





# FOREWARD



We welcome you to The Champions Dinner, through which we celebrate the Annual Flat and National Hunt Awards. The success and achievements for each of the award recipients, has contributed to another tremendous year for Irish Racing. Tonight, is the opportunity to appreciate and recognise their accomplishments.

These achievements could not be acknowledged with such respect without our sponsors and supporters, to whom we heartily thank for their ongoing support and encouragement.

Have a wonderful evening and we wish you every success for the seasons ahead.



**NOEL MEADE**  
CHAIRMAN, IRTA

## The Irish Racehorse Trainers Association

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Noel Meade

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Eric McNamara

Andy Oliver

Dermot Weld



The event programme has been compiled and published By **PA Solutions**, all images are courtesy of **Caroline Norris** and **The Racing Post**. The design has been created by **AKGraphics**.

# ORDER OF THE EVENING



Champagne Reception



Welcome Speech



Dinner



Award Ceremony

Please note there will be a cash bar throughout the evening

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# MENU

## STARTER

### *From The Keadeen Smokehouse*

Smoked Sliced Irish Chicken with a Hickory & Garlic Woodchippings served on a Dressed Baby Leaf Salad with Mango, Pine Nuts and Overnight Tomatoes Dressed with a Balsamic & Honey Dressing

## MAIN COURSE

Roast Prime New Season Leg of Lamb with a Rosemary Onion and Mixed Herb Stuffing Served with a Rich Pan Roast Gravy with Red Wine, Garnished with a Balsamic Glazed Shallot

## SERVED WITH

Buttered Spring Green Cabbage with a Carrot & Parsnip Puree, Duck Fat Roasted Potatoes & Boulangère Potatoes

## DESSERT

Strawberry Meringue Roulade

With Ripe Juicy Strawberries & Fresh Cream Filling

Tea & Coffee



**IRISH INJURED JOCKEYS**  
Help when the going gets tough

# 2017 Highlights

- 1. CORINTHIAN CHALLENGE**
  - a. Lynne McLoughlin winning the 2017 Series
  - b. Sheikh Fahad Al Thani winning this years Leopardstown race
- 2. ASSOCIATION OF IRISH RACEHORSE OWNERS**  
presenting a cheque to Ruby Walsh
- 3. JIM COFFEY FROM SOFTCO AND DAUGHTER CHARLOTTE**  
presenting a cheque to Barry Geraghty and Davy Russell
- 4. JOG FOR JOCKEYS**
  - a. Jamie & Robyn Codd with Daughter Lottie
  - b. Walsh and Mc Carthy cousins
- 5. JONJO BRIGHT MAKING A PRESENTATION**  
To Irish Injured Jockeys
- 6. HUNTS MAN CHALLENGE AT PUNCHSTOWN**
- 7. J.T. MCNAMARA MEMORIAL EVENT**
- 8. LADIES INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT - Jockeys Vs Trainers**
- 9. DEVENISH COUNTRY FAIR & P2P AT DOWTH**  
in aid of Irish Injured Jockeys and Farm Africa
- 10. DUBLIN MARATHON - Katie Young**
- 11. LIMERICK MARATHON - Kevin Blake**
- 12. IJJ HATS**
- 13. 9 MARATHONS IN 10 DAYS - Olivia Smith**

*Thank you to all who supported us in 2017*

The Mission of the IJJF is to make a real difference to the lives and welfare of jockeys, past and present and their families by raising funds to provide enhanced help, care and support.

**Ruby Walsh**  
Chairman of Irish Injured Jockeys





**Dundalk Winter Series**  
Champion Trainer 2017/2018

**JOSEPH O'BRIEN**



Presented by:  
*The Irish Racehorse Trainers Association*

This season has proved another memorable winter series for Joseph, being award the title of The Dundalk Winter Series Champion Trainer with a total of 13 all weather wins.

The season also marked a stamp in history by Joseph as he became the youngest-ever trainer to win the Emirates Melbourne Cup as Rekindling led home an Irish 1-2-3 under Corey Brown. The occasion was hailed as one of the greatest days in Irish racing history.

**Dundalk Winter Series**  
Champion Jockey 2017/2018

**PAT SMULLEN**



Presented by:  
*The Irish Racehorse Trainers Association*

The nine-time Irish champion jockey Pat Smullen has surpassed his all weather success from last season with a total of 16 winners on the all weather this season.

Along with his nine Irish championships, Pat, who was twice champion apprentice, has ridden the winners of nine Irish Classics, including the Irish Derby on Grey Swallow (2004) and Harzand winner of the both The Epsom and Irish Derby in (2016), along with four consecutive Irish St Legers on Vinnie Roe.



*First past the post in 5 straight Gr.1's*

- National Stakes-**Gr.1**, 7f
- Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere-**Gr.1**, 7f
- 2,000 Guineas-**Gr.1**, 1m (PICTURED)
- Irish 2,000 Guineas-**Gr.1**, 1m
- St James's Palace Stakes-**Gr.1**, 1m

**GLENEAGLES**

By sire of sires **GALILEO**  
Out of a full-sister to **GIANT'S CAUSEWAY**

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**Champion  
Apprentice 2017**

**OISIN ORR**



Presented by:  
*The Irish Racehorse Trainers Association*

Oisín was crowned champion apprentice jockey at the end of the 2017 season, having saddled a total of 20 winners.

Last season was also a memorable one for Oisín with a big early success in taking the 150,000 Irish Stallion Farms EBF Petingo Handicap on the Tony Martin trained Quick Jack at Leopardstown on Longines Irish Champions Weekend.

**Champion Conditional  
Rider 2017/2018**

**DONAL MCINERNEY**



Presented by:  
*The Irish National Hunt  
Steeplechase Committee*

Since turning professional Donal's successes have been tremendous, in only his second year he has secured a total of 31 winners (to date).

Donal enjoyed his greatest success to date when riding the Noel O'Neill trained Ministerforsport, to victory in The FBD Insurance Handicap Hurdle in Cork.



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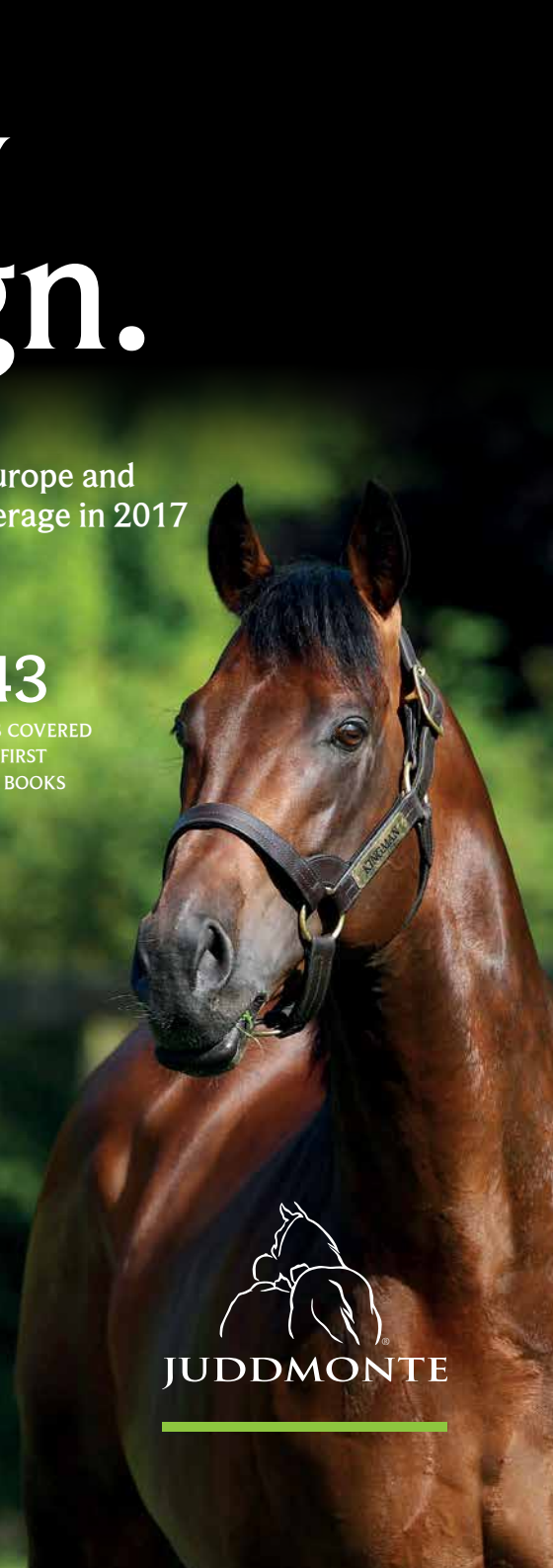
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**JUDDMONTE**



**Champion**  
Amateur Rider 2017/2018

**PATRICK MULLINS**



Presented by:  
*The Irish National Hunt  
Steeplechase Committee*

Patrick has reached a memorable milestone this season through recording his 500th career success on Brahma Bull in the Slán Abhaile INH Flat Race at Listowel.

Another highlight was winning the National Hunt Chase on Rathvinden, trained by his father Willie, at the 2018 Cheltenham Festival. A total of 55 winners (to date) including Un De Sceaux winning the BoyleSports Champion S' chase (Grade 1) in Punchestown secures Patrick Mullins the Champion Amateur Rider Title.

**Champion Lady**  
Amateur Rider 2017/2018

**LISA O'NEILL**



Presented by:  
*The Irish Racehorse Trainers Association*

With 20 winners (to date), Lisa has successfully gained the title of Champion Lady Amateur Rider.

Last year Lisa secured a great achievement when landing the JT McNamara National Hunt Chase at the Cheltenham Festival on the Gordon Elliott trained Tiger Roll.



# LADIES EVENING

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IN AID OF BREAST CANCER IRELAND



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**Leading Flat  
Owner 2017**

**MRS JOHN MAGNIER**



Presented by:  
*Horse Racing Ireland*

Together with Michael Tabor and Derrick Smith, Mrs John Magnier had an incredibly successful year.

Some of the highlights of the year included a further two Group 1 wins for Churchill, three Group 1 wins for Roly Poly and the success of the outstanding sprinter Caravaggio.

**Leading National Hunt  
Owner 2017/2018**

**GIGGINSTOWN HOUSE STUD**

**COOLMORE**

Presented by:  
*Coolmore*

With 147 wins (to date) in the 2017/2018 season, Gigginstown House Stud stormed into gaining the title of Leading National Hunt Owner. Some of the season highlights included winning the BoyleSports Irish Grand National Chase with General Principle and The Randox Health Grand National Handicap Chase with Tiger Roll.

The title is being awarded to Gigginstown House Stud for the sixth time.



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## Champion Flat Jockey 2017

### COLIN KEANE



Presented by:  
*The Irish National Hunt  
Steeplechase Committee*

Colin Keane rode his first Group 1 winner when partnering the Tony Martin trained Laganore to success in the Premio Lydia Tesio at Capannelle in Rome.

He has been crowned champion Flat Jockey for the first time claiming the title with 100 winners. Colin Keane also shared the honour of title Champion Jockey Winter Series Dundalk with Pat Smullen in 2016-17.

[akgraphics.ie](http://akgraphics.ie)



# Creative Graphic Design for the Equine Industry

## Champion Flat Trainer 2017

### AIDAN O'BRIEN



Presented by:  
*Connolly's Red Mills*

Aidan O'Brien has been crowned Champion Flat trainer (in terms of prizemoney won) in every season since 1999, and this season begs no different as he easily claims the title again with a tally of 119 winners.

The year led to Aidan O'Brien setting a new world record of 26 Group/Grade 1 wins in a calendar year when Saxon Warrior ridden by Ryan Moore landed the Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster. Finishing the year with a phenomenal record of 28 Group/Grade 1 winners.



DESIGN



PRINT



ONLINE

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## Champion National Hunt Jockey 2017/2018

### DAVY RUSSELL



Presented by:  
*The Irish Injured Jockeys Association*

A successful year in the saddle lead Davy Russell to achieve a total of 118 winners (to date). 2018 also led him to achieve the leading rider title at Cheltenham riding four winners, including an easy victory in the Grade 1 RSA Insurance Novice's Chase from the Pat Kelly trained Presenting Percy.

The Champion National Hunt Jockey title is awarded to Davy Russell for the third time.



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## Special Achievement

### PAT KELLY



Presented by:  
*The Irish Racehorse Trainers Association*

The season has brought Pat Kelly his biggest success to date. Having won his 3rd Cheltenham Festival race. He recorded back to back wins at the festival with an easy victory in the Grade 1 RSA insurance Novice's Chase with Presenting Percy ridden by Davy Russell.



# zip



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**Champion & Leading National Hunt  
Trainer 2017/2018**



Presented by:  
*Foran Equine*



**GORDON ELLIOTT**

The season proved to be another great success for Gordon Elliott. His spread of winners included General Principle, ridden by JJ Slevin giving him his first success in the Boylesport Irish Grand National. Tiger Roll, a three-time Cheltenham Festival winner, gave Gordon his second success in the Aintree Grand National when winning under Davy Russell.

**OR**



**WILLIE MULLINS**

Willie Mullins consistency continued to another season when he secured his own piece of history with a double through Penhill winning the Sun Bets Stayers' Hurdle and Laurina winning the Trull House Stud Mares' Novices' Hurdle both under Paul Townend, making him the most successful trainer in the Cheltenham Festival history, tallying a total of 61 festival wins.

The season long battle continues, has Gordon Elliott succeeded with the leading title having beaten the previous record of over 193 winners in a season (206 winners to date this season)?

Has Willie Mullins claimed the Champion Trainer title for the 12th year?



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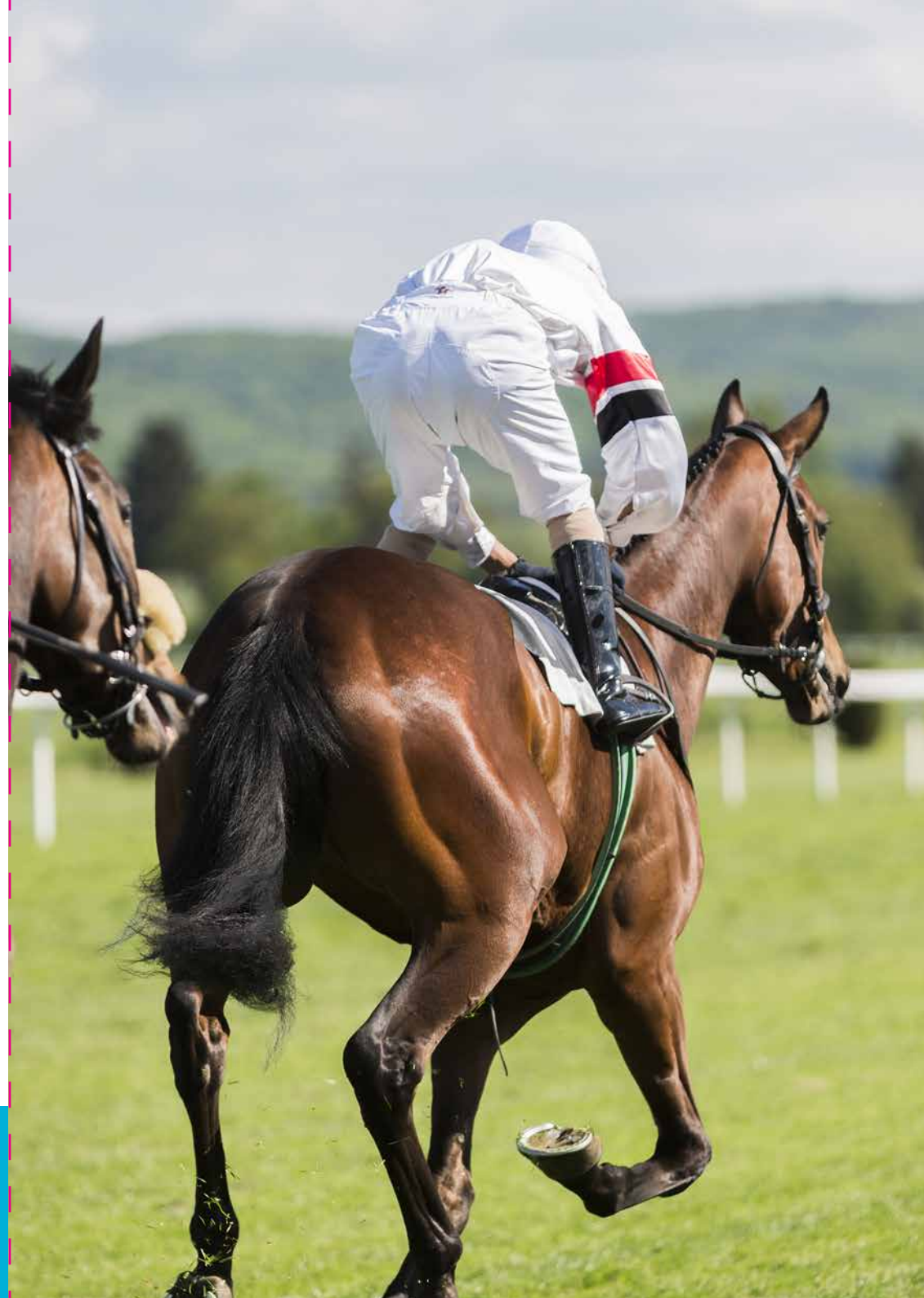
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