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FACT FILE: NCHA FUTURITY

- The Futurity competition is restricted to horses that are only three years of age. This tends to create a lot of excitement and anticipation for owners and trainer to produce the next rising stars into the Cutting industry at a young age. (Similar to the feature 2 & 3 year old Thoroughbred races)
- The Futurity has been staged at many different locations following the first in Moonbi in 1974. These include, Nambour, Moree, Shepparton, Grafton, Goondiwindi, Forbes, Scone, Karalbyn, Dubbo and Cobbitty. In 1988, the event was moved to the Tamworth Showground where it was conducted through to 2007.
- First NCHA Futurity was conducted at Moonbi in 1974. The champion was Gail Ritchie riding Clover Leaf Stud *Clover Kamali*. Mrs Ritchie is the Tamworth Regional Council Project Manager for the Australian Equine Livestock and Events Centre.
- A total of 25 riders competed for a total of \$10,000 in prize money in 1974. A record 530 riders are expected to compete in the 2008 NCHA ANZ Futurity with \$500,000 worth of prizes and trophy.
- 2007 Champion was Graham Amos riding *Giovannis Simpatico* who is owned by John and Jill Farnham from the Chance Lodge training Stables at Goornong in Victoria. The winner's cheque in 2007 was \$50,000.
- The highest money winning horse in the NCHA is the Triple Crown winning mare owned by Mrs. Ralene Higgins called *One Hell of a Spin* with career earnings of \$152,688 in prize money.
- The highest money earning Professional Rider is Todd Graham from Taroom in Queensland who is the first ever Australian rider to exceed \$1 million dollars in prize money currently standing with \$1,082,253.