



2018 Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards

Recognising and rewarding the hard work and dedication of all stud and stable staff across Australia

2018 finalists announced after record nominations

The finalists in the 2018 Godolphin Stud and Stable Staff Awards have been selected from a record field of 300 nominations.

After much debate and consideration, the judging panel, led by South Australia's chief stipendiary steward Johan Petzer, settled on 14 worthy finalists from whom the seven winners will be chosen.

"The GSSSA, now in its fourth year, is a fantastic initiative supported by Godolphin, Racing Australia and Thoroughbred Breeders Australia, and provides great encouragement for, and rewards the talent of, the participants in our vibrant racing and breeding industry," Petzer said.

"The judging panel continues to be impressed by the outstanding quality of the nominations. There is no doubt the quality of the nominees in 2018 is impressive, which makes the task of determining the winners a difficult one for the panel," he added.

The winners, plus the overall Thoroughbred Excellence Award winner will be named at the official Stud and Stable Staff Awards Ceremony at Morphettville Racecourse on Friday, 4 May.

The finalists in each category are:

Leadership – Peter Keating, Newgate Farm, NSW, and Jade Rossington, Willow Park Stud, NSW.

Horsemanship – Warren Sutton, McEvoy Mitchell Racing, South Australia, and Scott Eeles, Godolphin, NSW.

Dedication To Breeding – Angus McAlpine, Eureka Cambooya Stud, and Patrick Sheehan, Coolmore Stud, NSW.

Dedication To Racing – Joe Agresta, Malua Racing, Victoria, and Steve Adams, Anthony Freedman Racing, Victoria.

Administration – Michelle Nichols, Arrowfield Stud, NSW, and Hannah Dick, Widden Stud, NSW.

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Thoroughbred Care and Welfare – Lee Purchase, Darren Weir Racing, Victoria, and Liz Andriske, Saleyard Thoroughbreds, Victoria.

Newcomer – Jarom Rhind, Armidale Stud, Tasmania, and Meg Stanley, Kathryn Durden Racing, Victoria.

The awards offer the winners in the first six categories a \$10,000 cash prize and a trophy each, plus \$3,000 to be shared among staff at their place of work. Each runner-up receives \$1,000, with the Thoroughbred Excellence Award winner taking away an additional \$5,000. The winner in the Newcomer category receives \$5,000 and a trip to Dubai as a guest of Godolphin.

For further information please go to studandstablestaffawards.com.au.

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About Racing Australia:

Racing Australia is the national industry body representing Thoroughbred racing in Australia.

Commencing operations on the 13th of April 2015, Racing Australia merged the functions and assets of the Australian Racing Board (ARB), Racing Information Services Australia (RISA) and the Australian Stud Book (ASB) into one entity.

Importantly, Racing Australia commercialises the industry's racing materials on a national basis, through the sale of a variety of products and services such as Fields, Form and Results

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to a diverse range of print and digital publishers domestically and internationally.

Racing Australia continues to develop and expand the number of integrated products and services available to Principal Racing Authorities, race clubs, owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys, punters and racing enthusiasts.

About Thoroughbred Breeders Australia:

Thoroughbred Breeders Australia TBA is the parent company of the six State breeders' associations and has an associate membership base of 3,780 individual breeders and industry participants. TBA is a non-profit industry body established for the benefit of the Thoroughbred breeding industry. TBA is comprised of a Board of 14 directors constituted by two representative members from each of the 6 state breeders' associations and Aushorse Ltd.

TBA takes a leadership role on issues of national and international importance such as quarantine, biosecurity, animal welfare, taxation, immigration and other government and regulatory issues. It represents the interests of breeders in dealing with the Stud Book, The Australian Racing Board and race clubs in addition to other stakeholder organizations.

About Godolphin:

Godolphin was founded in 1992 by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. Named in honour of the Godolphin Arabian, one of the three founding stallions of the modern thoroughbred born in the Arabian Gulf, what started with a handful of horses in the desert has evolved into the foremost international horseracing stable.

Sponsored by Emirates Airline and racing in the famous Royal Blue silks, Godolphin strives for excellence, winning many of the world's major races along the way. To date, Godolphin has won over 250 Group One races in 12 different countries, across four continents. For further information, please visit: www.godolphin.com.

Members of the Judging Panel:

- Johan Petzer (Chair), Chairman of Stewards TRSA (SA)
- Basil Nolan, President of TBA and stud owner (QLD)
- Melissa Weatherly, Racing Victoria (VIC)
- Caroline Searcy, Sky Racing Channel (NSW)
- Chris Watson, Director TBA and stud owner (SA)
- Mark Newnham, Thoroughbred Trainer (NSW) and 2015 Thoroughbred Excellence Winner

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- Troy Corstens, Thoroughbred Trainer (VIC)
- Shane Anderson, GM Product and Delivery Racing.com (VIC)
- Jenny Watson, 2016 Thoroughbred Excellence Winner (TAS)
- Jeremy Rogers, 2017 Thoroughbred Excellence Award Winner (VIC)

Categories of Awards and Prize money:

1. Leadership Award (Stud or Stable)

An award to an individual staff member in a managerial or supervisory role in a stud or stable who has displayed leadership qualities – in particular in terms of quality people management, mentoring and support of staff, attention to workplace health and safety, commitment to continuous improvement and displaying good business acumen.

Prize: Trophy and \$10,000 to winner with \$3,000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1,000 to the runner-up.

2. Horsemanship Award (Stud or Stable)

An award to an individual staff member who has shown talent for horsemanship, consistency and reliability in or out of the saddle. Must include an affinity with horses and gives a priority to animal welfare. Must demonstrate a degree of success with the thoroughbred, whether it be in breeding or racing or both, that has been borne out of their particular skill set.

Prize: Trophy and \$10,000 to winner with \$3,000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1,000 to the runner-up.

3. Dedication to Breeding Award

An award to an individual staff member who has shown talent in thoroughbred breeding horsemanship, consistency and reliability in a stud role. Must have at least 5 years service in the breeding industry and must have been pivotal in his or her employer's success.

Prize: Trophy and \$10,000 to winner with \$3,000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1,000 to the runner-up.

4. Dedication to Racing Award

An award to an individual staff member who has shown talent for horsemanship in the racing field, consistency and reliability in racing role. Must have at least 5 years service in the racing industry and must have been pivotal in his or her employer's success.

Prize: Trophy and \$10,000 to winner with \$3,000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1,000 to the runner-up.

5. Administrative and Ancillary Services Award (Stud or Stable)

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An award to an individual staff member who works in an administration role in a stud or racing yard or services ancillary to racing or breeding (such as Race Club administrators and staff, stud or stable administration staff, farm, garden and maintenance staff). Must demonstrate exceptional skills, loyalty or some achievement that has added value to their employer's business, and directly or indirectly to industry standards.

Prize: Trophy and \$10,000 to winner with \$3,000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1,000 to the runner-up.

6. Thoroughbred Care and Welfare Award

An award to an individual who has demonstrated a commitment to the care and welfare of thoroughbreds who are not actively racing, and/or created a greater awareness, passion and care for the thoroughbred horse in its second/ alternate career (breeding, breaking, pre and post racing career, re-homing, retraining, providing a comfortable retirement etc.). These may be, for example, a quite achiever/ paid or volunteer in retraining or re-homing of the thoroughbred. (This winner will not be eligible for the Thoroughbred Excellence Award).

Prize: Trophy and \$10,000 to winner with \$3,000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1,000 to the runner-up.

7. Newcomer Award (Stud or Stable)

An award to an individual who has worked in the industry, in any capacity, for less than 3 years. Winner will display passion for, pride in and an excellent contribution to, the thoroughbred industry. The winner will stand out from other newcomers and will be identified as a future and significant valuable member of this industry. (This winner will not be eligible for the Thoroughbred Excellence Award)

Prize: Trophy, \$5,000 and trip to Dubai* to winner with \$3000 to employer to share amongst staff. \$1000 to the runner-up.

8. Thoroughbred Excellence Award - Overall Award (Stud or Stable Only)

Winner to be selected from one of the five categories (i.e. excludes Thoroughbred Care and Welfare Award). Must have made a significant, exceptional contribution to the industry.

Prize: Trophy and an additional \$5,000 to the winner with an additional \$2,000 to the winner's yard/stud to be divided amongst stable/stud employees.

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