

Pedigree Junior Handlers' National Final



National Winner
Emma McKay



National Runner-Up
Crystal Walker

Western Australia Wins Through

The South Australian Royal Show played host to one of the highest quality National Pedigree Junior Dog Handler competitions seen for many years. The eventual winner had to work very hard to stand out in a field that International judge, Gina Dorkins, rated as excellent.

Western Australian representative Emma McKay was the eventual winner with Crystal Walker from NSW awarded Runner Up. Emma had a fantastic initial round with her lovely Dobermann before re-entering the ring with a Lhasa Apso. Crystal also did a fantastic job, especially considering she is still a junior. In her initial round she handled a Novia Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever before been allocated a Border Terrier as her swap dog.

Gina Dorkins commented on the standard of all of the competitors and said that the entire group was of an exceptionally high standard. Gina is a well-known Terrier breeder and judge in the UK and has been judging Junior Handling competitions for many years. She was surprised at the number of junior competitors who were of such a high standard, with Crystal Walker, Brittany Farrell (SA) and Emily Bell (ACT) all being in the junior age group. The other competitors were Jason O'Mahoney (NT), the only boy in the group, Jazmyn Wray (Vic), Pamela Adams (Tas) and Sara Heys (Old).

Emma will now travel to Crufts in April to compete in the International final of the Pedigree Junior Handler Competition. Emma receives a trip for two as part of her prize for winning the National Competition and also accommodation for her and her chaperone.

The Pedigree Junior Dog Handler Competition is one of the most prestigious events in the Dog Showing World, a number of nations are represented and Australian representatives have always done very well, consistently finishing in the top ten.



State Finalist - South Australia
Brittany Farrell



State Finalist - Victoria
Jazmyn Wray



State Finalist - Queensland
Sara Heys



State Finalist - Northern Territory
Jason O'Mahoney



State Finalist - Tasmania
Pamela Adams



State Finalist - Australian Capital Territory
Emily Bell