

Welcome to the \mathcal{E} -Newsletter of the

Miniature Horse Association of Australia Inc

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MHAA® Strong and getter stronger

... now leading the way as the FIRST and ONLY exclusive Miniature /Small Horse Registry, proudly moving ahead into our 28th year of servicing the needs of Members around Australia and beyond!

Dear Members.

...... We are very happy to advise Members that they can now make ALL PAYMENTS VIA EFT ... YES ... EVEN YOUR NATIONAL SHOW ENTRIES so that we can get this exciting new payment option up and running faster we have devised an EFT Payment Form, which we will attach to this E-News. This form can be used from TODAY to make ANY and ALL payments you want to make to the MHAA® Registry Office. All paperwork MUST be prepared and posted to the office in the normal manner (we always recommend Express Post) with a copy of the EFT Payment Form.

This is going to alleviate hold-ups with paperwork due to incorrect credit card numbers, credit cards being declined etc and is going to be welcomed by many Members and is a definite move forward for the Association. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Robert Edwards in the office, for developing procedures to make this possible for our Members.

This EFT Payment Form will also be on the website under forms and on the National Show page under forms by tomorrow.

If you have any queries at all with regard to these payments or this Form, please contact Brian Neal or Barb Voysey.

2017 National Show: We are almost into countdown, there is definite excitement in the air, as Members are busily planning which Horses to take to the Nationals and making sure all their Registrations are up to date; with this in mind, here are a few reminders:-

Entries close Friday 17 March, 2017 and your entries must be postmarked on or before that date; entries received after this date will be considered late entries and additional fees will apply. All Entries must be paid for by that date, but Members do not have to pay for Stables or Accommodation, until Friday 31 March, 2017; giving them more time and to spread their payments.

However, please do not leave it that late to advise us of your requirements with regards Stables, Campsites or Cabins; these should be booked asap, especially if you want particular Stables or Campsites. Please contact Margaret or Colin Lawson on highlandmiststud@optusnet.com.au to confirm your requirements, as we have lots of bookings already.

Just to confirm the dates for the National Show are: Bump-in after **5pm** Monday 10 April, 2017; you may arrive from 3pm but you will be directed to the Northern Car Park where you can exercise your horses if you wish; there are also toilet facilities up there. Show dates Wednesday 12 April, to Sunday 16 April, 2017 inclusive, with Bump-out by **8am** Monday 17 April, 2017.

National Show Schedule & Entry Forms: By now everyone should have received or been able to access the 2017 National Show Schedule and also the Entry Forms which are on the MHAA® website. Some Members were unable to access the Stable / Camping / Cabin Form, this is now on the website; so Members are reminded to complete this Form and transfer their information to the Work-Order. There is also an anomaly between the Tri-Fecta Show Entry Form which shows \$44-00 per entry and the Work-Order which shows \$45-00 per entry. Members are advised that the correct entry price is \$44-00 per entry (which enters you into the three Shows). If any Member has any queries with regards this, or is unable to download any of the Forms, please contact Barb Voysey to have a copy or copies emailed to you.

Following Member feedback, we have also included some changes to the Show Schedule and we hope Members will support those changes. We have also included the Classic Performance Challenge, which is a combination of Trail / Hunter / Lungeline and also show jumping for the Senior Horses. Therefore, as this is a "Classic" Class, 50% of the entry fees will be paid back to the Members who place first, second and third. There will be a specific workout for these Classes, which will be posted as with all other Performance Patterns. If you have any queries with regards to this Class, please don't hesitate to ask.

<u>Fancy Dress Classes</u>: Members are advised that we now have provision under our Insurance to allow a child under 6 years to sit on a Horse during the Fancy Dress Class. In the past some Members have wanted to include a child on a Horse, but we have not been in a position to permit this; however this is now possible. If anyone has any queries, please contact Barb.

Stables: One area that Members will be able to make a saving at the National Show is Stables. As we have been able to negotiate that Members can either bring their own bedding for their Stables, or buy it at the venue and there is NO stipulation as to the number of bales you have in your Stables; this will be up to each individual Member. Members can use Bedding Straw or Wood Shavings and the only exception is that Members are NOTpermitted to use PROTEQ as bedding in the Stables. Members can book the Stable/s for whatever days they want them for \$25 per day. 15/16kg Bales of Shavings are available at a very reasonable price from the venue of \$12 per bale and I am told by some Members that they pay \$16 and over for the same bales from other fodder stores. Also if you find at the National Show that you need another bale or two, you can just buy whatever extra bales you need. There is also no restriction as to the number of Horses per stable; this will be up to Member discretion; however this will be monitored daily. Gear stables can also be booked for whatever day/days they are required at \$15 per day.

<u>National Show Programme</u>: If you wish to advertise in the National Show Programme, you need to book your advert asap and have your advert (print ready) to Barb Voysey by Friday 17 March, 2017. Please check the National Show Programme Workorder on the website for prices and more details.

Sponsorship: We are seeking sponsorship for National Show Trophies and or product prizes for Member lucky draws or Judge choice prizes. If you, or you know of any business that would be willing to sponsor either cash sponsorship towards Trophies, or product sponsorship, please contact Barb asap. We are very appreciative of sponsorship of any description. Those who sponsor Trophies will have their, or their business name engraved on Trophies. A Trophy Sponsorship Form is on the MHAA® website.

<u>Measuring at the National Show:</u> All Members MUST be measured on Tuesday 11 April, 2017. Members who are not staying on site, but who are only coming to the Show on certain days and who are unable to be at the venue on Tuesday, will need to contact Barb to make an appointment to be measured at another appointed time. *Reminder: ALL Horses MUST be measured before being shown.*

<u>Trans-Tasman Challenge</u>: As you would be aware this year we are hosting the Trans-Tasman Challenge at our 2017 National Show and the New Zealand Miniature Horse Association Inc's Youth Team will be our guests and are bringing a Team of five Youth to try to retain the Trophy that they won when they were here in 2015.

Congratulations to the Youth Members who will part of the 2017 Trans-Tasman Youth Team:-

MHAA® Youth Team:NZMA Youth Team:Will RichardsDanyelle AlfeldBrielle Le ComptePhoebe JuryRachele CoatesCourtney QuinReanna McDowellHannah FergusonJessica Tome'Katelin Stuart

We hope that Members will consider lending Horses to the Youth for the Trans-Tasman Youth Challenge and also consider allowing the NZ Youth to take their Horse into either the Youth Classes, or any Class the Member may have their Horse entered into. If you have a Horse that is trained in Performance and are willing to lend the Horse for use by the Youth, or in the Challenge, or if you are unsure what is involved and would like to discuss the likelihood of you lending a Horse, please contact Barb Voysey to discuss. The NZ Youth Members coming over are also willing to assist MHAA® Members at the Show and if you are able to assist in this regard, or would consider letting a NZ Youth Member take one of your Horses into the Youth Classes, which are being held on Wednesday afternoon, or any other Class throughout the Show, please contact Barb.

When our Youth Team has travelled to NZ, the Members of the NZMHA brought Horses to the Show specifically to lend Youth for the Challenge, they did not enter the Horse in any Classes at the NZ National Show, they just wanted to support the Youth by bringing extra Horses and in some cases drove three and four hours just to bring the Horses to lend the Youth.

It would be absolutely fantastic if we could all do something to make the NZ Youth Team feel welcome and part of our Show.

Bullying: National Committee will take a zero tolerance to any instances of bullying, aggressive behavior, intimidation and general unacceptable behavior by ANYONE toward ANYONE. Members are reminded of rules that are in place in the Constitution and General Rules & Regulations, which cover this sort of behavior and if you feel that you, or have seen anyone who has exhibited any signs of bullying or unacceptable behavior, you should advise a National Committee Member immediately. Please remember if this type of behavior is not reported, it will continue and in the interests of a safe and happy environment for everyone at our 2017 National Show, or any Show or event, this type of behavior is unacceptable and will NOT be tolerated. It is important to note that National Committee will respect your privacy if you have any fear of reprisal. However, if we are not advised, we cannot do anything about it.

We want everyone to enjoy their 2017 National Show experience and to this end we all need to work together in every way we possibly can.

All enquiries with regards to the National Show should be directed to Barb Voysey, National Show Co-ordinator, either by email: tygerbar@internode.on.net or mobile 0418 821 100 (after 6.30pm or weekends)..

National Committee of Management Miniature Horse Association of Australia Inc

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