

The

December 2017

SLIDER

Official publication
of Reining Australia

**2017 Gold Buckle
Futurity and National
Championships**

**2017 Queensland
State Championships**

**VRHA Spring Rein
Year End Finals**

*Rodney Peachey and Gunnerreload
2017 Gold Buckle Futurity Open Division Champion
Photo: Tania Hobbs*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2017 WRAP UP

Hi All

I would like to convey a few messages to all members and their families prior to our Christmas break. Firstly, again a big thank you to all sponsors. Then there are our competitors: well done to all the winners at the Nationals and the place getters alike.

This year showed us again that our sport is on the rise. An increase in the number of runs and also an increase in the numbers of competitors at our National show tell me that we are doing something right for our sport. We saw the introduction of the two-handed Snaffle Bit Futurity and there are already plans in place to run a Maturity class next year. The time has come now to increase the number of days at the Nationals because we can't fit all the classes into the timeframe we have at present.

A big shout out to the volunteers who made our show possible again and also to the members who gave up their time and annual leave and so forth to make our show the success it was. And finally to the Committee members who put in the countless hours during and prior to the show, I thank you as well. Please pass on our thanks to your partners and spouses for picking up the loose ends while you were attending to Reining Community Commitments.

There was great support this year in the Stallion Alley. Thanks to the owners of all the studs that entered.

Don't forget that the date for our Annual General Meeting and awards presentation night is coming up fast. The new date is Saturday the 24th of February in Sydney. Please get along to the AGM if time permits for you.


There are a couple of portfolios to fill as always. If you wish to nominate yourself or someone else, please fill out your nomination form along with your resume and send it in. Also, you will find in your correspondence that there is a Notice of Motion form. This form is for any member who wants to put forward a motion to be discussed at the AGM. The deadline is 30th December 2017.

So thanks again for being a part of another great year of reining in Australia and we look forward to catching up with everyone as soon as we can. Please stay safe over the Christmas break and on behalf of the Board I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Regards

Paul Sharp

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Photo of Topper Wings (img) and Rob Lawton (img) taken from Equi-Online



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Rodney Peachey and Gunnerreload
2017 Gold Buckle Futurity Open Division Champion
Photo: Tania Hobbs

2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

RA Board

Photos: Tania Hobbs

Entry-level riders kicked off the 2017 Reining Australia National Championships on Tuesday afternoon under the eye of judge Debra Versluis in the Thomas Arena Products Green Rider classes. More than 50 competitors used the relaxed Green Rider rules, riding two-handed and with optional simple lead changes, to get the feel of a reining show at the national level.

Sarah Rawson-Harris and Mississippis Destiny won the buckle for Green Rider Level 1. Craig Hall, riding Wimpys Little Terminator, outscored the other Level 2 Green Riders to take out the top spot in this class.

Our international judges, Joe Hayes (USA) and Alessandro Milani (Italy), took their places early on Wednesday morning for the largest draw of the show when 70-odd horses contested the Xtreme Genes Novice Horse classes.

The Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 buckle went to Anthony Ross and Einsteins Revelation. The winner of the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2 class was decided by a run off between Lee Thomson riding Eskdale West Judgementday and Denise Milgate on RKN Two Eyed Kid with Lee and Judgie proving the victors.

Yves Cousinard and Spin Me Please came up with the double for the Novice Horse Open classes, taking home the buckles for both Level 1 and Level 2.

The feature event on Wednesday afternoon was the Ed Smith Reining and Performance Horses Snaffle Bit Futurity. Cameron Halliwell and Shine It Up a Notch won the Non Pro division while John Wicks rode Onya Shiney Nu Toy into first place in the Open division. This was a great finish to the first full day of the show and was an exciting sneak peek at the calibre of the 2017 Futurity horses.



Above: Anthony Ross and Einsteins Revelation, Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 champions.



Above: Yves Cousinard and Spin Me Please took home the buckles for both the Novice Horse Open Level 1 and Level 2 classes.

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2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND
REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Above: John Wicks won the Open division of the Snaffle Bit Futurity with Onya Shiney Nu Toy.

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Crushed Ice
Rookie
Level 2

2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Hygain Rookie Level 1 and Level 2 opened Thursday's program with another big draw of more than 50 horse and rider combinations for the judges to consider. Sharon Leddington-Hill and Migs Shez Dynamite showed their heels to the opposition with a convincing win in the Rookie Level 2. Sharon's score of 144 in this class was the highest score by a Non Pro rider at the show.

The Rookie excitement continued with a run off for the Rookie Level 1 buckle between Sarah Rawson-Harris on Mississippi Destiny and eventual winner Kasey Bogie riding Lyrics Custom Corey.

The very well supported Mr 4X4 Freestyle class followed after the break. Chris Gould outperformed a posse of youth riders to win this event on Malibu Lena.

Thursday was rounded off with the running of the K Ranch Open and K Ranch Non Pro with 35 of the best and bravest horses and riders in the country.

Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner top-scored in both the Open and the Non Pro. It was an emotional moment when he was awarded the Michelle Halliwell Memorial trophy for his win in the Non Pro class.

Another draw of more than 50 horses opened the program on Friday with the Intermediate Non Pro, Southern Cross Saddlery Intermediate Open and Southern Cross Saddlery Rookie Professional classes. Rod Osborne and Kitten Revolution won the Intermediate Open, Kurt Melling and Predator took the Intermediate Non Pro buckle home to New Zealand and Chris Gould on Malibu Lena was the winner of the Rookie Professional class.



Above: Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner took home the treble of championships in the Open and Non Pro classes and the Michelle Halliwell Memorial trophy, with silver buckle and spurs.

2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Above: Sharon Leddington-Hill and Migs Shez Dynamite won the Rookie Level 2 with a score of 144, the highest score for a Non Pro at the show.



Above: Kasey Bogie and Lyrics Custom Corey won the run off for the champion's buckle in the Rookie Level 1.



Above: Kurt Melling and Predator were champions in the Intermediate Non Pro class.



Right: Show manager Glenn Winsor presents the champion's trophy and buckle to Rod Osborne and Kitten Revolution for their victory in the Intermediate Open.



*The two faces of Chris Gould and Malibu Lena.
Above: Rookie Professional champions.
Right: Winning first place in the Freestyle.*





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The more mature riders came out next for the Koyuga Electrics Prime Time Non Pro, won by Kathleen Murphy on Checkout Hollywood. Experience was followed by youth.

Joey Reedy rode Princess to victory in the Short Stirrup. Kasey Bogie and Lyrics Custom Corey picked up their second buckle in the Youth 13 Years and Under while Grace Christoffel and Lethal Katie won the Youth 14 to 18 Years class.

The pinnacle of Friday's program and one of the highlights of the show was the SnS Custom Floats Gold Buckle Futurity. Craig Cowley riding his own horse Time To Shine won the Level 1 division of the Futurity for riders just starting out in NRHA events.

The Limited and Intermediate divisions of the Futurity were won by Rodney Peachey riding Peter Bartolo's entry Gunnerreload.

Gunnerreload's score was also more than enough to take home the biggest prize of the show, the Open division of the Gold Buckle Futurity. Wins in the three divisions added the AQHA incentive cheques to the pony's take home pay. In addition to buckles, trophies and prize money, Gunnerreload brought his owner a top-of-the-range horse float sponsored and built by SnS Custom Floats of Bundaberg in Queensland.



Above: Kathleen Murphy and Checkout Hollywood were Prime Time Non Pro champions.



Above: Kasey Bogie and Lyrics Custom Corey won the buckle in the Youth 13 Years and Under class.

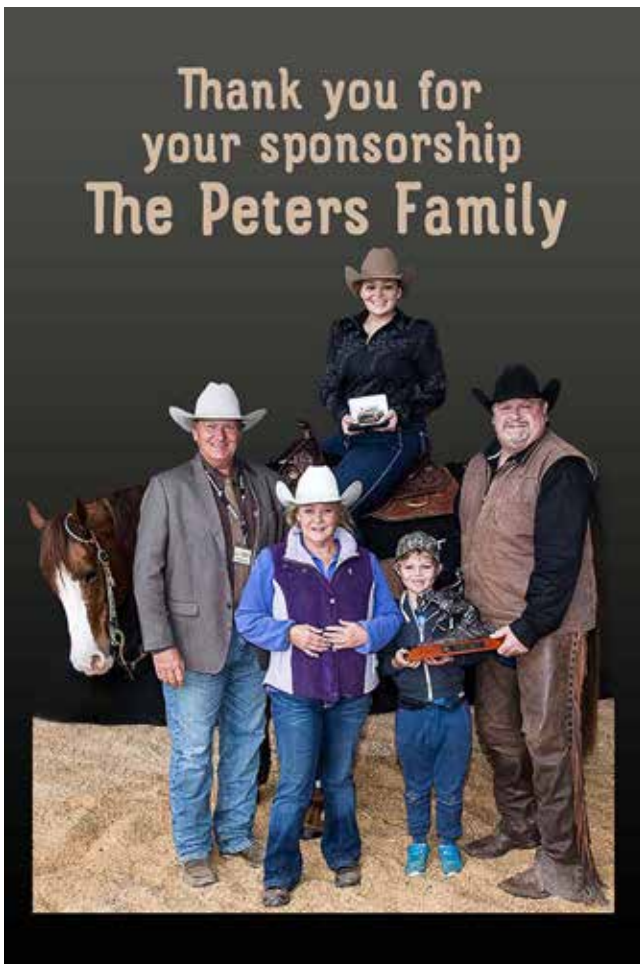


Left: Lethal Katie and Grace Christoffel were the champions in the Youth 14 to 18 Years class.

2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Rodney Peachey rode Peter Bartolo's Gunnerrelaad into the winner's circle for the Open, Intermediate and Limited divisions of the Gold Buckle Futurity.



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Saturday morning saw a return to less glamorous competition with another big line-up for the Back on Track Limited Open and Limited Non Pro classes. This year's tough competition continued at the Nationals with yet another run off deciding the buckle for the Limited Non Pro.

Two young riders, Grace Christoffel on Lethal Katie and Mikayla Smith on Whimpys Little Charlie, did their best with Grace and Katie winning by a small margin. An elated Josephine Hale and Whiz Fizz topped the scores to take home the buckle for the Limited Open.

A field of 20 horses and riders faced the judges in the next class, the Epiitalis Forte Non Pro Futurity.

Kayla Kington and Qmatch Cool Jake scooped the pool with wins in all three divisions of the Non Pro Futurity. Their loot included buckles and trophies plus three AQHA incentive cheques and, last but not least, a reining saddle sponsored by Southern Cross Saddlery.

A display of precision riding from our Youth members opened the Welcome Ceremony. The winner of the trip for two to Oklahoma for the 2017 NRHA Futurity was drawn (lucky Deb Versluis), the great horse Tell Me A Story was farewelled into retirement and the spectators got comfortable in the stands for the running of the 2017 National Derby.



Above: Josephine Hale and Whiz Fizz won the buckle for the Limited Open class.

Above left: Lethal Katie and Grace Christoffel picked up another buckle after a run off for the Limited Non Pro.

Left: Precision riding from Reining Australia Youth in the Welcome Ceremony.

2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



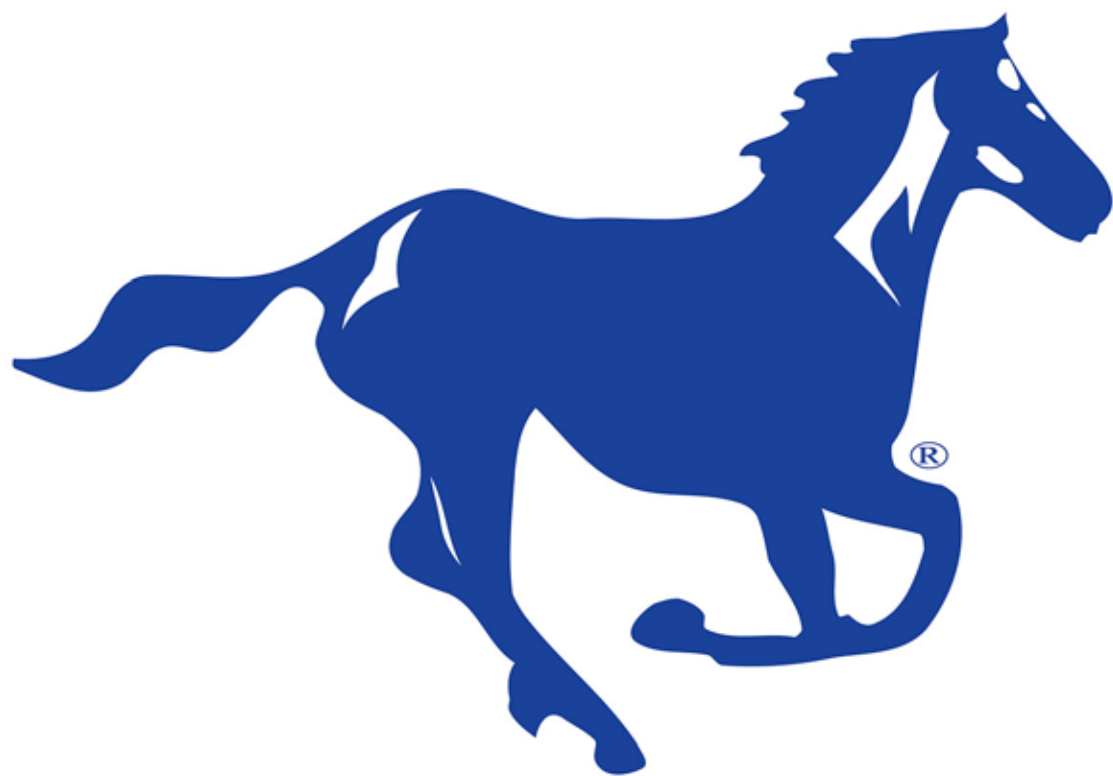
Above: Kayla Kington and Qmatch Cool Jake won all divisions of the Non Pro Futurity.

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Above: Greg Peters and Shelley Peters unsaddle Tell Me A Story (Blaze) after his last appearance in the show pen.



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2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Cameron Halliwell riding Gottagetagunner won the Show Me The Buckles Non Pro Derby with runner-up Paul Barratt on Hot Smokin Gun winning the buckles for both the Intermediate and Limited divisions of the Non Pro Derby.

Scott Hergest riding Spinnin Whiz and Mick Taylor on My Dads A Wimp shared the champion's position in the Show Me The Buckles Open Derby. Scott and Spinnin Whiz also claimed the buckle for the Intermediate division of the Open Derby.

Dennis Neylon on Wimpys Lil Miss and Erin Neylon on Lil Miss Genius kept it in the family as co-champions in the Limited division of the Open Derby.

Thank you to all our sponsors, major and minor, for supporting the 2017 Nationals.

Class sponsors were SnS Custom Floats, Ed Smith Reining and Performance Horses, Rebecca Martin and Show Me The Buckles, John and Lorraine Wylie and Xtreme Genes, K Ranch Arena, Southern Cross Saddlery, Koyuga Electrics, Mr 4X4, Michell Kimball and Spooks Gotta Whiz, Back On Track, Equilume Performance Lighting and 4CYTE Equine.

Thank you also to Thomas Arena Products for continuing to support the Green Rider program.

We are grateful to all who made the beautiful garlands, sponsored our trophy buckles and reserve championship trophy rugs and provided useful goodies for the placegetters. They are too numerous to name here but their details can be found on the website and throughout this year's issues of The Slider. Please support them in 2018.



Above: Mick Taylor and My Dads A Wimp were co-champions in the Open Derby.

Candice Wood

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2017 GOLD BUCKLE FUTURITY AND REINING AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Above: Cameron Halliwell and Gottagetagunner won the buckle for the Non Pro Derby.



Above: Dennis Neylon and Wimpys Lil Miss were co-champions in the Limited division of the Open Derby.

Above: Erin Neylon and Lil Miss Genius were co-champions in the Limited division of the Open Derby.



Above: Scott Hergest and Spinnin Whiz were co-champions in the Open Derby and won the buckle for the Intermediate division of the Open Derby.





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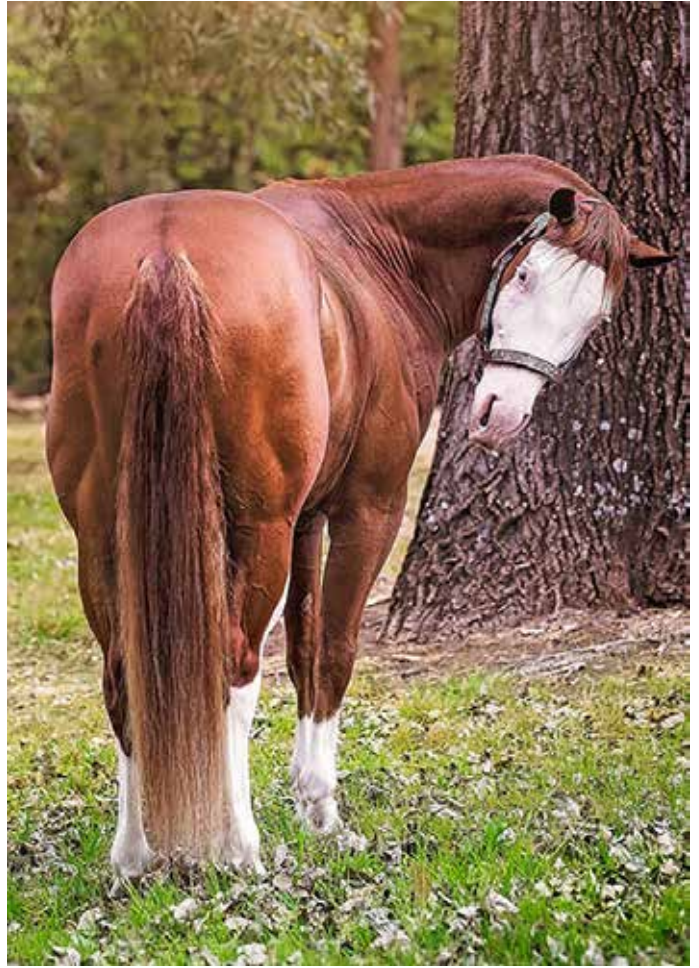
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FLOYD AND RODNEY

Peter Bartolo

Floyd and Rodney achieved a couple of milestones at the 2017 Gold Buckle Futurity and Reining Australia Nationals.

To my knowledge Floyd is the first registered Paint to win a National Open Reining Futurity.

Rodney's last National Futurity win was in 1997 on Con Wilson's Proud Lacy (x Proud To Be An Okie). It took 20 years to win his second and he did it on Gunnerreload.

The after party was an opportunity to celebrate a great little colt's achievements bringing the Open Futurity to NSW and to give back to those who supported us along the way.

Thank you to John and Lorraine Wylie from Xtreme Genes for hosting this event and all those who attended it was a great afternoon.



On behalf of myself and my family, I would like to thank Paul and Tracee Sharp from SnS Custom Floats for constructing and sponsoring the 2017 Open Futurity with a two-horse angle horse float.

I would also like to acknowledge and also thank those sponsors who assisted in funding and making this prize possible.

Paul, you build the "Rolls Royce" of Australian horse floats. Your workmanship and attention to detail is first class. What makes this trophy trailer stand head and shoulders above other manufacturers is the finish. The paintwork and unique structure is the "icing on the cake". This trailer travels great, is strong and durable. It is obvious that a great deal of thought and time has gone into your unique design.

I would recommend an SnS Custom trailer to any equine enthusiast.

Thanks again for your continued support.

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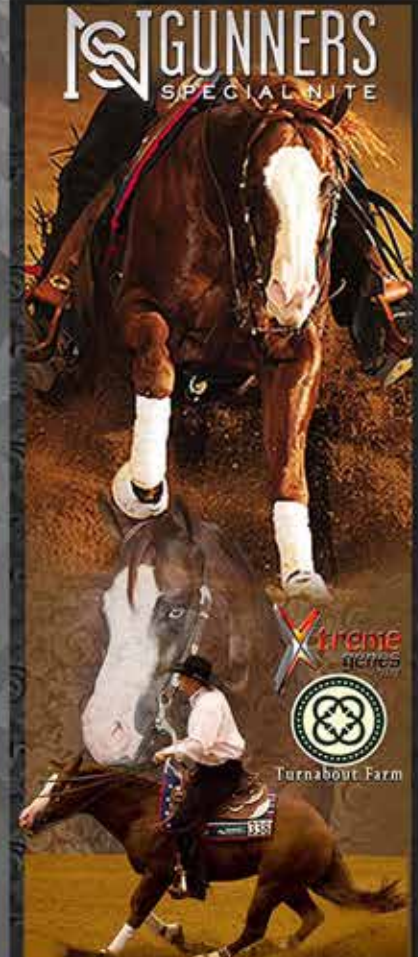


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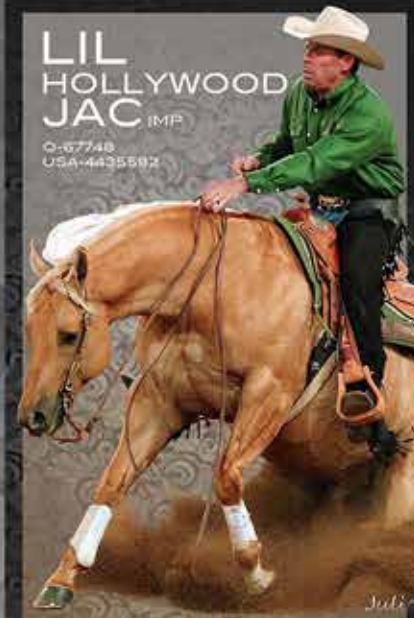
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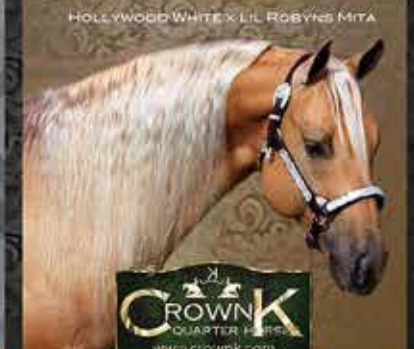
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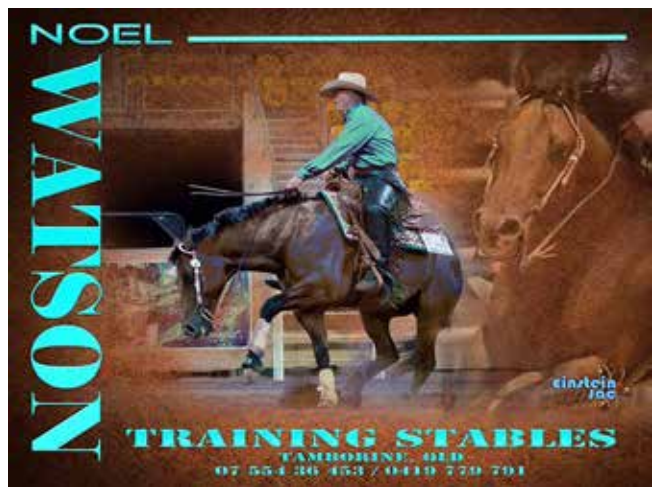


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2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Above: Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac were Open champions.

Left: Marni Baker and Quirran Lea Spinnamiss tied for first place in the Green Rider Level 1 class.



Dennis Neylon and Wimpys Lil Miss scooped the pool in the Novice Horse classes winning both Level 1 and Level 2 in the Novice Horse Non Pro and Novice Horse Open. The combination also won all divisions of the Non Pro Derby and the Limited division of the Open Derby.

Janice Hines
PHOTOGRAPHY

2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Queensland Reining Horse Association

Photos: Tania Hobbs

We expect clear skies in early August in Queensland. The sunshine is always reliable but some years the wind has a sting in its tail. This year, for the first time, it didn't matter what the climate gods had in store for us. We were safe within the shelter of QSEC's stunning new covered warm-up area.

The winter weather was perfect throughout the show but we were still grateful for the comfort of a well-lit hangar-sized second arena with ample room for separate circling, stopping and marshalling areas.

The show was well supported with about 400 runs over four days. The stabling and camping was near enough to fully subscribed within 24 hours of opening for bookings so QRHA knew that we were on track for a bumper show.

Thank you to all competitors for making the trip from as far afield as central Queensland and the central coast of NSW.

Judges Darren Simpson and Pam Spokes shared their duties across the classes and joined forces in both chairs for the big events: Open/Non Pro on Thursday, Non Pro Futurity and the Non Pro Derby/Open Derby on Friday and the Open Futurity on Saturday. We thank them for their care and dedication.

The show started on Wednesday with a full day of non-sanctioned events. This was a great test of the new arena setup and all credit must go to gate marshal, Glenn Muir. He rounded 'em up and kept them coming with consummate skill.

Noel Watson and Colonel Einstein (70) won the Junior Horse Open. Noel backed up the win with a second place on Helen Balu's 3-year-old, Mighty Red Pine (69). Greg Walker rode his Futurity prospect Ruf N Twisted (68½) into first place in the Junior Horse Non Pro, half a point in front of Dennis Neylon and Wimpys Lil Miss. There were around 60 horses in the Junior Horse line up, all of them a credit to their owners and riders.

The concurrent Beginner Rider and Beginner Youth classes followed. Justine Brown took home the blue ribbon for Beginner Rider on Wimpys Playgirl (69). Top scorer in the Beginner Youth, also on a 69, was Kristy Smith on Hollywood Blue Chip. Congratulations to the 30 riders in this draw. We hope you all will keep on riding and sliding with us in 2018.

The 40 horses in the Senior Horse classes rounded out the long day. Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac ran a 71½ to win the Senior Horse Open. Kathleen Murphy and Checkout Hollywood picked up the Senior Horse Non Pro with their score of 70½.

Thursday morning kicked off early with the first of the sanctioned classes, the Novice Horse. This was another 50-horse draw across all divisions. Dennis Neylon and Wimpys Lil Miss (70) made a clean sweep of the Novice Horse championships and the buckles. John Wicks and Onya Shiney Nu Toy (69½) were reserve champions in the Novice Horse Open Level 1 while Noel Watson and Snippin Cash (69½) filled the reserve position in the Novice Horse Open Level 2. Robyn Ross and Atomic Blonde (69) picked up the reserve sashes for the Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1 and Level 2.

More than 30 Green Rider competitors faced the judge in their classes. Sidney Paech and Onya Wozza (68) won the Green Rider Level 2. There was a tie for first place in the Green Rider Level 1 between Marni Baker on Quirran Lea Spinamiss and Jordan Rogers on Voila Petit Pas, both on 67.

The final event on Thursday was the concurrently run Southern Cross Saddlery Open and Non Pro classes. Once again, there was great support from competitors for these classes. There were 20 horses in the draw with 13 entries in the Non Pro and 10 in the Open. Pattern 9 was the task for horses and riders and we experienced our first run-in pattern in the new arena setup. Nobody used the full 60 metres available but everyone appreciated the generous straight approach to the gate.

Noel Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac took out the Open championship with their score of 142. Kathleen Murphy and Checkout Hollywood filled the reserve position in the Open on 141½. This score was enough for the combination to win the Non Pro championship, one point ahead of reserve champions Erin Neylon and Lil Miss Genius (140½).

 **Errol & Gita
Thomas**

2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS



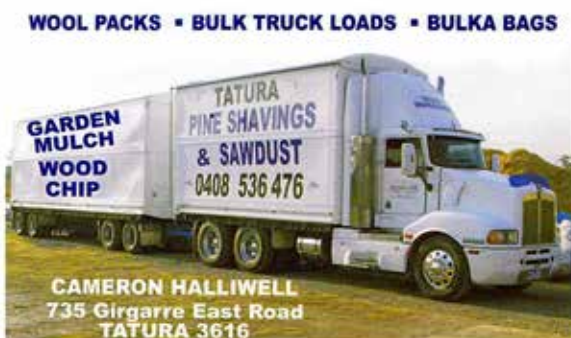
Above: Mike Adamson and China Doll won the buckle for Rookie Level 1 after a run off.



Above: Sharon Leddington-Hill and Migs Shez Dynamite were Rookie Level 2 champions.



Above: Hayley Saunders and DNA Genetics won all divisions of the Non Pro Futurity.



2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday is a big day at the Queensland State Reining Championships with two feature events scheduled in the afternoon and evening, the Non Pro Futurity followed by the Derby. First up in the morning were the Rookie Level 1 and Level 2 classes with more than 30 horses nominated. Rookie Level 2 champions, Sharon Leddington-Hill and Migs Shez Dynamite with 71, squeaked in just ahead of reserve champions Kurt Melling and Predator on 70½.

Things were less clear-cut among the 26 Rookie Level 1 competitors. There were three riders on 69. In a commendable display of competitive determination, they elected to run off for the champion's buckle. Mike Adamson and China Doll were the final victors, with Marni Baker on Quirran Lea Spinamiss and Deb Segeren on Ruf Lil Renee sharing the reserve spot.

Another draw of around 30 horses and riders presented themselves to the judge for the concurrently run Darling Downs Vets Intermediate Open, Intermediate Non Pro and Rookie Professional classes. Intermediate Open champions were Helen Balu and Whizkey On The Rocks (71) with Denise Milgate and RKN Two Eyed Kid (70) filling the reserve place. These positions were repeated in the Intermediate Non Pro class. Chris Gould on Malibu Lena and Craig Cowley on Time To Shine were Rookie Professional co-champions with both running a score of 68.

Meanwhile the Joyce Olsen Memorial Non Pro Futurity riders were gathering in the warm up arena, loping circles, adjusting skid boots, brushing tails and concentrating on their big moment. The Queensland crowd gets right behind the Non Pro Futurity competitors, encouraging them and cheering for them every step of the way through Pattern 5.

Hayley Saunders on DNA Genetics won all divisions of the Non Pro Futurity with a score of 140. It wasn't an easy win. Three horses were in reserve position, one point behind on 139: Jason Melling and Ill Be Back, Helen Balu on Mighty Red Pine and Kayla Kington on QMatch Cool Jake. Kyley Norman and Shiney Is My Name were half a point behind them and Greg Walker on Ruf N Twisted and Andrew Behrens on Hollywood Black Jac were one point behind Kyley on 137½.

And the night was still young. The stands filled, the crowd grew restless. They were waiting for Pattern 12 to deliver the Derby horses to them, one by one at the run. We had already seen some great scores at the show but now the competition stepped up another notch.

Scott Hergest and Spinnin Whiz came out late in the draw to lay down their winning score of 143½ in the Moreton Bay Regional Council Open Derby. Scott and Spinnin Whiz also took home the buckle for the Intermediate Open Derby. Dennis Neylon and Wimpys Lil Miss were a close reserve in these classes with their score of 142½.

In a replay of their clean sweep in the Novice Horse earlier in the show, Dennis and Wimpys Lil Miss gathered up the champion's buckles for the Limited Open Derby and for all divisions of the Moreton Bay Regional Council Non Pro Derby. Carolyn Gorrill on Who Whiz Einstein (139½) was reserve to Dennis in the Limited Open Derby. Erin Neylon on Lil Miss Genius, also on 139½, shared this award with Carolyn and was reserve in the Non Pro Derby. Greg Peters on Okies Fancy Step (139) and Hayley Saunders on Nu Nu (138) filled the reserve places in the Intermediate Non Pro Derby and the Limited Non Pro Derby respectively.



Above: Kathleen Murphy and Checkout Hollywood were Non Pro champions.



Above: Scott Hergest and Spinnin Whizz won the Open Derby and Intermediate division of the Open Derby.

2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Above: Chris Gould and Malibu Lena won the buckle in the Rookie Professional class.



Above: Helen Balu and Whizkey On The Rocks were Intermediate Open and Intermediate Non Pro champions.



Above: Kurt Melling and Predator won the champions' buckles for the Limited Open and Limited Non Pro.

Above right: Amelia Baker won the Youth 13 Years and Under class on A Hollywood Whizz.

Right: Grace Christoffel and Lethal Katie were Youth 14 to 18 Years champions.



2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Our Youth riders started the competition day on Saturday. Chase Huff on Quirran Lea Spinamiss edged out Tobin Smart on Sonitas Calendar Girl for the blue ribbon in the Short Stirrup. Grace Christoffel and Lethal Katie (69½) won the champion's buckle for the Graham Hargreaves Memorial Youth 14 to 18 Years with Kayla Kington on QMatch Cool Jake sliding into reserve by half a point with 69. Amelia Baker and A Hollywood Whizz also put down a score of 69½ in the Youth 13 Years and Under class to take the champion's buckle ahead of Jordan Rogers on Voila Petit Pas (67).

Around 30 riders followed next in the concurrently run Limited Open, Limited Non Pro and Prime Time Non Pro classes. Kurt Melling and Predator threw down the gauntlet with their score of 72. Nobody could catch or better this score, although Jessica Watson and Einstein Flashy Jac tried hard on 71. These two combinations filled the champion and reserve places for both the Limited Open and Limited Non Pro classes. Denise Milgate and RKN Two Eyed Kid (70½) won the Prime Time Non Pro championship ahead of reserve champion Robyn Ross on Hustlin For Chicks (70).

The women of reining came to the fore in the next class, the Michelle Halliwell Memorial Open Ladies. Beautiful rose-coloured sashes were awarded up to 10th place. In equal third place on 69 were Tania Powell-Gibson on Flirt With A Wimpy, Robyn Ross with Atomic Blonde and Lyndal Lindsay on Outlaw Whizz. Bridget Connelly and Do Me A Favour (70½) stepped into second place but nobody could catch Sharon Leddington-Hill and Migs Shez Dynamite who blew them all out of the water with a scorching score of 72.

The winner received a garland, a beautiful embroidered rug sponsored by Jolene King and Smarty Rugs, and a presentation pack of horse grooming goodies from Judges Choice.

Saturday evening and the show was drawing to a close. Competitors released from show commitments joined visitors in the stands to watch the Freestyle and wait for the main event, the Backhouse Training Stables Open Futurity.

The crowd always enjoys the Freestyle. Spectators appreciate the trouble taken by competitors to choose the music, put together their run and design the costumes. Grace Christoffel and Lethal Katie were this year's Freestyle champions ahead of reserve champions Isobel Hughes and DCS Kentucky Rein. Congratulations also to the other place getters, Chase Huff on Quirran Lea Spinamiss and Matilda Ready on Crown K Bronzed Hank.

Grace Christoffel returned to sing the national anthem in the Welcome Ceremony. Announcer Tim Hoffmann welcomed local state member, Hon. Mark Ryan, to our show and thanked the competitors and sponsors. Then we drew the raffle for a beautiful show bridle kindly donated by Horsemen's Trading Post.

Tim's last duty before the show resumed was to announce the winner of the QRHA Encouragement Award. The club awards a woolen rug with commemorative embroidery to the most consistent competitor entered in the Beginner, Green Rider and Rookie classes at the State Championships. This year's winner was Bec Tarlinton. Bec and Rocky River Little Roc took out second place in the Beginner Rider, were equal third in Green Rider Level 1 and then equal 5th on 68 in the Rookie Level 1 class.

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2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Above: Denise Milgate and RKN Two Eyed Kid were Prime Time Non Pro champions and filled the reserve position in the Intermediate Open and Intermediate Non Pro.



Above: John Wicks and Onya Shiney Nu Toy won the buckle for the Open Futurity.

2017 QUEENSLAND STATE REINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Enough of this frivolity! It was time for the Backhouse Training Stables Open Futurity. As the time for the Gold Buckle Futurity at the Nationals looms closer, trainers and riders use the Queensland Open Futurity to gauge the progress of their young horses. The excellent prize money of more than \$8,000 makes it a worthwhile stop on the road to the national competition.

Third place went to Ed Smith and Wimpys Dunit on 142½. Warren Backhouse and Smart Lil Roy were reserve champions with a score of 143. John Wicks rode Onya Shiney Nu Toy into the Open Futurity winner's position with a crowd-igniting score of 144. Congratulations to all owners and trainers and thank you for treating us to a breathtaking competition.

Ed Smith and Wimpys Dunit were Intermediate Open Futurity champions ahead of David Nixon and Classic Genetics in the reserve position. David and Classic Genetics were Limited Open Futurity champions with Yves Cousinard and Whiz A Little Star the reserve champions in this class.

QRHA would like to express our appreciation to the major show sponsors: Southern Cross Saddlery, Darling Downs Vets, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Hogs Breath Café Morayfield and Backhouse Training Stables. Special thanks goes to Hold Your Horses, Hygain Feeds, Tuff Rock and BWS.

Thank you also to our other generous sponsors; there are too many to mention here.



Above: Ed Smith and Wimpys Dunit won the Intermediate division of the Open Futurity.



Above: David Nixon and Classic Genetics were the champions in the Limited division of the Open Futurity.

A banner for Backhouse Training Stables. It features the text "BACKHOUSE TRAINING STABLES" in large white letters on a dark blue background, with five white stars below it. Below the stars is a row of small photographs showing various riders and horses. At the bottom, it says "Warren & Carol Backhouse", "181 Knobby Glen Road, Kandanga, QLD 4578", "Phone 0408 843 259", and "backhouse.train1@gmail.com". There are also several small logos at the bottom.

A banner for MWRanch.com.au. It features a white silhouette of a horse's head in the center. To the left of the head, it lists "Club Gear", "Clinics", "First Aid Kits", and "Pattern Banners". To the right, it lists "Apparel", "Hats", and "Sun Protection". Below the head, it says "order online at" and "www.mwranch.com.au".

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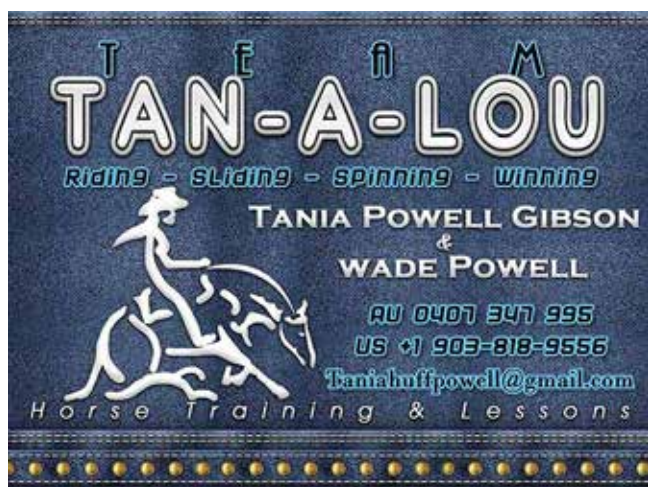
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WEG 2018 NEWS

Kathleen Murphy

RA Board WEG/FEI Portfolio

UPDATED CRITERIA FOR WEG QUALIFICATION

QUALIFICATION PERIOD: 1 JANUARY 2017 TO ABOUT AUGUST 2018 (TBC)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION CRITERIA (ART. 303 REINING RULES)

UPDATED 21 JUNE 2017

To be eligible to compete either as a member of a team or as an individual at the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games, an Athlete must be qualified as FEI 3* Athlete (Art. 302.5.1) and achieve a minimum average score of 70 at two out of three different CRI3* (Championships excluded), **all completed with no elimination, disqualification or withdrawal**, during the qualification period.

One of the qualifying results as defined above must be achieved no earlier than on the 1st January 2018 and no later than the end date of the qualification period.

Nations who enter a Team must have organized a CRI of any level or a Reining Championship in their home country during the qualification period. It is not compulsory for the Team members to have participated in this CRI/CH.

Each NF may enter one team of four Athletes and Horses and one additional Individual Athlete and Horse.

An NF that is not able to send a team may send up to two individual Athletes and two Horses who have achieved the minimum qualification criteria as stated above.

Reining Australia will be running one independent CRI3* Reining event at QSEC on 15 April 2018.

So far, a number of US-based riders have expressed interest in qualifying for selection for the WEG 2018 Australian Reining Team. These riders will fulfill their qualification requirements in the US.

NEW DATE FOR CRI3* IN AUSTRALIA: QSEC 15 APRIL 2018

Reining Australia will be running an independent CRI3* event at QSEC on 15th April 2018. The judge will be FEI 3* judge Leanne Bartlett.

Riders must have FEI 3* status to enter this event. Requests for fast track to 3* must be submitted to Equestrian Australia through Reining Australia.

Membership in Equestrian Australia is required for competitors and owners of horses in FEI events. Horses must be at least 7 years of age, be registered with Equestrian Australia and have an FEI Passport.

FAST TRACK TO 3*

Art. 305 Reining Rules: National Federations may fast track Athletes to a star level provided the Athletes have never started in a CRI before.

Each request for fast track must be accompanied by a report of records and must be approved by the FEI.



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NEWS FROM SQRHA

RESULTS OF 2017 PACIFIC COAST REINING SPECTACULAR

Non Pro Derby Level 2

1st Nu Nu Hayley Saunders 145
2nd Wimpys Lil Miss Dennis Neylon 137
3rd Wee Dunnit Helen Balu 135.5

Non Pro Derby Level 3

1st Condor Smart Play Jason Melling 147.5
2nd Nu Nu Hayley Saunders 145
3rd Do Me A Favour Neville Connelly 142

Non Pro Derby Level 4

1st Condor Smart Play Jason Melling 147.5
2nd Nu Nu Hayley Saunders 145
3rd lil Miss Genius Erin Neylon 144

Open Derby Level 2

1st Jason Melling Condor Smart Play 147.5
2nd Lil Miss Genius Erin Neylon 144
Equal 3rd Voila Petit Pas Yves Cousinard, Do Me A
Favour Neville Connelly,
Fancy Stepping Hart Throb Kane Masters 142

Open Derby Level 3

1st Condor Smart Play Jason Melling 147.5
2nd Spinnin Whizz Scott Hergest 144.5
3rd Lil Miss Genius Erin Neylon 144

Open Derby Level 4

1st Condor Smart Play Jason Melling 147.5
2nd Colonel Einstein Noel Watson 145.5
3rd Spinnin Whiz Scott Hergest 144.5

Youth 13 yrs and under

1st Crown K Bronzed Hank Matilda Ready 67.5
2nd DCS Kentucky Rein Isobel Hughes 66.5
3rd Docs Gambling Oak Indiana Kritikou 64

Youth 14 to 18

1st Lethal Katie Grace Christoffel 70.5
2nd Onya Wozza Sidney Paech 70
3rd Q Match Cool Jake Kayla Kington 68.5

Limited Open

1st Hustlin For Chicks Robyn Ross 71.5
2nd Whizkey On The Rocks Helen Balu 71
Equal 3rd Determination Michele Burnett and
Peppys Majic Nicky Graham Duffy 70

Limited Non Pro

1st Hustlin For Chicks Robyn Ross 71.5
2nd Whizkey On The Rocks Helen Balu 71
3rd Predator Kurt Melling 70.5

Rookie Professional

1st Mystiques Destiny Isaac Westerhuis 69.5
2nd Malibu Lena Chris Gould 69
3rd Fancy Stepping Hart Throb Kane Masters 68.5

Prime Time

1st Hustlin For Chicks Robyn Ross 71.5
2nd Eskdale West Judgementday Lee Thompson
69.5
Equal 3rd Down N Boogie Graeme Bell and Gamble
For Fun Lexi Bastable 68

Green Rider Level 1

1st Sprite O Lena Natalia Kritikou 70.5
Equal 2nd Shiney Playgirl Beau Gorman and
Rebecca Tarlinton Rocky River Little Rock 70

Open Futurity Level 4

1st Wimpys Dunit Edward Smith 145
Equal 2nd Classic Genetics David Nixon, SPH Fancy
Little Step Noel Watson, Onya Shiney Nu Toy John
Wicks 144

Open Futurity Level 3

1st Wimpys Dunit Ed Smith 145
2nd Classic Genetics David Nixon 144
Equal 3rd Migs Nu Elle Ashleigh Backhouse and
Yves Cousinard Whiz A Little Star 143

Open Futurity Level 2

1st Classic Genetics David Nixon 144
Equal 2nd Migs Nu Elle Ashleigh Backhouse, Whiz
A Lil Star Yves Cousinard 143

Intermediate Open

1st Whizkey On The Rocks Helen Balu 71.5
2nd Spinning Whiz Scott Hergest 71
3rd Determination Michele Burnett 70.5

Intermediate Non Pro

1st Whizkey On The Rocks Helen Balu 71.5
Equal 2nd De Termination Michele Burnett and
Predator Kurt Melling 70.5

RESULTS OF 2017 PCRS (CONTINUED)

Novice Horse Open Level 1

1st Spin Me Please Yves Cousinard 70
2nd Atomic Blonde Robyn Ross 69.5
3rd Flirt With A Wimpy Tania Powell Gibson 69

Novice Horse Level 2

1st Snippin Cash 70.5 Noel Watson
2nd Spin Me Please Yves Cousinard 70
3rd Atomic Blonde Robyn Ross 69.5

Novice Horse Non Pro Level 1

1st Wee Dunnit Helen Balu 70
Equal 2nd Atomic Blonde Robyn Ross 69.5 Peppys
Majic Nicky Graham Duffy

Novice Horse Non Pro Level 2

1st Wee Dunnit Helen Balu 70
Equal 2nd Atomic Blonde Robyn Ross, Do Me A
Favout Neville Connelly and Peppys Majic Nicky
Graham Duffy 69.5

Non Pro Futurity Level 2

1st Q Match Cool Jake Kayla Kington 145.5
2nd DNA Genetics Hayley Saunders 142
3rd Ruff N Twisted Greg Walker 140

Non Pro Futurity Level 3

1st Q Match Cool Jake Kayla Kington 145.5
2nd Classic Genetics David Nixon 142.5
3rd DNA Genetics Hayley Saunders 142

Non Pro Futurity Level 4

1st Q Match Cool Jake Kayla Kington 145.5
2nd Classic Genetics David Nixon 142.5
3rd DNA Genetics Hayley Saunders 142

Open

1st RKN Two Eyed Kid Denise Milgate 142
2nd Lil Miss Genius Erin Neylon 141.5
3rd Shiney Nu Addition Errol Thomas 137.5

Non Pro

1st Condor Smart Play Jason Melling 143
Equal 2nd RKN Two Eyed Kid Denise Milgate and
Migs Miss Dynamite 142

Ride For A Cure

1st Einstein Flashy Jac Jessica Watson 72
2nd Q Vista Peppa Revolution Angela Wicks 71
Equal 3rd Eskdale West Judgement Day Lee
Thompson and Hustling For Chicks Robyn Ross 70
Best Dressed Kim Hills
Encouragement Award Michelle Michele Delbridge

1st Onya Wozza Sidney Paech 70

Equal 2nd Quirran Lea Spinamiss Marni Baker and
Peppys Majic Nicky Graham -Duffy 67.5

Rookie Level 2

1st Migs Shez Dynamite Sharon Leddington Hill
70.5
2nd Onya Wozza Sidney Paech 70
Equal 3rd Quirran Lea Spinamiss Marni Baker and
Peppys Majic Nicky Graham Duffy 67.5

Beginner Horse Open

1st Smart Little Roy, Warren Backhouse 145.5
2nd Migs Nu Elle Ashleigh Backhouse 142
3rd Onya Shiney New Toy John Wicks 141

Beginner Horse Non Pro

1st Classic Genetics David Nixon 141
2nd Gamble For Fun Alexis Lexie Bastable 136.5
3rd Ruff N Twisted Greg Walker 135

Horse 5 years and over

Open 1st Einstein Flashy Jac Noel Watson 71
Non Pro 1st Shiney Nu Addition Errol Thomas 70.5

Beginner Youth

1st Isobel Hughes DCS Kentucky Rein 68.5
2nd Tobin Smart Sonitas Calendar Girl 68
3rd Indiana Kritikou riding Docs Gambling Oak 61.5
Encouragement Award Brianna Smith Brumby

Beginner Rider

1st Charmaine Smith Ima New Colonel 67
Equal 2nd Melissa Gould Malibu Lena Julie Hughes
Mondure Lethal Chex 66.5

Horse 4 years and under

Open 1st Noel Watson Colonel Einstein 71.5
Non Pro 1st Dennis Neylon Onya Ima Cool Step 70



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VICTORIAN REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION SPRING REIN YEAR END FINALS

WERRIBEE PARK NATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

11TH & 12TH NOVEMBER 2017

VRHA Committee

VRHA Spring Rein Year End Finals finished off the 2018 show year in traditional reining style with loads of fun, friends and riding.

This was the last show to get those double hi-points for the year. On Saturday, we ran four feature events along with all other non-sanctioned and sanctioned classes.

The feature events included the finals of the VRHA Southern Saddle Series for Intermediate Open and Intermediate Non Pro where finalists vied for two custom-made Silver Spurs Andrea Fappani & Shawn Florida Signature Saddles. We also featured our littlies Leadline Spectacular and the VRHA Beginner Reiner Showdown.

The VRHA Southern Saddle Series Intermediate Open and Intermediate Non Pro was a huge success with riders qualifying over VRHA shows this year. Finalists ran off in a clean slate final for each division under the eye of judges Pam Spokes and Leanne Bartlett.

Congratulations went to Tyler Smith riding Chexy Oak with a score of 142 taking home the Silver Spurs Intermediate Non Pro saddle. David Simons riding His Diluted Gunner took home the Silver Spurs Intermediate Open saddle with a score of 143.

It was a close finish. Kim Grosso and DC Cadillac Jack was preparing for a run off with Greg Smith and Whiz Charm and they were warming up out back when along came David!!

Spectators watched a great display of reining competition over the day and especially in the running of the finals. Thanks to VRHA sponsor Kylie from Just Western for all her assistance with the logistics and transportation of the saddles from the US.



L-R: Melanie Dennis VRHA Committee, Kylie fom Just Western, Wendy O'Sullivan VRHA President, Tyler Smith and Chexy Oak Champion Intermediate Non Pro Saddle Series.



L-R: Kylie from Just Western, Wendy O'Sullivan VRHA President, David Simons and His Diluted Gunner Champion Intermediate Open Saddle Series.

VRHA SPRING REIN YEAR END FINALS



VRHA/Reining Australia Green Rider Level 1 Series Winner for 2017, Vanessa Costello and A Custom Phoenix, after being presented with the Thomas Arena Products RA Green Rider jacket.



L-R: Wendy O'Sullivan VRHA President, Ella Harris co-champion in the Beginner Showdown, and co-champion Lee Glassborow with his horse Mooredun Smokin Acres (a little shy for the camera).



VRHA SPRING REIN YEAR END FINALS

The afternoon class on the Saturday program was the clean slate final of the VRHA Beginner Reiner Showdown. This reining mini-series was run later in the year at VRHA and riders competed at the August and October shows to qualify. Congratulations to all nine finalists. They were setting out to win a hand-made bridle and cotton rug plus free entry into a VRHA Rookie Level 1 class in 2018. Co-champions were Lee Glassborow on Mooredun Smokin Acres and Ella Harris on MG My Parris Celeste with both on a score of 65½.

Leadline has been lunchtime fun at VRHA Shows this year, playing games, keeping parents fit!! The Leadliners put on a Leadline Spectacular at the finals show and choreographed their own freestyle routines.

VRHA have been running Ranch Riding since May this year. Divisions have been run for RR Beginner, RR Non Pro and RR Open.

Congratulations to Jennifer Newman and AG Whizaling Star winner of the the RR Open Division, Brett Hands and Karalinga Dunup in Kandy 2nd, and Annie Kesterton and Penny Street 3rd.

VRHA would like to thank committee, members, supporters and sponsors for a great year and look forward to returning back to the show pen in January 2018, with the annual VRHA Hi Point Awards ceremony, AGM, Slide Into Summer Show as we begin the countdown to the Victorian State Championship & Southern Derby Show.

March 6th – 11th 2018 at Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre, Werribee, Victoria.



Pictured above and left are Leadliners including 8-year-old Matilda "Alice in Wonderland" Hobson on the right riding Smoko rabbit with her leadline partner Tess "Mad Hatter" Normington.



VRHA SPRING REIN YEAR END FINALS



VRHA Leadliners do the Lone Ranger and Tonto.



In early November this year, the first of the WPNEC upgrades began with works on both indoor arena surfaces. All of the existing surfaces have been removed, the base levelled and a new surface product put in.

VRHA managed the project and have been instrumental in working with WPNEC, dressage and show jumping user groups. Works have been completed in the two indoors with another external warm up area to be completed shortly.



NEWS FROM THE CALLIOPE SLIDERS

It has been a big year for the Sliders. We had some fantastic results in the show pen and a lot of new members taking up reining and scoring themselves some fantastic horses and getting out there and having a bit of fun.

Kayla Kington, while still a Youth rider, took on the big guns of the Non Pro world on her horse QMatch Cool Jake to take out all three divisions of the Non Pro Futurity at PCRS, make Reserve Champion in the Non Pro Futurity at Queensland State Show and then to bring it home with the big one: all three divisions of the 2017 Non Pro Futurity at the RA Nationals. All this on a horse that she trained herself! To say the Sliders are proud of her is an understatement!

Ed Smith also had a great year on Scott Finlayson's perlino colt, Wimpys Dunit, winning the Open and Intermediate Open Futurity at PCRS, then Reserve Champion in the Open Futurity and Champion in the Intermediate Open Futurity at the Queensland State Show. Even though the combination had some bad luck at the Nationals, Casper was still a star sitting in his beanbag and gaining lots of devoted fans.

Another highlight of the Sliders year was having Ken Eppers, 2015 NRHA Dale Wilkinson Lifetime Achievement Award winner, reining professional and all round great guy, here in Queensland for two clinics.



Ed Smith and Wimpys Dunit.

NEWS FROM THE CALLIOPE SLIDERS

Ken and his wife Nancy came over to Australia and did the clinics for the Sliders and then came on a road trip with us to the RA Nationals in Tamworth. They joined in all the Sliders fun and Kenny coached Sliders and other clinic attendees at the Nationals. We look forward to their next visit planned for March 2018.

Heading forward into 2018, the Sliders have some fundraising programs organised so they can continue to sponsor major shows around the country. Thinking outside the box, we are investing in some young cattle that we are raising amongst the Sliders. These will be sold to raise funds for our sponsorships and clinics. We even have our own brand and this will be incorporated into some of our new merchandising material featuring our flash new logo designed by Kyley Norman. Sliders merchandise will be available through Hold Your Horses.

Sliders will be holding a fundraising clinic and Training Show at Maryborough Indoor Arena in January. This weekend will be open to all reiners and non-reiners. Details will be available on our Facebook page.


Anyone wanting to become part of the Sliders team can join QRHA and nominate Calliope Sliders on their membership application.

See you all in the show pen 2018.



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