



Show Update from Main-Events

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For the Annandale Christmas Classic Committee

Recession? What recession ... entries are way up!

We are up to 861 horses that have applied to enter. This will mean some will be required to accommodate their horses at different venues ... and another 29 envelopes arrived in the mail today. Yikes!

With all this hot weather, the watering is well underway on the NEC grounds where we now have the main grass arena ring one and a new large sand arena behind, plus the other two sand arenas. The new area has been nicely landscaped with banks and planted with trees that will be great viewing platforms in the years to come. The new look and feel is down to manager Mark and his partner Lorraine. You will be surprised to find that the pine trees across the road are disappearing on Department of Conservation land. Make sure your horses know what a saw sounds like and don't eat the young trees!

5 Yr old class change

The original schedule has the 5 Yr Old and 6 Yr Old classes running concurrently in two different rings. This has now changed so that Class 5 is after the Pro-Am class in Ring 2. So followers of the Age Series should have time to see both!

Practise Ring?

Yes, there is a practice ring as we had last year. But only open to horses competing in the show – numbers must be worn.

Writers and gate stewards needed

We asked on the Stabling Booking form for those who were prepared to help out and had a reasonably good reply with 49 people saying yes. However, it appears that when actually *asked to do something*, most of those people decided they couldn't help. I was surprised and *very* disappointed.

If you can help with writing, gate stewarding, morning/afternoon teas, running out judges sheets etc please contact Jo Bell at sterlingwords@ihug.co.nz. You will earn brownie points towards next year's stabling! We apparently have some help with paid ring crews – but as always, if a rail drops and you are nearby please make an effort to put it up!

Stabling/accommodation on website Monday night

Stabling is going to be tight. If you want to improve your options, you could consider sponsoring a class ... ☺ ... see priorities below. But you will have to let us know by Monday.

We should be able to post up yarding as assigned on www.main-events.com by Tuesday Monday night so check on the website to make sure you are listed and aware of what you have and where you are going. If you applied for covered yards or paddocks but didn't get them, then we will refund the difference. This will be paid out after the show by direct credit with the refunds and prizemoney.

Please be aware that if you ordered yards for Thursday and Friday, do NOT expect to have the yards for the day before or the day after – even if you do front up to pay for them. They will probably have been re-assigned.



Also

Ezy Keepers

It is planned to label every yard specifically so that domino effect of one person taking one wrong stable puts every thing out of kilter doesn't happen! We have kept strict order of entries based on postmark and will as much as possible follow that first in and first served principal. However, there are some priorities that are being followed – we are trying to be open about allocation for everyone's peace of mind!

Stallions, World Cup Horses, **Sponsors \$400+**, and Committee have overall priority for stabling or yards. Followed by Sponsors \$200+, National Series Sponsors, GP Horses, YR horses, Volunteers and then in date order sorted by those riders who did send in the Booking form and those who did not. Everyone was emailed their invoice stating they needed to get the forms back to us by Dec 10th. even if staying off grounds. Riders with big teams (4 or more horses) will have some priority in terms of being on the NEC grounds. The camping with power will all assigned by first in and first served. Paddocks are in a similar order although 4 or more horses in a paddock have a slight priority as we are short of yards. The committee reserves the right to also prioritize other entries where medical issues should be considered.

Obviously, we are not able to provide yards on the grounds for all those that want them! On our trip to Taupo, we had a look at the Western Pony Club facilities where there are another 65 yards and toilets. There are additional facilities at the Racing Course as well. We won't know until Friday night exactly how much of an overflow we do have that will be accommodated off site.

SCRATCHINGS! It is really important that you let us know of any scratchings immediately as we have a waiting list to get into the show. You are NOT to give your yards away to anyone else - they must go through the office.

You are NOT to put your horse in any yard or stable if your name is not on it or there will be an immediate fine (yet to be determined).

Please check your entries

Please check the emailed *Record of Entries* for any corrections – they can be made quickly and easily if you let us know. Also please check the **bank account number** of your cheque on the top right of the *Record of Entries*. This is the bank number we will use to direct credit any prize money or refunds. **It is your responsibility to make sure the account and all details are correct!** Any corrections picked up once the show starts will be treated as swapping classes.

Scratching and swapping classes

Scratching a horse from a class or the show before 5:00 pm Wednesday 15th (day before the show) can be done at 20% retained for admin. You do not need a vet or doctors certificate (except for the World Cup class). If you scratch after that, 50% will be retained as an admin fee.

Swapping classes? If you are swapping from one class to another, the policy is to scratch at the 20% before the show (or 50% during the show) and then apply the entry at the standard rate (not the penalty rate of 150%).

There will be no refunds on stabling *unless* we can re-assign it to another horse through the office.

Forage supplies from Annandale to be available

Our show sponsor Annandale will have chaff and forage supplies available on the grounds throughout the show. These can also be pre-ordered by emailing sales@annandale.co.nz or ph 07 333 7113.

Please show your support for our show sponsor who also sponsor the weekend's entertainment.

Annandale sponsor the Friday night fun

We are pleased that Annandale are once again supporting our show. Friday's Annandale entertainment will start with the Pony Six Bar followed by Santa being delivered by Rocket Pocket the miniature pony and then ... the Wellington band SUPERMODEL will be playing again in the marquee. Katrina Jackson, Annandale director has provided the following information about Supermodel.

Supermodel, influenced by bands like Queen, The Strokes and Muse, formed in 2006 and is an alternative pop/ Brit rock band from Wellington. Supermodel is a four-piece band with Mark Hanify on lead vocals and guitar; sister Rose Hanify on keyboard and backing vocals; Michael White, bass and vocals; and Tony Kemp, drums and vocals.

Supermodel have toured New Zealand, from pubs in Wanganui to the TSB Arena in Wellington opening for established Kiwi acts like The Feelers and Frankie Stevens. Currently Supermodel is building an album around great singles such as The Walk of Shame (2008) and Send Me Dreaming (2007). The Walk of Shame is on

rotational play on JuiceTV and Send Me Dreaming, encouraged by OP Shop's Jason Kerrison, was put on rotational play on KiwiFM.

Saturday night BBQ

Tim Logan, our show barman has a BBQ set for Saturday night. So there will be food with the drinks! You don't need to pre-purchase tickets – just turn up and buy what you want – gourmet-style and comes highly recommended. The jukebox will be playing, the bar open, so riders make a point of dining at the NEC on Saturday night with Tim and his crew doing the BBQ!

Welcome to new sponsors at our show

Have a look at the lineup of sponsors that are supporting our show! These are the type of businesses YOU should be doing business with. This show needs sponsors to cover operating expenses – riders would be quite surprised at how much it costs to put on a show of this size!

This email has been sent to you as you have attended the show in the past. If you do not want to receive these weekly updates about the Annandale Christmas Classic then please get back to us and we will take you off the email list.

Anne Vallance
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Annandale Christmas Classic

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