

Racing – Musselburgh wins an award



Racecourse of the Year Award Makes Hat Trick for Musselburgh

Musselburgh Racecourse has been named Racecourse of the Year in the betting industry's leading awards, making it a hat-trick of awards in the past year. The East Lothian course was voted the top track, pipping York and Haydock courses to the post, in the Betview Awards 2012 which recognises excellence, innovation and creativity across the UK and Irish betting trade.

Musselburgh Racecourse general manager, Bill Farnsworth, said: "Our strategy is to try to add value to the betting industry and for punters as we recognise they are our most important customers. We have done that by introducing a raft of new valuable high-worth races at our New Year's Day meeting, the Easter Festival of Racing and also the Edinburgh Cup meeting which we aim to develop in to a £100,000 race.

"This Betview award acknowledged the hard work put in year in year out by my very supportive team at Musselburgh and confirms that we try wherever possible to put the racegoer and betting industry first.

"I would also like to pay tribute to retiring chairperson of the Musselburgh Joint Racing Committee, Councillor Sheena Richardson, who has made a valuable contribution to the management of the racecourse over the last two years."

Betview judges said Musselburgh prides itself on the experience it gives racegoers and places itself at the heart of the local community. They said: "Great emphasis is also given to their relationship with local bookmakers and they ensure a good working partnership through their on-course betting committee."

Justin O'Regan, editor of Betview magazine, added: "Musselburgh truly represents the best that the betting industry has to offer. The betting sector which continues to provide much-needed economic growth and jobs the length and breadth of the country and we hope that by showcasing this latest crop of outstanding individuals and firms through the Betview Awards, we will help to inspire other people to achieve their own business success."

Musselburgh is the only Scottish racecourse with a VisitScotland 5 Star visitor attraction status and in the last year has also won the Racecourse Association Showcase Award for Operational Excellence and the Neil Wyatt Groundstaff of the Year Award.