



South Point Hotel Equestrian Complex and Casino in the heart of Las Vegas Nevada

# The Arabian Breeders World Cup in Las Vegas

By Kerri Hill-Grisham

The Arabian breeder's cup is a new show having its second show held the weekend of 17-20 of April 2008. It is becoming one of the most premier purebred Arabian horse shows in the world attracting competitors, buyers, sellers and visitors from around the world to come and enjoy the excitement while celebrating the grace and elegance that the Arabian horse possess. With South Point Hotel Equestrian Complex and Casino in Las Vegas Nevada as the holding grounds for this prestigious show, it brings true meaning to an "international horse show". With a 4,440 seated arena and 1,200 climate controlled horse stalls, it makes South Point one of the finest indoor equestrian complexes in the country.

It unites breeders and Arabian horse lovers to come and enjoy its unique flare unlike any other show allowing its guests and competitors to leave their hotel room and take the elevator down stairs to the bottom floor where the show grounds are. Once exiting the show ring they are greeted by restaurants, crap tables and poker machines. Tables and chairs line the show ring for spectators to relax and enjoy the show in the comfort that one would expect at home and not at a world class horse show.

The Arabian Breeders World Cup is ran by the Arabian Horse Breeder's Alliance, a non profit organization developed and dedicated to help promote the Arabian breed. The goal for the show is to introduce the Arabian horse to new people and provide opportunities for them to get involved in the Arabian horse industry. All efforts are made to make this show unforgettable where passion is created for the Arabian horse and for the spectator to leave wanting more and to become apart of the Arabian industry themselves.

The Arabian Breeder's Cup is unlike any show held in the United States. It features a showcase competition for the Purebred breeding classes and paid out a total of \$83,000 in prize money with about 250 horses entered. The breeding classes are shown similar to the European style like those in Germany and France, but modified creating a unified scoring system called the "World Cup Scoring System". The show features six top international judges from around the world, Allan Preston from Australia, Majdi Al-Saleh from Jordan, Gianmarco Arago from Italy, Eduardo Moreira Caio from Brazil, Karen Homer- Brown and Cathy Murphy-Wright from the USA. Six judges are present but only five judges are used per class. Members of the audience are asked to pull out five names for each class. Each horse is judged at the walk, trot and stand up using a 20 point scale score system in 6 categories. 1. Type 2. Head 3. Neck and Shoulder. 4. Body and top line 5. Legs and feet 6. Movement.

With the mix of international and American judges, it helps ensure that the show doesn't have a distinct "European style vs. an American style"



horse. The objective for the organizers of the show with this type of scoring system was to help achieve the best high standard of judging at a world class level and to engage the crowd where they feel apart of the action.

The show emphasizes on a more natural style of presentation of the horse much the same way they do in Europe which helps promote the true spirit of the Arabian horse. In addition to the European style of judging, each judge is required to display a score card for each horse that has just been judged. As a result the spectator feels more involved in the class and can respect and understand what each judge is looking or isn't looking for when judging the classes.

Unanimous Australian National Champion mare Simeon Sheba (Asfour x Simeon Sheba) bred by Marion Richmond of Simeon Stud Australia and owned by the Dubai State Stud Dubai Emirates was in the class senior breeding mares for nine to eleven year old mares and went onto win Reserve Champion mare. Even at 5 months pregnant, she still grabbed an impressive high score of 563.5 points. As she entered the ring she seemed to be the crowd favourite. With a huge round of applause from the crowd, she basked in her glory and seemed to enjoy all the attention. As the judges and crowd pleaser, I'm sure this amazing mare is doing Australia proud and showing what we have to offer at a world class level.

Some other imported horses that attended the show where Senior Champion Mare JJ Polaca (Magnum Psyche x Sol Magic) bred by the Mayed SA, Argentina and owned by the Prince Kahled Bin Saud, Saudia Arabia. 2005 National Champion Mare of Israel \*Dumka (Laheeb x Dabrowa) owned by Manny and Diana Vierra, Valley Oak Arabians Brentwood California USA. \*Wadim PL (Grandorr x Warszawa) bred by Michalow State Stud, Poland and owned by Onsala Arabians, Sweden with Wayne Newton in Las Vegas.



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Empress (Monogramn x Empressa by \*Probat) bred by Michalow State Stud, Poland and owned by Klarenbeek Arabians, Netherlands, standing at Brookville, Scottsdale Arizona. Reserve Champion Junior Stallion Shannan El Madan (Shael Dream Desert x Perla K) bred by Pedro de Amaral, Brazil and owned by Oak Ridge Arabians USA.

Walter Zima renowned breeder and owner from Phoenix Arizona [www.zarabians.com](http://www.zarabians.com) has competed both years at the Vegas World Cup. Each year he has had one of his filly's place reserve champion in Amateur to Handle. Last year it was Z Victoria by Consensus. This year it was a bit more exciting as the show added the futurity auction class and Walters's filly Z Areena Ameerah took Reserve Champion with handler David Lowe. Very impressive for such a young filly that had not been shown before until this class, but went on to beat many top fillies that had placed at Scottsdale and Vegas in the open classes. Walter would like to send out many thanks to her amazing trainer Jeff Shall that had her in training for only a month before the show and her handler David Lowe for doing an amazing job in the ring.

When I asked Walter about his experience in Vegas he responded by telling me, "This show seems to get better each year with more excitement and enthusiasm starting off with the first class gala dinner, with incredible food, great people, but of course the best part was the show itself". Walter then added "I liked the scoring system with the panel of American and European judges and receiving the scores immediately from the horse that was showing". Walter would like to send out his appreciation and accolades to the Arabian Breeders Alliance for putting on such a great show and he looks forward to competing next year hopefully with a few more horses.

#### The Scoring system and In Hand Rules

The ring procedure for all halter/in-hand classes will follow that of the international standard for breeding classes in which horses are evaluated according to a point system:

- All horses to be shown collectively at the beginning of each class. Horses shall enter the ring at a trot in a clockwise direction in chronological age order (according to date of birth) from oldest to youngest. Horses to circle clockwise at a controlled walk around the entire circumference of the ring completing a minimum of two (2) complete circles. All horses to exit ring as directed by Ring Steward, all entries must remain in the designated warm-up/holding area throughout the entire class.
- Each entry shall be exhibited and evaluated individually. Horse to enter ring and trot directly to the designated presentation area (point A – apex of triangle) in the center of the ring. Horse to be presented for evaluation by judging panel in a controlled, yet uninhibited and/or intimidated manner. Horse shall stand squarely on all four legs and shall be shown with natural elegance and professionalism.
- Following formal presentation, each entry shall walk in a straight line from (to point D) and towards (back to point A) the judges as directed by the ring steward.
- Each entry shall trot in hand as indicated in the Breeding & In-Hand Class Conduct Diagram immediately following. Horses shall be encouraged to move with elegance, impulsion and charismatic animation at the trot exhibiting authentic Arabian type around the entire circumference of the ring.
- Upon the return to the designated presentation area (point A), horses may be stood-up for final inspection by the judges.
- Horse and handler to be excused from the ring at the formal request of the ring steward. Horses are to exit ring trotting towards point D and turning right towards the Entry/Exit. Handlers are requested to use extreme caution when exiting as to not inhibit the performance of any successive entry.
- Those horses receiving the five highest point scores tabulated according to the Arabian Breeders World Cup Scoring System will be called back into the ring in reverse order (5th place to 1st place) for the awarding of prizes immediately following each class.



- Only one handler per exhibit is permitted in the ring at any one time. Handlers may present more than one exhibit per class, provided that there is a capable handler for each horse during the initial group judging and during the awards presentation.
- Handlers will be neatly dressed. Handlers may wear any costume normally worn in their country of origin. Handlers may not wear any articles of clothing carrying any form of advertising which discloses the identification/connection of the horse they are handling or the farm, training stable or corporate sponsor represented.
- Judges are required to judge exhibits standing, walking and trotting.
- Judges may order handlers to open horses' mouths or pick up feet for inspection.
- Exhibits which appear late (missing the walk around the ring) will be excluded from the class.
- Unruly horses may be ordered to withdraw at the discretion of the judge(s).
- Any horse becoming loose a second time will be disqualified.
- No announcement indicating the identity, breeding or past performance of exhibits, or the identity of their owners will be made during judging. It is, however, permissible for this information to be given out after the scores have been announced for each exhibit.

The Arabian Alliance Board of Directors Scott Bailey, Bob Battaglia, Bob Boggs, Sigi and Jay Constanti, Hank DeShazer, Robert North, Jim Sirbasku, Jeff Sloan, Carol Steppe would like to thank all the attendees, exhibitors, staff and volunteers of the 2008 Arabian Breeders World Cup. Without each and every one of you we could not have had such a successful show, we hope to see you in 2009 to celebrate the Arabian horse in fabulous Las Vegas.

For more information and show results please visit [www.arabianbreedersworldcup.com](http://www.arabianbreedersworldcup.com)



EVG Tessara - Reserve Junior Champion Mare owned by Evergreen Arabians and shown by handler Greg Gallum



Kharea PGA - Junior Champion Mare owned by Frank and Sara Chisholm and handled by Andy Sellman



Vargas JCA - Reserve Champion Gelding

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Climate controlled Horse Stalls underneath the South Point Hotel Equestrian Complex

The magnificent Indoor Arena seating 4,440 underneath the South Point Hotel Equestrian Complex



Don and Judith Forbis of Ansata Stud were the recipients of the 2008 Arabian horse breeders Alliance Lifetime Achievement Award recognizing 5 decades of Arabian horses that influence breeding programs all over the world. The Forbis's also celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2008. Judith (pictured right) is presented with the Award by Wayne Newton (left)



Simeon Sehavi - Reserve Champion Senior Breeding Mare bred by Marion Richmond from Simeon Stud, Australia and owned by the Dubai State Stud Dubai Emirates



D Caprio PA - Reserve Champion Futurity Yearling Colts and Geldings Amateur to Handle - handler Scott Cocozza and owned by Pegasus Arabians



NW Siensei - Junior Stallion Champion of April 16 - December 31 2007 owned by Mike and Ruth Doe handled by Greg Gallum



Dakar El Jamaal - Reserve Champion Senior Breeding Stallion with handler Michael Byatt



Australian Judge Alan Preston inspects Simeon Sehavi handled by Paolo Capecci



JJ Poloca - Senior Breeding Champion Mare owned by HRH Prince Khaled Bin Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud of Al Khalediah Stud, Saudi Arabia and handler Greg Gallum



Marithyme LLC - Champion Gelding owned by Red Tail Arabians and shown by Andy Sellman



Arbiteur - Senior Breeding Champion Stallion owner/breeder Lucy Whittier USA and shown by Ricardo Rivero



Z Areena Ameera - Futurity Yearling Fillies Amateur to Handle Reserve Champion owned by Walter Zima (pictured left) and handler David Lowe (right)

