



The Seaview Fashions on the Field 2025

FIELD GUIDE

Each year the annual races is a head-turning smorgasbord of unique, stunning and flamboyant outfits where everyone gets into the fun, donning their most fabulous, fun and quirky fashions. If you're looking to join all the action, keep reading to find out how to make your mark on The Seaview Fashions on the Field runway.

For frock-loving fashionistas and fun-seeking friends, join us on November 8 2025 to dress up and go all out with your most extravagant, glamorous or outlandish country race day outfit. The annual Fashions are a people-watcher's paradise, with flashy headwear, classic cuts and a surprise fun category that attracts a lot of attention and laughs at the end of the event. Every year, classic and quirky Cape locals and visitors come together to showcase their fascinators, unique hot-weather hats and cool country fashion styles. With live music, local bookies, hot and cold food and drinks, two bars, corporate seating and live music, as well as a six-race line-up, Cooktown Races is an event not to be missed.

The Seaview fashion fun is open to all ages, with categories for children, men, women, millinery and our fun category for the best (or funniest) dressed family or friend group.

Deciding what to wear for the day will take some time and consideration, including the weather and the nighttime entertainment requirement of dancing shoes, so we've taken the time to put some Seaview Fashion tips together to help you make the right style decisions for both comfort and winning flare.

OUR CATEGORIES THIS YEAR ARE:

- Fashionista Kids – 3-12 years
- Young Teen Ladies & Gents – 13-19 years
- Chic Ladies - 20-49 years
- Lady of the Day - 50 years and over
- Local Lady of the Day – 18 and over
- Local Gent of the Day – 18 and over
- Magic Millinery – all ages
- Best Suited of the Day – 18 years and over
- Most Stylish Duo
- Clan Chaos - best/funniest dressed family or group

DRESS FOR THE OCCASION

For the ladies, lean towards well-cut dresses that fall to the knee, or just below the knee. Aim for sophistication, class and elegance, and don't show too much skin. Choose a style that suits you rather than something trendy. Be mindful of the remote location and weather predictions that could include potential rain and certainly a lot of sun.

Men should opt for contemporary interpretations of the classic summer suit. Classic jackets and tie are essential but instead of a black suit, try light grey, beige, a soft light blue or a bold summer colour. Dress things up with a hat or lapel flower. You can't go wrong with a dapper handkerchief and matching cufflinks.

DRESS FOR THE 'BOLD SUMMER' THEME

Though the classic black and white combo is always in style, November is a great time to embrace summer with styles that are statement-making and eye-catching and incorporate individuality and confidence. It's all about standing out with vivid colours, striking silhouettes and daring designs that exude personality and flair. The idea is to wear fashion that is unapologetically bold and summery, making a statement both visually and in terms of self-expression. Remember find footwear that befits the warmer temperatures, the grass, dust and a long night of dancing ahead.

DON'T FORGET HEADWEAR

If you are going to any race day, some kind of headpiece is essential, and especially for the heat in Cooktown. If you prefer not to wear a hat, a simple feathery or fun fascinator that complements your outfit will suffice.

PACK THE ESSENTIALS

Let's not forget that our race day is a long, potentially wet or very hot day in the summer sun. While a small clutch bag might seem like the perfect choice, you may need something bigger to carry a few essential items, including lipstick, Band-Aids (new shoe blisters), sunscreen, a petite umbrella, sunglasses and a sun hat to wear between runway events.

Although current style trends have some bearing on what people choose to wear each year in Cooktown, the most talked-about clotheshorses tend to be those who take risks and buck the fashion trends, so to stand out this year, the summer hues can be worn as solid block colours or mixed and matched in geometric prints or floral motifs. Ruffles, bows, and one-shoulder dresses are also in vogue, adding some feminine flair to the outfits. Last year we saw some contestants opt for jumpsuits and pantsuits for a more modern and edgy look which was great to see.

ABOUT OUR 'BOLD SUMMER' THEME

Ladies...

- Vivid and vibrant colours, eye-catching summer prints and summery florals prints
- Try daring headwear, from oversized hats to fascinators with feathers, summer flowers, or a striking headpiece that links summer to your outfit.
- Finish the ensemble with chic heels and a coordinating clutch with the essentials listed above.

Men...

- Consider avoiding a navy or black suit, or your normal business attire.
- Embrace the summer statement and dress for the season in summer colours or bold patterns like check or plaid.
- Complement it with a vibrant summer tie, pocket square or other fashion accessories.
- Finish the look with polished leather shoes, a sleek fedora, a fashionable Panama or a traditional country style hat (make sure it's clean).