

Tonight's Live Auction

Proceeds

Proceeds of tonight's auction will benefit the purchase of four Defibrillator's/Irish Heart Foundation, the hosting of the Pony Awards, and our National Pony Championships 2023.

Pony Awards and National Pony Championships



Thank you so much to every body in the room tonight for your support and generosity towards our Auction and Raffle. It is through your very kind contributions towards tonights event that makes the running of these Awards and the National Pony Championships possible.

The money raised tonight goes towards funding this awards evening and the balance raised will go towards our National Pony Championships in August 2023. This show is a significant under taking by SJI and the funds raised tonight will go some way towards covering the cost of Prize Money and Prizes in Kind. Each year we strive to develop and grow our National Pony Championships so that every child gets the opportunity to compete at a National level at such a big show. The show caters for all levels of show jumping from beginners up to Premier level.

Not alone is it about competition in the ring but creating life long friends, having fun and creating memories. This year we are hope to continue to expand on activities, prize funds and some new pony training and development schemes.

Purchase of Defibrillators/Irish Heart Foundation



The growth and success of our sport has resulted in both local and national shows growing in size. With this growth comes more members, trading of ponies, selling & buying riding gear, employment, centres expanding and upgrading their facilities etc. We all participate in this growth in one form or another. With our busy and progressive lives we can forget that we also have a responsibility to ensure that our Health & Safety systems and procedures also grow with our demanding life styles. One important item that has come to light is the need for an onsite Defibrillator. Hard to believe that there is no known Equestrian Centre in the country that has one available on site if it were ever needed!

AED's are an expensive piece of equipment, costing over €1200 for one small portable unit with a battery life up to five years. It is our aim here tonight to raise funds to purchase one for each of our 4 Show Jumping Regions and make them available to the Equestrian Centres hosting larger shows throughout the year.

"Your chances of survival rise by 48 per cent once an AED is used on you" Irish Heart Foundation

Modern AEDs are extremely easy to use. They are designed to provide the rescuer with clear step-by-step instructions of exactly what to do throughout the entire resuscitation process. You do not have to be trained to use one and they are compatible to be used on both Adults and Children.

Tonight a small donation will also be made to the Irish Heart Foundation who are working to save lives and heal hearts since 1966. Every year in Ireland almost 9,000 people die from heart disease and stroke, making it one of the nation's biggest killers. And on top of that, hundreds of thousands of people in Ireland are living with a heart condition or the effects of a stroke.

"We want to change that. Because eight out of every 10 premature deaths from heart disease and stroke are preventable". *The Irish Heart Foundation*