

Press release
14 August 2008

For immediate release

Flat Jockeys switch their riding silks for footy boots in aid of Charity

Two teams of Flat Jockeys will be raising money next week in aid of the Injured Jockeys Fund (IJF) in the annual North V South Flat Jockeys football match. The fund raising event will be held on the first day the Ebor Festival on Tuesday 19 August 2008 at York Racecourse.

Kick off will be as soon as possible after the last race in front of the Bustardthorpe Stand. Racegoers already at the track will be able to watch the match as part of their admission price. Last year's contest, where a 3-1 victory went to the Northern Jockeys, raised nearly £14,000 for the IJF and the aim of this year's event is to exceed this figure.

Various fund raising activities will include a select raffle, with the main prize of full hospitality for four people on Beecher Chase Day at Aintree races on Sunday 23 November 2008 being kindly donated by Intersky Sports. The match has also receives generous sponsorship from the likes of Tattersalls and Ladbrokes who support races earlier in the afternoon; as well as McArdle Equestrian Surfaces, Fosroc, Atkinson Bolton Financial services and the majority of flat racecourses.

Last year's renewal included former and current Champion Jockey's Frankie Dettori, Jamie Spencer and Seb Sanders as well as Champion Irish Jockey Johnny Murtagh, all who dusted off their footy boots in aid of the Charity event. Depending on their riding commitments a similar line up of leading Jockeys will hopefully take part in this year's football clash of the weighing room.

As well as on the racecourse, northern Jockeys Paul Hanagan, David Allan and Adrian Nicholls and southern flag bearers Sam Hitchcock, Richard Mullen and Neil Callan, have proved their foot-balling skills on the pitch in previous years of the Charity tournament. They are also expected to make an appearance for their respective teams next week, pending on their riding commitments.

It will be case of history repeating itself as a similar match was staged on the very same site to mark the start of the Ebor Festival back in the 1920s. When such greats of the sport as Fred Winter and Gordon Richards displayed their wider sporting prowess under the watchful gaze of James Melrose, Chairman of York Racecourse for over fifty years.

For further information and to buy admission for the entire race day, which includes the football match, contact: York Racecourse T: 01904 620911 or on line at: www.yorkracecourse.co.uk

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