

Donating a Perpetual Trophy



The purpose of competition at the Royal Easter Show is to foster agricultural and pastoral excellence. Competition ensures that the standard continually improves.

In the 1870's the Society introduced regulations to govern judges and judging to ensure that competition was consistent and fair.



The tradition of Perpetual Trophies dates back to this time. Some of the trophies currently competed for were first won in 1901.

The Perpetual Trophies are the most prestigious of all RAS awards. They have a dual function in recognising excellence in competition and commemorating people and organizations who have had a long and meritorious connection with the Society.

In order to maintain this prestige and to ensure that this tradition continues, the following guidelines must be adhered to when proposing a new Perpetual Trophy.

A Perpetual Trophy is established to honour the memory of an individual or organization who has had a strong or significant association with the Royal Easter Show.

Perpetual Trophies are not a matter of commercial gain or media exposure; therefore, commercial entities (profit-making companies) are not permitted to donate a Perpetual Trophy in their own name.

Trophies are held in perpetuity by the RAS and a medallion is awarded to the winner annually. Winners' names are engraved each year on the trophy.

New Perpetual Trophies must have a value of \$2000 and be accompanied by an investment amount of no less than \$2000 to cover the cost of annual maintenance. An additional levy of \$500 will also be required if any donated trophy does not meet guidelines for weight, durability and/or maintenance needs. This will help to offset the additional costs encountered



in boxing and maintaining fragile and oversized trophies.



Perpetual Trophies cannot be:

- Named after the property of the Donor (where that property is a commercial entity)
- Named after a corporation or company defined as a commercial entity.
- Named after a current Councillor or Honorary Councillor.

Perpetual Trophies can be provided by the Donor (in accord with these guidelines) or a donation made to the RAS for purchase of the trophy. Where a trophy is provided, it must meet these guidelines:

- No larger than 51cm x 35cm x 30cm
- No more than 15kg
- Resilient and durable

Donors may nominate or suggest a class for which the trophy be awarded. The ultimate decision however, lies with the relevant Section Committee.



Applications must be received by the 1st November for a Perpetual Trophy to be included for competition in the Royal Easter Show the following year.

If for any reason there is a need to reassign a Perpetual Trophy to another class, this can be done only with approval from the relevant Section Committee. As a courtesy, reasonable effort will be made to contact the original donor/s and notify them of this change.

Enquiries regarding donation of Perpetual Trophies should be directed to the Heritage Centre, RAS of NSW.

In 2004 the RAS of NSW introduced a new category of Trophy – the Commercial Perennial Trophy. This allows commercial entities with a long or significant association with the Royal Easter Show, the opportunity to donate a Perpetual Trophy in their own name. Trophies must meet the Perpetual Trophy Guidelines but exception will be made so that trophies can be named after Commercial Entities.

These trophies will be held by the RAS but their upkeep will be payable annually by the Donor, making them valid for the life of the Commercial entity or the entity's contribution. Trophies must be valued at no less than \$2000 and an annual fee of \$500 is payable by 30th September of the



year prior to the Royal Easter Show for the trophy to be included in competition for that year. Trophies will be held in perpetuity by the RAS but will only be offered for competition whilst the maintenance fee is current.

The introduction of this class safeguards the prestige of Perpetual Trophies and ensures that they will not in future be used as a means to commercial gain and advertising.

Not-for-profit organizations may still donate a Perpetual Trophy in their own name.



Different rules and regulations govern the naming and donation of trophies for the Sydney Royal Wine Show. Please see The Heritage Centre for a copy of these guidelines.

The Perpetual Trophy Collection of the RAS of NSW is unique. It comprises a wide range of beautiful and elegant trophies that illustrate an extraordinary history of agricultural judging and the pursuit of excellence. Your donation will add to this magnificent collection and continue the traditions of the Royal Easter Show.

