

MEDIA

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FOR USE BY: C.Q. THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS' ASSN

BIG PRIZEMONEY BOOST TO RECORD \$150,000

A record \$150,000 prizemoney has been allocated for the 2008-09 Capricorn Sales Classic 2yo Race Series at Rockhampton.

The Rockhampton Jockey Club, C.Q. Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and McCaffrey's Australian Livestock Marketing made the announcement today indicating the feature 2yo race would now be one of the richest 2yo races held in Regional Australia and certainly the richest race run in Regional Queensland.

The Capricorn Sales Classic Race Series is exclusive to the thoroughbred yearlings offered through the Capricorn Yearling Sale, this year to be held on Sunday 4th May at Rockhampton Showgrounds.

Rockhampton Jockey Club Chairman Justin Doyle said the growing national and international appeal and success of Rockhampton's Capricorn Yearling Sale and associated race series warranted the significant increase to this record level. "Last year, for instance, Sale buyers came to Rockhampton from Western Australia, New South Wales and all over Queensland and bidders also registered from New Zealand," he said. "This all adds to the positive nationwide exposure Rockhampton receives through its regular programme of high quality TAB SKY Channel race meetings."

The Capricorn Sales Classic has contributed many hundreds of thousands of dollars into the Rockhampton racing industry over the past ten years and, with its unique local sale exclusivity, Central Queensland owners and trainers have benefited greatly. "This Race Series has increased the opportunity for Central Queenslanders to share in rich racing rewards on their own doorstep," C.Q. Thoroughbred Breeders' Association President Ross Shannon said, "and the records show that the graduates of our Sale include gallopers which go on to make up a large percentage of the top Open Company horses in the area."

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