



High seas: (from left) Models Asanda Mzondi, Lara Fortman and Phepha Mpanza show off Thula Sindi's jet-set interpretation of this year's "Ride the Wave" theme for Saturday's Hollywoodbets Durban July. | Sean Laurenz / Gold Circle

THE WAVE IS BUILDING



WITH just two days to go until "Africa's Greatest Horseracing Event" and social spectacular, it's nearly time for glamour and glory at the 2024 Hollywoodbets Durban July at Hollywoodbets Greyville Racecourse on Saturday.

It is the first weekend of July – and that means it's time for the thrill of watching the country's top thoroughbreds fighting for the richest prize in South African Grade 1 racing in the 128th running of the Hollywoodbets Durban July. Along with that comes the traditional annual society extravaganza that will attract tens of thousands of fans and fashionistas to see a spectrum of fashion – from the wild and whacky to the wonderfully elegant.

The action jumps out of the starting gates at 11.45am when the on-course racing begins. From then it is non-stop highlights as the 12-race programme is interspersed with fashion and entertainment until long after the final race at 7.40pm.

For those focussed on the form of the highly-trained horses, the day reaches a thrilling peak at 4pm when Race 7, the Hollywoodbets Durban July, sees 18 runners competing over 2 200m for a share of R5-million in South Africa's most prestigious horse race.

For the fashionistas, it is more difficult to pick out a single highlight in a day packed with multiple high points. The Raceday Fashion Award Pre-Judging sets the stage at 11.50am on the Sonic Stage, and there is plenty to see until the final winners in the raceday competitions are announced at 3.10pm.

Followers of high fashion can look forward to a range of interpretations of the official Hollywoodbets Durban July "Ride the Wave" theme in three "professional" shows presented by Durban Fashion Fair. First up will be the 10 finalists in the Young Designer Award at 1.15pm on the Grandstand Celebration Stage and the announcement of the top three student designers. Then it is the turn of the Durban Fashion Fair Rising Stars to show off their designs at 1.50pm; followed by one of the highlights of the day when some of South Africa's best

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS	
11h45	RACE 1 TABGOLD FM 80 HANDICAP – 1400m – R 130 000
11h50	Raceday Fashion Awards Pre-judging [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
12h25	RACE 2 OMODA MR 96 HANDICAP – 1400m – R 140 000
13h00	DStv Live Broadcast begins
13h05	RACE 3 SPLASHOUT 2200 (Grade 3) – 2200m – R300 000
13h15	Young Designer Award Finals [Grandstand Celebration Stage]
13h25	Raceday Fashion Awards: Exceptional Raceday Hat / Fascinator [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
13h40	RACE 4 DStv GOLD VASE (Grade 3) – 3000m – R300 000
13h50	DFF Rising Stars Collection [Grandstand Celebration Stage]
14h05	Raceday Fashion Awards: Classic Racewear Male [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
14h20	RACE 5 ZULU KINGDOM EXPLORER GOLDEN SLIPPER (Grade 2) – 1400m – R500 000
14h32	Invited Designer Showcase [Grandstand Celebration Stage]
14h45	Raceday Fashion Awards: Classic Racewear Female [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
15h00	RACE 6 DURBAN GOLDEN HORSESHOE (Grade 2) – 1400m – R500 000
15h10	Raceday Fashion Awards: Most Striking Couple [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
15h12	The countdown to the 2024 Hollywoodbets Durban July begins
15h17	Jockeys enter the Parade Ring for introduction to the crowds
15h37	Jockeys mount, and horses leave the Parade Ring
15h45	South African National Anthem & Musical Performance. [Grandstand Celebration Stage]
16h00	RACE 7 Hollywoodbets DURBAN JULY (Grade 1) – 2200m – R5 000 000
16h05	Victory canter by the winner of the Hollywoodbets Durban July
	The Hollywoodbets Durban July winner will enter the Gold Horseshoe Winners Enclosure in front of the grandstand and interview
16h10	Mango Groove Performance. [Grandstand Celebration Stage]
	Presentation on track of silver salvers, mementos and the Winners' sashes
17h00	RACE 8 RIDGEMONT GARDEN PROVINCE STAKES (Grade 1) – 1600m – R1 500 000
	Best Dressed Marquee Award [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
17h40	RACE 9 POST MERCHANTS (Grade 2) – 1200m – R500 000
17h45	On-stage Entertainment: Local DJ's [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
18h20	RACE 10 COMPENDIUM INSURANCE BROKERS HANDICAP (Listed) – 1600m – R200 000
18h45	On-stage Entertainment: DJ Performances [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
19h00	RACE 11 BRENTFORD FC PINNACLE STAKES (F & M) – 1200m – R170 000
19h00	Headline DJ Performances presented by Gagasi FM. [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]
19h40	RACE 12 GAGASI FM – MR 90 HANDICAP 1000m – POLYTRACK – R140 000
19h45	Gagasi FM Main Stage Takeover continues. [Sonic Stage – Infield Marquee Village]

LEAD IN OF THE WINNERS FOR ALL RACES WILL BE IN THE GOLD HORSESHOE IN FRONT OF THE MAIN GRANDSTAND PRESENTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE GRANDSTAND CELEBRATION STAGE THE PRESENTATION FOR THE HOLLYWOODBETS DURBAN JULY WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE TRACK

INVITED DESIGNER SHOWCASE



THULA SINDI
 LABEL: THULA SINDI
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 Instagram: @thulasindi
 Website : www.ThulaSindi.com
 TikTok: ThulaSindi



THULA SINDI
 SIMPLICITY INSPIRED SOPHISTICATION

My interpretation of the "Ride the Wave" theme is influenced by the people who literally ride the waves: the yachting jet-set class. So think breezy decadent chiffons in colours of the sea and surf. Sea foam white linen draped across the body. Languid, sophisticated and decadent pieces – perfect for blowing in the wind on the deck of a beautiful boat heading to its next port.

designers display their interpretations in the Invited Designer Showcase at 2.32pm.

The Raceday Fashion Awards are open to anyone with a valid Hollywoodbets Durban July entrance ticket. These competitions offer generous prizes and include the Exceptional Raceday Hat / Fascinator, Classic Racewear for Male and Female, and the always popular Most Striking Couple.

The best dressed marquee award will be presented shortly after the dust has settled on the main race, after which the spotlight turns to music and festivities to

conclude a memorable day.

The countdown to the Hollywoodbets Durban July begins at 3.12pm when the jockeys are introduced in the Parade Ring before making their way past the grandstand for the 4pm start.

Mango Groove will lead the National Anthem prior to the main race and will again take to the stage for the post-race entertainment on the Grandstand Celebration Stage. Various DJ performances will keep the crowd entertained on the Sonic Stage, and then Gagasi FM takes over at 7pm to

start a rollicking evening of music.

Entrance tickets and parking tickets are currently on sale from Ticketpro, at Payzone Kiosks at SPAR stores nationwide, and from the sales kiosk near Gate 9 in Avondale Road at Hollywoodbets Greyville.

On raceday, entrance tickets will be on sale from Gate 9 in Avondale Road, from the Ticket Sales Hut at Gate 15 in Mitchell Crescent, and at the Boomtown entrance off the Red Dot Parking Area. Only a limited number of parking tickets will be on sale on raceday.

Event Theme 2024: **RIDE THE WAVE** #HDJ2024
 AFRICA'S GREATEST HORSERACING EVENT

GRAB YOUR TICKET TO RIDE!

ON SALE NOW!

Entrance R230. Parking R170. Available at Ticketpro, SPAR Payzone Kiosks, and selected Sasol stores.




EVENT THEME 2024: **RIDE THE WAVE**

Calling all FASHIONISTAS

Be part of the raceday fashion buzz at the Hollywoodbets Durban July by entering the **#HDJ 2024 Raceday Fashion Competitions** in one of the four categories below.

Judging will begin at 12h00 near the Sonic Stage in the Infield Marquee Village at Hollywoodbets Greyville Racecourse on Saturday 6 July. Watch this space for further details of the fabulous prizes to be won!

These fashion competitions are open to the public and entrants must have a valid Raceday entrance ticket to enter Hollywoodbets Greyville Racecourse on 6 July.

- ◆ MOST STRIKING COUPLE
- ◆ CLASSIC RACEWEAR MALE
- ◆ CLASSIC RACEWEAR FEMALE
- ◆ EXCEPTIONAL HAT/FASCINATOR

