

## **Royal Windsor Horse Show Launches Open Unaffiliated Dressage and Jumping Championships as box office for tickets opens on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

**AmTrust Equine Insurance and British Riding Clubs combine to offer the chance for every rider to compete at Royal Windsor. It could be you!**

Royal Windsor Horse Show (13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May 09) has teamed with British Riding Clubs (BRC) and AmTrust Equine Insurance to launch the AmTrust Equine RWHS Unaffiliated Championships.

The Championships represent a truly unique opportunity for any rider at grass-roots level to qualify for the Finals which will be held during the Royal Windsor Horse Show in May 2009. Royal Windsor Horse Show has been running for over 65 years and takes place at the iconic venue of Windsor Castle in Her Majesty The Queen's private grounds.

To add even more excitement to the experience, winners of the AmTrust Equine RWHS Unaffiliated Championships will be invited back to Windsor in August for the FEI European Jumping and Dressage Championships 2009, to collect their trophies in front of a capacity crowd.

The Championships will start with individual riding club qualifiers across the UK. Regional qualifiers will then whittle down the competition to leave just the top riders from each class, qualifying for the Finals at Windsor which take place between 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> May 2009.

This is an exceptional opportunity for any rider to be able to live their dream and ride at Windsor in the same arena as many of their idols", says Simon Brooks-Ward, Event Director of Royal Windsor Horse Show. "If that's not enough, they also get to come back to the Europeans and take centre stage in front of a televised audience – it doesn't get much bigger than that!"

For both Dressage and Jumping, there will be Junior and Senior Classes and full terms and conditions of the Championship and details of which clubs are hosting qualifiers will shortly be available at [www.rwhs.co.uk](http://www.rwhs.co.uk)

Laurie Punnett, Chairman of BRC said: "For some time we have been looking for a competition that clubs could run locally as the first part of a new championship. The invitation to host the finals at Royal Windsor gives us a unique opportunity to offer people the chance to ride at one of the most prestigious events in the country. The competitions, with local and regional rounds followed by a national final at Royal Windsor, promise to be very exciting."

The team at AmTrust Equine Insurance is delighted to support the championships as they regularly compete at riding club level with their own horses. Claims Manager, Perdie Reid, enthused "What an opportunity! The chance to compete at Windsor is something that most riders only dream about."

Tickets for next year's Royal Windsor Horse Show go on sale Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 08.

The bumper-packed show promises to be a real treat for competitors. With over 2500 horses competing over five days, more competition than ever before and an additional brand new all-weather arena, you really won't want to miss it!

Just three month's after Royal Windsor Horse Show 2009, the same grounds will host the FEI European Jumping and Dressage Championships, making the show a formidable test event for all the top riders in both disciplines.

Dressage will therefore be back with a bang at the 2009 Royal Windsor Horse Show, on the opening day, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May. Organisers will also be bringing back the much-loved infamous Puissance, which will be held on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May. The Windsor Grand Prix Jumping will be held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

The Land Rover International Carriage Driving competition runs over four days, starting on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May and takes place in its own area, just a short walk from the main Castle Arena. The marathon phase on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May takes place throughout Home Park Private and offers high-octane excitement with its driving action around obstacles and through water.

The show still retains its firm favourites such as the thrills and spills of the DAKS Pony Club Mounted Games, the Shetland Pony Grand National and the prestigious showing classes.

On the evenings of the horse show, the military tattoo that proved such a draw last year will once again be repeated. The Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo will be held on the evenings of 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> May and will support The Royal British Legion.

### **Shopping!**

The Royal Windsor Horse Show will again welcome it's 200 plus shopping stalls, including the popular Windsor Food and Drink Festival, featuring some of the very best local food and drink producers around.

### **Ticket information**

Tickets for The Royal Windsor Horse Show 2009 will be available from 1st December, 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](http://www.rwhs.co.uk) or by telephoning 0871 230 5568.

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](http://www.windsortattoo.co.uk).

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**Notes to Editors:**

For more information on **Royal Windsor Horse Show**, please contact Kelly Smith on 01753 8479915 or by email at [kellys@hpower.co.uk](mailto:kellys@hpower.co.uk)

**About AmTrust Equine Insurance**

With over 40 years experience in horse insurance, and as horse-owners themselves, The AmTrust Equine Insurance team provides an informed, knowledgeable and friendly service to its customers 365 days a year.

AmTrust Equine prides itself on being head and shoulders above its competition by providing customer service which sets the industry standard. With policies to suit every discipline, AmTrust Equine is backed by one of the biggest names in insurance\* for complete peace of mind. For more details please visit [www.amtrustequine.co.uk](http://www.amtrustequine.co.uk) or call 08453 313 080

*\*AmTrust Equine Insurance is the equestrian specialist division of AmTrust International Underwriters Limited.*

For more information on AmTrust Equine Insurance please contact Lindsay Spencer on 01491 640940 or by email at [Lindsay@d4andco.com](mailto:Lindsay@d4andco.com)

**British Riding Clubs** is the name of the movement formed by approximately 450 clubs affiliated to the British Horse Society. The clubs have some 38,000 junior and senior members throughout the UK.

For more information on British Riding Clubs please contact 01926-707768 or [www.BritishRidingClubs.org.uk](http://www.BritishRidingClubs.org.uk)