



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

Friday 29 February, 2008

Equine Influenza conquered

Sydney Royal Easter Show Breaths Life Into Horse Industry

The 2008 Sydney Royal Easter Show is proud to host the first gathering of competition and show horses from around Australia, since the outbreak of EI in August 2007.

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) Horse Committee Chairman Graham Davey said the RAS is continuing to work closely with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to help get the horse industries back on track, now that the State has been declared EI free.

"Supported by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, the inaugural Sydney Royal Horse Classic will see horsemen and women from around the country saddle up to compete for their share in \$100,000 in prize money, making it one of the richest horse shows ever held in Australia.

"In addition \$70,000 will be up for grabs in the various Showjumping events.

"Despite the State now being 100% free of the EI, the RAS will still implement a number of precautionary measures at the Show."

All exhibitors will be required to meet the following DPI protocols to enter the Sydney Showground;

- Every horse **MUST** have a current *Certificate of Immunity* or *Horse Health Certificate*, proving EI status of resolved or vaccinated.
- Every horse **MUST** be microchipped and registered on the Australasian Animal Registry database.
- Exhibitors will require a current DPI Travelling Horse Statement to move to and from the Show.

Other bio-security measures;

- Horses must enter the Showground via a designated DPI inspection site, where all required documentation will be checked and an entry pass provided.
- Wash-bays to be thoroughly cleaned between each use.
- Waste and bedding to be removed from trucks and stables prior to exhibitors leaving the Showground and disposed of by an RAS approved contractor.
- Hand wash facilities will be available near all horse pavilions and activities.

"The equestrian events at the Royal Easter Show will be divided into two parts, to ensure that complete bio-security protocols are maintained," said Mr Davey.

Thursday 20 March - Thursday 27 March

Showjumping - Thursday 27 March - The Sydney Royal Easter Show Grand Prix.

This event will act as a world cup qualifier and a selection event for the Australian Showjumping team to compete at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

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Sunday 23 March - Competitors will have the chance to earn a Certificate of Capability allowing them to compete at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. The competition will be designed to Olympic standards by the International Equestrian Federation in Switzerland.

Campdrafting - The Tyrell's World Championship Campdraft.

Polo – Featuring teams from NSW, Qld, Vic & SA the competition promises to be one of the best ever staged at the Show.

Polocrosse – Featuring selected teams from around NSW.

Friday 28 March - Wednesday 2 April Sydney Royal Horse Classic

Champion/Supreme Champion awards will receive additional prize money totalling over \$100,000 making the Sydney Royal Horse Classic one of the richest horse shows to be held in Australia. Competitors will come from across NSW, Qld, Vic and SA.

Friday 28th

Champion Working Australian Stock Horse \$3,000

Saturday 29th

Supreme Champion Led Part Bred Welsh \$2,000

Champion Show Hunter Horse over 15 hands \$1,000

Sunday 30th

Supreme Champion Led Arabian Derivative \$2,000

Champion Riding Pony Under Saddle \$1,000

Monday 31st

Australian National Champion Lady Rider, 17 yrs & over \$2,000

Champion Shetland Pony in Harness \$1,000

Tuesday 1st

Supreme Champion Led Australian National Saddlehorse \$2,000

Champion Multiple Horse Business Turnout \$1,000

Wednesday 2nd

Australian National Champion Hack \$5,000

In addition, traditional harness, heavy harness, cutting and breed classes will be conducted during the six days.

Horse Display

As part of the 2008 Show a special display featuring the Australian Horse Industry, both past and present, will be staged in the Jenko Pavilion;

- Different breeds of horses will be on display and details of each breed's special attributes will be given by expert horsemen
- The Australian Light Horse
- Historical horse transport
- Education talks and displays in a purpose built round yard
- Opportunities for children to meet a pony and have their photo taken

2008 Sydney Royal Easter Show – Thursday 20 March to Wednesday 2 April

Further information;

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