

Al Rayyan, Doha, Qatar

25 February, 2015

Broadcast first for festival features

Qatar's two most prestigious races for Thoroughbreds and Purebred Arabians are set to be broadcast in the UK for the first time this week by leading dedicated satellite horseracing broadcaster, Racing UK.

The Group 1 contests which provide the finale to the H.H The Emir 24th International Equestrian Sword Festival will form part of the channel's broadcast of live racing from Ludlow and Meydan this Thursday, 26 February.

Viewers will have the chance to see Frankie Dettori partner Dubday, who runs in the colours of Al Shaqab Racing, in his bid to become the first horse in a decade to win back-to-back runnings of the H.H The Emir's Trophy (3.30 p.m.), a 1200M contest on Turf for Thoroughbreds three-years-old and over and worth QR 1.9 million (Euro 460,000).

The H.H The Emir's Sword (4.00 p.m.) for Purebred Arabians aged four-year-olds and over is the final race of the three-day meeting in which Dettori rides Farh, one of two runners in the ownership of Al Shaqab Racing and bidding to deny local trainer Julian Smart his fourth win in the race in five years and a share of the QR 2.9 million prize.

Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club Chairman H.E Sheikh Mohamed Bin Faleh Al Thani said, "This represents an important step in the international promotion of racing in Qatar and we are delighted to have the opportunity to showcase our most important races to Racing UK's audience of racing professionals and enthusiasts."

Seb Vance, Racing UK Director of PR & Communications said, "We are looking forward to broadcasting racing from Qatar for the first time and the timing of the two Group 1s fits well with our programming schedule.

"Many of the UK's most important races that we will be covering this year will benefit from Qatar's support and we are pleased that subscribers will have the opportunity to see Qatar's two most important contests."

For enquiries about media accreditation during the H.H. The Emir 24th International Equestrian Sword Festival please contact the Press Office:

Email philip@sportsguidelimited.com or call Philip Brannan on 0044 7774 964 119

To download a copy of the official event media guide click [here](#).

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Notes to Editors

About the H.H. The Emir 24th International Equestrian Sword Festival

Staged under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, the HH The Emir 24th International Equestrian Sword Festival officially launched on Thursday, 19th February.

The event is staged by the Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club and comprises five days of International Arabian Horse Shows followed by three days of high quality racing for Purebred Arabians and Thoroughbreds with a total prize money value in excess of Euros 6 million.

More than 400 international visitors will attend the HH The Emir 24th International Equestrian Sword Festival including members of the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) and the European Conference of Arab Horse Organisations (ECHAHO).

About Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club

The Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club was established in 1975 and operates under the Chairmanship of H.E. Sheikh Mohamed Bin Faleh Al Thani. General Manager and Secretary General of the Board of Directors Sami Jassim Al Boenain is also Chairman of the International Federation of Arabian Horseracing Authorities (IFAHR).

Located in New Rayyan, Doha, it has the mission of developing Thoroughbred and Purebred Arabian horse racing events, organising Arabian horse shows and providing support to owners and breeders.

Due to its state-of-the-art facilities Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club is one of the most enviable horse training centres in the world. Racing events take place every Wednesday and Thursday from October to May with over 60 race meetings held annually.

Since 2008, Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club has been the official sponsor of Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend, held at Longchamp, Paris during the first weekend of October; an agreement which extends until at least 2022.