

NEWS RELEASE

22 August 2022

Embargoed until Tuesday 23 August 2022

NICK ALEXANDER & SUSAN CORBETT WIN THE 2022 LYCETTS LEADERSHIP & LYCETTS TEAM CHAMPIONS AWARDS

The National Trainers Federation (NTF) is delighted to announce all the winners for the **2022 Lycetts Leadership & Lycetts Team Champions Awards**. The awards celebrate the British racehorse training yards with the highest standards of employee management and who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills, creating outstanding places to work.

Lycetts Leadership & Lycetts Team Champions Award Winners:

- Lycetts Leadership Award: **Nick Alexander**
- Lycetts Team Champions Award: **Susan Corbett**

Once again, the entry standard was extremely high, presenting the judges with a very difficult task in their selections. The runners-up and winners in each category were all inspiring in their approaches to leadership, staff management and team culture.

Sheila Bailey, Lycetts Awards Judging Panel, '*Joining the judging panel for the Lycetts Awards has been an incredibly stimulating and humbling process. Reading all the submissions and watching the team videos – which was a delight - reminds us that aside from the daily business of training horses, people in racing face many challenges both personally and professionally.*

The leadership demonstrated by trainers in addressing these issues is what allows the industry to grow, to thrive and attract a new and diverse workforce.'

A formal prize giving for all winners will take place on Breeders Day at Sandown Park Racecourse on Wednesday 14 September. Winners and guests will enjoy hospitality, generously supported by Cavalor and a presentation of prizes. Nick Alexander and Team Corbett will each win £4,000.

Excellence Award Winners

Sponsored by Cavalor, the Excellence Awards form the basis for the Lycetts Leadership Award and recognise the key staff management areas where trainers are excelling.

1. Inclusive Recruitment & Effective Induction Systems

Winner: Nick Alexander

2. Ensuring a Safe Working Environment

Winners: Dan & Claire Kubler

3. Development & Training

Joint winners: Andrew Balding and Dan & Claire Kubler

4. Reward & Recognition

Winner: Andrew Balding

Cavalor are awarding a prize of £500 to the winner of each section, plus an additional £250 voucher that can be spent at a local retailer to purchase Cavalor products.

All entries were also assessed for accreditation in each section. Yards demonstrating good and excellent management qualities were awarded Standard and Gold accreditation. A full list of accredited yards is available on the NTF website.

In recognition

Each year, the judges highlight a few areas of special recognition for excelling in specific areas of management, leadership and team ethos. This year the judges would like the following trainers to be recognised in:

- Equality, Diversity & Inclusion: Rebecca Menzies
- Pastoral Care: Jedd & Andrea O'Keeffe.

Highest-scoring, newly licensed trainer

Supported by Equitare, this is a new award to recognise newly licensed trainers who are already exhibiting exceptional leadership and management qualities.

We are pleased to announce that **James Horton** is this year's winner. James will receive a 12-month recruitment package with Equitare.

Lycetts Leadership & Lycetts Team Champions Awards - Runners up

The standard of entry was extremely high and the NTF would like to acknowledge the runners-up in each category.

Lycetts Leadership Award: Runners up

- Andrew Balding
- Dan & Claire Kubler

Lycetts Team Champions Award: Runners up

- Charlie Longsdon
- O'Brien McPherson Racing
- Rebecca Menzies

Paul Johnson, Chief Executive, NTF commented, *"Completing our fifth year of the awards is a landmark moment, and I was delighted to see the standard of entry submitted this year. It is inspiring to see the breadth of entries too. We have returning trainers achieving gold accreditation year on year, and trainers using the awards each year to learn and adapt their management practices to progress from standard to gold accreditation. In addition, we always have many newcomers to the award, which is great to see.*

By entering these awards, trainers let us in on the myriad of ways that great team ethos is developed and sustained, how staff are encouraged and developed and how to lead by example. We have some incredible employers in this industry, inspiring leaders, brilliant managers and exciting newcomers. We're thrilled to have the opportunity to celebrate them all.

Thank you to our members and their staff that took part this year. Congratulations to all our runners-up and winners."

Piers Plunket, Lycetts, commented, *"Lycetts are delighted to be supporting the Lycetts Leadership and Lycetts Team Champions Awards once again. It is wonderful to see so many trainers and teams recognising the importance of these Awards to*

drive forward their business and to showcase the brilliant work, high standards and team culture at their yards.”

Ends

Notes for editors:

The judging panel

The judges are Kevin Parsons, Sally Ann Grassick, Sheila Bailey and Simon Bailey. Before judging began, they each declared conflicts of interest and do not judge any yards with which they have a commercial, employment or personal interest.

About Lycetts

- The Lycetts Group was founded in 1961 and has grown to become one of the UK's leading independently operated insurance brokers.
- Lycetts specialises in farm and estate insurance and also provides bespoke financial services, household, commercial and bloodstock insurance advice. It has 16 offices in the UK, with its headquarters based in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- Lycetts UK Risk Management Services provide a comprehensive range of health and safety services to the agricultural sector, including health and safety policies, risk assessments, fire risk assessments, asbestos management services and general health and safety training.
- All available profits from Lycetts are passed onto the company's ultimate owner, the charity Benefact Trust, which in turn invests them back into the community. This structure offers security and business stability for Lycetts while fostering an ethical and long-term approach and a high-level of client trust.

For more information, visit lycetts.co.uk.

About Cavalor

Cavalor is renowned for high-quality nutrition products for horses performing on the highest level. During 30 years of specialised research, Cavalor has developed a complete line of premier dietary supplements, feed and care products for the global equine industry. All developed by following a structure featuring fundamental, scientific and practical research.

Cavalor stands for high quality products which can be used safely within the rules of IFHA (International Federation of Horseracing Authorities) and FEI.

For more information and to find your local stockist, visit <https://race.cavalor.com> or contact Cavalor at race@cavalor.com.

Equitare

Equitare are solution-focused HR & recruitment consultants for the equine industry that thrive off excellency and professionalism.

Working to supply staff to yards around the UK with the very best horsemen & women on a temporary or permanent basis.

For more information, visit www.equitare.co.uk

Development of the award

The National Trainers Federation (NTF) and Lycetts Insurance Brokers created the Lycetts Awards to:

1. Reward yards where staff are managed to the highest standards
2. Showcase how developing a high-performance team has positive effects on a business – including levels of recruitment and retention
3. Spread the message about safe working practices
4. Demonstrate to potential employees and the public that British racehorse trainers provide the best supported jobs anywhere in the equine sector

Anyone wishing to work for an accredited yard can look them up on the Racing Groom website www.racinggroom.com via the Trainer Locator.

About the award categories

Lycetts Team Champions Award

This award provides an opportunity for racing staff to tell us about their team and how they support each other. The Lycetts Team Champions Award is designed to celebrate the best teams on racehorse training yards, regardless of the size of the yard and from the staff's perspective.

The Lycetts Leadership Award

This award comprises four sections, each of which carries an Excellence Award in its own right. The Excellence Awards are kindly sponsored by Cavalor. These sections are based on The Winning Approach, a set of industry standards in management and employment practices. The Winning Approach was developed for the NTF by consultants Sport and Beyond with funding from The Racing Foundation. Trainers entered just one or multiple sections.

About The Racing Foundation

The Racing Foundation was established in January 2012 to oversee the distribution of funds to charitable causes within racing following the sale of the Tote. It is registered with the Charity Commission as a charity (no. 1145297). Since inception, the Racing Foundation has granted just over £10million to charities associated with the horseracing and thoroughbred breeding industry in Britain, supporting work in social welfare, education, training and participation, horse welfare, equine science research, and heritage and culture.

The **National Trainers Federation** represents the interests of British licensed racehorse trainers. For more information, please contact Paul Johnson, NTF Chief Executive, on 01488 71794 or 07823 536388. E-mail:

p.johnson@racehorsetrainers.org.

For more information on the National Trainers Federation, please go to

www.racehorsetrainers.org.