



## **NOMINATIONS FOR 22<sup>ND</sup> STOBART LESTERS** **ARE ANNOUNCED**

THE nominations for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Stobart Lesters – horse racing's own 'Oscars' - were revealed today.

The glittering awards ceremony celebrating the achievements of Jockeys from Britain and overseas during 2011 will take place at the Hilton Metropole in Birmingham on Thursday 5 April in front of a host of sporting stars and celebrities.

Sixteen times Champion Jump Jockey AP McCoy could add two more 'Lesters' to his current haul of 17 after being nominated for 'Jump Ride of the Year' on Folie A Deux at Warwick in January 2011 and 'Jump Jockey of the Year'.

2011 Flat racing Champion Jockey Paul Hanagan could pick up his sixth Lester after nominations for 'Flat Jockey of the Year' and 'Flat Ride of the Year' on Barefoot Lady at Newmarket in April.

Paul Hanagan's closest rival for the 2011 championship, Silvestre De Sousa, is nominated for two Lesters – 'Flat Jockey of the Year' and 'Flat Ride of the Year' on Art History at Pontefract in September.

In changes to previous years, the 'International Jockey of the Year' becomes 'International Jockey Ride of the Year', while the Flat and Jump Jockey 'Special Recognition' awards now include racing personalities from outside the Weighing Room. Among the nominations are trainer Sir Henry Cecil, valets David Mustow and Steve Charlton, JIM team physiotherapist Anna O'Brien and agent Dave Roberts.

Prolinx, the privately-owned Oxfordshire systems integration and innovative IT solutions business, is welcomed as the new sponsor of the Lady Jockey of the Year award.

Voting for 'The Lesters' is by ballot among members of the Professional Jockeys Association.

Hosted by At The Races presenters Luke Harvey and Jason Weaver, the evening on 5 April starts at 7pm with a Champagne reception, followed by

a three-course dinner with half bottle of wine included, the awards ceremony and the brilliant live band RPJ, fronted by Rick Parfitt jnr performing until the early hours. A raffle in aid of the Injured Jockeys Fund will take place with the winners naming two new Stobart lorries on the night.

Tickets for The Stobart Lesters costing £145 (including VAT) each can be bought from the PJA by downloading a booking form at [www.thepja.co.uk/lesters](http://www.thepja.co.uk/lesters) or by calling 01635 778108.

## **FULL LIST OF NOMINATIONS (in alphabetical order)**

### **SIS International Jockey Ride of the Year**

Johnny Murtagh – Sweet Lightning, William Hill Lincoln, Doncaster  
Joseph O'Brien – Camelot, Racing Post Trophy, Doncaster  
Davy Russell – Quito de La Roque, John Smith's Mildmay Novices' Chase, Aintree  
Paul Townend – What A Charm, Fred Winter Juvenile Handicap Hurdle, Cheltenham

### **Apprentice Jockey of the Year**

Harry Bentley  
Julie Burke  
Martin Harley  
Kieran O'Neill

### **Prolinx Lady Jockey of the Year**

Lucy Barry  
Cathy Gannon  
Gemma Gracey-Davison  
Hayley Turner

### **Racing Post Flat Ride of the Year**

Silvestre De Sousa – Art History, Simon Scrope Dalby Screw-Driver Handicap, Pontefract  
Paul Hanagan – Barefoot Lady, Lanwades Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes, Newmarket  
Richard Hughes – Dubawi Gold, Betfair Celebration Mile, Goodwood  
Tom Queally – Frankel, QIPCO 2000 Guineas, Newmarket

### **Flat Jockey Special Recognition**

Sir Henry Cecil (trainer)  
David Mustow (valet)  
Philip Robinson  
Simon Whitworth

### **Conditional Jockey of the Year**

Campbell Gillies  
Richie McLernon  
Peter Toole  
Sam Twiston-Davies

### **Jump Jockey Special Recognition**

Mattie Batchelor  
Steve Charlton (valet)  
Anna O'Brien (physiotherapist)  
Dave Roberts (agent)

### **At The Races Jump Ride of the Year**

Maurice Linehan – Ravini, Racing UK Handicap Hurdle, Huntingdon  
AP McCoy – Folie A Deux, 100% British Barley Handicap Chase, Warwick  
Timmy Murphy – Poker De Sivola, bet365 Gold Cup, Sandown  
Sam Twiston-Davies – Zimbabwe, Hepworth Blonde Handicap Chase, Plumpton

### **Stobart Jump Jockey of the Year**

Aidan Coleman  
Richard Johnson  
Jason Maguire  
AP McCoy

### **Stobart Flat Jockey of the Year**

William Buick  
Silvestre De Sousa  
Tom Eaves  
Paul Hanagan

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