

SELL/BUY YOUR CAR ON
OUR LOCAL SITE!

autodealer
www.autodealer.co.za

Big leap for love

Nicholas Zaal

nicholasz@cxton.co.za

The best showjumping and dressage riders around competed in the annual Valentine's Show at Kyalami Park Club on 9 and 10 February.

The competition was fierce and event organiser, Heather Mpofu, said there were more entries this year than in the three preceding shows. "Seeing the grounds abuzz with all the competitors and spectators was indeed a great highlight for all of us at Kyalami Park Club," she said.

Outside of the arenas, a vibrant and relaxing atmosphere prevailed, where spectators enjoyed food and drinks while reclining in camping chairs. This ensured that when the riders dismounted and joined their family and friends, it was easy to put the stress of the competition behind them.

Furthermore, everyone showed good sportsmanship and congratulated their fellow riders for any placings. Mpofu said the club made it a point to honour the women riders with Valentine's roses to mark the occasion.

Next up at the club is the Horse of the Year (HOY) show from 19 to 24 February. "HOY is a showing show where different breeds come to showcase their beautiful horses and are judged by overseas judges, this year being Matthew Lawrence."

Then the Reonet Summer Classic will be hosted from 8 to 10 March. "This we hope to make a big show and will be showcasing jumping classes in the majestic Bob Charter arena as well as the Peter Minnie and May Foxcroft.

We also will have some dressage classes at this show."

Mpofu then highlighted the Easter Festival as a 'full-on celebration with various activities for the horsey and non-horsey families'.

The Valentine's Show higher grade showjumping winners:

Jnr 1.20m A2

• Kirsty Brimacombe riding Zonjati Avatar

Jnr 1.20m

• Ada-Raine Ferguson riding Lone Ranger Equibox Princess Leia

Adult 1.30/1.35m

• Jeanne Korber riding La Mina Z

Adult 1.35m A2

• Govett Triggol riding Callaho's Wolke 334

Adult 1.20m A2

• James White riding Collado's Christie

Adult 1.20m

• Laurence Mowatt riding Tack 'n Togs Hillview Paddy

Pony Rider 1m/1.10m A2

• Maia Sonnbichler riding Waterside Royal Sensation

Pony Rider 1m/1.10m

• Ada-Raine Ferguson riding Equibox Lone Ranger Kiss-a-me

The dressage winners:

FEI Intermediate II

• Andrea Harrison riding Bodenhausem Zarak,

FEI Intermediate A

• Andrea Harrison riding Principal's Real Rob Roy

FEI Prix St George

• Robyn Andrews riding Manor D'or Denozo

Details: Kyalami Park Club

shows@kyalamiparkclub.co.za



Kyla Michelle competes at the Valentine's Show. Photo: Nicholas Zaal

South African karate practitioners shotokan do it in Cairo, Egypt

Learners of Beaulieu College, Curro Waterfall and Dainfern College formed part of the team that represented South Africa at an international karate competition in Cairo, Egypt.

Bryce Hornby of Beaulieu, Thomas Parry of Dainfern and Deven Morrison of Curro, joined seven other members of the Shotokan-ZA team at the World Union of Karate-Do Federations event. The South Africans were joined by karate practitioners from Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait and India. The event included a training camp with some of the world's best coaches, and when the competition came South Africa did proudly, winning five gold, six silver and three bronze medals.

Deven came third in the kata division. Bryce (16) and Thomas (15) competed in the open men's kata division. The age group in this division was 15 to 34. Despite being so young, they held their

own. Bryce came second and Thomas came third in this difficult division. For free fighting, they were placed in the 15 to 18 years old division, which Bryce won.

The team also made time to visit the Sphinx and the pyramids of Giza, the National Museum, the famous Khan el-Khalili market, and enjoyed dinner on the Nile River. The team also spent a day at the seaside town of Alexandria.

"I am very happy with the team's performance and very proud of each and every member," said Shotokan-ZA Federation president, sensei Elmarie van Zyl.

"They were outstanding ambassadors for our country. Our next goal is the Full Contact Martial Arts National Championships and trials for brown and black belts, which if selected, [students] will attend the World Martial Arts Championships in the UK in November."



The Shotokan-ZA team poses with the Egypt flag in Cairo. Photo: Supplied