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SYDNEY'S WEEKEND OF EQUESTRIAN WORLD CUPS

7–9 May 2010

Including the HSBC FEI World Cup™ Eventing Qualifier
& Greater Sydney World Cup Jumping Qualifier

NZ Olympian to Judge Young Event Horse Classes & Host Cross Country walk

The Sydney International Eventing committee is excited to announce Vaughn Jefferis as the visiting judge for the Young Event Horse classes sponsored by Gwaihir Stud to be held on Friday 7 May at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre as part of the Sydney Weekend of Equestrian World Cups.

Vaughn has also kindly offered to host the cross country walk on Saturday 8th May at 10.00am. During this walk the lower CIC classes will be running and Jefferis will explain the intricacies of riding cross country as they pass each obstacle. The tour will conclude before the World Cup class begins and viewers will be able to enjoy the action with a greater understanding of the cross country phase of competition.

Vaughn Jefferis is a renowned Eventing rider and trainer who has represented New Zealand at two Olympics and three World Championships.

Early in his career Jefferis focused on show-jumping and he qualified for the 1985 World Cup final in Gothenburg. In 1990 Jefferis transferred his interest to three-day eventing, competing in the world championships in Stockholm riding Enterprise. New Zealand won the team title in Stockholm.

When Jefferis acquired seven-year-old Bounce in the early 90's it was the beginning of a partnership that would take the three-day eventing world by storm over the next few years. Jefferis enjoyed outstanding success with Bounce, winning the individual world title at The Hague in 1994, team gold at the 1998 world championships in Rome and team bronze at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. In 1994 and 1996 they finished third and second at the prestigious Badminton four-star event. Jefferis and Bounce also pocketed four national titles and were part of the NZ Team at the Sydney Olympics.

After retiring as an international rider Jefferis has concentrated on producing and selling quality horses – although he does threaten a comeback whenever he finds a particularly good horse.

Also on the program are Young Jumping Horse Classes.

Tickets for the hosted cross country walk scheduled for 10am Saturday can be purchased online at www.sydneyeventing.org or at the merchandise tent on the day.



Event Overview

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. Eventing is a discipline at which Australia has excelled with numerous Olympic Medals. It is also one of the few sports where men and women compete on equal terms and the genuine amateur can compete against a World or Olympic Champion.

The HSBC FEI World Cup™ Eventing is a linked series which aims to unite all corners of the international Eventing community. It is organised annually as a series of three-star level CIC qualifiers. It began in August 2002 and the first Australian leg of the series was held in Sydney in 2009. The series is supported by HSBC and this year the US\$180 000 prize money will be shared between the leading riders worldwide ensuring Australian based riders get a fair crack at the cash.

What's on at the Weekend of World Cups 7 - 9 May 2010

Friday 7 May - Dressage The first test is Dressage, which comprises a set sequence of compulsory movements in an arena 20m wide and 60m long. At World Cup level the test is judged by three international judges who are looking for balance, rhythm and suppleness and most importantly, obedience of the horse and its' harmony with the rider.

Saturday 8 May - Cross Country Day two consists of the challenge of the Cross Country course, where a course of natural obstacles has to be jumped inside an optimum time. This phase is filled with thrills and spills.

Sunday 9 May - Show Jumping Day three is the show-jumping phase consisting of one round of jumping with a maximum time allowed, and the objective is to jump all the fences clear inside the time. The fences are not as high as top level show-jumping but are quite substantial for horses which are not specialists at show-jumping and have already completed two previous phases.

Other attractions at the Weekend of World Cups in Sydney

- Bates Saddles Greater Sydney World Cup Jumping Qualifier
- Young Event Horse Classes & Young Jumping Horse Classes sponsored by Gwiahir Stud and ESP
- Dog Agility Demonstrations
- Freestyle Dressage Demonstrations
- Bareback Show Jumping Competition
- Shopping Village

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

The HSBC FEI World Cup™ Eventing Series includes 12 events in 10 countries across three continents.

Calendar of events:

1. Tallahassee (USA), 5-7 March - *Mara Dean (USA)*
2. Kihikihi (NZL), 2-4 April - *Megan Jones (Aust)*
3. Sydney (AUS), 7-9 May
4. Marbach (GER), 7-9 May
5. Chatsworth (GBR), 15-16 May
6. Tattersalls (IRL), 27-30 May
7. Strzegom (POL), 24-27 June
8. Minsk (BLR), 21-25 July
9. Rebecca Farm, Kalispell (USA), 22-25 July
10. Malmö (SWE), 13-15 August
11. Martinvast (FRA), TBC, 18-22 August
12. Schenefeld (GER), 26-29 August

Current standings (after 2 of 12 events)

- =1 Mara Dean (USA) - 71 points
- =1 Megan Jones (Aust) - 71 Points
- =2 Phillip Dutton (USA) - 67
- =2 Heelan Tompkins (NZ) - 67
- =3 Will Coleman (USA) - 64
- =3 Clarke Johnstone (NZ) - 64
- =4 Bonnie Mosser (USA) - 61
- =4 Alice Montgomery (NZ) - 61
- 5 Allison Springer (USA) - 4



Next Event

- Sydney International Three Day Event 26-29 August 2010

For more information visit www.sydneyeventing.org

All Media enquiries welcome.

Please contact Rachel Smith on 0412 963 893 or rachel.smith@sydneyeventing.org

