

AANC Report 2023

After the success of the 2022 Show, work commenced early in trying to source a confirmed Venue for the 2023 Australian National Arabian Championships. The preferred option was Sydney International Equestrian Centre again as there were several people who couldn't make it to the 2022 show because of the flooding in and around Sydney and hadn't had a chance to attend since prior to COVID in Australia. Unfortunately, we received confirmation very late that several other groups also wanted to run events at SIEC in March 2023. We had two February options to choose from or we could move the show somewhere else.

The board agreed the best option at the stage we were at was to choose the later date in February. Its not an ideal date/Month to be running a show in Sydney as the weather is very unreliable. We were sincerely hoping for conducive weather conditions!

The schedule for the show was available much earlier this year and Nominate was open for entries much earlier too. There is still work to be done with Nominate to make the entry process a little easier for competitors. Nominate also conducted the scoring at the show – this ran very smoothly and results were available much quicker.

The show ran on a similar program though some events have been changed due to higher or lower numbers of competitors based on last years numbers entered.

We were reasonably happy with the numbers of horses entered for the show, 200 horses – obviously more is better though with the competition of other groups running shows around the same time it does take its toll – People choose what they want to attend when there is more choice however the Australian Arabian National Championships are the pinnacle of showing in Australia for Arabian Horses and will always remain that.

We are lucky there is a great team of people behind the show – we all work together to get the job done. There are no heroes, it's a group effort. Much thanks to Dana and Nadine for assisting with promotions, Samantha Wood who has come on to the team this year. Sam is a technology guru and has been working with the show program and Nominate, Jan Nichols continued to manage the dressage and Kirsty Nichols who manages the stables and cabins, Kelly from the office, and the board directors, Adam, Doug, Sharyn, Jill, Richard and Kerry who all have jobs from Sponsorship to organising judges and their accommodation, responding to queries on emails and social media, catering, catalogue, decorations, SIEC follow up etc.

Work has already commenced for our 2024 show. The dates are confirmed and the program will be refreshed. There are quite a few things set to commence as soon as the 2023 show is over. We have asked for feedback from members in the hope of improving anything that is consistently an issue for them or genuine improvement ideas – we can't guarantee everything you ask for will be implemented though will look at everything.

We would sincerely like some more member assistance for the show so if you feel you can make a contribution please feel free to contact us at events@ahsa.asn.au