Showing your pet Guinea Pig

What you need to know to Show in our Pet Classes

Check the dates and details of our next show by going to our website, join our Facebook page by searching our name or ring one of the contacts below.

www.northerntasmaniancavyclub.weebly.com

The day before the Show
Check your guinea pigs’ overall health, they should:
- Have good overall body condition, not too thin with firm flesh.
- Be bright and alert, not listless or obviously unwell.
- Not be pregnant or have babies at foot.
- Be at least 3 months of age or more.
- Be free from lice, mites and other skin complaints.
- Have even front teeth, not broken or overgrown.
- Have a clean mouth free from sores.

Bathing your guinea pig:
Before show day arrives it is important to wash your guinea pig. The best way is in a shallow basin with not too much warm water. Use a specially formulated shampoo for small animals or baby shampoo. Wet the coat then lather the guinea pig up and then rinse clean under some running water, avoid getting water or shampoo in your guinea pigs ears or eyes. Use a face washer to clean their face. Towel your guinea pig dry and if the weather is warm leave it to dry, but if it is cold use a hair dryer on low to dry your guinea pig making sure they are dry all the way to the skin. Take special care to make sure that the grease gland at the base of the spine is clean, this is most common in males. Eucalyptus oil can be used and then washed out with shampoo.

Trimming toenails:
Toenails do need to be clipped before each show, you can buy special small animal toenail clippers from any good pet store or use a pair of human toenail clippers. Make sure you give them a good wash as judges like clean toes.

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Grooming:
Remove any loose hairs with a soft brush or by running a damp cloth over them. Clean their ears, eyes, nostrils and vent with a damp cloth or baby wipes.

On the day of the Show
The hall will open at 9 am with Class entries being taken from 9.30 am check the website or our Facebook page to see what time the pet classes start. Please do not use hay, straw or sawdust in your carry cages as these make a mess in the hall. Wood shavings, absorbent cat litter or fleece blankets are preferred. Please clean up any mess in your area before you leave, this makes it easier for the Club members packing up at the end of the day. Pet Entry sheets will be provided on a table for you to fill out. These will have the Class name and what Section you need to enter. The Sections are: Adult Boars (boys), Adult Sows (girls) and Babies (from 3 to 9 months old). Entry fees are $5 per guinea pig for non members or $3 per guinea pig for members. If you wish to become a Club member, Membership Application forms are available from the Club Secretary. Pay your entry fees to the Show Coordinator sitting near the Judging Table at the front of the hall. Your guinea pig needs to be shown on a small carpet square, these can be purchased on the Club's Shop Table for $1 each. There are usually five Pet Classes each Show, we always start with Fancy Dress and end with Best Pet Condition. The middle classes change from show to show with ones like Fastest Eater, Best Personality, Craziest Hair and the Race Track all taking turns. Each Class will be called up to the Judging Table by the Show Steward who will call out your guinea pig’s name. Your guinea pig should be sufficiently well behaved to sit on the carpet square and be handled by the Judge.

But most of all have fun and good luck!

Club Contacts: Merilyn Gent 0407 335 487  
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