**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Racebreed Australia supports the 24th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards!**

The Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards provide recognition and encouragement for small business achievements and will be open for small businesses, individuals and organisations in Belmont and from across Western Australia from the 27th of April until 5pm, 26th of September, 2017.

Racebreed Australia will support the WA Racing Industry Award this year and the winner can be located anywhere in the Perth metropolitan area and across regional Western Australia. The Award recognises achievements within the WA Racing Industry.

Proprietor of “Racebreed Australia” magazine since 1998, Marjorie Charleson has previously won three Belmont Small Business Awards herself and sponsored the WA Racing Industry Award since 2009. Ms Charleson was inducted into Belmont Small Business Awards Hall of Fame in 2012.

Ms Charleson was awarded the Australian Centenary Medal 2003 for service to Racing Industry and to the Community. In August this year she was also recognised by racing authority Racing and Wagering WA with the inaugural “Lifetime Achievement Award” at the Annual WA Racing Awards and was recognised in 2016 with an annual race named in her honour titled the “Marjorie Charleson Classic”.

Marjorie Charleson from Racebreed Australia said, “I am passionate about the racing industry and commend the Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards for recognising and rewarding such an important industry in Australia.”

The Awards are co-ordinated by the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (Belmont BEC) which is a not-for-profit community based organisation that was established, in 1994, to assist in the growth and development of small business.

Belmont BEC CEO and Founder of the Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards Carol Hanlon said “The Awards are open to small businesses both within the Belmont area and across the state with 26 categories available for entrants to consider. This is the 24th year we have held our Small Business Awards and it is exciting to see the awards grow each year to provide recognition to those striving for business excellence and acknowledging community achievements”

Potential entrants will be able to access a wide range of support in preparing their submission that includes Free Award Entry Kits, Workshops, Webinars and access to Award Mentors who can assist with tips in preparing award submissions to impress the judging panel.

Winners of this year’s 24th Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2017 ’will be announced at the ‘Night of Stars’ event that will take place in the Ballroom of the Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre on Wednesday, October 25th, 6pm - 8.30pm.

For more information on how to enter the awards and other categories, please contact awards@belmontbec.com or phone: (08) 9479 3777 or visit [www.belmontbec.com/awards](http://www.belmontbec.com/awards)

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