



With the new racing season now underway, last season's Newcastle Racecourse premierships and special awards have now been confirmed.

Amongst the achievements were the Kris Lees trained Changingoftheguard who took out Horse of the Year honours after his Sydney Cup victory, Lees himself taking out Trainer of the Year with 19 winners on his home track and jockey Keagan Latham again taking out the top Jockey award with 22 winners. The full list is below.

2025-26 NEWCASTLE PREMIERSHIPS

- *HORSE OF THE YEAR:* *CHANGINOFTHEGUARD (Group 1 Sydney Cup Winner)*
- *TRAINER OF THE YEAR:* *KRIS LEES (19 Winners)*
- *JOCKEY OF THE YEAR:* *KEAGAN LATHAM (22 Winners)*
- *APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR:* *WILLIAM STANLEY (11 Winners)*
- *RISING STAR:* *SHANNEN LLEWELLYN (8 Winners at Newcastle and 61 at all tracks)*
- *MAX LEES MEDAL:* *NATHAN DOYLE (11 Winners from 47 Starters at a strike rate of 4.27)*
- *BILL WADE MEDAL:* *DYLAN GIBBONS (13 Winners from 53 Rides at a strike rate of 4.08)*

Note: The Max Lees and Bill Wade Medals are judged on a strike rate with eligibility of a minimum of 40 starters for both medals.

All awards will be presented on Newcastle Cup Day – Friday 18th September.