



## Ekka Cancelled

For only the fourth time in the 145 years of the Ekka, the 2021 show was cancelled by the Queensland Government less than a week before it was due to open.

The Delta variant of COVID-19 had infected a number of Brisbane school students. Thousands of contacts were forced into home isolation and the 11 Local Government areas of S-E Queensland were placed in lockdown.

*The Brisbane Show Camp is a joint program of the Department of Education Queensland and the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland. It is conducted by the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre.*



### EDITOR'S NOTE:

*In the two weeks leading up to the Ekka, the students selected to attend the 2021 Show Camp were required to plan and write the draft of a story based on media releases from the Ekka. These draft stories would have been combined and edited into one*

*story by the students for publication on the first day of the camp.*

*Unfortunately things changed, but the stories the students contributed have been combined and edited into the following article.*

## COVID SAFE EKKA

The Royal Queensland Show (The Ekka) will open on Saturday at the Brisbane Showgrounds with COVID safe measures to keep visitors and staff safe.

Mr Brendon Christou, RNA Chief Executive, said that after an unprecedented 2020 the RNA looks forward to welcoming the people of Queensland back.

“The People's show is back and since December last year we have

been working with Queensland Health to plan a COVID Safe event for the community to enjoy”, Mr Christou said.

“The RNA will always act in the best interests of public health, that has been our top priority in planning our comeback show.”

Admission numbers will be restricted to 45,000 people each day, and there will be no ticket sales at the gate. The public will

### WHAT'S DIFFERENT THIS YEAR



**CHOOSE THE DAY YOU'RE COMING**



**DAILY NUMBERS ARE CAPPED FOR SAFETY**



**PROVIDE CONTACT TRACING DETAILS**



**WEAR YOUR MASK**

need to purchase their tickets online for a particular day and fill out contact tracing details.

More than 300 hand sanitisation stations and handwashing facilities will be located around the grounds with around-the-clock cleaning of high-touch areas by specialised hygiene officers.



A one person per two square metres rule will apply to indoor spaces. Cameras will be installed in all indoor venues to count the number of people moving in and out. There will be real-time crowd monitoring with capacity levels of those indoor spaces displayed on big screens around the showground and on the Ekka app. Marshals will help with social distancing and managing crowd numbers.

More than 70 per cent of the Ekka is outdoors. The main arena, the baby animal nursery, sideshow alley, kids' carnival areas and many competition venues will not be subject to number restrictions.

The RNA has also been working closely with Qld

Health on contingency plans should there be a COVID outbreak and what restrictions that could mean.

The RNA is delighted to see the Ekka bring the community back together again this year.

The Ekka will run for nine days instead of the usual ten days this year concluding on Sunday, August 15.

