

## **Hunter Melanoma Foundation raises more than \$60,000 for those affected by skin cancer at Newcastle Racecourse**

Despite racing being postponed due to poor weather in the lead up, Newcastle Racecourse hosted its charity events for the Hunter Melanoma Foundation (HMF) on Saturday, 24 May 2025, in partnership with Farrelly Construction Services.

The HMF Race Day is a much-loved tradition of the Newcastle Community, and funds raised from the event support critical melanoma research, education programs and support services for local patients.

HMF Executive Officer, Claudia Tolhurst, was ecstatic to announce the event raised more than \$60,000 for the charity.

"The HMF has been dedicated towards aiding the Hunter Melanoma Unit since its inception in 1986, with the goal to assist in the prevention and cure of Melanoma through education, awareness, research, and treatment," Claudia Tolhurst said.

"We're incredibly grateful to the community for coming along, despite what was a tough week for our region, and for the support of Newcastle Racecourse in hosting the event."

Although racing was postponed due to the racecourse track receiving more than 300ml of rain in the week leading up to the event, the sunshine and good vibes came out on the day, with participants taking to the Parade Ring to complete the HMF Cup with inflatable horses to help bring awareness to the cause.

Newcastle Racecourse Chief Executive Officer, Duane Dowell, expressed his pride in the Racecourse team in coming together alongside HMF Foundation Committee members and volunteers to help create the event despite trying conditions in the lead up.

"While it's a shame racing didn't go ahead as planned, the event shows the significant potential Newcastle Racecourse has in providing

its venues as a place for local businesses and charities alike to come together and raise funds and awareness for important local issues," said Duane Dowell.

"Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer affecting Australians, and Newcastle Racecourse is delighted to get behind the Hunter Melanoma Foundation and support this event every year."

Members of the Newcastle Community who would still like to support the HMF can donate via their website at [www.hmf.org.au/donate](http://www.hmf.org.au/donate).



*Media Release*

For further details, or to arrange an interview please contact CEO Duane Dowell or Claudia Tolhurst as below.

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