

SUPER MAIDENS ARE HERE!



SUPER MAIDENS KICK OFF THIS MONTH WITH THE INITIATIVE BENEFITTING OWNERS FROM ALL REGIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Racing NSW has announced the introduction of Super Maidens which will provide additional prizemoney on Midweek Metropolitan, Provincial and Country TAB meetings from Friday, 1 September 2023.

The Super Maidens provide a further \$6.5 million per annum in prizemoney to participants and are as follows:

- Metropolitan Super Maidens will be run weekly at midweek Metropolitan programs for prizemoney of \$100,000
- Two Provincial Super Maidens will be run each week carrying prizemoney of \$60,000

- A Country Super Maiden will be run at one Country TAB meeting each week as well as at all 65 Showcase meetings for prizemoney of \$50,000.

This announcement comes on top of the already announced \$27 million per annum of prizemoney increases in NSW commencing on 1 August 2023.

"Racing NSW already pays out \$58 million in prizemoney for maiden races per annum and now with Super Maidens this will take it to \$64.5 million per annum," said Racing NSW Chairman, Mr Russell Balding AO.

"The Super Maidens will enable owners to recoup a larger share of their outlay with their horse's first race win," Mr Balding AO added.

SPRING RACING'S EXTRAVAGANZA

Some fabulous spring racing powers into play this month with Concorde Stakes Day at Royal Randwick the start of a spectacular 13-week festival.

The \$1 million Group 3-Concorde Stakes (1000m) is part of a 10-race program that also boasts a further four Stakes events.

The following week is Theo Marks Stakes Day at Rosehill Gardens followed by Royal Randwick on 16 September which sees the inaugural running of the weight-for-age \$1m 7 Stakes (1600m).

That race is supported by the \$1m Gr 2-The Shorts (1100m) and Gr 2-Darley Tea Rose Stakes (1400m).

On Saturday 23 September it's back to Rosehill Gardens for the \$1m Gr 1-Golden Rose (1400m) – one of the nation's best three-year-old events – with other races including the Gr 2-Racing & Sports Golden Pendant (1400m) and the Gr 2-Ned Whisky Shannon Stakes (1500m).

Saturday 30 September is one of Sydney's time-honoured race meetings at Royal Randwick with the highlight the \$1.5m Gr 1-TAB Epsom Handicap (1600m) supported by the \$1m Gr 2-Premiere Stakes (1200m).

There are two other Group 1 races on that program The Metropolitan (2400m) and the Darley Flight Stakes (1600m) and not forgetting the babies who will make their first appearances in the Gr 3-Breeders' Plate (1000m) for the boys and the Gr 3-Gimcrack Stakes (1000m) for the fillies.

Swinging into October and from therein it's eight successive Saturdays encompassing extraordinary races such as the \$20m TAB Everest (1200m), \$2m The Kosciuszko (1200m) and the new \$5m Gr 1-King Charles III Stakes (1600m) all run at Royal Randwick on October 14.

The first Saturday in November at Rosehill Gardens carries more than \$15m in prizemoney highlighted by



Rustic Steel (Nash Rawiller; yellow pom-pom) holds out Cisco Bay (Tyler Schiller) to claim last year's The Big Dance at Royal Randwick. Image by Bradley Photographers

the \$10m The Golden Eagle (1500m) for four-year-olds and the \$3m Giga Kick Stakes (1300m).

Just three days later on Tuesday 7 November is 'Dancing with the Stars' Day headed by the \$3 million Big Dance (1600m) with more than \$5m in prizemoney on offer.

The field for The Big Dance is assembled from horses that have qualified from either winning or running second in 25 Country Cups throughout the year.

The Big Dance is supported by the \$750,000 Little Dance (1600m) and \$250,000 Barn Dance (1300m).

The Little Dance is for gallopers that were placed in Country Cups and either balloted or eliminated as emergencies.

Rosehill backs up the following Saturday (11 November) with headline races the \$2m Five Diamonds (1800m) and the \$1m Golden Gift (1100m) for two-year-olds.

The spring concludes with \$1m races created for their respective regions – The Hunter (1300m) at Newcastle on 18 November and the \$1m The Gong (1600m) run at Kembla Grange on 25 November.

SYDNEY SPRINGS TO LIFE

DATE	VENUE	FEATURE	DAY'S PRIZEMONEY
2 SEP	Royal Randwick	Concorde Stakes	\$2.82m
9 SEP	Rosehill Gardens	Theo Marks Stakes	\$2.03m
16 SEP	Royal Randwick	7 Stakes	\$3.52m
23 SEP	Rosehill Gardens	Golden Rose	\$2.87m
30 SEP	Royal Randwick	TAB Epsom Handicap	\$5.19m
7 OCT	Rosehill Stakes	Hill Stakes	\$5.27m
14 OCT	Royal Randwick	TAB Everest	\$31.61m
21 OCT	Royal Randwick	Five Diamonds Prelude	\$1.36m
28 OCT	Royal Randwick	Spring Champion Stakes	\$6.67m
4 NOV	Rosehill Gardens	The Golden Eagle	\$15.17m
7 NOV	Royal Randwick	The Big Dance	\$5.05m
11 NOV	Rosehill Gardens	Five Diamonds	\$4.54m
18 NOV	Newcastle	The Hunter	\$2.59m
25 NOV	Kembla Grange	The Gong	\$2.59m