



# BALLARAT RURAL ACHIEVER AWARDS



- ***DO YOU LIVE WITHIN 100KMS OF THE BALLARAT CBD?***
- ***DO YOU CURRENTLY STUDY AGRICULTURE OR WORK IN THE RURAL SECTOR?***
  - ***ARE YOU AN AGRICULTURAL APPRENTICE?***
  - ***DO YOU OWN, MANAGE OR WORK WITHIN AN AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS?***

***The Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society invites you to nominate yourself or someone you know for our annual 'Ballarat Rural Achiever Awards' with great prize money for furthering your career in your rural sector on offer.***

# **2024 AWARD CATEGORIES**

## **DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR**

This Award seeks to find agricultural apprentices who demonstrate a commitment to learning and consistently deliver work to a high standard. They will be driven to succeed and often go above and beyond the call of duty by taking the initiative to work hard and showcase their skills. They have a positive can-do attitude towards learning new skills, are motivated and set an example to peers and colleagues. Apprentice must have completed their CERTIFICATE III or IV IN AGRICULTURE during 2022

## **NEXT GENERATION FARMER OF THE YEAR**

This Award will recognise farmers aged 21 to 40 years old who demonstrate a highly professional, innovative and sustainable approach to their farming enterprise. In addition it will highlight their passion and commitment to the industry including how they are a 'role model' for young farmers or to those thinking of entering into the industry. Farm employees, managers and owners are eligible to compete in this award.

## **AGRIBUSINESS ACHIEVER OF THE YEAR**

This Award looks to seek out those providing outstanding service to local farmers and producers, where their actions assist farmers in becoming more profitable, sustainable and productive. The positive impact that these people have, contributes to the overall success of our local agriculture industry.

Entry is open to all working in the agribusiness sector for example you may work in rural merchandise and sales, be a rural banker, stock agent, agronomist etc.

## **AGRICULTURAL SECONDARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR**

This Award looks to seek out young people, up to 18 years of age, studying an agricultural subject who are excelling in those studies; demonstrating an enthusiasm for learning, a thorough understanding of the Australian agricultural industry, empathy for primary producers and a commitment to rural and regional Australia.

## **AWARD CATEGORIES CONTINUED:**

### **AGRICULTURAL TERTIARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR**

This Award will recognise students progressing their learning and career, inside and outside of college or university. Open to agricultural tertiary students, 18 years and over who can clearly demonstrate self-motivation, initiative, adaptability and a commitment to agriculture outside of academic life.

### **INNOVATIVE PRIMARY PRODUCER OF THE YEAR**

This Award recognises those who have dedicated themselves to the improvement of farming today and into the future. Seeking to find those who have used innovative technology, sustainability and diversity to improve their business and the local agriculture industry.

This award is open to both individuals and Farm Businesses

### **EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARD**

All 6 Winners of the individual sections of the awards across the night will then be in the running to win this overall 'Excellence in Agriculture Award' with a major prize on offer.

The judging panel will select this winner at the conclusion of entrant interviews and this award will be the final award presented at the dinner.

This award will recognise the most outstanding individual or business in the rural sector uncovered throughout the judging of the awards and reward them for their achievements and commitment to the successful future of Agriculture in the region.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY:

- Entrants must be Australian Citizens, and currently working within the rural sector, for example you may be a Farmer, Agricultural Student, apprentice working with Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Dairy, Horticulture, Equine, or working in Agri-Merchandise, Agronomy, Agribusiness or other related fields.
- All entrants in all sections must live within 100kms of the Ballarat CBD.
- You may enter yourself for an award or you may be nominated by someone.
- Entrants of the “Next Generation Farmer of the Year” must be aged 16 – 40 years.
- Entrants in the “Innovative Primary Producer of the Year” may be Individuals or farm businesses. Up to 2 representatives from a business may attend the interview for this section.
- All entrants must be available to take part in an interview with a panel of 3 judges (rural industry representatives). Entrants will be notified of their interview time once all finalists have been shortlisted at the discretion of the awards subcommittee after the close of entries.
- Entrants must also be available to attend the awards presentation evening which will take place at the Ballarat Golf Club (date to be set).
- Only entrants who submit an attached entry form will be eligible to compete in the awards. You may fill out just the lines provided on the form or expand further for each question.
- Entrants may send a resume with their entry form but this is NOT a necessity.
- Section Prize money will be awarded to the winner & runner-up of each section of the Ballarat Rural Achiever Awards.
- The Overall Winner of the Award for Excellence in Agriculture will win an amount to be confirmed, the winners of all 6 sections will be eligible to compete in this overall award.
- Winners MUST use their prize money to further their rural based career in their chosen field
- The winner of each section of the Ballarat Rural Achiever Awards will be ineligible to compete in the same section of the awards in future years.
- Finalists of each award section will be given one free ticket to the awards night. Friends, family and entrants who do not make the finalist list will be able to purchase tickets to the awards night.
- [Entries will be open soon, keep an eye on this page.](#)
- [Entry forms will be on the Ballarat show website \*\*www.ballaratshow.org.au\*\*](http://www.ballaratshow.org.au)

For further details please call or text Kerri Gallagher on 0429168441 or email [kerrig@ballaratshow.org.au](mailto:kerrig@ballaratshow.org.au)