



Dog Grooming

ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW Presented by
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**ROYAL
ADELAIDE
SHOW**



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Contents

2026 KEY DATES	3
SCHEDULE	3
HOW TO ENTER.....	3
ENTRY FEES (GST INCLUDED)	3
SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES	3
CLOSING DATE OF ENTRIES	3
ENTRY PASSES	4
MEMBERSHIP	4
WITHDRAWALS	4
REFUNDS	4
TRANSFERS.....	4
CONTACT US.....	4
YOUR PRIVACY	4
PRIZES.....	5
PAYMENT OF PRIZE MONEY.....	5
PRIZE MONEY AND GST.....	5
IMPORTANT	5
GENERAL REGULATIONS	5
SPECIAL REGULATIONS	5
LOCATION OF COMPETITION	6
ARRIVAL OF DOGS.....	6
POWDER.....	6
LEADS	6
EXERCISE PERIOD	6
TROLLEYS AND GROOMING TABLES	6
DEFINITIONS.....	6
Novice/Beginner	6
Open.....	6
Masters	6
TIME ALLOCATED	7
JUDGING TIMING SCHEDULE	7
SPRAY UP.....	7
GENERAL RULE	8
STRICTLY PROHIBITED	8
GROOM REQUIREMENTS	8

COMPETITION DOGS.....	8
CONTESTANTS.....	9
END OF COMPETITION.....	9
BEST IN SHOW, RUNNER UP IN SHOW AND SHINING STAR AWARD.....	9
CLASS DETAILS.....	9
Terrier & More Classes.....	9
GUNDOG CLASS.....	9
ALL OTHER PUREBRED CLASS.....	10
Salon Styling.....	10
ASIAN FUSION.....	11
POODLE CLASS.....	11
CLASSES.....	12
SPECIAL AWARDS.....	13

2026 KEY DATES

Entries Close: Friday 17 July 2026

Judging: Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 September 2026

SCHEDULE

Please refer to DEFINITIONS for class eligibility

PLEASE BE AT THE COMPETITION RING IN THE PET CENTRE 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO PRE-JUDGE TIME

SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2026

7.30 am to 8.30 am – Setup and Pre-Judge

8.30 am to 11.00 am – Gundogs & Asian Fusion

12.30 pm – Pre-Judge

1.00 pm to 4.00 pm – Terriers

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2026

8.00 am to 8.30 am – Setup and Pre-Judge

8.30 am to 11.00 am – Purebred Scissor, Salon Styling

1.00 pm – Pre-Judge

1.30 pm to 4.30 pm – Poodles

5.00 pm – Presentation

5.30 pm – BIS

The Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society makes every effort to ensure that all information contained within this schedule is correct at the time of printing, however the RA&HS reserve the right to change such details as may be required.

This competition will be run under the Rules and Regulations of the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of South Australia Incorporated in conjunction with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the South Australian Canine Association Incorporated. It shall be a condition of entry that all persons lodging an entry agree to be and shall be bound by the above Rules, Regulations and Constitution, by the General Regulations hereinafter mentioned and by the Special Regulations hereinafter appearing.

HOW TO ENTER

Complete the entry form available online at www.theshow.com.au/competitions/dog-grooming

ENTRY FEES (GST INCLUDED)

Entries: \$53.05 per class

Novice Classes: \$12.75 per class

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

All entries must be submitted online www.theshow.com.au

Entries submitted online will be acknowledged via email.

- The Society will accept only those entries which are registered at the time of entry.
- All exhibits will be catalogued in age order. Animals may not compete in more than one class other than group classes or those classes stating animals are to be drawn from general classes.
- Animals are ineligible to compete in any group class unless they are entered in the general classes.
- Only cattle which are entered for competition will be permitted to enter the Showground.

CLOSING DATE OF ENTRIES

The following conditions will strictly apply:

- All entries must be submitted online by the above closing date. A late entry option is available under the following conditions:
- Late entries may only be submitted online and will be accepted for 7 days after the official closing date (by 5.00 pm CST)
- An additional fee equivalent to three times the standard entry fee is paid.

Absolutely no exception to the above conditions will be made to any exhibitor under any circumstance.

ENTRY PASSES

Exhibitors entering:

- One exhibit to receive one admission pass
- Two exhibits to receive two admission passes
- Three & Four exhibits to receive three admission passes
- Five & Six exhibits to receive four admission passes
- More than six exhibits; one pass for every other two exhibits entered

MEMBERSHIP

It is not a requirement of entry to the Dog Grooming Competition to be a member of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of SA Inc.

We do ask you however, to consider becoming a member of the Society, which will greatly assist us in continuing to grow, promote and support South Australia's vital Primary Industries. There are numerous other benefits to membership, including unlimited entry to The Royal Adelaide Show, access to Members Dining and Bar facilities and even discounts for Taste of the Best and The Adelaide Showground Caravan Park.

Further information can be found at <https://www.rahs.com.au/membership>

WITHDRAWALS

All withdrawals must be made in writing and can be sent via email to entries@adelaideshowground.com.au.

Emailed withdrawals must include "Withdrawal" in the subject line and the section (eg Dog Grooming), exhibitor name, class number, exhibit number (if known) and exhibit name (if applicable). Withdrawals must be made at least 24 hours prior to judging.

REFUNDS

No refund of entry fees will be made after the closing date of entries.

TRANSFERS

Please ensure exhibits are entered in the correct class at time of entry. No incorrect exhibit will be transferred to another class after the closing date of entries.

In a class or competition level where there is less than 3 contestants, those contestants may, at the judge's discretion, be offered a choice of moving up to the next level or down to the next level (provided they are within the criteria for that level).

CONTACT US

Email entries@adelaideshowground.com.au
Phone (08) 8210 5211 Between 9.00 am - 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday
Website www.theshow.com.au
Convenor Amy Jones
Email thehairyhound@live.com.au

YOUR PRIVACY

By exhibiting at The Show you acknowledge that you have read and agree to the privacy policy of the RA&HS which can be viewed here www.theshow.com.au/privacy-policy

In relation to your entry into a competition we may specifically use and/or disclose your personal information to:

- Communicate competition information to you such as entry opening dates, delivery and collection details and entry ticket distribution
- Publish competition results both online and in printed results listings
- Publish competition entries in Competition Catalogues
- Advise sponsors of competition prize winners for distribution of prizes from both the RA&HS and sponsors

By entering into a competition you consent to your contact details being provided to the sponsors of that competition for the purpose of distributing your prize. You also consent to your name, suburb and postcode being listed in a competition catalogue and, if you are a prize winner your name in competition results.

If you do not wish for your name and address to be printed in a competition catalogue, please ensure that you select the 'Keep Private' option in your online exhibitor profile.

PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded (unless otherwise specified):

Classes 1 -9

Novice -	First , \$25 & Ribbon;	Second , \$10 & Ribbon;	Third , Ribbon
Open/Master -	First , \$50 & Ribbon;	Second , \$25 & Ribbon;	Third , \$10 & Ribbon

Classes 10 - 18

Poodle, Salon Styling, and Gundog

Novice -	First , \$50 & Ribbon;	Second , \$25 & Ribbon;	Third , Ribbon
Open/Master -	First , \$100 & Ribbon;	Second , \$75 & Ribbon;	Third , \$50 & Ribbon

Sashes will be presented to Best of Breed and other special award winners

PAYMENT OF PRIZE MONEY

Any prize money won during the Royal Adelaide Show is paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). The Exhibitor should provide the BSB, Account Number and Account Name when entering.

PRIZE MONEY WILL BE PAID BY THE END OF OCTOBER.

PRIZE MONEY AND GST

Prize money as stated in the Prize Schedule does not include GST.

The prize money which we pay to successful exhibitors depends on information provided to us. If you confirm that you are GST registered and provide your Australian Business Number (ABN), we will pay the appropriate prize money plus 10% GST. We will provide you with a Recipient Created Tax Invoice which you will need to submit to the Australian Taxation Office.

If you confirm you are registered for GST, in entering the competition, you acknowledge your agreement to the following:

- You will not issue a tax invoice to the RA&HS in respect to prize money received;
- You will notify the RA&HS if you cease to be registered for GST.

If you provide your Australian Business Number but are not registered for GST, we will pay the prize money as detailed in the Competition Schedule without reference to the GST.

If you confirm you are entering as part of a private recreational pursuit or hobby, we will pay the prize money as detailed in the Competition Schedule without reference to GST.

IMPORTANT

It is important that you either:

- Confirm you are entering as part of a private recreational pursuit or hobby, or
- Confirm you are entering as a GST registered business and supply your ABN

Failure to do either of the above will require the RA&HS to withhold tax, at the maximum tax rate, from your prize money in accordance with Australian tax legislation. The RA&HS is not a tax consultant and therefore assumes no liability for actions taken as a result of these guidelines. In any instances where an entrant or sponsor is uncertain of the tax implications of their involvement, they should consult their own accountant or tax advisor.

The Society makes every endeavor to ensure all prizes listed are accurate at the time of publishing. Should a cash prize be withdrawn by a sponsor subsequent to publishing, the prize will revert back to the competitions default amount where applicable. Vouchers, product or trophies withdrawn by a sponsor subsequent to publishing will not be replaced. It is the responsibility of the prize winner to follow-up with the Society any sponsored prize (cash, voucher, product, trophy) they believe they are entitled to prior to 30 November in the year of the prize being awarded. The Society will not follow-up prize sponsors after this date or review any prizes that may have been incorrectly.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Exhibitors are reminded that the Society's General Regulations apply to all sections of the Show. A copy of the General Regulations can be obtained from the Society's website at www.theshow.com.au/general-information or from the Society's Administration Office.

Exhibitors should note that the General Regulations contain a number of provisions relevant to competitions and this Schedule including but not limited to, offences, penalties, prohibited drugs. As those conditions apply in addition to the regulations contained within this schedule, Exhibitors should familiarise themselves with the General Regulations.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Exhibitors are reminded that the Special Regulations contained within this Schedule are merely supplementary to and subject to the General Regulations.

LOCATION OF COMPETITION

The Dog Grooming Competition will be held in the Pet Centre in the Basketball Stadium at Adelaide Showground. Only dogs accepted for competition will be permitted onto the Showground.

ARRIVAL OF DOGS

Dogs may enter the Showground between 7.00 am and 8.45 am on the day they are to be judged. Dogs must enter the Showground via the Railway Gate off Rose Terrace. Cooke Terrace Gate will also be open from 7.30 am until 9 am daily.

POWDER

The use of grooming powders inside the pavilion is not permitted.

LEADS

Dogs must be brought to the Showground secured with a suitable lead no longer than 2m and Owners/Handlers of exhibits shall always maintain control over exhibits during the Show.

EXERCISE PERIOD

Dogs may be exercised during the designated lunch break at a time to be determined each day, depending on the progress of judging. Dogs must be exercised only in the designated areas.

TROLLEYS AND GROOMING TABLES

Trolleys and grooming tables are to be kept within the boundary of the judging area. They are not permitted to be kept in the walkways. Due to risk management obligations, the use of cordless equipment is encouraged. Power will be available. No hydraulic tables. Electric tables permitted.

DEFINITIONS

Novice/Beginner

A groomer who has less than two years' experience in grooming which is defined as any groomer who has used grooming equipment including but not limited to, clippers, scissors, stripping equipment or any other type of grooming equipment. Any person who has been or is a bather/brusher technician for more than two years but has used the listed equipment for under two years still qualifies as a novice. A novice groomer must move up to open when they have two years or more experience as per this definition or have won at novice level competing against four or more competitors. This applies to each class competed in.

Attention Novices - if you are a beginner then Salon Styling may well be the class for you! No pressure and you can do a groom that you are very comfortable with whether you work in a salon, have a mobile or just starting out after completing a grooming course.

Open

Groomers who have won a novice class or have over two years' experience or a novice who voluntarily chooses this class. An open groomer must move up to masters when they have won at this level competing against four or more competitors. This applies to each class competed in.

Masters

Groomers who have won in the open class or a first place in the creative class or voluntary chooses this class (Certified Master Groomers do not have to enter at this level, they may choose open or master's level)

TIME ALLOCATED

JUDGING TIMING SCHEDULE

Groom out and tidy 1hr -1hr 30min
Full clip 1hr 30min – 1hr 45min

Prejudging all classes - 30 minutes

Salon Freestyle/Asian Fusion

Under 30.4cms (12").....1hr 30min
30.4cms to 58.4cms (12" to 23").....2 hours
Over 58.4cms (23").....2hrs 15min

Gundog

Under 40.6cms (16").....1hr 30min
Over 40.6cms (16").....2 hours
Under 58.4cms (23").....2hrs for hand strip
Over 58.4cms (23").....2hrs 15min for hand strip

Purebred Scissor Class

Under 30.4cms (12").....1hr 30min
30.4cms to 58.4cms (12" to 23").....2 hours
Over 58.4cm (23").....2hrs 15min

Hand Scissor (No blocking in with clippers)

Bichons.....2 hours
Kerry Blue.....2hrs 15min

Terrier More

Under 40.6cms (16").....1hr 30min
Over 40.6cms (16").....2 hours
Under 58.4cms (23")2hrs for hand strip
Over 58.4cm (23")2hrs 15min for hand strip

Poodle

Under 30.4cms (12")1hr 30min
30.4cm to 58.4cms (12" to 23")2 hours
Over 58.4cms (23")2hrs 15min

SPRAY UP

Spray up time is allocated to Scandinavian/Lion, Continental and English Saddle trims. 15 mins will be added to the total time. (Spray time inclusive, does not need to be done in 15 mins, done when suits groomer within the total time)

Competitors must provide their own equipment, including tables, cordless clippers etc. (Please note that power is provided, but Exhibitors are encouraged to use cordless clippers.)

Competitors should have their dogs ready for the judge's inspection 30 minutes before their class begins.

In fairness to other contestants, contestants who are late will not be allowed to compete.

The judges will examine the dogs prior to the start of the various classes to determine overall cleanliness and the general condition of the coat. At this time, dogs with insufficient coat growth (6-8 weeks), dogs with parasites or dogs that have been excessively pre-trimmed may be dismissed from the ring or allowed to continue but will not be included in the final judging.

A toilet break (for all) will be offered through the competition. The break will be chaperoned by the judge/s.

Contestant toilet breaks may be taken at any time, but the judge/s must be informed, and no extra time will be allowed for grooming (dog must remain in the ring with a replacement handler)

Please follow the judge's instructions at all times.

All dogs must be on a lead or in a crate. Dogs not participating in the Show will not be permitted in the exhibit hall and should be left at home. Contestants will be held responsible for any damage caused by their dogs.

GENERAL RULE

- In a class or competition level where there are less than three contestants, those contestants may, at the judge's discretion, be offered a choice of moving up to the next level or down to the next level (provided they are within the criteria for that level)
- Placings - the judge reserves the right to award placing on the merit of the grooms in front of them (ie) if the judge feels the quality of the groom does not warrant a first place, they can award a lesser placing or no placing at all.
- No business establishment shall display its name in the ring.
- Competitors will be ineligible to compete if employed, coached or instructed by any judge within the 12 weeks preceding the competition.
- Photographs of contestants and/or dogs taken at the competition may be used for publication.
- All clipping, scissoring, stripling or plucking should be done in the ring during the time frame given and not after time is called. No coaching and/or comments/discussion from ringside are allowed and may result in the disqualification of the exhibitor.
- Dye or colouring is not permitted. In salon freestyle/Asian Freestyle class, glitter sprays and a small amount of coloured chalk can be used for example blushed cheeks. Bows and neck attire can be fitted after groom is completed.
- All dogs must be on a lead or in a crate. Contestants will be held responsible for any damage caused by their dog.
- The ring steward's role is to assist competitors and ensure the competition runs on time and to the rules specified. The ring steward is restricted from influencing any competitor.
- It is the Exhibitors responsibility to clean up after your dog both inside and outside the venue, this includes faeces and hair removed from dog when competing.

STRICTLY PROHIBITED

- No electronic devices of any type - this includes mobile phones, iPads and headsets
- Beverages not in spill proof containers, no glass.
- There is to be strictly NO coaching by anyone at any time during the competition, including toilet breaks and toileting of dogs
- Alcohol is not permitted on the Showground and may only be consumed in licensed areas.

GROOM REQUIREMENTS

Groom out and tidy: Coat is to be fully groomed out, knot free and fluffed. Undercoat removed if double coated or a shedding breed. Feet need to be trimmed, between eyes and fringe to be trimmed to remove any hair impacting eyes and vision. Hair around the ear canal to be trimmed if required. Ear length to be neatened or trimmed if needed. Hygiene area to be clipped, anus area to be trimmed.

Full clip: Coat is to be trimmed all over, using clippers with a blade or attachment comb, length must be suitable for the breed/coat type. Feet need to be trimmed, between eyes and fringe to be trimmed to remove any hair impacting eyes and vision. Hair around the ear canal to be trimmed if required. Face to be shaped with clippers, scissors and/or blenders. Ear length to be neatened or trimmed if needed. Hygiene area to be clipped, anus area to be trimmed.

COMPETITION DOGS

- Dogs should not be left unattended when on tables.
- Dogs should appear healthy and free of disease and parasites and should show no signs of aggression.
- All dogs must have a minimum of six weeks growth. Adequate coat, therefore, will be defined as follows: the coat must be sufficient to allow the groomer to make a distinct change in the dogs appearance.
- All dogs must be shampooed and brushed, nails clipped, ears cleaned and free from hair and genital areas pre-trimmed prior to the class starting (please inform the judge with a reason if any of the above cannot be performed)
- Foot pads (underneath feet) may be pre-trimmed and with Poodles, only the entire foot may be clipped.
- Poodle's faces may be trimmed up to three weeks before the competition but must be "fuzzy" enough to demonstrate proper line set and clipper expertise. In the Creative Class, only the feet and face may be pre done.
- A 3" x 3" (7.6 cm x 7.6 cm) printed picture without writing is permissible in the contest ring.
- Any dog jumping or falling onto the floor, or any minor cuts may result in disqualification but may continue for critique only after the judge has deemed the dog is ok to continue.
- Rough handling of any dog will not be tolerated and may result in immediately disqualification.

CONTESTANTS

- Contestants must not have any conversation with any other person during the competition. If you are finished within your timeframe, respect the competitors who are still grooming and keep quiet.
- If assistance is needed, please notify a ring steward.
- Utmost respect for your fellow competitors must be shown at all times.
- All contestants must show sportsmanship towards all competitors, judges and show organisers.
- Contestants will be required to wear closed toe shoes and dress appropriately in professional grooming clothing. Bringing your own grooming jacket is suggested.
- What will the Judge/s be looking for?
- Profile of the dog - emphasis on balance, symmetry, on the dog's profile, style and overall finished appearance.
- Technical use and finish, the quality of the finish when using your equipment such as clipping, scissoring, thinning, hand stripping, plucking and carding.
- The degree of difficulty, this can be based on anything the judges sees from the start to the finished style. For example, correction of faults, coat, type.

END OF COMPETITION

Contestants must stop all grooming procedures, except for combing, at the end of the competition. Sprays or chalk may be applied, in small amounts, after the competition time frame. Contestants should remove all hair, equipment and products from the grooming table. A comb should be placed on the table in front of the dog for the judge to use during the technical evaluation.

Contestant should stack his/her dog to present to the judge. A tablecloth can be placed on the table.

Contestants may comb their dogs before and after the judge has evaluated their dog/s.

BEST IN SHOW, RUNNER UP IN SHOW AND SHINING STAR AWARD

Best in Group winners from each class are required to come back for the judging of Best in Show and Best in Show Runner Up, all competitors are eligible for the Shining Star Award. BIS line up contenders will be allocated 10-15min to freshen up their grooms before judging. During this time, combing, spraying, thinning, and scissoring is allowed but no clipping or stripping is to be done.

CLASS DETAILS

Terrier & More Classes

Not permitted - decorative objects, colour sprays, glitter/bows, decorations, accessories, colouring - other than to enhance the natural colour of the dog's coat, candling.

Permitted - Holding sprays (provided the judge can comb through the coat), holding sprays and chalk for the head to achieve breed profile (the judge will take this into account), chalk (provided the chalk does not rub off on the judges hands in final judging). Sprays, styling gels and chalk are limited to what is usually used in the conformation show ring and they can be used prior and during the time allocated for the grooming competition only.

Grooming techniques permitted - clipping, snap on combs, scissoring, thinning, hand stripping (see hand stripping rules to qualify), plucking and carding.

Hand stripped dogs - contestants may use clippers on the heads and ears of certain breeds if they wish, but the body must be hand-stripped or plucked to acquire the hand stripping time limit for the height of the dog.

Hand stripped dogs must be hand stripped with the appropriate tools or finger and thumb; visible pink or bald patches afterwards is undesirable. The hair must always be removed with the lay of the coat and without pain. Rotated coats on hand-stripped dogs are acceptable, however the work done in the ring must be sufficient to allow the groomer to make a distinct change in the dog's appearance. Thinning shears may be used to achieve desired look but not to excess.

GUNDOG CLASS

Not permitted - decorative objects, colour sprays, glitter/bows, decorations, accessories, colouring - other than to enhance the natural colour of the dog's coat.

Permitted - Holding sprays (provided the judge can comb through the coat), holding sprays and chalk for the head to achieve breed profile (the judge will take this into account), chalk (provided the chalk does not rub off on the judges hands in final judging). Sprays, styling gels and chalk are limited to what is usually used in the conformation show ring and they can be used prior and during the time allocated for the grooming competition only.

Grooming techniques permitted - clipping, snap on combs, scissoring, thinning, hand stripping (see hand stripping rules to qualify), plucking, carding and flat irons.

Hand stripped dogs - contestants may use clippers on the heads and ears of certain breeds if they wish, but the body must be hand-stripped or plucked to acquire the hand stripping time limit for the height of the dog.

Hand stripped dogs must be hand stripped with the appropriate tools or finger and thumb; visible pink or bald patches afterwards is undesirable. The hair must always be removed with the lay of the coat and without pain. Rotated coats on hand-stripped dogs are acceptable, however the work done in the ring must be sufficient to allow the groomer to make a distinct change in the dog's appearance. Thinning shears may be used to achieve desired look but not to excess.

What will the judge be looking for in clipping/ thinning?

- The suitability of the trim and how it conforms to the accepted breed standard and profile.
- The quality of the clippers work, whether the clipped areas have been clipped with the appropriate blade, whether they are neat and smooth and any clipper lines are straight.
- The quality, uniformity and smoothness of the scissoring and/or thinning.
- On scissored breeds, whether the finish is plush velvet and free of scissor marks and whether the legs are scissored evenly and if sufficient fullness to balance the dog, whether the head is properly trimmed and balanced.
- On breeds with eyebrows or falls and beards, whether the trimming is correct and points up the distinctive features which characterise the breed.
- On Spaniels and other sporting breeds, if all other criteria are equal preference will be given to backs that are carded and thinned rather than clipped.
- The overall finished appearance with emphasis on balance, symmetry and the smoothness the originality and execution of the clip and its suitability to the dog's conformation.
- If clippers are used, the quality of work and whether the clipped areas look neat and smooth.
- If scissors or thinning shears are used, the quality, uniformity and smoothness of the work.
- The overall finished appearance, emphasis on balance, symmetry and smoothness of finish.

ALL OTHER PUREBRED CLASS

Dogs must be groomed to fit breed profile such as what you would see in the conformation ring. For example, Shih Tzu is to be styled as per the show ring but not as a scissored teddy bear trim or pet trim (you would enter this in the Salon Freestyle). All terriers without wire hand stripped coats are to be entered in this class. Non hand-stripped coats (ie) Kerry Blue, Soft Coated Wheaten terrier, Lagotto Romagnolo, Portuguese Water Dog and Irish Water Spaniel.

Times for Bichon Frise - for a complete hand scissor, meaning no snap on combs or blades to be used at all except for the eye area, groin and anus. Time allowed Bichons- 2 hours, KBT – 2 hours 15 minutes. For all others (ie) snap on combs and blades as well as scissors used, the time allowed is allocated based on height. The judge must be notified of your intentions prior to the start of the competition.

Not permitted - Decorative objects, such as bows, beads and glitter are not permitted with the exception of those permitted in the conformation show ring for the drop coated breed head piece, such as the Yorkshire Terrier, Maltese and Shih Tzu. Colouring, other than to enhance the natural colour of the dog's coat.

Permitted - Holding sprays (provided the judge can comb through the coat), holding sprays and chalk for the headpiece to achieve breed profile (the judge will take this into account), chalk (provided the chalk does not rub off on the judges hands in final judging). Sprays, styling gels and chalk are limited to what is usually used in the conformation show ring and they can be used prior and during the time allocated for the grooming competition only.

Grooming techniques permitted - clipping, snap on combs, scissoring, thinning, flat and curling irons.

Salon Styling

This class is for you to show your salon grooming talent. This is a free for all class with the idea of styling your dog in a salon trim or NOT in its own breed standard. You may style a purebred to look like another breed or you can make your crossbreed look like a purebred. Use a combination or be creative with your teddy trims eg Poodle styled like a Kerry Blue, Poodle x Maltese styled like a Bichon or a Bichon styled in a teddy trim - the choice is yours. Trims must be based on what you would do in the salon every day. Poodles can be entered in this class if a trim is being done based on a pet style and must not resemble the accepted trims in the poodle class.

Not permitted –Decorative objects, such as bows, beads and glitter are not permitted, airbrushing, precolouring, full body colour, bleaching or colour lifting, heavy use of product such as chinks, holding sprays, mousse, gels etc

Permitted – mixed breed and purebred dogs, Small amount of holding sprays (limited use, no more than what you would use on a pet in a salon environment), blo pens and coloured chalk may be used in the competition to change or highlight a breed trim that is different to the true breed of the dog being used eg. A white dog can be given natural colour to create a traditional pattern in line with the breed standard of the chosen breed trim.

Grooming techniques permitted - clipping, snap on combs, scissoring, thinning, hand stripping, plucking, carding, flat and curling irons.

ASIAN FUSION

Asian Fusion grooming, also referred to as 'Asian Freestyle', is a creative grooming style that displays a unique and charming cut that seeks to give our pets a fun-loving look like that of a stuffed teddy bear. Asian fusion options also include spiral patterns, carving, flared legs, mushroom heads, donut muzzles, koala ears, cone heads, blushed cheeks, top knots and curled ears etc. Trims in this class must have obvious Asian influenced elements.

Not permitted – Full coat colouring, anything that restricts the dog's movements.

Permitted – Mixed breed and purebred dogs, holding sprays (provided the judge can comb through the coat), Glitter sprays and a small amount of coloured chalk can be used for example blushed cheeks, Dyed ears and tails. Bows, bowties, clothing and neck attire etc can be fitted after groom is completed. Props may be used for judging presentation but must not interfere with the judge or the dog.

Grooming techniques permitted - clipping, snap on combs, scissoring, thinning, hand stripping, plucking, carding, flat and curling irons.

POODLE CLASS

Sizes permitted: Toy, Miniature and Standard

Trims permitted: Continental, Historically Correct Continental (HCC), English Saddle, Scandinavian/Lion trim, German, Modern.

Not permitted: decorative objects, colour sprays, glitter/ bows, decorations, accessories, colouring, other than to enhance the natural colour of the dog's coat.

Permitted: Holding sprays (provided the judge can comb through the coat) Holding sprays and chalk for the headpiece to achieve breed profile (the judge will take this into account) chalk (provided the chalk does not rub off on the judge's hands in final judging). Sprays, styling gels and chalk is limited to what is usually used in the conformation show ring and they can be used prior and during the time allocated for the grooming comp only.

Face: can be clipped during the competition

Feet: the entire foot can be clipped before the class.

Topknots: Scissored or banded topknots are permitted. Banded spray ups are required for the Scandinavian/Lion, English Saddle and Continental trims. All banded topknots can be banded prior to the time frame of the competition. Completion of the head/spray up to be completed during the timeframe. 15 minutes will be added to times when spray up is required.

What will the judge be looking for?

- The suitability of the trim to the dog's conformation and breed profile.
- The quality of the clipper work.
- Whether the pattern is placed correctly and evenly and clipped with the appropriate blade.
- Whether the clipped lines are definite and straight and neatly bevelled where they meet the body coat.
- Whether the groomer has used a blade complimentary to the coat (if there is no pattern and the body is clipped overall)
- Whether the feet, face and tail are clipped with the appropriate blade.
- Whether the clipper lines on the face are straight, and the clipper work is smooth with no tufts of hair around the lips or eye corners.
- Whether the feet are clipped clean between the toes and pads.
- The quality, uniformity and smoothness of the scissoring, whether the finish is like that of plush velvet, free of scissor marks. Whether the legs are scissored evenly and are of sufficient fullness to balance the dog. Whether the topknot and tail are properly shaped and in balance to each other.
- The degree of difficulty of the clip. This does not mean that fancy patterns should necessarily take precedence since scissor trims can be just as difficult with certain coat textures.
- The dog's overall finished appearance with the emphasis on balance, symmetry and smoothness of finish. The trim should hold together when a comb is passed through the coat

CLASSES

TERRIERS & MORE

Class 1 Terrier & More, Novice.

Class 2 Terrier & More, Open.

Class 3 Terrier & More, Master.

**THE REFRESH PRIZE
BEST IN GROUP - TERRIER AND MORE**
Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

ASIAN

Class 4 Asian, Novice.

Class 5 Asian, Open.

Class 6 Asian, Master.

**THE REFRESH PRIZE
BEST IN GROUP - ASIAN**
Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

ALL OTHER PUREBREDS - SCISSOR

Class 7 All Other Purebreds Scissor Class, Novice.

Class 8 All Other Purebreds Scissor Class, Open

Class 9 All Other Purebreds Scissor Class, Master.

**THE REFRESH PRIZE
BEST IN GROUP - ALL OTHER PUREBREDS SCISSOR**
Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

POODLE

Class 10 Poodle, Novice.

Class 11 Poodle, Open

Class 12 Poodle, Master.

**THE REFRESH PRIZE
BEST IN GROUP - POODLE**
Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

SALON STYLING

Class 13 Salon Styling, Novice.

Class 14 Salon Styling, Open.

Class 15 Salon Styling, Master.

**THE REFRESH PRIZE
BEST IN GROUP - SALON STYLING**
Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

GUNDOG

Class 16 Gundog, Novice.

Class 17 Gundog, Open.

Class 18 Gundog, Master.

THE REFRESH PRIZE

BEST IN GROUP - GUNDOG

Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

SPECIAL AWARDS

THE REFRESH PRIZE

BEST IN SHOW

Voucher (\$100) sponsored by **Refresh**

THE REFRESH PRIZE

RUNNER UP BEST IN SHOW

Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

THE REFRESH PRIZE

BEST NOVICE LEVEL GROOMER IN SHOW

Voucher (\$100) sponsored by **Refresh**

THE REFRESH PRIZE

BEST OPEN LEVEL GROOMER IN SHOW

Voucher (\$100) sponsored by **Refresh**

THE REFRESH PRIZE

BEST MASTER LEVEL GROOMER IN SHOW

Voucher (\$100) sponsored by **Refresh**

THE REFRESH PRIZE

SHINING STAR AWARD

Voucher (\$75) sponsored by **Refresh**

THE REFRESH PRIZE

OWNER OF "IN SHOW" GROOMED DOG

Voucher (\$50) sponsored by **Refresh**

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2026 Competitions

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