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Sydney Royal Easter Show 200th Anniversary

April 2022

Riding for the Disabled (NSW)Showcase and Horse of the Year Event

Invitation and Expressions of Interest (Committees and Coaches)

Hi everyone!

We would like to invite you to participate in the very exciting Riding for the Disabled Showcase and Horse of the Year Event at the 200th Anniversary Sydney Royal Easter Show next year.

We have altered the format of the event to take into account the challenges that have been thrown at us during 2020/21and hope that you will be able to join us there.

We see this Anniversary event as being a great opportunity to showcase and reflect on what RDA(NSW) Centres really do during the year. It will give the participants a time to shine while demonstrating their skills in group sessions run by RDA(NSW) Coaches. A Come and Experience session will be open to the General Public with the purpose of providing a chance to feel, through carefully co-ordinated simulated ground-based activities, how physical, visual, auditory or cognitive challenges may impact activities such as those undertaken by our clients during riding sessions. These will have been created in consultation with those who are living with first-hand experience of such challenges.

The Horse of the Year award will still be held, but we would like to open it to your Star Ponies/horses as opposed to only the horses participating in the Group session events. Every Centre has at least 1 or 2 of these champions, and it would be great if we were able to give them a moment in the spotlight.

We are therefore calling for Expressions of Interest (closing date 19 November 2021) for inclusion in:

Showcase Group sessions – 2 sessions, max. 6 per session.

* At this stage we are looking for those clients whose size and/or ability level, allow them to block mount (with assistance if required).

We are looking at the option of a larger sized ramp, but at this point can’t guarantee that it will be feasible.

* We would like the sessions to reflect the wide range of clients we would see in general classes. Our aim is to reflect the abilities that they demonstrate to us whenever they ride.

Horse of the Year Event - Do you have a Star pony/horse who would be able to travel to Sydney to demonstrate the heart and soul of our regular RDA(NSW) programs? They do NOT have to be involved in the Group Events but could be if that would work for you. The set-up for the Event would again reflect the type of activities commonly used in Centre based sessions but would allow the rider to be led or supported by side-walkers if required, with this factor being a new aspect of the judging system.

Event Date - Due to exciting circumstances which will be made clear to you as soon as possible, a definite date has not been announced for the Showcase/HOTY event. However, the tentative date is for Tuesday 12th April 2022.

To assist in the planning of this event we would ask for your reply whether or not your Centre is interested in attending.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me (Kirsty Hardman) on 041185731 should you have any questions.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

The Mounted Games committee

RDA(NSW)