



30 July, 2009

Media Release

Osberton to host Lycetts British Eventing Young Horse Championships from 2010

Following a formal tender process to seek out a new venue for the increasingly popular Lycetts British Eventing Young Horse Championships, the Final will move to its new Nottinghamshire venue of Osberton next autumn.

The three new cross country tracks will be built alongside the existing CCI1* and CCI2* International courses. The Young Horse Championships, with the added interest of the International competition, will offer spectators a varied choice of viewing and will give competitors an exciting festival feel.

Run by organisers Anna and Stuart Buntine on Michael Foljambe's Worksop estate, the event promises to be an exciting showcase for stars of the future. The newly designed courses will be located on undulating parkland and will also run through natural, sandy woodland.

The Lycetts British Eventing Young Horse Championship is the only competition in the UK where potential young event horses aged four to six years old compete in all three phases of Dressage, Show Jumping and Cross Country. Horses qualify for the final at regional age classes held around Britain from March to August. The Championships also host an in-hand Final.

The Young Horse Championship's home since it started in 2003 has been Tweseldown, and the last Final will be held later this year on 13 October.

Vin Jones, Chairman of the British Eventing Breeding Panel and MD of Preci-Spark Event Horses, says: "The selection group visited several sites and all felt that Osberton had the greatest potential.

“We believe it can be developed over the years to become a contender for the World Championship for Young Horses, which at present is held in Le Lion D’Angers. Breeding is very strong in this country and particularly in the East of England, and we are looking forward to a lot of interest in the Championships at this fabulous venue.

“We have every confidence in Stuart Buntine and his organising team to deliver an excellent event; a worthy showcase for British breeding.”

Bid winner and Event Organiser Stuart Buntine says: “I am very excited and looking forward to working very closely with British Eventing, the BE Breeding Committee and the Young Horse Championships sponsors Lycetts to enhance the reputation of British event horse breeding.

“Osberton has been a popular home for Horse Trials over the last 40 years, which has been a testament to the support of our generous host Michael Foljambe. The ground is perfect for three brand new courses and offers excellent viewing for spectators. Work can now start on putting together a real festival of British breeding.”

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Editors notes:

British Eventing (BE) is the governing body for Horse Trials in Great Britain and regulates the sport as well as scheduling over 190 events throughout the country. Eventing is a combination of equestrian disciplines including dressage, cross country and show jumping.

BE has over 12,500 members including day ticket holders, with classes for all abilities of rider, from 80cm (Training Classes) through to 1.20m (Advanced). It has successful gold-medal winning teams at Pony, Junior, Young Rider and Senior Level. Its Olympic team won Bronze at the 2008 Beijing Games, as well as Individual Bronze.

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