



2025 Melbourne Knife Show

Award Information

3-4 May 2025

**Best Western Airport Motel & Convention
Centre**

33 Ardlie St

Attwood VIC 3049

2025 Melbourne Show Award Information

There are a number of award categories for members and a special award category for non-members to enter. We encourage all exhibitors to enter a knife in the applicable category for judging.

Categories:

Best Art

Knife*

Best Forged/Damascus Knife*

Best Kitchen Knife*

Best Utility Knife*

Best Folding

Knife* Best

Hunting Knife*

Best EDC Knife*

Best Non-Member Knife**

* open to AKG financial member exhibitors only

** open to all non-member exhibitors only

We encourage all exhibitors to enter knives into the competition in appropriate categories. AKG full and probationary members may submit knives in all the main categories. There will be a single category open to all non-members.

For anyone entering a knife for judging, please follow these steps:

1. Locate the numbered adhesive labels in your exhibitor pack.
2. For any knife that you wish to enter, place a numbered label over your makers mark.
3. Indicate any outsourced embellishments using the tags provided.
4. Once your mark is covered, place your knife/knives on the judging tables in the appropriate category.
5. Ensure that your knife meets the requirements of the category (see next section).

Judging commences at 7:30am sharp and concludes at 8:30am on the Saturday, only

ONE entry per maker per category. Late knives are not accepted.

AWARD JUDGING

The AKG awards are judged by our members through a peer-voting process. Only Full and Probationary AKG members attending the show may participate in the voting.

The show committee will review each category before voting commences to ensure all submitted knives meet the minimum requirements for the category and will announce when voting commences.

To cast your votes:

1. Full and probationary members exhibiting will find the voting slip in their exhibitor pack.
2. Look at the knives entered for the competition, bearing in mind the criteria for each category.
3. Vote by entering the number of the knife in the box for that category on your voting slip.
4. Place your completed slip in the collection boxes.

AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Competition is open to paid exhibitors attending the show only. All knives must be for sale at the AKG show.

No piece to have been previously submitted for judging at any other knife show.

Where minimum or maximum blade lengths are stipulated, the blade length is measured from the tip to the front of the handle/guard.

Knives submitted for Best Forged/Damascus must be the work of the maker submitting the piece.

Collaborations are accepted and the award is shared between the two or more makers.

The maximum price for the best Utility category is \$450 and must include a sheath. The AKG reserves the right to purchase the winning utility where appropriate, for guild fundraising.

Categories must have at least 2 entries to be contested.

In the event of a tied vote for any category, the AKG show committee will cast the deciding vote. If the committee deems it appropriate, the award may be shared between 2 makers who received equal votes.

MELBOURNE KNIFE SHOW JUDGING CRITERIA

ART KNIFE

To epitomize the Guild standards in quality, design and construction. Knife should be innovative in design, with immaculate presentation.

This knife should feature only the highest standard of fit and finish and showcase techniques with a high degree of difficulty.

FOLDER

This knife should display outstanding fit and finish.

There is a high emphasis on the quality of the mechanism - with smooth blade motion, and defined opening/locking.

Design should exhibit good ergonomics in comfort and ease of use, elegance, high degree of functionality and strength.

FORGED/DAMASCUS

This knife should display outstanding fit and finish. Originality and/or excellence in design.

Featuring techniques of a high degree of difficulty.

Must be forged to shape by the maker presenting the knife for judging.

UTILITY

This knife can sell for up to \$450 and must include a sheath. It should represent value for money. Blade length: 11cm minimum, measured from the tip to the front of the handle/guard.

The design should be appropriate for a variety of general-purpose tasks. The fit and finish should be of a standard that would be approved by the guild as a satisfactory quality.

HUNTER

Blade length: 9cm minimum, measured from tip to front of handle/guard. The knife must include a sheath.

This is a practical knife and should be able to perform a number of tasks with relative ease in the field-dressing medium to large game.

This knife should feature excellent fit, finish and ergonomics.

EVERYDAY CARRY

Blade length: 7.5cm maximum, measured from tip to front of handle/guard. A compact knife adaptable to a wide variety of everyday tasks.

This knife should feature excellent fit and finish. This knife can be either a fixed blade or a folder.

KITCHEN

No set style or size limit

This blade should exhibit excellent geometry for its intended uses. The overall knife must exhibit practical design and handle/blade ergonomics for either general kitchen use or specific cooking tasks.

BEST NON-MEMBER KNIFE

This is an open category for non-members exhibiting at the AKG show. There is no set style or size limit.

Judging emphasis will be placed on:

- The quality of fit and finish.
- Originality and/or excellence in design
- Execution of techniques of a high degree of difficulty.
- AKG member votes will also determine the winner of this category.