

BY SHARON HUNT
Executive Officer – NSWROA

A 'GRAND AFFAIR' AWAITS



The NSW Racehorse Owners Association (NSWROA) awaits with much anticipation their flagship event, and the NSW Racing Industry's Night of Nights the 'Racing's Night of Champions', which will be staged this year at The Grand Pavilion, the spectacular event centre, at Rosehill Gardens.

When it comes to racing awards nights, they don't come any bigger than the NSW Racehorse Owners Association's Racing's Night of Champions.

This prestigious event, which not only pays homage to the best NSW Racing has to offer in recognising achievements for both horses and their humans, also supports Australia's leading cancer charity for children – Redkite.

The 2009 Racing's Night of Champions will take place on Thursday, 13th August 2009, and take my tip, reserve your place early to avoid disappointment!

Last year's event was sold out many weeks prior to the function – with those unlucky enough not to have tickets being "wait-listed" for the event. Even though, at the time of writing, we are still some four months from the function, a ticket enquiry listing is "growing quickly".

So "get in early" and reserve your tickets.

In an industry first, the 2009 Racing's Night of Champions will be televised "live" on Australia's only dedicated Thoroughbred Racing Channel, TVN.

Special encore performances will also feature on TVN over the ensuing week giving award recipients many chances to relive their finest moments and sponsors numerous opportunities to capture the eyes of Australian racing enthusiasts.

The feature award of the night is, of course, the NSW Champion Horse of the Year which will be sponsored in 2009 by Luxbet.com



This prestigious award has been taken out by some truly remarkable horses in recent years including Lonhro (2004), Grand Armee (2005), Takeover Target (2006), Desert War (2007) and Tuesday Joy last year.

Other awards to be presented on the night are:-

- NSW 2YO of the Year
- NSW 3YO of the Year
- NSW Sprinter/Miler of the Year
- NSW Middle Distance Horse of the Year
- NSW Stayer of the Year
- NSW Country Champion Horse of the Year
- NSW Provincial Champion Horse of the Year

Additional awards to be presented are:-

- Queen of the Autumn Award
- T J Smith Award
- George Moore Award; and
- Theo Green Award

Another highlight on the night will be the Inaugural Presentation of the Bart Cummings Medal – the new Racing NSW Award which was announced at the 2008 function.

Who will be the first name etched into racing history as we raise our glasses to the inaugural winner of the award named after the one, and only, J.B. Cummings?

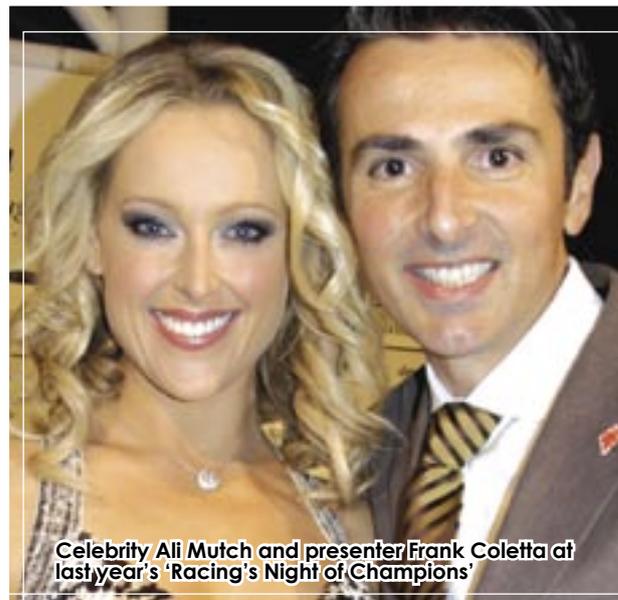
It would be remiss of me not to mention the importance of our wonderful sponsors for the event. The success of the Racing's Night of Champions awards dinner relies predominantly on sponsorship monies, the monster auction and the silent auction.

NSWROA is very pleased to welcome back as sponsors for this year's event, the Sydney Turf Club, Racing NSW, Count Charitable, New Zealand Thoroughbred Marketing, Taylors Wines and Ambassador Travel.

NSWROA is also delighted that Luxbet.com has "come aboard" as a new major sponsor for the event.

At the time of writing, there are still various sponsorship opportunities available for the 2009 Racing's Night of Champions – so why not align your brand to a demographic that fits with high fashion, the finer things in life and, of course, racing at the highest level?

One mustn't lose track of the importance also of those who attend this event – so to those of you who attended last year's event, a very big thank you; we hope to welcome you back again this year.



Celebrity Ali Mutch and presenter Frank Coletta at last year's 'Racing's Night of Champions'

For those interested in attending the Racing's Night of Champions for the first time, may I assure you that it will be an experience you will not forget.

NSWROA Racing's Night of Champions enables participants to share the night with celebrities, racing media, and sporting personalities and also to raise much needed funds for RedKite.

Now, more than ever, they need your support to help families going through their most difficult time.

Redkite was formerly the Malcolm Sargeant Cancer Fund for Children in Australia which was founded in NSW in August 1983.

Redkite works to ease the pressure and to alleviate distress by providing emotional support, financial assistance and educational services to children, young people and their families throughout the difficult treatment period and beyond.

The RNOC Committee Chairman, Darren Farnham, said: "NSWROA eagerly awaits the 2009 Racing's Night of Champions. A change of venue is just one of the new additions we will have to offer at the 2009 event and we look forward to welcoming both our regular and new attendees to the function."

So why not let yourself:-

- be entertained by the big names in Australian entertainment as we showcase the best live entertainment in the land,
- enjoy dining at its finest with a sumptuous 3-course meal, and
- savour fine wines and beverages.

Sounds too good to resist – doesn't it!!

For more information regarding the 2009 Racing's Night of Champions, contact the NSWROA office on (02) 9299 4299, by email nswroa1@ozemail.com.au or visit the NSWROA website www.nswroa.com.au