

by Beth Ellen Hunziker ■ photos by Glenn Jacobs

The creative genius, Walt Disney once said, “All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them.” He was speaking from his own experience. Walt Disney’s inspiration came from the enchanting stories and fairy tales of his childhood. His courage to pursue his dreams turned them into a magical kingdom for millions of people around the world to enjoy.

It was the enchanting beauty and spirit of the Arabian horse that inspired a group of breeders and owners to dream of new ways to celebrate and share their horses. The group came together and formed the Arabian Horse Breeders Alliance. Almost immediately, they decided to organize an event that would be unlike any other in the United States. They hosted open meetings to gather input and support and within a very short time, their dream became a possibility. It required courage, determination and the efforts of many people to make the possibility become a reality – but they did it! In 2007, AHBA hosted the first Arabian Breeders World Cup in Las Vegas, Nevada. Initially, the goal may have seemed ultraistic and even a little unrealistic. People claimed an event like this would never work – not in the United States. Never say never! Today the Arabian Breeders World Cup is “The” premier Arabian horse event in the country and according to some experts – in the world.



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THE 2011 ARABIAN BREEDERS WORLD CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS

**CELEBRATING THE
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY**

**APRIL 14TH-17TH, 2011
OPENING NIGHT GALA
APRIL 14TH, 2011**

The debut of the Arabian Breeders World Cup in 2007 created a lot of excitement as well as a bit of controversy. Most breeders were extremely excited and supportive; still there were a few skeptics. The participants of the first show agreed it was a tremendous success, but the organizers were just getting started. Each year the participants have been surprised and delighted by improvements and innovations. The 2011 Breeders World Cup marks the five-year anniversary and promises even more to love about this exciting, fun-filled, stylish gathering.

The event centers on the competition and one of the most critical components is the judging panel. The judges set the tone for this portion of the event, so the selection committee goes to great efforts to invite judges who they believe will bring integrity and competency to their assignment. The judges for the 2011 World Cup are Richard (Dick) Adams, United States of America; Fabio Amorosino, Brazil; Deb Watson, Australia; Doug Dahmen, United States of America; Konraad Detallieur, Belgium and Dr. Marek Trela, Poland. This highly qualified judging panel follows in the footsteps of the internationally respected breeders and judges of previous years and will have the pleasure of evaluating some of the highest quality Arabian horses in the breed.

Each year has seen marked improvements. The 2010 World Cup introduced the first supreme championships for yearling fillies and colts. All divisions of the supreme championships were expanded to include bronze, silver and gold awards, which were very much appreciated by the participants.

The 2010 ABWC Futurities were a great success with payouts of \$50,475.00 for the

Yearling Filly Futurity and \$46,975.00 for the Yearling Colt Futurity. Projections for 2011 are estimated at over \$34,000.00 for the Yearling Filly Futurity and over \$34,000.00 for the Yearling Colt Futurity.

In 2011, the class schedule will expand again with the addition of Two-Year-Old Futurities. Prize money projections are over \$43,000.00 for the Two-Year-Old Filly Futurity and over \$43,000.00 for the Two-Year-Old Colt Futurity. These new classes provide even more opportunities for breeders and owners to participate and earn big payouts – all of the Futurity classes are exclusively for amateurs to show, which emphasizes and promotes owner involvement.

The horses shown in the ABWC Futurities are the results of breedings purchased through the AHBA Stallion Service Auction. Each stallion is represented by two offspring: the auction horse and the stallion owner's horse. These are the only horses eligible for the ABWC Futurity classes. The 2011 AHBA Stallion Service Online Auction will be held throughout the month of February. The breedings purchased through this online auction are for the 2011 breeding season. The 2011 AHBA Stallion Service Online Auction can be found at the ABWC website: www.arabianbreedersworldcup.com

Many people have commented that they love the way the horses are presented and judged at the ABWC. There has been a tremendous emphasis placed on showing the horses in a more natural manner in order to minimize any stress and thus create the most positive and uplifting experience possible. The stars of this show are definitely the horses. However, the breeders also get to share the spotlight. Each year an award is presented to





the high scoring breeder. An award is also presented to the handler the judges select for their professionalism and the respect they show to their horses, the other handlers and to other participants. These highly coveted awards are given to acknowledge excellence and to encourage respect for all.

The AHBA Breeders World Cup truly is a celebration of the Arabian horse and the 2011 ABWC promises to be the best ever! In an effort to showcase the Arabian horse, locally and globally, the entire event will be live streamed through iEquine.com, making it available to everyone around the world. So, even if you can't attend the AHBA Breeders World Cup Championships in person - you can still watch the competition from the comfort of your own home and see some of the most highly acclaimed show and breeding horses in the world by logging on and watching the live stream of the show at www.iequine.com.

The 2011 ABWC is scheduled for Thursday, April 14th through Sunday, April 17th. For all the details of the 2011 ABWC, as well as results and coverage of past shows, please visit the ABWC website at www.arabianbreedersworldcup.com. □





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