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CADET OF THE YEAR 2017 GRAND FINAL

ADDINGTON RACEWAY - WEDNESDAY 19 JULY



Mark Johnson
Northland



John Morrison
Canterbury



Ben Hope
Canterbury



Kieran McNaught
Southland

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2017 Primary ITO Cadet of the Year Competition. The final stage of the competition is upon us with the four finalists excelling in all of their regional challenges. They will now battle it out for the right to call themselves the Primary ITO Cadet of the Year.

Representing Canterbury is the Regional winner John Morrison and runner-up Ben Hope. Travelling up from the Deep South to contest the title is the Southern Regional winner Kieran McNaught and the Northern Regional winner Mark Johnson will also make the trip down. All four finalists have displayed a comprehensive range of skills in their horsemanship, driving and all-round general knowledge to set the stage for an exciting and competitive final.

The final competition has been designed to call on not only the contestant's equine knowledge but to also challenge the finalists in a diverse range of practical, theoretical and technical tasks. Each phase of the competition will be evaluated and marked and the Cadets will earn points for each task based on performance, accuracy and speed. The final will be held throughout Christchurch on Wednesday the 19th of July.

The winner will be announced at the 2017 Annual Harness Racing Awards Function on Thursday the 3rd of August.



TIMETABLE

TIME	ACTIVITY
9.00am – 10.00am	Group challenge
11.00am – 1.00pm	Challenge two- Round Robin
1.00pm – 1.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm – 2.00pm	Group Challenge
2.00pm – 3.30pm	Challenge four – Round Robin
4.00pm – 4.30pm	Group challenge
4.30pm (approx)	Finish

EDUCATION CONTACTS:

Natalie Gameson

03 964 1193

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Sally Waters

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MARK JOHNSON



Age: 20

Employer: Arna Donnelly

Licence Held: Junior Drivers

Career Highlight: Winning three races at Manawatu.

Favourite Horse: Eldolar

If you weren't in the harness industry, what would you be doing: Computer Programmer

Favourite Food: Chicken

Best thing about your job: Driving winners

Worst thing about your job: The cold

What do you think about the Cadet of the Year

Competition: It is a great opportunity for young people in the industry, for learning and helping them along in their career.

Person you admire most in the world: Tim Tetrick

Favourite Movie: Draft Day

If you could invite three people to dinner who would it be: Scarlett Johansson, John Campbell, Chris Waller

Tell us something interesting about yourself: I'm a field hockey goalkeeper.

JOHN MORRISON



Age: 19

Employer: Steven McRae

Licence Held: Junior Drivers and Public Trainer

Career Highlight: Driving my first winner.

Favourite Horse: Monbet

If you weren't in the harness industry, what would you be doing: A high country farmer.

Favourite Food: Chinese

Best thing about your job: Working with horses.

Worst thing about your job: Rainy days

What do you think about the Cadet of the Year

Competition: It's a great challenge and a great way to meet new people.

Person you admire most in the world: Tim Tetrick

Favourite Movie: Borat

If you could invite three people to dinner who would it be: Alana Cameron, Georgie Bolton and Natalie Gameson.

Tell us something interesting about yourself: Im a blacksmith.

BEN HOPE



Age: 17

Employer: Greg and Nina Hope

Licence Held: Trials licence

Career Highlight: My driving career is starting in August, but I'd have to say my parent's quinella in the Dominion this season. It was a great moment to be a part of, considering I've driven both horses in track work.

Favourite Horse: I've been lucky enough to work with some awesome horses, but it's very hard to go past Monbet and Mossdale Conner.

If you weren't in the harness industry, what would you be doing: I wouldn't have a clue what I'd be doing - this industry is my whole life to be honest!

Favourite Food: Nachos

Best thing about your job: It's all pretty great, but you can't beat winning races.

Worst thing about your job: I'm not a big fan of frosts.

What do you think about the Cadet of the Year Competition: It's an awesome concept, and great to be a part of. It gives us Cadets something to strive for each year.

Person you admire most in the world: Dexter Dunn

Favourite Movie: Shawshank Redemption

If you could invite three people to dinner who would they be: I'd have to say the people who own Ready Cash (stallion in Europe) so I can convince them to let me breed my mare to him! He's an absolute freak of a stallion and race horse.

Tell us something interesting about yourself: I own a broodmare who is currently in foal to Muscle Hill.

KIERAN McNAUGHT



Age: 25

Employer: Clark Barron

Licence Held: Trials Driver

Career Highlight: Winning Southland Cadet of the Year.

Favourite Horse: I couldn't pick a favourite currently.

If you weren't in the harness industry, what would you be doing: I would be working in my office job at Bonisch Environmental

Favourite Food: Lamb Chops

Best thing about your job: Being outside and working with horses – makes a change from the office.

Worst thing about your job: Cold and wet days.

What do you think about the Cadet of the Year

Competition: It's a great competition to test your all round harness racing knowledge and skills.

Person you admire most in the world: Roger Federer – He has been at the top of his game for nearly 20 years.

Favourite Movie: Forrest Gump

If you could invite three people to dinner who would it be: Steve Hansen, Tony Quinn and Marc Ellis.

Tell us something interesting about yourself: I have a degree in Geology.

2017 HARNES RACING — AWARDS —

THURSDAY 3RD AUGUST 2017

WIGRAM AIRFORCE MUSEUM, CHRISTCHURCH

