choice of profession.

“I want farmers to be viewed with the same professionality as doctors, lawyers and other top end occupations - not enough credit is given to farmers for the good work they do,” said Mr Kupsch, who believes diversification creates strength and opportunity.

“When a grain grower diversifies into beef, his business gains diversity and strength from the ever tumultuous commodity markets,” he said. “More diverse enterprises call for more advisory specialists to help, such as agronomists, vets and nutritionists.

“A calling for more skilled labour and advisory positions would not only create interest in agricultural uni degrees, but jobs located in rural settings.”

JESS WARR, 2015 STATE WINNER

Jess Warr is using her year as Rural Ambassador to encourage women and children who have left country WA to return to their hometowns.

“Young women have a wealth of knowledge and experience to commit to local endeavours and organisations. I am passionate about the role of women in rural communities and the opportunities for them to contribute.

“My main goal is to promote the education of the wider community and share the opportunities that are available in close-knit country towns.”

IMPORTANT DATES

ENTRIES CLOSE

30 June 2019 at local Agricultural Societies so that group judging may take place during July.

Group judging needs to take place prior to **30 July 2019**. The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia must receive all group finalist documentation by **30 July 2019**.

STATE JUDGING

Saturday 24 August 2019
Judging will be held at the Rendezvous Hotel in Scarborough on the afternoon of **24 August 2019**.

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Saturday 24 August 2019
The Presentation of Awards will be held at the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia (RASWA), Claremont Showground on **24 August 2019**.

GENERAL OUTLINE

The Rural Ambassador Award is conducted in four stages:

LOCAL LEVEL
The winner selected at the local level represents that Agricultural Society at the Group Finals.

GROUP LEVEL
The winner selected at the Group Final represents that Group in the State Final.

STATE LEVEL
The winner of the State Final will represent Western Australia in the Nationals.

Group finalists travel to Perth for State Judging Finals on **Friday 23 August 2019** and are accommodated at the expense of the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia.

The successful 2019 Rural Ambassador will be required to represent RASWA at Perth Royal Show on selected consecutive days between **Saturday 28 September** - **Saturday 5 October 2019**.

NATIONAL LEVEL
As the State winner he/she will represent Western Australia at the National finals (each year, a different State takes the role of Host). The airfare is paid by the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia (when travelling interstate) and the accommodation and meals are provided by the host state.

Young people wishing to enter the Rural Ambassador Award should contact their local Agricultural Society for further details, or contact the Event and Competition Co-ordinator below.

Rural Ambassador Co-ordinator
Marc Platten
PO Box 135
CLAREMONT WA 6910
Ph: (08) 6263 3100
Email: ruralambassador@raswa.org.au

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Applicants must be permanent residents of Western Australia.
- Applicants must be aged between 20 and 30 years of age as at 1 May of the year of the State Final.
- Staff and Councillors of RASWA and sons and daughters of the staff and Councillors of RASWA and Agricultural Society State Body's Executive are not eligible to enter.

HOW TO ENTER

- Seek nomination through your local Agricultural Society.
- Send a detailed curriculum vitae with the entry form (attached).
- List two referees (or references) who may be contacted.

JUDGING CRITERIA WILL INCLUDE

- Entry form and curriculum vitae (to be provided to judges nominated by RASWA)
- Interview
- Personal presentation
- Agricultural knowledge – a basic knowledge of agriculture in and around your community
- General rural knowledge
- Verbal presentation of two minutes on a rural topic of your choice
- Interests in community organisations
- Country show involvement
- Background in rural or country town interests

The criteria is optional as some groups will nominate their entrant in lieu of holding a local competition.

RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARDS

The prizes for the winner are:

- The opportunity to participate in an agricultural based conference or event – this changes year to year
- $1000 to contribute towards costs incurred during your year in office
- A complimentary one year RASWA membership
- Accommodation and all meals during the weekend of final judging

- The runner-up will receive a cheque for $500.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. The Rural Ambassador Award is open to young persons with the following criteria:

    - Entrants must be permanent residents of Australia.
    - Entrants must be aged between 20 and 30 years of age as at 1 May of the year of the State Final.
    - The Award is open to both males and females, either single or married.
    - The individual must be nominated by an Agricultural Society.

2. Although it is not necessary for entrants to be currently living in the country, they should have been a permanent resident in a country area for a period of not less than 12 months. Entrants must be a member of their local Agricultural Society.

3. Tertiary qualifications are not a prerequisite for the Rural Ambassador Award and will have no influence in the selection process. The Award seeks to attract all young rural people who symbolize the rural spirit – people with vitality, who are forward thinking and with a passion for the land and local country shows.

4. Finalists are responsible to be at judging on time. Please note, RASWA is not responsible for organising the competitions at a Local or Group level. All enquiries must be directed to your local Agricultural Society.

5. All entries must include a completed entry form and a recent photograph.

6. Following selection, Group winners are expected to attend as many local shows in their Group as possible to help promote the Award and encourage future participation of prospective entrants.

7. Winners at the Local Level should be prepared to attend the judging at Group Level to represent their Society. If selected as Group Winner, the entrants must be prepared to attend the Final Judging and programme in Perth.

8. Finalists will be responsible for travel from their home to Perth and return, plus all other private expenses associated with their stay in Perth. To assist Finalists with their dinner cost on Friday 23 August, the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia will place a $50 credit on each room account at the Hotel.

9. All finalists will receive a prize and be accommodated during their stay in Perth for the final judging. Accommodation and meal costs whilst in Perth will be met by the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia. Transport to and from the Showground and other venues will be arranged.

    All Finalists will be accommodated in Perth for two nights from **FRIDAY 23 AUGUST 2019** departing **SUNDAY 25 AUGUST 2019**. The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia will provide details of a Code of Conduct required by Finalists.

10. The successful 2019 Rural Ambassador will be required to represent RASWA at Perth Royal Show on selected days between 28 September - 5 October 2019. This could involve:

    - Attendance at functions.
    - Attendance at competitions and the awarding of prizes.
    - Participation at education-based exhibits.

    Note: the co-ordinator will work with the Rural Ambassador to develop an individual program.

    The Rural Ambassador's accommodation, meals and passes will be provided during their stay in Perth.

11. The winner of the State Final will represent Western Australia at the National Final. The airfare will be covered by the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia and accommodation is covered by the host State.

12. It is a condition of entry that the entrant waives any right to claim against the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia, local Agriculture Societies and Award organisers or any sponsor or provider of prizes in connection with any loss or injury suffered by the entrant or in relation to the decisions and directions of judges, stewards, officials, host committee and staff.

13. Occasional representation of RASWA at other out-of-Show activities or events.

INFORMATION FOR AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

LOCAL LEVEL

Applicants wishing to nominate for the Rural Ambassador Competition, should complete the Local Application Form and return it to their local Agricultural Society. Those societies with more than one local nomination will need to determine which applicant to put forward to the Group judging.

JUDGING

The Rural Ambassador Award is entirely the responsibility of the local Agricultural Society concerned.

Names of all local entrants and which Agricultural Society they are representing, must be forwarded to RASWA office by **30 June 2019**.

PRIZES

The Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia will forward every entrant a 'thank you for entering' letter.

GROUP LEVEL

The Applicant representing their Local Agricultural Society at the Group Level needs to complete the Group Finalist Application Form in conjunction with their Agricultural Society. A copy of this form needs to be forwarded to the Group Secretary of the Agricultural Society hosting the group judging and the co-ordinator at RASWA as soon as possible.

JUDGING

The Agricultural Society hosting their Group of affiliated Agricultural Societies must advise RASWA by **30 May 2019** of what date the judging is taking place.

PRIZES

The Royal Agricultural Society will provide a sash and medallion to winners of their Group.

STATE LEVEL

The State Finalist Application Form needs to be completed and returned immediately after Group Judging to Rural Ambassador Co-ordinator at RASWA office by no later than the **31 July 2019**.

JUDGING

Venue and judges etc. are selected by the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia.

Immediately after notification of winners from each group, a Finalists itinerary detailing their time of arrival and programme in Perth will be provided. Accommodation for Finalists is booked and paid for by the Royal Agricultural Society of WA.

PRIZES

Each finalist will receive two tickets to the Perth Royal Show.

The overall winner will receive $1000 and represent Western Australia at the following year's conference.

The runner up will receive $500.

All finalist's accommodation and meals will be provided by RASWA over the Final judging weekend.

NATIONAL LEVEL

The winner of the State Final will be expected to represent Western Australia at the National Final in 2019. The airfare would be covered by the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia and accommodation is covered by the host State.

HINTS AND TIPS FOR ENTRANTS

- Arrive early for your interview
- Dress smart and tidy, but comfortable
- Smile and relax
- Use eye contact when introduced to the judges
- Sit comfortably
- Speak clearly
- State why you entered the competition
- Be able to describe your strengths
- What are your goals
- Prepare any questions you wish to ask
- Be positive
- What is your most significant achievement
- Explain why you love living and working in a rural community
- Show courtesy to everyone you meet
- Remember the three 'P's': Preparation, Practice and Performance
- Most importantly, **BE YOURSELF**

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of WA

RURAL AMBASSADOR - LOCAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY APPLICATION

This application form is to be used to enter the Rural Ambassador competition with your local Agricultural Society.

Name of Agricultural Society

CANDIDATE DETAILS

Name	
Age	Date of Birth
Address	
Phone Number (Work)	Phone Number (Home)
Mobile	Fax
Email	

If chosen to represent my Group in the State Finals, I am prepared to abide by the criteria as set out in the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia's Conditions of Entry forms.

Signed Date

PERSONAL INFORMATION Please submit the answers below on a separate A4 sheet of paper if necessary.

Occupation/Student
Interests/Sports/Hobbies
Membership/Involvement in Organisations
Ambitions
What contribution could you make as Rural Ambassador?
Other Relevant Information

1 Graylands Road
Claremont WA 6010

PO Box 135
Claremont WA 6910

(08) 6263 3100
raswa@raswa.org.au

www.raswa.org.au

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of WA

RURAL AMBASSADOR - GROUP FINALIST APPLICATION

This application form is to be completed once representing your local Agricultural Society.

Name of Agricultural Society

_____ (Name) will be our representative in the _____ _____ Group Finals. The Entrant whose name is on this sheet has been chosen to represent the above Agricultural Society in the Regional Finals being held on _____ _____ (Date) at _____ (Venue) _____ _____ (Town).

Finalist should be prepared to arrive in _____ (Town) at _____ (time am/pm) on _____ (date) allowing sufficient time for preparation and to meet other finalists and judges prior to commencement of judging.

CANDIDATE DETAILS

Name	
Age	Date of Birth
Address	
Phone Number (Work)	Phone Number (Home)
Mobile	Fax
Email	

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Name	
Address	
Phone Number (Work)	Phone Number (Home)
Mobile	Fax
Email	

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY of WA

RURAL AMBASSADOR - STATE FINALIST APPLICATION

This application form must be received by the Royal Agricultural Society of WA no later than **30 July 2019** for use in the State Finals, together with a CV.

Name of Group
Name of Agricultural Society
Name of Finalist

Has been chosen to represent the above Group in the State Finals on **Saturday 24 August 2019**. State Finalist should be prepared to arrive in Perth on **Friday 23 August 2019**, allowing sufficient time to meet other finalists and to join them for an evening meal.

Accommodation for this weekend is provided by the Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia.

CANDIDATE DETAILS

Name	
Age	Date of Birth
Address	
Phone Number (Work)	Phone Number (Home)
Mobile	Fax
Email	

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Name	
Address	
Phone Number (Work)	Phone Number (Home)
Mobile	Fax
Email	

Please complete this form and return to:
Rural Ambassador Co-ordinator
Rural Ambassador Award, The Royal Agricultural Society of WA PO Box 135, Claremont WA 6910
Tel (08) 6263 3100 | Email ruralambassador@raswa.org.au

JUDGING CRITERIA

NAME				
Country Show Involvement				25 points
General & Rural Knowledge				20 points
Community Involvement				15 points
Personality				10 points
Ambitions/Goals				10 points
Communication Skills				10 points
Style, Grooming & Deportment				10 points
SUBTOTAL				**100**
FINAL JUDGING				
Public Presentation (onstage interview)				20 points
FINAL TOTAL				**120**

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY *of* WA

The Royal Agricultural Society of WA

Claremont Showground
1 Graylands Road
Claremont WA 6010

T: (08) 6263 3100
raswa.com.au