



Abderry, top equine facility located in Glenbrook, proudly hosted the inaugural NZ Sport Horse Sale and Expo on the 28th and 29th of April. "The NZ Sporthorse Sale and Expo is the brainchild of Counties NZ Sporthorse, initiated to promote and develop quality sporthorses," says Neil Houston, Chair of Counties NZ Sporthorse.

Dawn broke to reveal a sunny day on Saturday, just right for initiating the tradition of presenting top horses to discerning groups of sport horse buyers. Horses presented included 16 unbroken horses as well as those under saddle. Sires represented included Distelfink, Voltaire II, Wakonda-o-Indiana, Dream Boy, Ramazotti, Charlton Havelin, Ashburn Damascus, Littorio and Lansing.

Other spectator highlights included a demonstration by Bill Noble (riding Vincent St James) and a stunt display by mother and daughter team, the Lone Ryders (Steff and Cody Coldstream) who took the audience behind the scenes to show how they train horses for the movies. A 'loose jumping' exhibition highlighted the potential of unbroken horses with a filly by Ashburn Damascus shining in this arena, eventually selling for the show's top price of \$5,200.

Show organiser and Abderry Park Owner, Cheski Brown, was thrilled with the turnout at the event with a crowd of over 1,000 attending the sale and expo over the two days. "The whole point that I saw was to produce a platform from which this event could grow to become a major event in the future and I'm very happy to say that we achieved that! We had very positive feedback... people seemed to get right behind the concept!"

Neil Houston, Chair of Counties NZ Sporthorse: "We are thrilled to see this inaugural event come to fruition and look forward to supporting the Abderry initiative to grow the NZ Sport Horse Sale & Expo into one of the most significant events on the New Zealand equine calendar."

by Taryn Surgison
Many thanks Iain & Nadine Wighton
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