



نادي السباق والفروسية  
RACING & EQUESTRIAN CLUB

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## **Notid scoops inaugural Arabian Award at HWPQ Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club Derby Awards**

More than 500 media and racing professionals gathered in London on Monday, 1 December for the 48th Horserace Writers and Photographers Derby Awards (HWPQ) Luncheon supported by Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club.

Widely acknowledged as one of British racing's most important and best attended industry events, the HWPQ Derby Awards provides racing media with an opportunity to recognise outstanding achievement in the sport and to promote excellence in print and broadcast journalism.

Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club General Manager, Sami Al Boenain, joined HWPQ patron Lord Derby at the Awards ceremony, which this year saw the introduction of an Arabian Award in recognition of Arabian racing's contribution to the thoroughbred industry in the UK.

The inaugural Arabian Award was received by David Paton the trainer of Notid a 17-year-old bay gelding recently retired after his 101st race who recorded seven career wins and was placed on a further 45 occasions, his most recent victory coming on his 99th start at Huntingdon in June. Notid was also recognised for the ambassadorial role he has played in his capacity as the official horse of the Arabian Racing Organisation's Kids' Club.

Notid was among four nominees proposed by the Arabian Racing Organisation comprising of jockey Stephania Gandola, trainer Peter Hammersley and owner/breeder Paul Simmons who were hosted at lunch by Deputy General Manager, Tariq Al Siddiqi, together with directors and guests of the Arabian Racing Organisation.

In addition to presenting the Arabian Award, Sami Al Boenain also presented the award for the Trainer of the Year as voted for by the members of the Horserace Writers & Photographers Association which went to Richard Hannon.

During lunch a draw was made to select three lucky winners to receive an invitation for two to attend the H.H. The Emir's Sword Festival in February with full hospitality and business class flights with Qatar Airways. The winners were Tom Cowgill, a Director of Rewards for Racing, Ascot

Racecourse's Susan Thomsett and Jemima Hannon, wife of Al Shaqab trainer Richard who asked for their prize to be auctioned to raise funds for charity.

Awards host, and winner of the Broadcaster of the Year Award for the sixth time, Nick Luck, conducted the auction after the awards ceremony which raised GBP 25,000 for charities associated with Motor Neurone Disease.

Alan Lee was voted Writer of the Year for a joint-record third time. Lee, racing correspondent of The Times, joins Alastair Down as the only-three time winner of this prestigious award, having already won the Clive Graham Trophy in 2004 and 2001.

### **Winners of the 2014 HWWPA Derby Awards supported by Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club**

International Trainer of the Year - David Simcock  
Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club Arabian Award - Notid  
Picture of the Year - Dan Abraham  
John Oaksey Trophy for Racing Reporter of the Year - Chris Cook  
Owner of the Year - Prince Khalid Abdullah  
George Ennor Trophy for Outstanding Achievement - Clive Brittain  
Jockey of the Year - Ryan Moore  
President's Award - Jonjo O'Neill  
Trainer of the Year - Richard Hannon Junior  
Peter O'Sullivan Trophy for Broadcaster of the Year - Nick Luck  
Photographer of the Year - Edward Whitaker  
Clive Graham Trophy for Racing Writer of the Year - Alan Lee

**ENDS.**

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### **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 Pure Bred Arabian horse racing events, organising Arabian horse shows and encouraging 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.