MEDIA RELEASE



THOROUGHBRED RACING SA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday 16th November 2010

THOROUGHBRED RACING ANNOUNCES JOHN LETTS MEDAL

Thoroughbred Racing South Australia has announced a new award for jockeys in South Australia.

The **John Letts Medal** will recognise excellence in riding and outstanding achievements at all race meetings throughout the State during the season.

John Letts, a recent inductee to the Australian Racing Hall of Fame and an eight-time South Australian premiership jockey, said he was "honoured" to have the award named after him.

"You don't ever dream of these things happening, so it's a great honour that Thoroughbred Racing SA has bestowed on me," he said.

"As a young jockey I certainly never thought I would have a medal named after me, and the fact that it's a perpetual award means it will be around long after I have gone! It's a great thing for young jockeys to aspire to, and I'm delighted to be associated with this medal."

The medal, which will be presented at the annual Thoroughbred Racing SA Industry Awards, will be awarded to the jockey who receives the most votes by the stewards officiating on each race day. Votes are given on a 3-2-1 basis at Metropolitan meetings, 2-1 at Provincial and 1 vote at Country venues.

"When we were planning this award, there was one obvious choice in terms of which jockey's name should adorn the medal – and that was John Letts," said Jim Watters, Chief Executive of Thoroughbred Racing SA.

"Not only did he achieve greatness as a jockey, but his continued involvement in racing in South Australia since his retirement has inspired many young jockeys and that's what the new John Letts Medal is all about."

All jockeys riding each day are eligible to receive votes and a rider may receive multiple votes at a race meeting.

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In the event of two or more riders being awarded an equal number of votes at the end of the season then joint winners will be declared.

Progressive totals will be released monthly via *The Races* Magazine and also through Thoroughbred Racing SA's website at www.theracessa.com.au.

Progressive totals to 31/10/10 are:

17
16
10
9
9
9
8

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