

MRA MISS RODEO AUSTRALIA

Hi Friends!

Can you believe we have reached August already? Only a couple more months until we're back at the event of the year, the Warwick National Finals Rodeo!

June was a fairly quiet month in the lead up to the Junior National Finals held in Emerald, but the excitement of the Finals sure made up for those rodeo free weeks! I have been attending the Finals for the last 3 years and this year was most certainly one of my favourites as the committee certainly improve the event each and every year. My duties began on the Thursday evening with the Back Number Presentation Dinner with families and sponsors of the event.

I think it is such a special night to acknowledge those competitors who have won titles and also to recognise the families support and the lengths they go to for these kids to reach all their goals. Personally engaging with the sponsors and presenting the competitors alongside them was such a great feeling. All the kids showed gratitude towards them and politely thanked them, which was truly special to see. Our future of rodeo is so bright and I really enjoyed being a part of that moment. Friday was my first big day in the lead up to Round One that night! I was excited to have been invited back to the Comet State Primary School.

They are such a beautiful bunch of kids! They were more than thrilled to create a video with me for the junior finalists.

The first round established the tough competition that would be had over the weekend. It made me immensely proud to watch these competitors perform, some of whom I had the privilege of competing against in 2015 at my first Junior Finals. Shane and Leanne Kenny have worked tirelessly with the Emerald Rodeo Committee and Australian Professional Rodeo Association throughout the years to allow the kids to have more opportunities and events to compete in.

With the addition of Junior Team Roping and Rope and Tie, the rounds were certainly full of excitement and talent!

Saturday was set to be packed with appearances, rodeoing and more. We started the morning with a visit to the Emerald Ag Grow Show to engage with members of the community and bring to their attention the Junior Finals and Rodeo event. It was also a great opportunity to meet with my fabulous



With Miss Rodeo Australia 2018 Runner Up Ashleigh Grant.

sponsors in Haiko and Huna as well as Hitchley and Harrow, who both didn't let me leave empty handed with new release products.

This was a short and sweet trip to allow time to get back to the grounds for the slack events which I needed to compete in. The action did not stop there; the entire day consisted of the last two rounds of the junior finals and CQ Bodyworx Emerald Rodeo. The two busy days all came down to the crowning of the new Junior Australian Champions. I was honoured to be there as they were presented with their new trophy buckles. You can view the winners and full results in the results section of this magazine.



Gorgeous new boots from Corral Boots.



The beautiful Students of Comet State Primary School

The start of July was wonderful with the arrival of my brand new Corral Boots Australia (see pictures below). Four stunning pairs of hand crafted boots to add to my growing collection of outfits! I have never found a boot more comfortable on their first wear and I am excited to see where they will take me!

As this addition goes to print I will be preparing myself for a full on Northern Run of rodeos including Richmond, Hughenden, the well-known Cloncurry Merry Muster Festival and of course the 60th Anniversary Mount Isa Rotary Rodeo!

These two weeks are going to be extremely busy with crowning of Queens and lots of rodeo action.

I would also like to announce this will be my last report as Miss Rodeo Australia. Due to personal reasons and a commitment to my Rookie year, I have made the decision to stand down from my role as Miss Rodeo Australia 2018. This gives MRA Runner-up 2018, Ashleigh Grant, an opportunity to take on the title of Miss Rodeo Australia 2018 and fulfil the role until the crowning of our next Queen in January 2019. I would like to thank everyone who has so generously supported me, my sponsors for allowing me an opportunity to represent them and of course the Australian Professional Rodeo Association for the opportunity to share my love of the sport of professional rodeo. I wish Ashleigh nothing but the best and I can't wait to see where her journey as MRA takes her!

Happy August and Best Wishes,

Dakota Michaelis

Miss Rodeo Australia 2018



Falon Hoare and I – Getting Excited for Round 1 of her first finals!

