

Winx takes top honours



Connections receive Winx's TAB.com.au NSW Champion Horse of the Year award

WINX WAS AGAIN STAR OF THE SHOW WHEN NAMED TAB.COM.AU NSW CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR AT NSWROA'S GLITTERING RACING'S NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS

WORDS: SHARON HUNT (EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA)

In front of a large audience in the Royal Randwick Ballroom of the Australian Turf Club, Winx was named the TAB.com.au NSW Champion Horse of the Year at the NSW Racehorse Owners Association's (NSWROA) 2017 Racing's Night of Champions.

Televised live on Sky Thoroughbred Central on Thursday 17 August, this year's gala black tie event was hosted by Greg Radley and was in aid of the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation.

Red carpet interviews which featured celebrities and stars of the racing season were conducted by Chantelle Buckley and Lizzie Jelfs.

The event's co-major sponsor Racing NSW also

presented their annual awards on the night which were highlighted by the coveted Bart Cummings Medal which was taken out once again by Chris Waller.

We saw the 'very best' in the racing world in contention for all the awards. The NSWROA Industry Recognition Award was present again this year but for the first time it was an equine who received the award with Chautauqua being recognised for his incredible feat of winning three consecutive Group 1 T.J. Smith Stakes during The Championships at Royal Randwick.

The Beatels had guests quickly on their feet and headed to the dance floor with their amazing renditions of the songs from the best band of all time. It was, as always, a

THE AWARD WINNERS FOR THE 2016/17 SEASON

Award	Winners
TAB.COM.AU NSW CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR	Winx
NSW TWO-YEAR-OLD OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by the Australian Turf Club</i>	She Will Reign
NSW THREE-YEAR-OLD OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by International Animal Health Products</i>	Global Glamour
NSW SPRINTER OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by the Australian Turf Club</i>	Tycoon Tara
NSW MILER OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Whitby Bloodstock</i>	Winx
NSW MIDDLE-DISTANCE HORSE OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by New Zealand Bloodstock</i>	Winx
NSW STAYER OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Emirates</i>	Big Duke (Ire)
QUEEN OF THE AUTUMN <i>Proudly sponsored by Inglis</i>	Zanbagh
NSWROA INDUSTRY RECOGNITION AWARD	Chautauqua
NSW COUNTRY CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Sky Thoroughbred Central</i>	Single Gaze
NSW PROVINCIAL CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Sky Thoroughbred Central</i>	Le Romain

THE WINNERS OF THE RACING NSW ANNUAL AWARDS

Award	Winners
BART CUMMINGS MEDAL	Chris Waller
T.J. SMITH AWARD	Chris Waller
GEORGE MOORE AWARD	Hugh Bowman
THEO GREEN AWARD	Andrew Adkins
NSW RACING WRITERS' PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR	Team Winx
BOBS HORSE(S) OF THE YEAR	Memes & Zumbelina (tie)
SYDNEY STRAPPER OF THE YEAR	Riharna Thomson

night to remember.

I would like to thank Greg Radley, who excelled yet again as the guest auctioneer of the Live Monster Auction. With six lots up for grabs, Greg worked the room into spirited bidding contests with the assistance of colleague Dave Carlson.

Another hive of excitement was the Carrazzo Consulting Silent Auction hosted by Dave Carlson, with some 25 items on offer.

The International Animal Health Products Raffle, with five wonderful prizes up for grabs, was yet another success on the night.

Speaking of stars and success, it would be remiss of me not to mention the importance of our sponsors.

The success of Racing's Night of Champions relies predominantly on sponsorship monies, the live monster auction and the silent auction.

The event this year was proudly sponsored by Tab.com.au, Racing NSW, Sky Thoroughbred Central, Emirates, Ambassador Travel, the Australian Turf Club, International Animal Health Products, New Zealand Bloodstock, Whitby Bloodstock, Inglis, Carrazzo Consulting, Jirsch Sutherland and De Bortoli Wines.

Our thanks again to Greg Radley our host for the night; Dave Carlson for his assistance with both the Monster and Silent Auctions; our feature entertainment The Beatels and our event manager, Pauline Lamb from

Infinity Event & Video Production.

I would also like to thank my fellow Racing Night of Champions Organising Committee members – Ray McDowell, Leanne Zalapa, Melissa Kumar and Pauline Lamb for their tremendous work.

And finally, in closing, my thanks to all who attended the function to support the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation. I look forward to seeing you all at the 2018 Racing's Night of Champions.

Racing's Night of Champions is the flagship event of the NSW Racehorse Owners Association. To view more information regarding this year's event, visit the NSWROA website www.nswroa.com.au **RNSW**