



Press Release - for immediate release

Thursday 28 August 2008

PJA recognises racecourses services to Jockeys

The Professional Jockeys Association (The PJA), the body representing Jockeys in British horseracing, will be hosting the inaugural Champions Dinner on Sunday 9 November 2008, at The Plaisterers' Hall, London. The exclusive evening event will recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of some of the greatest champion Jockeys from the past and present.

The PJA are delighted to announce a new award that will be presented during the Champions Dinner evening. The PJA Racecourse of the Year award will recognise the provision of services to Jockeys from British racecourses. Both a Flat and Jumps racecourse will receive an individual award, which will be decided upon by a vote from The PJA's membership.

All members of The PJA have been asked via a questionnaire to state the racecourse that they feel provides the best service for their requirements as a Jockey, with the following factors taken into consideration; Safety, medical provision and welfare, general state of racing surface, the parade ring, provision of stall handlers (Flat Jockeys only) and fence positioning (Jumps Jockeys only). Jockeys parking, showers, sauna, weighing room and their allocation of race day badge allowance will also be considered.

PJA Chief Executive Josh Apiafi commented: "With the demanding lifestyle Jockeys lead it is vital that their needs are met on race days. The PJA Racecourse of the Year award reflects the importance of provision for Jockeys at the races, it also represents the appreciation from the PJA membership of the support received from racecourses on assisting with their safety, welfare issues".

Hosted by BBC Sport Presenter Clare Balding, guests will be welcomed to The Champions Dinner with a champagne reception and the opportunity to rub shoulders and meet with numerous riding legends of the Flat and Jumps, including thirteen times Champion Jump Jockey AP McCoy, current joint Champion Flat Jockey Seb Sanders and former Champion Jockeys Willie Carson, Frankie Dettori and John Francome. During a three course dinner a past or present Champion Jockey will host each table of guests and share experiences from their remarkable riding careers. The current Flat and Jump Jockey Champions will also be presented with their Championship awards. A Charity auction of select items will complete the glamorous evening of entertainment.

A table at The Champions Dinner costs: £2500 + VAT, including 10 guests, a Champion Jockey host and their guest.

For further information, table bookings and sponsorship opportunities, contact The PJA on T: 01635 44102: E: champions@thepja.co.uk or visit www.thepja.co.uk

Ends

For further information on this press release contact Josh Apiafi, Chief Executive, The PJA T: 01635 44102 M: 07841 899689 E: ja@thepja.co.uk