

Royal Windsor Horse Show Celebrates the Best of British Dressage!

...And helps uncover the stars of tomorrow

Royal Windsor Horse Show (13th-17th May 09) is to showcase the best of Britain's top and up-and-coming equestrian talent with two individual Dressage competitions, sponsored by the BEF's World Class Programme.

Two special competitions; a Potential International Dressage Horse class for up and coming Prix St George horses and a Grand Prix Kür, both sponsored by The World Class Programme and devised in consultation with British Dressage, will take place on Wednesday 13th May, the opening day of the show. Entry is by invitation of the World Class Programme only.

Eight competitors enrolled in the programme will be chosen to compete in each class. Not only will they be performing in front of a home crowd, but also in front of some esteemed British Dressage judges including: Jennie Loriston-Clarke, Jane Kidd, Andrew Gardiner, Isobel Wessels and Stephen Clarke (who is also President of the Dressage jury at the Alltech FEI European Championships), as well as British Dressage's Selection Panel.

The UK Sport funded Equestrian World Class Programme supports a pathway to success for Eventing, Jumping, Dressage and Para-equestrian Dressage athletes. Its aim is to have in place a sustainable system that can deliver more medals on the international stage now and in the future. The programme's mission is to identify talent; maximise potential and deliver success.

A selection of competitors from all three levels of the programme – World Class Performance; Development and the Equine Pathway will take part, allowing Britain's stars of the future to mix with the country's top riders.

Just three month's after Royal Windsor Horse Show 2009, the same grounds will host the Alltech FEI European Jumping and Dressage Championships (25th-30th August 09), making the show a formidable test event for the organisers themselves. The competitions will be managed logistically in the same way as proposed for the Europeans, from the stable area and collecting rings to the arena itself.

Will Connell, World Class Performance Director said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for all involved. The development riders get the chance to ride at one of the most prestigious outdoor horse shows in the country, with some of the best riders around, the Organising Committee can show what a great Europeans we have to look forward to, and the public get to see some fantastic dressage."

Ticket information

Tickets for The Royal Windsor Horse Show 2009 are on sale now priced at £13 (adults), £9 (concessions including Royal Windsor Advantage Card Holders) and £5 (children 5-16years) if booked in advance. Family tickets (two adults and two children) cost £30. Tickets are priced per day and include entry to all the day's events. You can book online at www.rwhs.co.uk or by telephoning 0870 143 2208.

On the evenings of the Horse Show, the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo, a musical and military spectacle supporting today's soldier will take place. Tickets for the Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo can be purchased by calling the box office on 0871 230 5570 or booked on line at www.windsortattoo.co.uk.

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Notes to Editors:**For more information about the World Class Programme visit:**

http://www.bef.co.uk/The_World_Class_Programme/The_World_Class_Programmes.html

For more information on Royal Windsor Horse Show, The Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo and the Alltech FEI European Championships please contact Kelly Smith on 01753 847915 or on kellys@hpower.co.uk

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