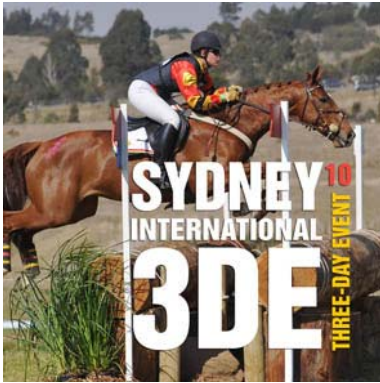




Press Release - Sunday, 11 July 2010



Entries are Open for the Sydney International 3 Day Event 26-29 August 2010

2010 is a very special year for the Sydney International 3DE. Not only will it feature the final selection class for Australian and New Zealand riders heading off to the World Equestrian Games (WEG) in Kentucky later this year, it will also host the Gwaihir Stud Australian Young Event Horse Championships, showcase the eight equestrian sports to be held at WEG and celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Sydney Olympics. Eventing classes will run from Preliminary level up to CCI3* level.

An exciting addition to the program, the Tyre Feed Bins Australia CCN Preliminary Class will be a return to the LONG FORMAT including roads and tracks, steeplechase and cross country.

Sydney International Eventing (SIE) has decided to run this event to give preliminary riders the opportunity to learn how to prepare a horse for such an endurance challenge and experience the roads and tracks and steeple chase phases of the original three-day event format that was used for all Three Day Events including the Olympics up to and including Sydney 2000 Olympics. This was the format that taught our elite riders like Shane Rose, Wendy Schaeffer, Megan Jones, Stuart Tinney and Heath Ryan to ride. In the USA the long format events are still held, as it is considered essential to teach developing riders to learn to ride a fence safely at speed.

It is important that riders prepare their horse properly for this event. Horses in the 10 minute box considered by the vets to be unfit or stressed will not be allowed to complete the Cross Country phase.

To assist competitors preparing for the event Fiona Hughes, Sandy Lucas, Sharmayne Spencer, Karen Tinney, Judy Fasher, Hamish Cargill, Prue and Craig Barrett, and Emma D'Arcy have all kindly offered to help riders either work out their individual training programs leading up to the event and / or provide guidance on what riders need to do during the event in presenting and caring for their horse. Contact details for each coach are available on the Sydney Eventing Website.

Visit www.sydneyeventing.org for more information.

All Media enquiries welcome. Please contact Rachel Smith on 0412 963 893 or rachel.smith@sydneyeventing.org



What's On at the Sydney International Three Day Event 26-29 August 2010

Wednesday 25 August - Trot up of competitors from 2-4pm

Thursday 26 August - Dressage & Gwaihir Young Event Horse Championships

Friday 27 August - Dressage & Gwaihir Young Event Horse Championships

Including... Grand Prix Dressage Invitational Class featuring Rozzie Ryan and Rachel Sanna; Para Dressage; WEG Selection CCI4* Dressage; Olympic Video Night and Sausage sizzle from 7.00pm

Saturday 28 August - Cross Country, the test of speed and endurance

Including... 10th Anniversary of the Sydney 2000 Olympics celebration lunch; Carriage Driving and Endurance displays; Paella and Tango Night from 7.00pm

Sunday 29 August - Show jumping, the final phase. Who will make the team for WEG?

Including... Final horse inspection; Vaulting, Reining and Grand Prix Show Jumping displays; Dog agility competition *organised by Aust Dog Agility Assoc*; Face painting, music and jumping castle

A full event timetable can be found on www.sydneyeventing.org

Event Statistics

- 9 Classes scheduled for 2010, including the final selection class for the World Equestrian Games, Oakgate Rising Stars, Gwaihir Stud Australian Young Event Horse Championships and the Tyre Feed Bins Long Format CCN Preliminary Class including roads, tracks and steeplechase.
- Number of entries will be available from 10 August 2010
- Riders are from across Australia (ACT -, WA -, SA -, VIC -, NSW -, QLD -) and New Zealand (),
- 2008 Winner CCI*** Heath Ryan & Mystery Whisper
- 2009 Winner CCI*** Wendy Schaeffer & Koyuna Sun Storm
- About the 2009 Winner - From South Australia, Schaeffer was the youngest women to win Equestrian gold at an Olympic Games with team gold at 1996 Atlanta Games. Just nine weeks prior to the 1996 Olympics, she suffered from two broken bones in her leg which were pinned for the competition. With a sense of déjà vu Schaeffer missed out on the Sydney round of 2009 HSBC World Cup with a broken leg. She returned to form with victory at the 2009 Sydney 3DE. Listed on the Equestrian Australia Eventing High Performance Program and the Jumping Development Squad. Schaeffer spent the first part of 2010 campaigning her horses in Australian based selection trials before flying her jump mare, Koyuna Sun Set, to Europe to compete in Germany.



How to Get There

- The Sydney International Equestrian Centre is located on Saxony Road at Horsley Park, just 40 minutes from the centre of Sydney via the M2 and M7.



Tickets

General Admission (includes parking and a program). An undercover grandstand will be open to the general public.

- Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - FREE
- Saturday & Sunday - Adults 16 years and over \$15, under 16 years & pensioners FREE
- Sydney 2000 Olympic Volunteers who wear their uniform - FREE ENTRY any day

Adina Vineyard Café

The Adina Vineyard Cafe is a great place to relax and enjoy all the Sydney 3DE action. Located alongside the main competition arena and adjacent to the cross country start guests will have prime, under cover viewing in the café. On Saturday TV screens will be set up in the café for guests to track each riders' performance around the cross country course whilst enjoying a gourmet lunch & drinks.

- Thursday, Friday and Sunday - \$45 per day (includes entry, program, VIP parking, access to Adina Cafe, free tea/coffee, complimentary glass of wine. Gourmet meals and drinks on sale in the cafe)
- Saturday - **Sydney 2000 Olympics 10th Anniversary Celebratory Lunch** \$100 (includes entry, program, VIP parking, access to Adina Cafe, free tea/coffee, gourmet lunch & wine. Full Bar available).
- **Café Event pass** valid for all four days and includes the Olympic Celebratory Lunch – \$200 per head

Hosted Cross Country Walks

- Tickets for the hosted cross country walks on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning can be purchased in advance through the Sydney Eventing website or from the merchandise tent at the event. Exact times will be available online. Cost – \$20

Tickets can be purchased online or from the event each day. Dinner Tickets on sale at the Event.

2011 Events - Weekend of World Cups 6-8 May 2011 & Sydney International 3DE 8-11 September 2011

Eventing Explained

The Olympic sport of Eventing (also known as Horse Trials) is the equestrian triathlon where the three phases of dressage, cross country and show jumping are completed by the same horse/rider combination. This is a true test of fitness and horse management. Eventing is the equestrian discipline at which Australia has excelled with numerous Olympic Medals including gold ten years ago at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. It is also one of the few sports where men and women compete on equal terms and the genuine amateur can compete against an Olympic Champion.

- **Dressage** is the first test which comprises a set sequence of compulsory movements in an arena 20m wide and 60m long. At the highest level the test is judged by three international judges who are looking for balance, rhythm, suppleness and most importantly, obedience of the horse and its' harmony with the rider.
- **Cross Country** consists of the challenge of more than 35 natural obstacles over approximately 4km that has to be jumped inside an optimum time. This phase is filled with thrills and spills.
- **Show Jumping** is the final phase of the competition consisting of one round of jumping with a maximum time allowed. The objective is to jump all the fences clear inside the time.

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