



# WINX TAKES THE CROWN

**WINX WAS NAMED THE TAB NSW CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR AT NSW RACEHORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION'S (NSWROA) 2018 RACING'S NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS** WORDS: SHARON HUNT (EXECUTIVE OFFICER – NSWROA)



Noel Bracks's son, Patrick, receives the NSWROA Industry Recognition Award from ATC Director, Julia Ritchie

**B**efore a large crowd in Australian Turf Club's Royal Randwick Ballroom, champion mare Winx was once again crowned TAB NSW Champion Horse of the Year.

Televised live on Sky Thoroughbred Central on Thursday 16 August, this year's gala black-tie event, in aid of the Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation, was hosted by Greg Radley with NSWROA Director Shirley McGrath delivering the opening address.

Red carpet interviews which featured celebrities and stars of the racing season were conducted by Libby Hopwood 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.

This year the NSWROA Committee acknowledged the wonderful service to the industry of Noel Bracks by presenting his family with the NSWROA Industry Recognition Award, with former NSWROA and current ATC Director, Ms Julia Ritchie, officiating on behalf of the Association.

The audience acknowledged Noel's son Patrick as he took to the stage to posthumously accept the award on his father's behalf. Noel sadly passed away in July.

Harrison Craig captivated the crowd with his feature performance mingling amongst the guests and encouraging their participation. His repertoire included both original material as well as favourites from bygone eras.

We saw the very best in the racing world in contention for all the awards and it was truly another night to remember.

The award winners for the 2017/18 season were: -

Award	Winners
TAB NSW CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR	<b>WINX</b>
NSW 2-YEAR-OLD OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by the Australian Turf Club</i>	<b>ESTIJAAB</b>
NSW 3-YEAR-OLD OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by International Animal Health Products</i>	<b>TRAPEZE ARTIST</b>
NSW SPRINTER OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by the Australian Turf Club</i>	<b>REDZEL</b>
NSW MILER OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Wild Oaks</i>	<b>HAPPY CLAPPER</b>
NSW MIDDLE DISTANCE HORSE OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by New Zealand Bloodstock</i>	<b>WINX</b>
NSW STAYER OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Emirates</i>	<b>WHO SHOT THEBARMAN (NZ)</b>
QUEEN OF THE AUTUMN <i>Proudly sponsored by Inglis</i>	<b>PROMPT RESPONSE</b>
NSWROA INDUSTRY RECOGNITION AWARD	<b>NOEL BRACKS</b>
NSW COUNTRY CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Sky Thoroughbred Central</i>	<b>THE MONSTAR</b>
NSW PROVINCIAL CHAMPION HORSE OF THE YEAR <i>Proudly sponsored by Sky Thoroughbred Central</i>	<b>IN HER TIME</b>

The winners of the Racing NSW annual awards were: -

Award	Winners
BART CUMMINGS MEDAL	<b>CHRIS WALLER</b>
TJ SMITH AWARD	<b>CHRIS WALLER</b>
GEORGE MOORE AWARD	<b>BRENTON AVDULLA</b>
THEO GREEN AWARD	<b>RACHEL KING</b>
NSW RACING WRITERS' PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR	<b>PAT WEBSTER</b>
BOBS HORSE OF THE YEAR	<b>EPIDEMIC</b>
SYDNEY STRAPPER OF THE YEAR	<b>LINDY WHAREKURA</b>

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

Excitement was high for the Carrazzo Consulting Silent Auction hosted by Dave Carlson, with some 20 items up for grabs.

The International Animal Health Products Raffle, with five wonderful prizes on offer, 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, Racing NSW, Sky Thoroughbred Central, Emirates, Australian Turf Club, International Animal Health Products, New Zealand Bloodstock, Wild Oaks, Inglis, Carrazzo Consulting, Hall Chadwick 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; Harrison Craig for his feature performance 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 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 2019 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](http://www.nswroa.com.au) **RNSW**