



RESCHEDULING SHOW DATES DUE TO COVID-19

The following is advice to Show Societies wishing to reschedule their Show date because of their annual Show being cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis.

With the cancellation of many 2020 Agricultural Shows due to the current Coronavirus Pandemic, some Shows have been exploring the possibility of rescheduling their Show date later in the year. There are good reasons why a Show may wish to reschedule, but also negative consequences that can arise as a result.

All Shows should adhere to the following procedure when considering rescheduling their 2020 Show dates. If individual Shows or indeed individual groups fail in this important and vital task, it could be the end of many of our Shows, plus create irreparable discourse and damage amongst our groups.

Considerations when Rescheduling a Show

The main areas that Shows must consider when looking at rescheduling are:

- The Date
- Costs
- Resources

The Date

With over 190 Shows in NSW, it is unlikely that any new date chosen will be free of other events. A date clash can have significant impact on your attendance, your sponsorship, your competitors, and your financial situation.

Always:

- Look at other Shows in your Group which traditionally have events around that time
- Look at neighbouring Groups for Shows that are traditionally held around that time
- Look at other major events (Field Days, Music Festivals, Community events)
- Look at your rescheduled date in relation to Shows in other States, particularly Shows close to borders
- Speak to your Group BEFORE making the decision. Proposed rescheduled date changes should be raised and voted on in Group meetings.

Just because they have no immediate impact on your organisation, does not mean they will not influence on the outcome of your event

Other things to consider when looking at a “new” date:

- The time between your rescheduled 2020 Show and your 2021 annual Show
 - Consider the cost of running two Shows in proximity, the impact on your volunteers and community enthusiasm
- Will your rescheduled Show be a modified version of your annual Show?
 - Details of your modified Show need to be sent to Jasmine at the ASC (asc.admin@ascofnsw.org.au) for insurance approval
- Rain Protection
 - Is your Show traditionally dry, and you are moving to a wet season? Will you need to take out rain protection?

- Insurance
 - Will you be running 2 shows within 12 months? Your insurance covers two Shows per insurance year, but the insurer needs to be advised beforehand.
- Is it during school holidays? Is it near or on a public holiday?
- Is it during the Show Term?
- Will the Guild be able to support the new date? Every effort should be made to work with the Showmen's Guild. Date changes should be discussed with the Showmen's Guild Delegate to make sure they can and will still support the Show on the proposed new Show date.
- Is the Ground available?
- Have you notified the Council/Police/Emergency Services?
- Are First Aid Services available?
- Are Judges available?
- Will you be able to provide entertainment/acts?
- Have you allowed adequate time to ensure all licenses i.e. liquor license, fire permits for fireworks etc are in place?
- Have you allowed adequate time to advertise and promote all your Shows entertainment, competitions and sponsors thoroughly?
- Have you ensured the new date does not interfere with biosecurity protocols due to other livestock events being held on the grounds?

The Cost

Shows are not cheap to run, and we all must treat running an event like a Show, as we would a business. Justify every purchase and expenditure and try and minimise the cost.

Things to consider when looking at a "new" date:

- Cost of hiring the Ground
 - Have you already paid for the hiring before postponing? Has this been refunded? Can it be transferred over?
- Entertainment
 - Have you already paid for the service before postponing? Has this been refunded? Can it be transferred over? Will it be available on your "new" date?
- Cost of Advertising/Re-advertising and printing
- Sponsorship
 - Do you have enough?
 - By moving, have you decreased the amount available to you in the future?
- Prize Money
- Trade Sites
 - Do you already have deposits? Are they happy/able to transfer to the "new" date?
 - If not, will you hold the deposit over till the following year?

Resources

Resources can mean many things (equipment for the Pavilion, monies in the Bank or volunteers). Regardless of what the form they take, they need to be managed and looked after.

Things to consider when looking at a "new" date

- Do you have enough volunteers? Will they be able to help in the lead up/during/after the reschedule?
- Do you have enough sponsorship?
- Do you have the Showmen's Guild's support?
- Will your entertainment be available?
- Do you have enough emergency services?