

Bathurst Agricultural Horticultural & Pastoral Association Inc.

ABN 85 953 115 197

RELIANCE BANK ROYAL BATHURST SHOW ★ 24-26 APRIL 2020 ★ SINCE 1858

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MEDIA RELEASE

Date 17 March 2020 – Embargoed to 8pm 17 March 2020

2020 RELIANCE BANK ROYAL BATHURST SHOW POSTPONED

Following the issuing of the *Public Health (COVID-19 Public Events) Order 2020* under section 7 of the Public Health Act 2010 by the Minister for Health and Medical Research Mr. Brad Hazzard MP and in compliance with recommendations of the National Cabinet and the Executive Committee of the Agricultural Societies Council of NSW the Bathurst AH&P Association has determined to postpone the 2020 Reliance Bank Royal Bathurst Show to the 2-4 October 2020 (being the October Long Weekend).

The Executive and Show Council of the Bathurst AH&P Association met on Tuesday 17 March 2020 and by considering and following the detailed advice from the Federal and State Governments and the Chief Medical Officer we were able to make an informed decision, and our Association will continue to closely monitor the situation and consider the interests of the community and stakeholders on an ongoing basis.

Our Association is taking the situation very seriously whilst investigating the options to achieve our objectives to encourage agricultural development, livestock development, promote competition, and educate people about agriculture and related industries.

President of the Bathurst AH&P, Col McPhee says “this is impacting all small and large shows across the country, we are postponing in the hope that by October we will have come out the other side of this situation and the community can come together safely to celebrate their Show.”

The Bathurst AH&P Association would like to reiterate that they are not cancelling, rather postponing, and will be in contact with stakeholders regarding options.

Secretary of the Bathurst AH&P, Brett Kenworthy acknowledges the hard work of the dedicated volunteers who donate their time to the Show and the Show Movement, and understands the concerns by those in the Showman’s Guild and other commercial exhibitors.

Mr McPhee said “this decision was not taken lightly, especially when vendors and exhibitors are contacting us and begging us to run the show as they are sitting in trucks full of stock, with nowhere to go and no income in sight.” Mr McPhee said “we are gravely concerned about the impact this will have on the mental health of those who rely on the Show circuit for their income.”

Our Association would like to encourage vendors, exhibitors and anyone involved with the Show Movement who are experiencing financial hardship or mental decline to reach out and talk to someone. If you or someone you know needs help, call Lifeline on 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636.

For further media information contact:

Brett Kenworthy, Secretary

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