

IFAR CONFERENCE SPEAKERS 2026

HRH PRINCE BANDAR BIN KHALID AL FAISAL CHAIRMAN, JOCKEY CLUB OF SAUDI ARABIA

OPENING ADDRESS

As Chairman of both the Saudi Equestrian Authority (SEA) and the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia (JCSA), HRH Prince Bandar plays a key role in the advancement of equestrian sports in Saudi Arabia. With the backing of the Saudi Arabian government, Prince Bandar led a team to successfully deliver the first Saudi Cup in 2020. Under Prince Bandar's Chairmanship and the support of Saudi Arabia's Royal Court, the JCSA will continue development of Saudi Arabia's standing in the world of horse racing, utilising strong ties with the sport's governing bodies to shape The Kingdom's domestic and international racing calendars.



HRH PRINCESS NANDA-DEVI NORODOM PRESIDENT, CAMBODIAN EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

In November 2024, HRH Princess Nanda-Devi Norodom was elected as the President of the Cambodian Equestrian Federation (CEF). She previously served as the Secretary General. She is continuing to work tirelessly to further develop equestrian sports in Cambodia and to bring its national team to the next level. Additionally, she was elected as the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) Regional Group VIII Deputy Chair at the 2024 General Assembly in Abu Dhabi.



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DR. ELIOT FORBES **CHAIR, IFAR**

Dr. Eliot Forbes is the Chief Executive of the Racing Integrity Board of New Zealand and brings over 30 years of experience in racing administration, wagering, and veterinary science across Australasia, the United Kingdom, and the Middle East. As a founding member and current Chair of IFAR, he champions the advancement of racehorse aftercare initiatives globally. He holds an Honours degree in Veterinary Science, an MBA, is a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



NATASHA ROSE **CHAIR, IFAR CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Natasha Rose's career and interest in the Thoroughbred aftercare industry was sparked off by a weekend stable job at the Thoroughbred Rehabilitation Centre during her undergraduate university years. She has been working for the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) for over seven years, and her current role is Executive Manager, Equestrian Affairs Projects. Prior to that, she was a graduate trainee at the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) and went on to be the Head of Operations for the Horserace Betting Levy Board in the UK. She holds a Thoroughbred Horseracing Industries MBA with Liverpool University.



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DAVID EADES MODERATOR

David Eades spent three decades as a correspondent and anchor with BBC TV and Radio News. His many roles included Senior Sports News Correspondent, and he has covered many of the biggest sporting events and issues of the past 25 years. He has worked closely with the Jockey Club (UK), providing media services to racecourses including Aintree, Cheltenham and Ascot among many others. He is a long-time moderator and MC for the Asian Racing Conference, taking a particular interest in equine welfare, covering events for IFAR, World Horse Welfare and The Hong Kong Jockey Club.



ANDREW HARDING INDUSTRY LEADERS PANEL

Andrew Harding is currently the Executive Director, Racing, at The Hong Kong Jockey Club and Secretary-General of the Asian Racing Federation. He is also the Executive Director of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), Co-Secretary General of the International Horse Sports Confederation, and Chairman of the IFHA Technical Advisory Committee. Andrew graduated with a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Queensland.



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DR. PAULL KHAN **INDUSTRY LEADERS PANEL**

Dr Paull Khan is a consultant on international racing. He sits on the Executive Council of the IFHA and is CEO of the European and Mediterranean Horseracing Federation (EMHF). He is on the Board of the European Horse Network and a member of IFAR's Steering Committee. He is also International Racing Advisor to the British Horseracing Authority. After completing his PhD on the Social Anthropology of British Racing, he spent 34 years with Weatherbys, where he was Director of Racing and Banking and the first employee to become a registered owner. He writes a regular column in European Trainer magazine and is proud to have been racing in 38 countries (to date!).



AARON MORRISON **INDUSTRY LEADERS PANEL**

As CEO of Racing Victoria, Aaron Morrison leads the organisation in managing, administering, regulating, and promoting Thoroughbred Racing in Victoria, Australia's premier racing jurisdiction. His responsibilities also encompass managing various industry-owned commercial and media ventures aimed at enhancing engagement, driving participation, and securing sustainable funding for the industry through wagering, media, content, and data rights management. Before stepping into the CEO role, he served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer at Racing Victoria for seven years.



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SALEM SAEED BINMAHFOOZ **INDUSTRY LEADERS PANEL**

Salem Saeed Binmahfooz is the Chairman Advisor and Technical Committee Member, Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia (JCSA). He is a central figure in shaping the strategic direction of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's equestrian landscape, and he is instrumental in driving high-level policy across both Thoroughbred and Arabian racing disciplines. His influence is foundational to international and regional policy. He is an Executive Board Member of the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing (IFAHR) and Vice Chairman of the Gulf Horse Racing Council.



ABDULLAH A. ALASEERI **PRESENTER**

Abdullah Aman Alaseeri is the Secretary General of the Equestrian Authority with over 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors. He previously served as Secretary General and CEO of Sakhaa Program and held senior roles at Saudi Aramco, Albilad Bank, and Riyadh Bank. He holds a bachelor's in software engineering from King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals and a master's in construction management from the University of Southern California. He also holds multiple professional certifications in leadership, project management, and organizational development.



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MELISSA WARE PRESENTER

Melissa Ware is the General Manager – Equine Welfare at Racing Victoria and oversees the implementation of the organisation's five-year equine welfare strategic plan released in 2023. Prior to joining RV in 2019, Melissa held roles at Racing South Australia, Melbourne Racing Club and Tabcorp in roles ranging from Race Day Judge, managing South Australia's Owners and Breeders Incentive Program and Sponsorship Account Manager. She holds a Bachelor of Management (Major in Marketing) and a Master of Business (Sport Management) from Deakin University. Her love for the horse also spills over into her personal life, as the owner of Off The Track Thoroughbred, Abate.



GRACE MUIR PRESENTER

Grace Muir MBE is the Founder and CEO of HEROS Charity and Stud Manager at North Farm Stud in Oxfordshire. With lifelong ties to the racing industry, she launched HEROS in 2006 to retrain and rehome ex-racehorses and create vocational education programmes for young people, including those with special educational needs or challenging circumstances. Grace was awarded an MBE for her services to charity, animal welfare, and education. She continues to lead with compassion and vision, advocating for responsible global racing aftercare and inclusive learning opportunities.



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ROB DAUTH **INDUSTRY WIDE RESPONSIBILITY PANEL**

Rob Dauth is Director of Growth at MyRacehorse (MRH), having joined in 2021 to co-launch the ownership platform in Australia. A key part of his remit is equine welfare and delivering MRH's commitment to responsible racehorse ownership, where owners play a more active role in welfare and contribute upfront to ensuring all MRH AU horses live long, happy and healthy lives regardless of their deeds on the track. This is primarily achieved through the Horse Super Fund, a fully-funded Group 1 retirement pathway and lifelong safety net that is already responsible for over 50 ex-racehorses enjoying a range of post-racing careers.



DR. ALAN LAI **INDUSTRY WIDE RESPONSIBILITY PANEL**

Dr. Alan Lai is the Co-Founder of Champs Legacy, the first facility in France dedicated to rehoming, retraining, and paddock retirement for Hong Kong racehorses, currently operating six sites and expanding. He also serves as the CEO of Pet Space Group, Hong Kong's largest veterinary group. In addition to his roles in animal welfare and veterinary care, Dr. Lai is a research scholar at City University of Hong Kong, where he has published several works focusing on pet owners' duty of care. His commitment to improving the lives of animals continues to drive his innovative initiatives.



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LISA-JANE GRAFFARD INDUSTRY WIDE RESPONSIBILITY PANEL

Lisa-Jane Graffard is an Irish-born bloodstock professional and racing executive with extensive international experience. A graduate of the inaugural Godolphin Flying Start programme, she later went on to become Godolphin's racing representative in France, contributing to racing operations, strategy and communications, for 13 years. While working for Godolphin, and with their support, she co-founded French racing's official aftercare programme, Au-delà des Pistes, alongside Nemone Routh of the Aga Khan's Studs. She has contributed as an industry writer, researcher and speaker. She is married to leading French trainer Francis-Henri Graffard.



ARE YOU ATTENDING IFAR 2026 IN PERSON?

We would love to see your photos and short videos from the on-site visit and conference in real time! If you would like the chance for them to be incorporated in our social media coverage of #IFAR2026, please email them to: ifarconference@gmail.com or tag @IFARnews.