



21 June 2107

For immediate release

REINZ announces National Real Estate Auctioneering Champion for 2017

The Real Estate Institute of New Zealand (REINZ) is delighted to announce that Ned Allison from Harcourts Grenadier in Christchurch is the winner of the 2017 REINZ National Real Estate Auctioneering Championships. Mark McGoldrick from Harcourts Canterbury (Ilam) was the runner up in the senior competition.

This result comes after two days of intense competition held at Auckland's Alexandra Park Function Centre where 21 competitors in the senior heats were part of this annual competition. The major event partners were Property Press and realestate.co.nz.

Tim Snell from Harcourts Cooper & Co East Coast Bays (Auckland, North Shore) led the 18-strong field to take home the Colin Brown Memorial Cup ('Rising Stars') which shows a promising future for auctioneering in New Zealand, and Caleb Griffioen from Gold Real Estate, Christchurch (Parklands) was runner up of the Rising Stars section.

Bindi Norwell, CEO, REINZ says: "Congratulations to Ned Allison for an outstanding performance. This competition is a tough and challenging one that requires high levels of commitment, training, courage and determination in order to succeed in this field.

"This year's Championships were made even more interesting by the fact that we had no reigning champions entering this year, so the competition was anyone's to win," points out Norwell.

Mark Sumich, Chief Judge, commented: "The Championships showcase the best auctioneering talent available in New Zealand as our senior callers are at the coalface of our industry and continue to be the voices most heard on the streets and in the auction rooms around the country. They have developed into internationally acclaimed orators who really are showcasing this time honoured trade with innovation, humour and skill. This annual test of their attributes is acknowledged as one of the toughest calls they will face.

"Judging was extremely close and in the end, there was only one point between our winner, Ned and the runner up, Mark. As is always the case with this competition timing, engagement with the crowd and bidders and ultimately salesmanship is what makes a great auctioneer," concludes Sumich.

Today's winner and runner up will both represent New Zealand at the Australasian Auctioneering Championships held in Adelaide in September.

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For further information, and high res images, please contact Dee Crooks, Communications/PR Manager at REINZ, on 09 356 1753 or 021 953 308.