



Wellard

MEDIA RELEASE
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WELLARD STAR OF THE WEST CAMPDRAFT

Some of the best campdrafters from across Western Australia will vie for the Wellard Star of the West at the Northam Equestrian Centre on November 14-16.

Competitors from as far away as the Kimberley will compete in the campdraft, which is Australia's fastest growing horse sport.

The highlight of the Wellard Star of the West will be the open draft on the evening of Saturday November 15th, when competitors will display their horsemanship under lights in front of a large crowd before Tamworth's Dan Murphy takes to the stage to perform.

Spectator entry is by gold coin donation, and all entrance proceeds will be gifted to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Wellard Star of the West organiser and Wellard Rural Exports Live Cattle Manager Justin Morrissey said given the large prize money on offer, he expected competition to be intense from the 400 entries received.

"Campdrafting is one of Australia's fastest growing horse sports not just because it is true test of horsemanship and stockmanship combined, but it is exciting for everyone involved," he said.

Drafts include open, juvenile, novice, restricted, local and stallion, and competition begins each day at 6.30am.

There will be trade displays, food stalls and a bar in operation.

"The Wellard Star of the West promises to be a great day out for everyone involved, whether they are competitors or spectators," Mr Morrissey said.

More information is available at www.wellardgroup.com.au/starofthewest

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Background – Campdrafting

Campdrafting is a sport where horse and rider select and manoeuvre a beast around a set course for a score out of 100. There are three areas that make up the scoring criteria.

The first is the camp where the pair select a beast from a mob of cattle in a small yard and demonstrate their ability to keep it separate from the mob. This is scored out of 26 and any score over 21 is considered a great score.

From there the yard gates are opened and the rider must move the beast in a set pattern around two pegs and then through a gate. This section is scored out of 70 points according to horsemanship and the ability of the pair to control the beast while completing the course. A score of 60 plus is a worthy score. The course must be completed in less than 50 seconds.

The final 4 points are allocated for rounding the two pegs and passing through the gate.

Campdrafting needs a combination of practice, skill and a little bit of luck. When the three sections' points are added together any score in the eighties is more than competitive, with the 90 point mark being the Holy Grail for competitors.

For more information visit: www.wellardgroup.com.au