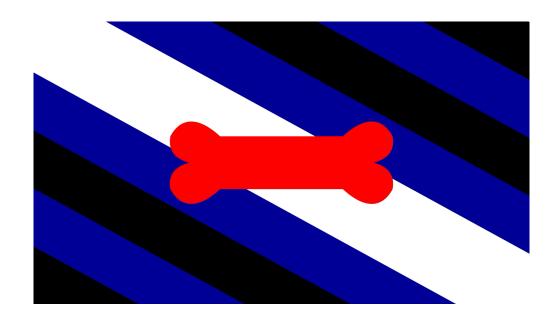




# Queensland Pup & Handler Competition 2025

## **Contestant Rules & Competition Information**



**Version 1.4 – 28th April 2025** 

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## **Letter from The President**

Dear Potential Contestant

Welcome to the 6th Annual Queensland Pup & Handler Competition (QPHC)!

I am delighted that you're considering competing in this event. My hope is that your experience in this competition is filled with joy and excitement, and remember titled or not, this is an experience you will never forget!

The Queensland Pup and Queensland Handler titles are aimed at reflecting the diversity, the excitement and the energy that comes from Human Pup Play.

We are beyond excited to present this year's competition once again, bringing back the super successful cabaret event and adding a NEW **PUPPY BRUNCH** event on the Sunday of the weekend!

Queensland Pups and Handlers Inc (Q-PAH), the QPHC Producers, our affiliates and sponsors are all hopeful that both the contestants and the new titleholders will have the opportunity to teach, learn, share and explore this exciting lifestyle. While there can only be one person awarded in each title, everyone who competes is a member of the Class of 2025, and the bonds you form will last you throughout your kink and fetish journey.

The following pages contain the official rules and format for QPHC 2025. Please look at the material and complete your entry form. (we have made this year easier and built the entry form into the contestant entry ticket purchase)

All applications must be submitted no later than 5pm Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The Competition Entry Fee is \$85.00 which includes entry to all events.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any of QPHC Producers listed in section 6.

Thank you again for your interest and we can't wait to see you compete!

Love and Scritches



Natee (Pup Bailee)

President Q-PAH Mr. QLD Leather 2024

## 1.Requirements of Contestants

- 1.1 Contestants must be eighteen (18) years old on or before the date of their application.
- 1.2 Contestants must identify as a Puppy, Handler or Pandler.
- **1.3** Each contestant must be a current financial member of Q-PAH on or before the date of their application and maintain their financial membership for their title year if they are announced a winner of QPHC 2025.
- **1.4** Membership for all contestants is required to be renewed if it lapses between submitting your application and the final day of the competition (Saturday 14 June 2025).
- **1.5 -** Contestants may be of any gender or sexual orientation.
- **1.6 -** Contestants must be a resident of Australia, reside in the state of Queensland and remain a resident of Queensland for their title year if they are announced the winner. Contestants cannot be a visitor (holiday) or on a work visa. Members living in cities or towns slightly outside the Queensland State Border can apply to the producers for special permission to enter.
- **1.7** Contestants must declare that in the last 5 years they have not been subject to a serious criminal conviction relating but not limited to manslaughter, physical or sexual assault, misconduct or an act involving a minor, domestic violence, murder or assault causing bodily harm, or any offence that could be seen as bringing the club into disrepute. (this declaration will be completed as part of the contestant entry forms those who have had a recorded conviction will be required to advise the nature of their conviction in a private setting)
- 1.8 Contestants must not hold a current club, local, regional or state leather, kink or fetish title.
- **1.9** Contestants must not hold a **current or past** national or international leather, kink or fetish title.
- **1.10 -** Previous state title holders may enter QPHC only after 3 years have passed since their official title step down.
- **1.11 -** Contestants must agree to appear onstage wearing appropriate attire, not present anything that may impact the image of Q-PAH in a negative way and participate in all judged categories while conforming to all State regulations pertaining to nudity and obscenity laws.
- **1.12 -** Contestants must agree to represent their title if they win, throughout their title year. Specific expectations are laid out in section 4 of this document.
- **1.13** If they win contestants must agree to return to the Queensland Pup & Handler competition event the next year, to step down from their title. Winners may be invited to be the kennel buddy on their step down year. Winners may be invited to judge the competition in subsequent years.
- **1.14 -** Queensland Pups and Handlers Inc. reserves the right to alter, amend or waive rules contained in this document for any reason. This may be on the recommendation, request or advice from Judges, Contestants, Producers or the Adjudicator. Where rules are changed, the

updated rules and rationale for the change will be communicated to all parties as soon as it is practicable.

- **1.15** Contestants must submit their application via the Q-PAH website no later than 5pm on Friday  $30^{th}$  May 2025.
- **1.16** Contestants must agree to be present for each day of the competition as outlined in section 2 of this document.
- **1.17** As part of entry, contestants are required to write a short introductory blurb (approx. 100 words). The text may be used in a competition program, on Q-PAH's social media and/or website. Contestants will be required to have a photo taken of them at the Contestant briefing. This photo will be used as throughout the course of the competition to announce you as a contestant, and any other news relating to you competing.
- **1.18** Contestants agree that Q-PAH may use any images or recordings taken by us or our hired photographers during the competition for any purpose, including but not limited to marketing and promotion of this and future events as well as a live broadcast of the event.

This means that you grant Queensland Pups and Handlers Inc. and its licensees, agent, successors and signees, the exclusive right and permission to own, print, reprint, broadcast, reproduce, and publish any and all photographs, negatives, video and audio recordings, as well as all other electronic media and mechanical images of you taken during any QPHC related contests, rehearsals, photographic modelling sessions, reception or other related events.

All photographs and images of you during such events shall be the property of Queensland Pups and Handlers Inc., who shall have the exclusive right to use the photographs, images and recordings for any purpose whatsoever in any media or context.

You agree to participate, if asked to do so, in a photographic modelling session arranged by Queensland Pups and Handlers Inc. during the competition at all locations within the competition or around Brisbane as deemed fit and accessible by production and all parties involved.

You understand that partial nudity is not required but may be optional in approved situations.

You shall receive no compensation for modelling other than the prizes that could be awarded to you, if any, as a contest winner.

You hereby release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless Queensland Pups and Handlers Inc., its officers and agents, photographers, licensees, agents, successors and signees, including all publishers, distributors and webmasters who may publish, distribute, broadcast, or otherwise use photographs and images of you, from any liability or claim arising from the publication, distribution, broadcast or other use of any photographs and images of you including any distortion, blurring, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, either intentionally or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking, processing, or reproduction of the photographs and images of you, their publication, distribution or broadcast.

You certify that you are eighteen years of age or older and have read this release in full before competition entry.

- 1.19 Each contestant must pay the entry fee of \$85.00 at the time of application to compete.
- **1.20 -** Each Contestant must provide a valid photo ID with a Queensland residential address to be sighted by either the head producer or co-producer.
- **1.21 -** All contestants must attend the Contestant's Briefing at The Sportsman hotel on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2025
- **1.22 -** Contestants must advise the producers on any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest that have in the competition. This includes any relationship (romantic, dynamic or sexual) with any Producer, Judge, other competition staff or official, whether pre-existing or that which develops during the competition. Where a conflict of interest is declared, continuation in the competition will be at the discretion of the Producers.
- **1.23 -** Members of the Q-PAH committee are permitted to compete, only with the written permission of the Producers of the competition.
- **1.24** During the commencement of the competition contestants are not permitted to be alone with a Judge/s in a private setting (mingling and talking during events in a public space with others around is allowed).

## 2. Competition Events

2.1 - All contestants must be available to attend the events listed below:

<sup>\*\*</sup>Times subject to change, final call times will be provided at contestant briefing.

Date	Start Time	Event	Location
Sun 01/06/2025	1:00pm	Contestant Briefing & Photoshoot	Sportsman Hotel
Thu 12/06/25	6:00pm	Meet 'n' Sniff	Sportsman Hotel
Fri 13/06/25	10:00am	Interviews	TBC
Fri 13/06/25	4:00pm	Opportunity to Rehearse (Cabaret)	Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall
Fri 13/06/25	6:30pm	Cabaret (Talent Round)	Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall
Sat 14/06/25	10:00am	Opportunity to Rehearse (Stage)	Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall
Sat 14/06/25	2:00pm	Stage Rounds	Upper Mt Gravatt Progress Hall
Sat 14/06/25	9:00pm	PAW'D - After Party	Sportsman Hotel
Sun 15/06/25	11:00am	Brunch	Sportsman Hotel
Sun 15/06/25	1:00pm	Victory Mosh	Sportsman Hotel

**NOTE:** Times may change prior to or throughout the competition depending on venue arrangements. All contestants will be notified with as much notice as possible.

- **2.2** If you require assistance with transport to/from any event, please speak to any of the Producers listed in this document to arrange something.
- 2.3 More detail about what will occur at each event is listed below.

#### **Contestants Raffle Prize**

Each contestant of the Queensland Pup & Handler Competition 2025 is required to donate a prize for the raffle during the competition. Raffle tickets will be sold throughout the events to attendees, and final raffle will be drawn at the **Victory Mosh on Sunday June 15 2025.** The prize should have item/s that say something about you personally (for example, if you are an artist, you might donate some of your work; if you're into cars, you may donate a car cleaning pack).

Each contestant's prize should equate to no more than \$100. You will not be scored on your donated prize.

#### **Contestants Briefing & Photoshoot**

The Producers of the Queensland Pup & Handler Competition 2025 and representatives of the Q-PAH committee will meet with contestants to ensure a full understanding of these rules, the competition structure and answer any questions.

It will be arranged that a single photo of you will be taken at the briefing, this photo will be used on your contestant announcement and promotions in the lead up to and throughout the competition.

Please ensure you bring any outfits, hoods or make up you would like to be in for the photo, limited time is available per contestant (changing space will be available).

<sup>\*</sup>Events highlighted in orange are optional, but highly recommended.

#### **Event 1: Meet 'n' Sniff**

The Meet 'n' Sniff Event will be held at The Sportsman Hotel on the evening of Thursday 12 June 2025. Contestants will be asked to introduce themselves onstage to the judges and attendees. The order of the **Queensland Handler** & **Queensland Puppy** Contestants will be decided on stage at this event.

(Examples of Introduction: Your Name, your history with pup play, some of your experience within the pup and handler scene.)

Contestants will be asked to also present they Raffle prize to the community. Presentation of your raffle prize will include a brief explanation on the contents of it. This is your opportunity to show the community your raffle prize and explain why the item/s are important to you.

Contestants will be required to "walk the floor" to sell raffle tickets for a range of prizes to be raffled off at the conclusion of the weekend.

Contestants are expected to mingle with the crowd, engage with them, and present the Pup and Handler community in a positive light. The producers will ensure that all contestants and judges are known to each other but there is no requirement to talk to the judge's one-on-one at the event.

Contestants should note that, your community engagement score is officially judged over the week, however in practical terms this event will be a key opportunity to show the judges how you interact with the community and public.

Remembering that this aspect will be judged across all events, with final scores being submitted by judges at the completion of judging on Saturday.

#### **Event 2: Cabaret**

The Cabaret event will consist of 2 shows.

**Show 1:** Contestant Talent Round.

**Show 2:** Drag & Burlesque Performances.

#### **Talent**

This portion of the show, contestants will present to any talent the individual Pup or Handler has. This is by contestant choice; you have a 5-minute time limit. The venue has a sound system, projector and microphones. You are required to talk to the Producers well ahead of time about technical requirements and make full use of rehearsal time available to you to practice your talent. Any audio or video to be used in your talent presentation must be provided to the Producers by June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

#### **Interview**

(Breakfast will be supplied prior to interview)

Contestants will be interviewed one at a time by the panel of judges. There will be some questions set by Q-PAH and some set by the judges themselves.

- Each contestant for **Queensland Handler** will be asked the same set of questions.
- Each contestant for **Queensland Puppy** will be asked the same set of questions.

You should anticipate answering 7 questions in total (5 points each), with each answer being in the form or a 2-3 minute discussion. The interview will not exceed 30 minutes. It is appropriate to be in Pup or Handler gear/attire during the interview, but full-face masks/hoods **must** be removed at the start of the interview.

Following all interviews finishing the contestants will have some time to rehearse their speech and/or dynamic on stage, during this time the Adjudicator will make the judges and Producers aware of any contestant who may be required to return to the interview room for further questioning by the judges.

#### **Event 3: Stage Presentations**

Your stage presentations will consist of 2 shows. Rounds will alternate our contestant in each show. e.g. In Show 1: **Handler 1** will present their speech, **Handler 2** will present their show presentation/dynamic, and then swap for show 2. The Pups would then Follow.

#### Speech

Your speech topic will be set by Q-PAH and provided to you well in advance of the competition. All Handlers will speak on the same topic as each other. All Pups will speak on the same topic as each other. Your speech must be **no shorter than 2 minutes** and **no longer than 3 minutes**. The judges will award points on both speech content and speech delivery.

#### **Show Presentation/Dynamic**

This portion is intended to demonstrate to the judges what pup play looks like to you, and how you see your dynamic and your role in pup space and the pup community.

We recognise that the recognise that the restriction of a one-pup-one-handler presentation, forcing contestants to use a partner of the opposite role, is a dynamic that is simply not true for many Pups and Handlers. Instead, you should use this round to showcase your version of headspace and personality in your role as a Handler or Pup. You may invite your partner or group to do this with you. It might be a pup friend, a romantic partner, your pack or someone else that bring out your true pup or handler self. It is equally valid to compete this round solo if you wish.

You may use any props or toys that you deem fit to incorporate in your show presentation, With a maximum limit of 5 items. You may request to use any of Q-PAH's equipment that will be provided under supervision of the producers.

If two contestants choose to pair, then their presentation will be joint, and they can only perform once. Both will be judged simultaneously but separately by the judging panel. You will have a **5 minute** time limit.

## 3. Judging Criteria:

Judges will be provided with the following criteria to score against in each aspect of the competition.

**3.1** - Judges will provide notes/feedback on each of the criteria, this will be made available to any contestant upon request.

(Note: scores will not be provided to any contestant, all feedback provided will also be anonymous and not allude to which judge has provided the feedback).

#### 3.2 - Judges will score to the following criteria

#### 3.2.1 - Talent: 10 Points

Each Judge will score to the following criteria:

- 1. Talent proficiency/Technical skill in the talent demonstrated (5 Points).
- 2. Pace, timing and stage presence (5 Points).

#### 3.2.2 - Interviews: 35 Points

For each question asked, each judge will award a single score out of 5 per question, giving consideration to all of the following criteria: (Total 7 Questions).

- The depth of knowledge of the topic demonstrated in the answer.
- The relevance of the answer given to the question asked.
- Clarity of the answer given.

#### **3.2.3 - Speech: 15 Points**

Each Judge will score to the following criteria:

- 1. Speech content (5 Points).
- 2. Relevance to given topic (5 Points).
- 3. Pace, timing and stage presence (5 Points).

#### 3.2.4 - Show Presentation/Dynamic: 15 Points

Each Judge will score to the following criteria:

- 1. Clarity of the presentation, dynamic and/or image (5 Points).
- 2. Entertainment value of the presentation (5 Points).
- 3. Pace, timing and stage presence (5 Points).

#### 3.2.5 - Community Engagement: 25 Points

Contestants will be scored on community engagement under the following criteria:

- 1. General behavior and conduct (5 Points).
- 2. Interaction with the public (5 Points).
- 3. Presenting a positive image of pup & handler play (5 Points).
- 4. Willingness to participate (5 Points).
- 5. Approachability (5 Points).

## 4. Scoring

**4.1** - Contestants will be scored by a panel of judges in the following categories and points will be weighted as outlined in the table below:

Events – Part A – Part B	Component	Score
Stage Presentation	Talent at Cabaret	10%
Interview	Judges Q&A	35%
Stage Presentation	Speech	15%
Stage Presentation	Show Presentation/Dynamic	15%
Meet 'N' Sniff	Community Engagement	25%

**4.2** - Each judge will award a score from 0 to 5 for each criterion listed in this document. An average **60% pass mark** (3 out of 5) is required for the competition. Judges will be given the following guide on scoring.

0	Fail Mark	Did not complete / Unable to mark	
1	Fail Mark	Effort or content was minimal and not enough to pass	
2	Fail Mark	Contestant demonstrated some effort but did not meet the mark	
3	Pass Mark	Met the bare minimum requirement	
4	Pass Mark	Performed well against the criteria	
5	Pass Mark	Performed ideally against the criteria	

- **4.3** A contestant's overall score for any component will be an average of the scores given by all judges who judged that component. The Olympic Scoring model will be employed throughout the scoring of the competition.
- **4.4** A contestant who doesn't achieve **60%** of the marks available in Part 1 of the competition may be given additional coaching and guidance by the Producers, Judges or Kennel Buddy and/or may be given a supplementary interview by the judges to help them bring their score to (but not exceed) the minimum required **60%**. If after these measures a minimum score of **60%** can't be reached to be moved onto Part B, the contestant may be withdrawn from the remainder of the competition at the discretion of the Producers.
- **4.5** In the event of a tie in scores, the winner will be declared by the Producers based on a pop question asked of the tied contestants onstage, in the same order as drawn at the meet 'n' sniff.
- **4.6** Contestants must not be seen having undue influence over or special contact with any judge. Producers may disqualify any contestant they believe to be doing so without appeal.
- **4.7** Winners will receive the title of either **Queensland Handler 2025** or **Queensland Puppy 2025**.

## 5. What is Expected of the Winners

- **5.1** The foremost duty of the winners is to promote Q-PAH, its sponsors and the pup play community in a positive light throughout the year.
- **5.2** Titleholders are expected to conduct themselves as positive role models for the community.
- **5.3** The winners may **not** compete in any other Leather, Kink, or fetish contest during their title year, with the exception of the recognised national title the **Australian Pup and Handler Competition**. Q-PAH may grant special permission to individual titleholders to compete for other titles upon individual application to the Q-PAH committee.
- Q-PAH strongly encourages Queensland Puppy & Queensland Handler titleholders to consider competing nationally and internationally after their Queensland title has ended.
- **5.4** The winners are expected to participate in a minimum of 70% of Q-PAH hosted events in their title year. Entering APHC counts as 20% of the required 70%. We also encourage the winners to volunteer for a local puppy, leather or fetish club events, fundraisers or bar nights, as well as organising or presenting on Pup/Handler topics at Kink/BDSM/leather educational events.
- **5.5** The winners are expected to participate in at least on fundraising event to benefit the Queensland Pup & Handler Competition travel fund or Q-PAH fundraising event. Titleholders are encouraged to help conceive, plan and organise these events and should present ideas to the committee about events they would like to hold.
- **5.6** In addition to participating in the Queensland Pup & Handler Competition travel fundraising events, the winners are encouraged to help with fund-raising for other worthy causes & charities.
- **5.7** The winners are encouraged to attend as many other state, regional or major leather/kink/fetish events as they may see fit.
- **5.8 -** Q-PAH may cover part or all of travel expenses for titleholders past & present to attend national or international titles. Where funds are available for travel expenses, titleholders will need to submit receipts for expenses to be reimbursed. There is no guarantee that funds will be available. Any reimbursements will need to be approved prior to travelling.
- **5.9** The winners are expected to take part in any photography, visual, written or audio media that has been arranged by Q-PAH.

## 6. Staff and Support

**6.1** - Questions about the contents of this document or about the competition in general can be directed to any of the following:

#### **QPHC Producers**

Pup Bailee (Natee) - QPHC 2025 Head Producer & Q-PAH President - <u>president@q-pah.org</u> Pup Luca (Alex) - QPHC 2025 Co-Producer & Q-PAH Committee - <u>fundraising@q-pah.org</u>

- **6.2 -** Further Production volunteers, Kennel Buddy & Judges will be announced in the lead up to the competition.
- **6.3** Contestants will be added to a "Contestant Group Chat" with Production and their kennel buddy.
- **6.3.1** The preference for this group chat will be Facebook messenger. Should you have any concerns with the use of this app, please reach out to the production team.
- **6.4** Contestants may receive message requests from their Kennel Buddies to assist with managing the competition.
- **6.5** Contestants will receive a complete "Contestant Pack" at the contestant briefing upon your application being approved, this pack will include:
- A copy of the competition rules
- Contact details for relevant production team & kennel buddies.
- A "Run Sheet" with Call times, Event times & Locations for events over the weekend.
- Any other relevant documentation for the competition.