



HUNTINGDON

A Jockey Club Racecourse

Huntingdon to host Arabian Racing seasonal finale

2nd September 2015 – Huntingdon Racecourse is to host the seasonal finale to the Arabian Racing year in Britain.

The Dubai International Arabian Race Meeting on Sunday, 20th September, is the climax to a season which began in May and is supported by the Arabian Racing Organisation's patron, HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

With admission for adults just £5 in advance, and all accompanied under 18s given free entry, it will be a tremendously affordable family day out.

There will be lots of free children's entertainment such as face painting, a workshop for young artists, a mechanical horse on which visitors can practice their jockey skills, the chance to meet the Arabian Racing Organisation kids' club horse and trade stands.

The Arabian Racing Season Finale features the Dubai International Races Gold, Silver and Bronze Finals. These valuable handicaps are the focus of the year for a large percentage of trainers and horses must have been placed in a handicap race during the 2015 season in order to be qualified to run.

The 2014 Season Finale saw victories for Wikkara and Raya C which granted them the titles of Champion Arabian and Champion Mare respectively. Both titles are likely to go to the wire again this year so racegoers can look forward to some thrilling action on the track.

The ARO Jockey Championship could also be decided at Huntingdon with Steve Harrison, Simon Walker and Phil Collington all within reach of this year's title which will add to the excitement of the day.

The Mayor of Huntingdon, Councillor Bill Hensley, who will be coming on the day, said:

"I look forward to welcoming Shadwell and the Arabian Racing Organisation to Huntingdon. They are preparing a great day for all the family to enjoy everything that Huntingdon Racecourse has to offer."

Rachael Gowland, Marketing & Nominations Manager, at Shadwell Stud, said:

"As many race-goers will know, Sheikh Hamdan's colours have been carried to victory by famous thoroughbreds such as 2014 Investec Oaks heroine Taghrooda and 2015 Darley July Cup winner Muhaarar; what people may not associate him with is his passion for purebred Arabian racing. It is this passion for Arabian racing which has led to the establishment of the Dubai International Arabian Races and its support of this racing day at Huntingdon."

Gates open at 12 noon – and the first race is at 2pm. On-the-day prices for adults are £8; £5 for concessions.

More information can be found at <http://huntingdon.thejockeyclub.co.uk> and www.aroracing.co.uk.

About Arabian Racing

The Arabian horse is recognised worldwide as the purest and oldest of all horse breeds. Hailing from the Middle Eastern deserts its stamina was an invaluable asset, ensuring it could carry its rider at speed across miles of open desert with little food or water.

About Huntingdon Racecourse

Huntingdon Racecourse was voted 'Best Small Racecourse' in the South Midlands and East Anglia by the Racegoers Club in 2012 and 2014. More information is available at <http://huntingdon.thejockeyclub.co.uk>.

Huntingdon Racecourse is part of The Jockey Club, which has been at the heart of British racing for more than 260 years. Today the largest commercial group in the sport, The Jockey Club runs the largest racecourse group in the UK by turnover (2014: £162.9m), racecourses (15) including those at Aintree, Cheltenham, Epsom Downs and Newmarket, attendances (2014: 1.8m), total prize money (2014: £43.7m), contribution to prize money (2014: £19.1m) and quality racing (Group and Graded races); more than 3,000 acres of world-class training grounds in Newmarket, Lambourn and Epsom Downs; The National Stud breeding enterprise and education provider; and the charity for racing's people in need, Racing Welfare. Governed by Royal Charter, every penny The Jockey Club makes it puts back into British racing. More information is available at www.thejockeyclub.co.uk.

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