

ARBC OPEN Stockman's Challenge 2015

The ARBC National Derby Show held in Dalby over the Easter Weekend welcomed the Open Stockman's Challenge competitors with 21 of Australia's top Challenge horse and rider combinations competing for 100% Added Prize money along with an ARBC Trophy Saddle donated by Shaun and Ian Saunders and a hand crafted Rick Meredith ARBC Trophy Buckle. It was great to see two disciplines coming together and embracing the skill both brings to the pen. Errol Thomas has been huge supporter in the Challenge and Reining world for many years and was the mastermind to bring together these two sports that share many similarities. The reiners attending the ARBC were keen to watch the Challenge riders compete and are keen to see them back here again next year.

Many of the challenge competitors arrived the night before the event and it was a great atmosphere with both Reiners and challenge competitors riding in open pen and supporting each other. A very big thank you to Shaun and Ian Saunders for this beautifully crafted Trophy Saddle and for supporting the first Stockman's Challenge being held at the ARBC this year.

The winner of the first ARBC OPEN Stockman's Challenge event was Rob Leach riding Pep N Coda Lena. The surface for the arena was well received by all challenge competitors, enjoying a well prepared surface to showcase their highly trained horses.

Rob Leach had this to say after winning *"It's great to come to an event like this and to ride with some of Australia's best Reiners, it's really helped me raise the bar and standard on what I do with my horses in the Challenge Competitions. It's helped me add polish to my riding and given me more confidence. To win a Trophy Saddle and Buckle is pretty special in Challenge Competition, thank you to Errol for putting this event on."*

The 2015 ARBC Open Stockman's Challenge results:

- 1st Rob Leach riding Pep N Coda Lena
- 2nd Rob Leach riding Terminator Whiz
- 3rd Felicity Burton riding JR Elsola Rey
- 4th Frank Green riding Otfordvally Annie
- 5th David Manchon riding Moranjee Lethal Reward
- 6th Anita Martin riding Westland's Stylish Cat

We welcome all OPEN Challenge riders to these reining events and extend an invitation for even more of you guys to come along to our 2016 ARBC Open Stockman's Challenge Event.



