



# NEWSLETTER

Vol 308 January 2024

## It's a wrap!

Another year has flown by and the new racing year is here. Let's recap on some numbers.

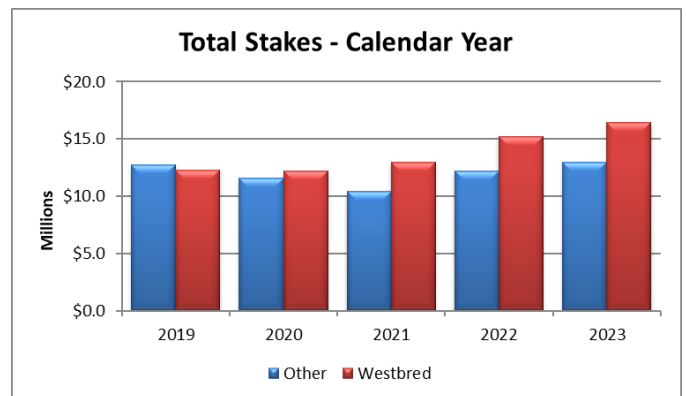
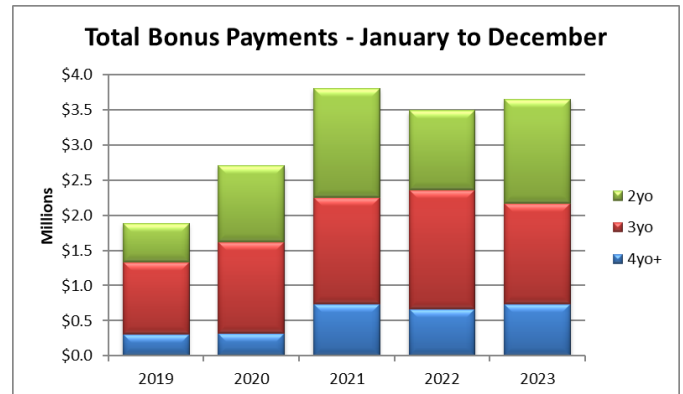
Westbred Bonuses – our calculations are \$3.65 million for the year after a good finish in December.

The benefits of the bonuses can be seen in 3yo filly **Halle Hunter (Huntsville USA)** who commenced racing in December 2023 and after such a late start to her career she still earned \$17,000 on top of her \$22,000 in stakes for a tidy sum of \$40,000 for the month. Filly **Fly To Fame (Follow The Stars)** won bonuses of \$35,000 as a 2yo and another \$30,000 in 2023, adding to her \$108,000 in stakes.

For more information on the bonuses, click [here](#)

All Westbred progeny earn Bonuses in 2YO and 3YO races less than \$22,000, for first to 4th place AND receive \$500 on their first race start. Westsired progeny can earn more, with a double win Bonus of \$5,100 to \$10,200, depending on the stakes tier, on all 2yo and 3yo races under \$22,000. Horses older than 3yo winning their first career start also earn the full Westbred Bonus relevant to the stakes tier. **Breeders, owners, trainers and drivers all earn a share of Westbred Bonuses!**

On top of the Bonus money, Westbreds also earned close to \$16.5 million in stakes. For the fourth year in a row, the number of individual Westbred winners (614) and percentage of races won by Westbreds (61.4%) increased!



## APG WA Sale Sunday 3 March – Got your Catalogue?

If you need a catalogue but don't have one, check with your local club or contact WASBA and we will inquire for you. They should be available at the main clubs Gloucester Park, Bunbury, Pinjarra and at Byford trials.

Updated information on each Lot is on the APG website [here](#). You can also check out details about each of the sires represented in all the APG Sales in a very handy online reference, [Sires here](#), including all lot numbers.

All yearlings entered in the WA Sale are Westbred Bonus eligible. There is no payment required to be eligible for Westbred Bonuses. Some yearlings are Westsired – double Westbred win bonus eligible. A selection of yearlings are also eligible for other schemes, but you will need to check with the relevant state for the details.

The catalogue includes something for everyone, with ALL the top sires represented along with some fantastic new sires. There are also some exceptional female lines that have proved to be very successful, along with sons and daughters of Group 1 winners and half sisters and brothers to Group 1 winners.

Each year in WA there is over \$1 million in feature races for 2yos and 3yos along with standard races AND Westbred and First Win Bonuses! You can always contact one of the local trainers and ask them to check out a yearling or two on your behalf. **Only yearlings purchased from the WA Sale are eligible, if sustained, for the 2025 \$125,000 2YO Finals and 2026 \$100,000 3YO Finals.**

As part of the Yearling Sale promotion, KTC Bloodstock will have their annual Yearling Parade at their Hopeland property on Sunday 25 February. And keep an eye on The Trots WA Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheTrotsWA> for events coming up and other giveaways!

If you are interested in becoming an owner, or want to add to your numbers, or just want to join in the fun of racing (or know someone who does) and the close involvement that harness offers, check the catalogue, speak to vendors, or contact WASBA. Don't forget you need to register to bid – go to the APG registration page [here](#).



Jocelyn Young with Sales graduate and WA Oaks winner Has No Fear

## Finishing off the breeding year.

Don't forget to claim your Epona Credits (after payment of your service fee invoice) if your mare has any. If you are a WASBA member, remember to claim your discount from the supporting studs or use your \$500 Stallion Service Voucher if you were a lucky winner!

You can check out the [Epona Credits here](#). The Epona claim form is [here](#).

If you haven't paid your (\$20 Ordinary or \$30 Family) membership (or are unsure about your status, please call **0418 207 079** (Howard) or **0447 053 040** (Jeanine). You can pay by credit card or direct deposit (WASBA Westpac account BSB 036 043 account 129810) using your surname as a reference. You can also complete an online membership form and pay securely by credit card (have your credit card handy when you submit your form).

## 2YO, 3YO, MARES and WESTBRED OPPORTUNITIES

2YO	The APG 2YO Sales Classic Heats are on 20 Feb, with the \$125,000 Finals on 1 March
3YO	1 March - The \$50,000 APG 3YO Sales Classic Finals
Mares	9 February - \$50,000 Laurie Kennedy Fillies and Mares
	16 February - \$30,000 Fillies and Mares Restricted Summer Series (HWOE <\$70,000)
	8 March - \$50,000 The Lombardo Fillies and Mares
Westbred	2 February - \$21,000 4YO Westbred Pace



## The WASBA Breeding Awards and APG night 1 March

IS ON! We expect no less than another great night for our WASBA and APG guests (including Award winning vendors, other award winners and major vendors, and other invited guests) on Friday 1 March.

If you are planning on buying a yearling at the 2024 WA APG Sale, send us a line at [info@wasba.com.au](mailto:info@wasba.com.au) or call 0447 053 040 and we will add you to the guest list if we have a free spot. You will be able to ask some of the vendors about the yearlings on offer and just generally chat with our successful breeders and vendors.

Award winners for the 2YO, 3YO male and filly of the year, aged horse/gelding and mare of the year, breeder of the year, broodmare of the year and all our 12 breeder of the month winners are automatic invites. Open Group 1 Westbred winners (and there are three) will also win a trophy and \$500 service fee voucher for their breeder.

This is a night to celebrate our best breeders and our best horses and to look for our next exciting crop of youngers on offer in the WA Sale on the following Sunday.

Invitations will go out shortly. If you are expecting an invite but don't get one, please call or text 0447 053 040.

## 2023 leading Australian Pacing sires

Leading the Australian sires list for 2023 was Bettors Delight USA for his twelfth title.

Overall Sires	Winners	Winners to Starters	Aust \$	Major Earner
BETTORS DELIGHT USA	346	67%	\$13,428,458	Leap To Fame
ART MAJOR USA	340	65%	\$9,725,470	Amore Vita NZ
CAPTAIN TREA CHEROUS USA	131	70%	\$8,186,269	Encipher
SWEET LOU USA	206	66%	\$7,417,486	Spirit Of St Louis NZ
AMERICAN IDEAL USA	226	72%	\$6,518,122	Magnificent Storm NZ

Except for the spoiler from a great effort by **Huntsville USA** finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> on the 3YO Sires list (based on dollars won in Australia) the leading 5 stallions in the 2YO, 3YO and Overall list in various order were the above stallions. Sweet Lou USA led the 3YO list and Art Major USA led the 2YO list. Young sire Vincent was 6<sup>th</sup> on the 2YO list and 7<sup>th</sup> on the 3YO list, a pretty good effort. You can view the detailed 2023 lists on HRAs website [here](#).

Lazarus NZ led the first crop sire list with 50% of his crop winning. On dollars earned per starter, the deceased My Hard Copy NZ led with an average of \$33,000 per starter.

## Snippets from the USA and Canada..

☑ The Harness Racing Museum & Hall of Fame’s Living Horse Hall of Fame have been announced. There was a great line up of nominations, with 2 trotters and 2 pacers to be inducted at a ceremony in July. Inductees are 2020 Trotter of the Year and world champion **Gimpanzee**; the fastest 2yo trotter in history, world champion filly **Mission Brief** (her 1:50.3 world record still stands, as does her 16 length victory), 2015 Dan Patch Horse of the Year and world champion **Wiggle It Jiggleit (Mr Wiggles)** – the 6<sup>th</sup> richest standardbred of all time, and 2020 Horse of the Year, Pacer of the Year and 3YO Pacer of the Year **Tall Dark Stranger (Bettors Delight)** - the only horse to win the Metro Pace and Breeders Crown at 2, and the North America Cup and Meadowlands Pace at 3. This is just a fraction of the accolades of these horses. Those that missed out (including Ariana G, Pure Country, and our “own” Shartin NZ) were also deserving but only the top 4 scorers are inducted each time.

☑ Foals are just starting to arrive in the northern hemisphere. This is what racing and breeding looks like in some parts of the US and Canadian scene!



☑ Winning for the 13th time in the 2023 season was then 7yo mare **So Much More (Big Jim)**. It was win number 70 and career earnings of nearly \$1.6 million. Not quite there in the stakes but earning a retirement ceremony of her own in a race named after her, 7yo mare **Dreamfair Zenfire (Sunfire Blue Chip)** won her 8th race for the season and 57th lifetime for career stakes of \$210,000, Dreamfair Zenfire was Canada’s winningest horse in 2021. The older girls get lots of opportunity in the US and Canada and in Europe they are a prized possession. The 2024 \$1.2 million Group 1 Prix de Cornulier was won by 10yo mare **Esperanza Idole (Quido du Goutier)** and she was the 4<sup>th</sup> 10yo mare to win the race in the last 10 years.

☑ Standing in Ireland, **Foreclosure NZ** is producing winners across the globe. His first crop was US based but a number of his Irish born progeny have made it to the US, with his latest international winner being **The Gypsy Queen IR** who extended her winning streak to 5 in mid January, winning the feature at Hollywood Casino at The Meadows in 1:54.4.

☑ The Dan Patch Awards are out and no real surprises here with 3YO Male Pacer going to champion **Confederate (Sweet Lou)**, and **Sylvia Hanover (Always B Miki)** was named 3YO Filly Pacer, to go with her 2YO award. **Bythemissal (Downbytheseaside)** was named Older Male of the Year and **Grace Hill (Always B Miki)** Older Female of the Year. Winners in the 2yo divisions were the filly **Geocentric (Sweet Lou)** the winner of 9 of her 10 starts, and a slight surprise pick for male in **Captain Albano (Captaintreacherous)**. **Sweet Lou** and **Tactical Landing** were named the inaugural Sire of the Year winners (with only two crops of racing age, Tactical Landing was the sire of 2YO and 3YO Trotting Male of the Year in Karl and Tactical Approach).

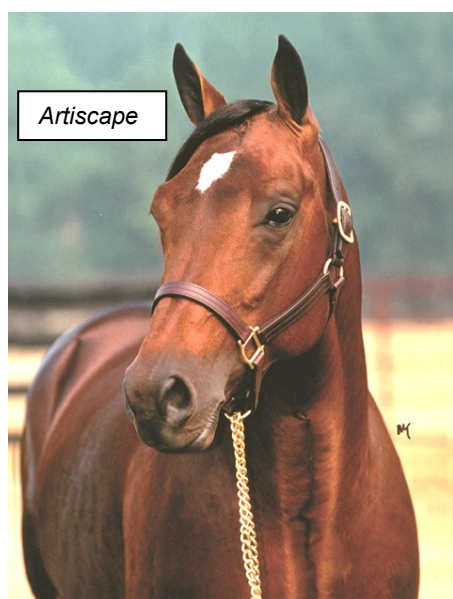


Pacing Broodmare of the Year was a closer contest and went to **Lucy's Pearl (Well Said)** who was the dam of 2yo filly **My Girl EJ (Sweet Lou)** 1:49.1 \$698,397 the fastest 2yo in 2023 and the only one to beat Geocentric. Lucys Pearl is also the dam of 2022 Little Brown Jug winner **Lou's Pearlman (Sweet Lou)** who won over \$300,000 in 2023 to give him a lifetime tally of \$1,242,987

☑ Ohio Horse of the Year winners included 2yo filly **McSeaside (Downbytheseaside)**, who followed up her 2YO Filly Pacer of the Year title with 3YO Filly of the Year in 2023 and earnings of \$299,000 in 2023. Dominating in the aged category was another consecutive year winner in **Bythemissal**, who was named 2023 Aged Pacer of the Year and 2023 Horse of the Year. Bythemissal won 11 of 16 starts for the season including the Breeders Crown and earned \$986,000 for the season. Rounding out the awards for her sire was 2YO Filly of the Year **Seaside Diva (Downbytheseaside)**. She had 4 wins and \$240,000 but her biggest credit was probably getting back to the racetrack after a significant paddock injury mid season.

**Clever Cody (The Panderosa)** won 6 of 10 and \$383,000 in 2023 to be named Ohio 2-Year-Old Pacing Colt of the Year, with most of his earning coming from the lucrative state sires series. Ohio 3YO Pacing Colt of the Year was **Wicked Character (Yankee Cruiser)** with \$230,000 for the season,

☑ Book Closed signs are up in the US for **Sweet Lou** as well as his son **Lous Pearlman**. Meanwhile **Pebble Beach** will stand in Ohio alongside his sire **Downbytheseaside**. The State Sires series races in some states are very lucrative for owners and stallion owners are now looking to make the most of what is on offer.



☑ The grand old sire **Artiscape** (grandsire of Sweet Lou) has been retired from service but will stay just where he is in his retirement. Potentially the saviour of the Adios line, Artiscape is also featured in the dam lines of Captain Crunch, Sylvia Hanover and other millionaires who should carry forward his name.

☑ Entering the stallion ranks this year is **Tattoo Artist (Hes Watching)** 1:47.2 who finished second on the 2023 earnings list with nearly \$961,000. On top was Bythemissal with \$985,000 in season earnings.

☑ Great to own - the very handy 6yo gelding **Shark Week (Vertical Horizon)** started the new season with a win, making it his 16th consecutive win for close to \$350,000 in career stakes. Mid year, Shark Week was the first horse to break the 1:50 barrier in Western Canada,

☑ **Captaintreacheros**, **Sweet Lou** and evergreen **Bettors Delight** were top of the 2yo Sires List (earnings) for 2023, then **Stay Hungry** and **Huntsville**. Leading first crop sires were **Captain Crunch** (62 starters \$1.3 million) **Bettors Wish** (25 starters \$1.2 million and **Lather Up** (55 starters, \$860,000) The 3YO list was slightly different with **Sweet Lou** leading from **Captaintreacheros**, followed by **Downbytheseaside**, **Stay Hungry** and **Huntsville**. The leader for Overall Sires was of course **Bettors Delight**, with **Sweet Lou** next then **Captaintreacheros**, **American Ideal** and **Somebeachsomewhere**. The next group of stallions – **Always B Miki**, **Huntsville** and **Downbytheseaside** – did well with much lower crop numbers.

☑ Canada will have its 3<sup>rd</sup> million dollar race this year with the Metro Pace for 2yos joining the Pepsi North American Cup and Mohawk Million. Previous winners of the Metro have included **Somebeachsomewhere** and son **Captaintreacheros**, **Artsplace**, **Presidential Ball** and **Rocknroll Hanover**. Nominations close on 15 Feb

☑ The USTA District 7 (Pennsylvania) meeting including the Pennsylvania Harness Horsemen's Association, the Meadows Standardbred Owners Association, and the Pennsylvania Fair Harness Horsemen's Association met to discuss prospective rule changes to the USTA bylaws, with approximately one third of the proposals being accepted to take forward for final consideration. While attendees were gathered, the top performers from the 2023 Pennsylvania fair season were recognized with annual awards. Points are awarded at many of the Fair meetings as qualifying races to count towards participation in a premier race with high stakes. Both great ideas to award participants across the country!. Love the consultative approach too!

☑ The figures are in and the Meadowlands had a standout year, averaging more than \$3 million in handle over the 89 meetings held at the track in 2023. Handle on Meadowlands Pace night was \$5.6 million and Hambletonian night produced a season high of \$7.8 million. Yannick Gingras and Ron Burke topped the driver and trainer standings respectively. Nationally superman Burke recorded 1,158 wins and \$27.5 million in earnings by his horses.

Aligning with that was an over 50% increase in handle for Batavia Downs, with their on-track (people on course) handle also increasing. Food for thought.

## And elsewhere...

☑ A bit of a find would have to be 8yo gelding **Kanena Provlima (A Rocknroll Dance USA)**, who got into the 2023 Inter Dominion series ranked 24<sup>th</sup> with only \$170,000 in earnings, got through to the \$530,000 Final in December and just 3 starts later is the winner of the \$100,000 Ballarat Cup. Not a bad field to beat either, with \$900,000 earner Mach Dan, \$700,000 earner Hurricane Harley, \$520,000 earner Bulletproof Boy and to top it all off, Chariots of Fire and Miracle Mile winner Catch A Wave – resuming after a 9 week absence – all behind him. Goes to show it can be done.

At time of writing, Emma Stewart is still the trainer of Act Now, Encipher, Hurricane Harley, Ladies In Red, Mach Dan and The Lost Storm, with stewards rejecting a transfer to Clayton Tonkin as trainer. Emma has appealed a stewards ruling and was granted a stay of proceedings until the appeal is heard by the Victorian Racing Tribunal. Encipher will be first up in the \$75,000 Ladyship Cup at Melton on 27 January.

☑ On the Ballarat program **Just Believe (Orlando Vici FRA)** won his 6<sup>th</sup> in a row (in this part of the world) in the \$50,000 Knight Pistol, bringing up his 16<sup>th</sup> win from his last 21 starts, with the other 5 starts being placings. A mighty impressive resume, adding to his consecutive Inter Dominion Trotters Championship wins. He ran 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 2021 Inter Dominion, and has a chance to win his third Inter Dominion this season. Running second in the Knight Pistol was recently imported French stallion Callmethe breeze FRA (Trixtion USA), a good effort first up.

☑ Two first crop sires are on the winners list – **The Storm Inside** (Rocknroll Hanover out of Spirited Storm USA by Artsplace USA) has a 2yo winner from his first crop. Meanwhile **Lazarus NZ** (Bettors Delight USA) and **Mel Mara USA** (Lis Mara USA), whose oldest crops are 3yo, also had their first 3yo winners.

☑ The 2023 Inter Dominion Finals didn't produce any surprises but that did not detract from the series nor the super performances of the winners **Leap To Fame (Bettors Delight USA)** and **Just Believe**. A brilliantly run series by Queensland. Now lets get the series up to a million and back on rotation.

Leap To Fame returned to racing with a win on 20 January at Albion Park and steps out again on Saturday as his final warm up before the Hunter Cup. That might be another warm up for a start in the \$1m Race by Grins at Cambridge on 12 April, with talks well advanced with Slot holders.

☑ Adding another Cup to his cabinet is 8yo stallion **Max Delight (Bettors Delight USA)** who followed up his \$60,000 Cherry City Cup win at Young with a win 2 starts later in the \$75,000 Bendigo Cup. A winner of the 2021 Victoria Cup and 2019 NSW Derby and with \$940,000 in earnings, Max Delight should still top the \$1 million this year. He is out of 5 times Group 1 winner **Lady Euthenia (Art Major USA)** 1:53.3 \$461,285 who is also the dam of 2022 2YO and 2023 3YO Breeders Crown winner **Major Delight**. Unfortunately Max Delight suffered from Atrial Fibrillation in the Shepparton Cup at his next start and may not get to the remaining Carnival of Cups races at Tamworth, Albury and Goulbourn for a chance at the bonus money for winning 3 cups.



☑ WA is now the new home for 2023 NZ Oaks winner **Aardiebytheseaside (Downbytheseaside USA)**, having being purchased by the Greg and Skye Bond stable. One race she cant run in is the upcoming \$100,000 4YO Westbred Mares Classic

☑ Brilliant NZ 4yo **Don't Stop Dreaming NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** has arrived in Australia and is hoping to add to his half a million in career stakes. He will have his first start at Melton (drawing inside the back line behind Better Eclipse in the \$50,000 Casey Classic) in the hope of scoring a start in the \$450,000 Hunter Cup on 3 February.

☑ The Kiwis have another Slot race coming, this time for thoroughbreds, starting at \$3.5m in its first year, rising to \$4.5m in 2027. Named the NZ Kiwi it will include \$1 million in bonuses if the winner has also won a one of the lead up races. The race will be restricted to 3yos either bred in New Zealand or sold at a New Zealand Bloodstock sale. Always looking for good ideas, the Kiwis are dividing up the Slots with some being auctioned and some restricted to regional groups. Excellent idea!

The harness Slot races will be at Cambridge on April 12, with the \$1m Race by Grins for the pacers and the \$575,000 TAB Slot Trot. New Zealand owned **Queen Elida** has been booked to start for Slot holder TAB NZ.

☑ Assuming all measurements are correct, its very impressive when a newly resurfaced track results in 5 track records at its first meet on the new surface – the Gore track in New Zealand produced those results, emphasising how important the track surface and maintenance is to the industry.

## Prix d'Amérique Legend Race

One of the iconic trotting races of the world, the **Prix d'Amérique Legend Race** is just around the corner with 10 of the 18 horse field now finalised through qualifying races. Scheduled for 28 January it will see the best Europe has to offer.

Just last year in August, dual Prix d'Amérique winner **Ready Cash** died at the relatively young age of 18. He has left some exceptional race horses and sires including **Bold Eagle** (sire of new world record holder **Jushua Tree** (a non starter in the Prix d'Amérique), **Bird Parker** (to be represented by Izoard Vedaquais and Hussard du Landret) and **Brilliantissime** (represented by Hokkaido Jiel).

These races are always spectacularly presented with the glamour, prestige, fanfare and enormous crowds you expect for such a historic race. The race is worth roughly \$1.5 million in Australian dollars but that isn't important to anyone in Europe – its all about the race, the honour,



the courage and what it really means to compete in this race, created in honour of the American soldiers who defended Europe in World War 1 and the magnificent horses who contributed to the war time efforts and even after. No one talks about the money, just the race. Joviality (Chapter Seven) and Vivid Wise As (Yankee Glide) are likely starters in the 18 although they didn't come through in the top 12, while Jushua Tree is aiming for the Group 1 Prix Bold Eagle the day before.

The pre race and post race presentations really recognize horses and owners, so if you have the opportunity, try to watch this European spectacle. The race start is stunning.

## Simply Sensational

Everyone (probably) knows the exploits of **Shartin NZ (Tintin In America NZ)** who qualified to race in New Zealand but had her first race start in Australia as a 3yo in January 2017. At the end of her Australian racing career she had won \$105,000 including wins in the Tasmanian and Queensland Oaks, before being exported to the US in November 2017.

Incredibly, Shartin went on to be the 2019 USA Dan Patch Harness Horse of the Year and when retired, was the fastest pacing mare in history. In a phenomenal northern hemisphere career, the world champion mare won 46 of her 68 lifetime starts and \$2,667,563 in stakes, taking a world record lifetime mark of 1:46.4. She went 1:50 or better on 20 occasions.

You could say that her sale to race in the US gave her the opportunity to achieve on the world stage. Lets hope that applies to WA Oaks winner August Moon and some of our other mares.

Shartin's US exploits also gave her the opportunity to achieve greatness as a broodmare. Her first foal, a Captainteacherous filly, sold last year to Tony Alagna for \$140,000 at the Lexington Select Sale.

It brings to mind other top class mares that have gone to the US, with one of those being champion juvenile and race mare **Sensational Gabby (Yankee Sensation USA)**. Sensational Gabby won over \$700,000 in WA before being exported to the northern hemisphere. She won 21 of her first 23 starts as a juvenile. Her tractability wasn't always there as a race mare but she won the Empress Stakes twice, the Norms Daughter Classic, Mount Eden Sprint, Members Sprint, Stratton Cup and others. If she had raced now she would have earned over \$1 million.

In the northern hemisphere she raced another 33 times, for an additional 8 wins, finishing with lifetime stakes of just under \$792,000. Unfashionably bred and without the accolades that go with great wins, her future was questionable.

However, to the credit of her connections, she is carving out a career as a broodmare. **Y S Sensationalcity**, her first foal by relatively unknown but successful sire **Keystone Velocity** 1:47.3 \$1,644,413, was one of the top 3yo fillies racing at the Hippodrome in Canada in 2023. Coming into a 4yo racing season she has a record of 10 wins, 11 places from 30 starts, having set a new track record for 3yo fillies on the half mile Hippodrome track, breaking a 27 year record. Sensational Gabby has a 2yo Always B Miki colt who could step out in 2024.



Lets hope all our northern hemisphere based mares get the right chances, both racing and breeding.

## Busselton Sweetheart Series

What a ripper of a series and a fantastic 5 nights of racing at Busselton. The Busselton Committee works extremely hard to make for a wonderfully entertaining night out with exciting “on your toes” racing, great food and a wonderfully presented spectacle.

The Anniversary Cup, other major races including trophies and the Busselton Cup were all exciting events but of course our main interest is the Esplanade Hotel Sweetheart Series. So close this year – in fact it took quite some time to split the two leading mares who both scored the same points. Credit to trainers, drivers and connections for making it a great series, with the eventual Busselton Sweetheart winner being the Chris Feast trained Motor On Lilly who started from 50m in the final round and ran 4<sup>th</sup>.



Finishing one place in front of her was the Logan Egerton-Green trained Cheap Thrillz, who started from 40m in a competitively run final round. Both mares finished on the same points and a countback separated the two to determine Busselton’s Sweetheart winner. As the Club pays bonuses down to 10<sup>th</sup> for the Sweetheart Series, 9 other mares all benefited.

For WASBA, who was providing the Leading Point Scoring Westbred Mare with a \$500 Epona type voucher as well as \$500 to her connections, it was pretty simple – there were two leading point scoring mares so two winners!. And the random draw went to Miss Laurel Lea’s connections.

If your mare has previously won a Sweetheart Series, she may still have WASBA Epona credits. Check with us.

Thanks to PacePix for the great social media output and photos of all the winners! – don’t forget to buy yours!

## RECENT MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- ♣ For the RWWA hot weather policy, [click here](#)
- ♣ You just have to watch the HRNSW Strategic Plan promotion on YouTube. Mouth wateringly positive and supportive. Go to the [link here](#)



## BREEDER OF THE MONTH – December 2023

The Breeder of the Month award goes to a different WA bred horse each month. Previous (horse) winners are not eligible for later WA Breeder of the Month awards. You must be a WASBA member to win a Breeder of the Month Award. All other breeding awards are open to all WA breeders.

Our breeder of the month has continued to breed from one of the very successful families brought to WA by the late Bob Humphries of Trunkey Standardbreds. **Congratulations to Steve Johnson**, our final **Breeder of the Month** for **2023**, for the efforts of 4yo mare **Sovrana (Betting Line USA)** out of Chemical Romance by **Northern Luck USA** who followed an earlier win at Bunbury with a win two starts later in the \$30,000 The Coulson Fillies and Mares. Her earnings to date are \$1148,000 from 9 wins and 13 places, as well as \$25,000 in bonuses.

Sovrana was a \$30,000 WA Yearling Sale purchase but was unfortunate enough to meet Wonderful To Fly in her juvenile years. Nevertheless she did well as a 2yo and 3yo, winning \$113,000 in those 2 years including the Group 2 \$50,000 Daintys Daughter 3YO Fillies Classic. An underperforming campaign early in 2023 saw her out for a spell before coming back to racing as a late 4yo in November after an 18 week absence. Two wins and two seconds from 6 starts, including the \$30,000 Coulson win was reward for her connections.



Sovrana is one of 7 winners from her dam Chemical Romance, with other winners including standouts like Group 1 winner **Bettor Reward (Bettors Delight USA)** 1:52.7 \$244,065, **Destined To Rule (Shadow Play USA)** 1:57.5 \$229,787, **Bettor Romance (Bettors Delight USA)** 1:54.6 \$100,431 and **Bettors Destroya (Bettors Delight USA)** \$1:56.2 \$79,700. Chemical Romance was a non-winning daughter of champion mare **Ferrari Trunkey (Tarcoola Frost)** 1:56.6 \$267,527 who was the winner of the WA Oaks, WASBA Breeders Stakes, Silver Bracelet and other Group races amongst her 22 wins. Ferrari Trunkey produced 8 winners including WA Derby winner **Trunkey Maseratti (Wellwood Hanover USA)** 1:56.4 \$273,457 and **Corniche Trunkey (Wellwood Hanover USA)**, dam of the WA Oaks heat winner Fluent Style and the WA Sales Classic 3YO winner Ima High Rolla (Kinney Hanover USA), who, in turn, is the dam of the Group 1 winner **Lady Jadore (Tintin In America NZ)** 1:57.1 (\$112,265). The family has quite a number of prominent winners in WA.



**Celevale Trunkey (Massie USA)**, the dam of Ferrari Trunkey, produced 9 winners and is out of **Cele (U Scott)** a NZ bred mare who was good enough to compete in the 1963 Inter Dominion against Cardigan Bay. A race fall at the top of the Wayville straight resulted in Cele carrying two drivers across the line, one of them catapulted from Smokey Eric.

Congratulations to **Sovrana**, her connections and breeder Steve Johnson.

## WINNERS - WA BASED SIREs DECEMBER 2023

For the last month of the season there were 35 winners of 42 races, with Follow The Stars achieving 14 wins of 17 races. Fly Like An Eagle was next with 9 winners of 9 races.

The 2023 season produced 205 individual Westsired winners of 399 races. The leading WA based sires were:

WA based Sire	WA Winners	WA Wins
<b>Follow The Stars</b>	61	119
<b>Fly Like An Eagle</b>	41	95
<b>Renaissance Man</b>	22	41

There were 5 dual winners for the month, with **Zachary Marc** (Renaissance Man) and **Ambitsiya** (Advance Attack NZ) following up their first career win last month with 2 wins each in December. Other dual winning Westsired progeny were **Flashing Ark** (Follow The Stars), **Adda Spoilt Major** (Rich And Spoilt) and **Ubeen Thundastruck** (Rock N Roll World USA). With 3 wins for the month was **Galaxy Warrior** (Follow The Stars).

For the final month of the season there were 8 First Time winners – 2yo **My Grand Angus** (Rock N Roll World USA), 3yos **Constellationjewel**, **Queen Of Stars** and **Your Grace** (all Follow The Stars), **Jacky Darling** (Fly Like An Eagle), 4yos **Star of Kaos** (Follow The Stars) and **Alta Express** (Alta Christiano NZ), and 5yo **Sanford Ash** (Yankee Sensation USA). There were also 7 first time starters collecting \$500 each for their owners.

Congratulations to all first time starters and first time winners.

Westsired progeny received \$174,000 in Westbred, First Win and First Start Bonuses in December 2023 for a season tally of \$1.62 million, and season stakes of \$4.6 million.



There were 4 metropolitan level Westsired winners (2 included under fillies and mares) in December, as well as the winner of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cup at Busselton. What a great round!



- ♣ 6yo **Adda Spoilt Major** – **Rich And Spoilt** o/o **Arconite NZ (Art Major USA)**, breeder Harry Capararo. Close to \$100,000 in earnings. Resumed after a short letup with a midweek win and place earlier in the month. 4th start back started 2nd favourite from 1, fast enough out to keep the lead with a bit of urging before steadying the pace, slow 1st qtr, even time 2nd qtr, stepped up the pace down the back, challenged but no real threat at the 400m, a length clear into the straight, a brief moment of panic but withstood a late challenge to win the \$21,000 Pace by 2.7m in 1:58.2, solid final qtrs 28.4 and 28.2; and

Adda Spoilt Major returning to scale



- ♣ 4yo **Flying Rumour** – **Fly Like An Eagle** o/o **Stage Whisper (Armbro Operative USA)**, breeder owner Kim Marsh. Having a good season after resuming with a flourish in November. Two midweek wins in November while leading, before an unplaced run. Then started favourite from 2 after a scratching, very fast out to lead comfortably before easing the pace, around even time first half, skipped a length clear in the back, nearly 3 lengths clear at the 400m, raced away to the turn, coasting to the line to win the \$21,000 Pace by 7.6m in 1:56.6, last qtrs 28.1 and 28.4.

## WESTBRED WINNERS – DECEMBER 2023

There were 106 individual Westbred winners in December, winning 128 races – 68.8% of the 186 races run. In percentage terms it's the second highest figure for the last 10 years. For the 2023 season there were 614 individual Westbred winners. Both the monthly result and the 2023 result were an improvement on the 2022 results.

There were 39 sires represented by winning Westbreds in December 2023, with **Sweet Lou USA** on top (7 winners, 10 wins) followed by **Foreclosure NZ** (6 winners 6 wins) and **Sportswriter USA** (5 winners, 6 wins).

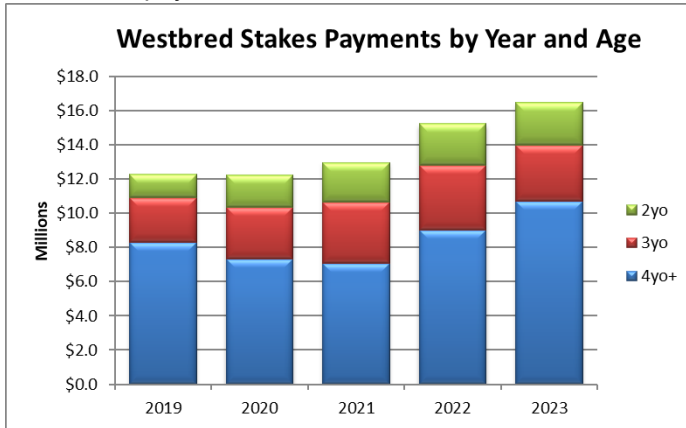
For Westbred progeny by sires standing outside WA, **American Ideal USA** (26 winners, 74 races) and **Sweet Lou USA** (25 winners, 67 races) were well clear of other living stallions.

For the 2023 season and including imported horses, leading overall sire was **Bettors Delight USA** (197 wins), **American Ideal USA** (151), **Follow The Stars** (from his WA crops) was equal 3<sup>rd</sup> with **Sweet Lou USA** (119 wins) and **Art Major USA** in 5<sup>th</sup> (100 wins). Leading 2YO sire was **American Ideal USA**, followed by Rock N Roll World USA and Sweet Lou USA. Leading 3YO sire was **Sweet Lou USA** followed by Captaintreachorous USA and local sires Follow The Stars (from his WA crop) and Fly Like An Eagle. Quite an impressive effort from the local sires.

A good month for first time winners, with 10 Westbred in addition to the 8 Westsired. Excluding Westsired, the sires represented were Alta Christiano NZ (2yo **Alta Maguire**), American Ideal USA (2yo **Coopers Ideal**), Always B Miki USA (2yo **Miki Made Monty**), Foreclosure NZ (3yo **Infringementnotice**), Huntsville USA (3yo **Halle Hunter**), Sportswriter USA (3yo **Trigwell Road**), Sunshine Beach USA (4yos **Dream Walker** and **The Beach Master**) and Sweet Lou USA (2yo **Luci Kane**, 3yo **Ciao Babe**).

Additional to the Westsired multiple winners there were 14 multiple Westbred winners in the month, by sires Alta Christiano NZ (**Alta Maguire**), Auckland Reactor NZ (**Gold Horseshoe**), Betting Line USA (**Sovrana**), Bettors Delight USA (**Hilarious Reign**), Captaintreachorous USA (**Beach Captain**), Control The Moment USA (**Crowd Control**), Mach Three CA (**Machnificent**), Roll With Joe USA (**Lavra Joe** and **Rumour Has It**), Sportswriter USA (**Artistic Scribe**) and Sweet Lou USA (**Ciao Babe**, **Loucid Dreams** and **Luci Kane**). Alta Maguire, Luci Kane, Ciao Babe and 3 time winner Halle Hunter were also first time winners!

Total Bonus payments in December 2023 were \$334,000, slightly under the December 2022 result of \$339,000.



For the full year however, there was an overall increase in bonus payments – 2yos received \$1.5 million, 3yos \$1.4 million and 4yo and over \$740,000. This was accompanied by an increase in overall stakes received by Westbred runners (\$16.5 million in 2023 compared with \$15.2 million in 2022). Considering that close to \$1 million went east with the Nullarbor, this is an excellent result and a credit to Harness Code representative Bob Fowler’s efforts to ensure harness received increases.

Note that in 2024 there will be a \$100,000 Westbred 4YO race for each sex, to be run in April.

*In December 2023, Westbreds earned \$1.96 million in stakes and bonuses (\$20.1 million for the season).*

To finish off the year there were 12 2yo races run in December 2023 bringing the annual total to 169, 13 more than 2022. Westbreds won all 2yo races in December, and 88% of 2yo races for the year. Westbred 2yo starters for the season (159) were marginally higher than the previous year but has a way to go to increase back to the levels produced by the larger crop sizes prior to September 2019.

For December, Westbred 3yos did win 19 of the 21 3yo races provided and 35 of the 50 races won by 3yos. However, the number of 3yo Westbred starters (102) in December 2023 was 10% lower than the same month last year. For the season the number of 3yo Westbred starters (186) was well down on 2022 (238), again reflecting the much lower crop produced in the 2019/20 breeding season. We certainly want to see breeders have the confidence to increase the WA crop sizes back to the levels of 5 years ago, and owners have the confidence to bring them into racing. Westbred 3yos did win 86% of the 222 3yo races run in the season.

The number of 4yo and over starters (471) declined compared to December 2022 (507) - not unexpected with the date changes to the two major feature races in WA (Fremantle Cup and Pacing Cup no longer being in the summer period). Westbred numbers did increase in December to 316. For the full season the number of starters in this age group increased by 20 to 1086, with the Westbred component increasing by 44 to 686.

There were 15 races restricted to 4yo or 4yo and over, a slight increase over the previous month and also 2 more than December last year. Three of the maiden races run were for this age group.

There were 124 wins (81 Westbred) by horses 4yo and over out of a total 153 races that they were eligible to race in. This included 51 wins by 4yos (35 Westbred), 41 wins by 5yos (28 Westbred), 16 wins by 6yos (6 Westbred), 10 (9 Westbred) wins by 7yos, and 6 by horses 8yos and older. The oldest winners were 11yos Batavia Blackhole at Albany and Vultan Tin (Dawn Ofa New Day USA) at Gloucester Park.

Only 43 races were run at Gloucester Park at the premium December meetings, with Westbreds winning 25 (58%). Five of the wins were Westsired progeny, another 7 of the wins were by Westbred fillies or mares. The remaining bumper crop of 12 winners of 14 races were:

- ◆ **4yo Alcopony – Betting Line USA o/o Kurious (Sportswriter USA)** breeder part owner Kevin Keys. \$136,000 in the bank just for this season, and that’s before the \$50,000 Christmas Gift which was a gift. Started from outside the back line at 8/1 while they absolutely sizzled out front in a 34.9 lead. Settled midfield eventually to race one out 3 back and perfectly placed, made a 3 wide move entering the back straight the last time, in 4th place but still 3 wide at the 400m, gradually hauling in the leaders, had to work really hard down the straight to get to the front but looked comfortable in winning the \$50,000 Christmas Gift by 1m in 1:56.5, last qtrs 28.7 and 29.4;
- ◆ **3yo All Is Well - Foreclosure (NZ) o/o Cap In Hand (Auckland Reactor NZ)** breeders S & N Dickson Pty Ltd. Over \$90,000 in earnings from just two seasons. Resumed in December after a short letup. Third at his 2nd start back then started favourite from 2, beaten for speed early but gathered pace and got the lead, 5 different breeze horses kept the pace solid throughout, better than even time first half, under challenge down the back but still in front at the 400m, two horse war down the back and to the turn with 5 lengths to the rest of the field, went on to a strong win from a resolute second placed Taking

The Miki who put up a mighty performance, but the credit goes to the winner who withstood the challenge, taking the \$19,000 Pace by 8.2m in 1:56.3, last qtrs 28.2 and 29.4

- ◆ **4yo horse Arma Xfactor – American Ideal USA o/o Arma Xpress (Artiscape USA)** breeder part owner Jim Currie Kemprust Pty Ltd. Adding to the great season by the army of Armas! Two places earlier in the month then started favourite from 4, led the moving line briefly before firing to the front with 2 laps to go, quick lead before a breather in the first qtr, increased the pace down the back and looking the winner at the 400m, led to the turn, a bit less than a length in front into the straight but then scooted clear at the 100m to win the \$21,000 Pace by 5.6m in 1:56.8, last qtrs 28.8 and 28 flat;
- ◆ **6yo horse Bee Jays Boy – Big Jim USA o/o Our Cloudy Dawn NZ (Washington VC USA)** breeder Mike Howie. Resumed with a new trainer in July this year after last racing in August 2021. Two places from his previous 4 starts then started from 3 as a soft favourite, quick out to grab the lead after a mini tussle, a dawdle first qtr then even time, sizzled down the back, looked solid into the straight and “hands and heels” only to get the win in the \$9,360 Pace by 2.8m in 1:58.3, last qtrs 27.7 and 29;
- ◆ **5yo Bettor Move Along – Bettors Delight USA o/o Rocknroll Royalty (Rocknroll Hanover USA)** breeder Allwood Stud Farm. Has picked up nearly \$50,000 for the season. Won at Collie followed by 2 places, then started at 20/1 from 5, dropped back to last before slipping up the inside to be 5th along the pegs, deftly into the moving line with a lap to go, made a late run out wide to be just worst than midfield at the 400m, a concerted effort down the back to be middle of the field but wide, 5 wide and really moving along down the straight and a very impressive finish to be leading at the 50m, going on to win the \$21,000 Pace by 2.1m in 1:58.6, last qtrs 28.8 and 30.4;
- ◆ **3yo Crowd Control – Control The Moment (USA) o/o Just Visiting (Barnett Hanover USA)** breeders Kevin and Annette Charles. In the placings at each of his last 6 starts including a win. Then started favourite from outside the back line, settled towards the rear during the fast lead before making a mini 3 wide move then reverting to one out and 4 back, up leading the 3 wide again with a lap to go, made good ground down the back, 2nd at the 400m, had the leader covered coming off the back cleared away down the straight to win the \$21,000 3YO Pace by 7.2m in 1:56.0, last qtrs 29.3 and 28.7;
- ◆ **4yo horse Floewriter - Sportswriter USA o/o Maddy White (Lombo Mandingo)** breeders Sharon, S and Mike Howie. 2021 APG 2YO Sales Classic winner. Resumed in November, Ryan Warwick filling in for Aiden de Campo. Second in the \$50,000 4YO Championship Consolation then started favourite from 1 in the 4YO Classic Consolation, fast out to lead, steady first half, quicker down the back to get them moving, going well coming into the straight, always in control and not particularly troubled to get the win in the \$21,000 Pace by 3.3m in 1:57.7, last qtrs 28.8 and 28.2;
- ◆ **5yo Lavra Joe - Roll With Joe USA o/o Lavra Florence NZ (Live Or Die USA)** breeders Kevin and Annette Charles. Outstanding 5yo resuming again after a few hiccups through the year. Won a Bunbury trial then a week later started from 7 as second favourite, in the 1730m sprint, very fast out to zoom to the front before they reached the winning post the first time, better than even time first half, bolting down the back, let go at the top of the straight for an easing win in the \$31,000 FFA by 7.3m in 1:52.9, last qtrs 28.1 and 27.6. Breezed and placed next out then a week later started from 7 as favourite, fast out and led comfortably, Indian file to the 800m, scooted down the back, not under pressure to lead into the straight and coasted home for an easy win in the \$31,000 FFA by 7.2m in 1:55.6, last qtrs sizzling at 27.8 and 27.1, one of the fastest last halves for the year;
- ◆ **5yo horse Machnificent – Mach Three CA o/o Honorable Daughter (Northern Luck CA)** breeder Allwood Stud Farm. Won in November then placed, then started from 6 as favourite with strong support,



Chris Lewis wins with Machnificent

steady out to neatly settle one out one back very early before being shuffled to second last. Very slow lead and slow first half, made his 3 wide move with 700 to go, still 2 lengths back at the 400m, a length behind at the top of the straight, ran down the leader once they straightened and went on to win the \$21,000 L5 Pace by a half neck in 1:56.8, last qtrs fast at 28.4 and 27.8. A fortnight later started favourite from 2, quickly out to lead and held position after an early challenge, solid lead and close to even time first half, a new 3 wide challenger at the 400m but still with something in hand, a length clear coming into the straight, held onto his lead under reins and went on to a good win in the \$25,000 Conditioned Pace by 3.5m in 1:55.6, last qtrs 28.6 and a speedy 27.9;

◆ **4yo horse Paul Edward – Always B Miki o/o Like A Dame (Golden Greek USA)** owner breeder Steve Johnson. Has had a surprisingly good season. A let up from September and resumed in November. Third run in started favourite from 2 over the 1730m sprint, straight to the lead from the barrier, better than even time first half, sped down the back, had the field under control at the 400m, a length clear into the straight, broke away to win the \$21,000 L7/9 Pace by 7.7m in 1:54.2, last qtrs 27.8 and 28.5

◆ **4yo Tricky Miki – Always B Miki USA o/o Harriet Elisabeth (Modern Art USA)** breeder Steve Johnson. The big one on the night on a very impressive night for Westbreds overall. Two wins in October before a pair of unplaced runs then started from 3, won the race in the first 100m by getting the front spot, a move by the favourite My Ultimate Ronnie after 600m to get to the breeze was thwarted by the horse who ultimately finished behind him, but making the race even easier for Tricky Miki, even time first half, a faster 3rd qtr and well in control with any major challenge caught between horses, skipped away at the top of the straight and despite a terrific late run by Wonderful To Fly it was an impressive win by the Golden Slipper and Derby winner to win the \$200,000 Golden Nugget by 11.5m in 1:57.7, last qtrs 29.1 and 28.6. Great drive as well by Maddison Brown; and

◆ **11yo Vultan Tin – Dawn Ofa New Day USA o/o Ellevarrac (Pacific Fella USA)**, breeders Phil and Denise Costello. Millionaire old timer. Last raced in May. Resumed in December after a trial win the previous month. Started 3rd favourite from 3, driven out to maintain position before going forward to the lead in a sizzling 35.3 lead, around even time first half, sprinted hard down the back, moving away from them at the 400m, clear down the straight and went on to an assertive win in the \$25,000 Pace by 10.4m in 1:55.6, last qtrs 28.5 and 29.9.



## How did the FILLIES AND MARES GO (December 2023)

A successful end of season with 47 fillies and mares being successful in 59 (31.7%) of the 186 races run in December. Coincidentally it's the same number of wins as December 2022, and 3 more than November 2023.

The season summary reads 316 individual winners of 661 races, or 30.9% of race wins were by fillies or mares and 34.0% of individual winners were fillies or mares.

There were 29 fillies/mares races run in December 2023 - 3 more than December 2022. The balance of wins (30 wins, 16.1% of total races) came from open races. Wins included 35 (24 Westbred) wins at the \$9,000 level, and 13 (9 Westbred) metropolitan, FFA or Group level races. Total stakes paid to fillies and mares in December was \$806,000 (32.5% of stakes), with Westbred fillies and mares winning \$596,000 plus \$148,000 in Bonuses.

Top of the sires list for winners in December was Sweet Lou USA (5 winners of 8 races) followed by Fly Like An Eagle (6 winners of 6 races). For the full season the leading sires for fillies and mares were **Follow The Stars** (29 winners, 52 wins), **Fly Like An Eagle** (22 winners 49 wins), **American Ideal USA** (17 winners 43 wins). The deceased Alta Christiano NZ did well from his limited crops, producing 14 winners of 36 races and father-son **Bettors Delight USA** and **Betterthancheddar USA** were next with 14 winners of 27 races.

There were 8 fillies mares with their first career win – 2yo **Coopers Ideal** (American Ideal USA), 3yos **Constellationjewel** and **Queen Of Stars** and 4yo **Star Of Kaos** (all Follow The Stars), 3yos **Jackie Darling** (Fly Like An Eagle), 3yo **Halle Hunter** (Huntsville), 2yo **Luci Kane** and 3yo **Ciao Babe** (Sweet Lou USA),

There were 10 fillies/mares with multiple wins in December 2023. First time winners Ciao Babe and Luci Kane both won doubles and Halle Hunter won 3 races. Other dual winners were **Ambitsiya** (Advance Attack NZ), **Sovrana** (Betting Line USA), **Rumour Has It** (Roll With Joe USA) and **Artistic Scribe** (Sportswriter USA). **Steno** (Sweet Lou USA) and Sister Act NZ won doubles. Trotter Evas Image (Father Patrick USA) won 3 races.

Races for fillies in December 2023:

- 2YO races - fillies won 6 (including 4 open) of the 12 2yo races.
- 3YO races – fillies won 9 (including 2 open) of the 21 3yo races, and won 7 of the 29 3yo and over races won by 3yos.



Fifty percent of the 48 2yo starters were fillies, with 38.5% of the 135 3yo starters being fillies. Races for 3yo fillies in December was a much better fit. For the season, the number of 3yo fillies was significantly lower than previous and even accounting for the lower crop size, suggests that single sex racing opportunities need to be improved to encourage owners to bring 3yo fillies in particular into racing.

*We continue to ask for an extended visible race program and some revision to timing of features to better accommodate juvenile racing.*

There were 37 wins by mares (4yo and over) including 5 of the 15 races for starters aged 4 or more. Mares won 21 open races. Mares racing in December comprised 30.6% of the 4yo and over racing population. The majority (78%) of wins by mares were \$9,000 and above, including an open \$125,000 feature.



The number of fillies and mares racing in December 2023 (220) was 32 less than December 2022, with both 3yo fillies and the mares contributing to the decline in numbers.

Fillies/mares won 14 races (32.6%) at prime metropolitan meetings – a great result. Winners included 3yo filly **Sister Cherie NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** who won a \$21,000 3YO Fillies, 4yo **Mighthavtime NZ (Betterthancheddar USA)** won a \$9360 Pace, 4yo mare **Steno (Sweet Lou USA)** won a \$21,000 Golden Nugget Consolation and the \$50,000 Christmas Belles and 5yo trotter **Evas Image** won a \$21,000 Trot.

The remaining 8 WA bred winners of 9 races were:

♥ **4yo Extraordinary Mary – Fly Like An Eagle o/o Has The Looks (Major In Art USA)**, breeder Allwood Stud Farm. Catching up on missed wins. Last start metro winner in a 2503m Stand and starting again off the front line in a Stand. 3rd favourite, delayed the start but got away well when it counted, settled briefly in the breeze before going forward to lead after three quarters of a lap, surrendered the lead with 2 laps to go, slow first qtr, travelling well, moved out to avoid the pocket with 500 to go, rounded the bend in second and in range, a tussle down the straight was all done at the 50m with Extraordinary Mary winning the contest in the \$21,000 Pace by 1.7m in 2:01.7, last qtrs 29.1 and 29;



♥ **3yo Halle Hunter - Huntsville USA o/o Bettor Boa (Bettors Delight USA)** owner breeders Karnup Racing Pty Ltd. Three trials, 3 wins, more importantly, 3 races for 3 wins. After her second midweek win for the month at her first two lifetime starts, 6 days later started favourite from 2, drove through to get the front, good lead time and a genuine pace throughout for the 3yo fillies, going well down the back and looking like she had the field covered, clear into the straight and gained more ground in the run home to win the \$21,000 3YO Fillies Pace by 5.2m in 1:56.2, last qtrs 28.6 and 28.2;

♥ **5yo Rumour Has It – Roll With Joe o/o Roustabout NZ (Christian Cullen NZ)**, breeder Debra Lewis. Won and placed in January before a spell. Resumed in December and first up started favourite from 1, shot out quickly to hold the lead, just outside even time first half, stretched them out down the back, a length clear at the top of the straight, had it won at the 50m and went on to win the \$21,000 Fillies and Mares by 2.7m in 1:58.1, last qtrs 28.3 and 28.7. A week later started middle of the betting from barrier 4, fast out to go to the lead with the favourite in the breeze, solid lead and 1st qtr, just in front at the 400m, got a few extra inches entering the straight, held onto the lead and eased slightly to go on to a measured win in the \$23,000 L10/11 Fillies and Mares Pace by 1.9m in 1:56.7, last qtrs 28 and 28.9;



♥ **4yo Sovrana – Betting Line USA o/o Chemical Romance (Northern Luck CA)** breeder Steve Johnson. Has been a very consistent mare throughout without a lot of luck but still nearly \$150,000 in

the bank. Won at Bunbury nearly 3 weeks prior before tiring at her next start, then back to her best starting from 5 at 11/1, zipped out quickly to get the lead entering the straight the first time, fair lead and easy first qtr, quicker 3rd qtr and just in front at the 400m, still looking solid coming into the straight, briefly looked at risk half way down the straight but fought back solidly to win the \$30,000 The Coulson Fillies and Mares by 1.6m in 1:58.0 last qtrs 28.5 and 28.7. Solid run for 3rd by Fleur Du Maquis

- ♥ **6yo Stormyskyes - Mr Feelgood USA o/o Dreamy Eyes (Modern Art USA)** owner breeders Jerime and Shane Steele. Has won half of her \$154,000 career stakes this season. A top 12 mare placed at her previous start but right out of the betting in the small field. Started in 2 after a scratching, happy to take the sit behind the leader, even time first half, no change at the 400m, held up coming to the turn, got the split coming out of the turn, 4 wide down the straight, got motoring near the line and went on for a good win in the \$27,000 Mares FFA by a neck in 1:57.4, last qtrs 29.1 and 28.4;

- ♥ **2yo Water Lou - Sweet Lou USA o/o Living Hei (Live Or Die USA)** breeders KTC Bloodstock, Kevin and Annette Charles. Nice to watch filly having her 11th career start and 7 previous wins. Started 2nd favourite from 5 after a scratching, quickly out and straight to the front, slow lead and first qtr, the favourite moved to the breeze with 1200 to go and now the pace was picking up to a 28.4 2nd qtr, skipped clear coming off the back, a



bit of a hurry up at the top of the straight from Shannon Suvaljko and went on to a nice win in the \$21,000 2YO Pace by 3.6m with 14m to 3rd, last qtrs 28.3 and 28.6;

- ♥ **4yo Wonderful To Fly – Fly Like An Eagle o/o Not Now Delilah (Allamerican Ingot USA)**, breeders Kevin and Annette Charles. Brilliant mare, agonisingly close to winning her previous 2 starts then started unfavoured in the betting from middle of the second row, headed to the pegs after a short distance and settled 3rd along the pegs, very quick 35.8 lead, average first half for the class, travelling well but no openings at the 400m, found a smidge of a gap approaching the straight, got clear at the top of the straight and just in time to run down the leader right on the line to win the \$125,000 4YO Classic by a half head in 1:56.3, last qtrs 28 and 28.7;

- ♥ **3yo Zephyra – Sweet Lou USA o/o Tricky Styx NZ (Jeremes Jet USA)** breeders/part owners Marie and Jesse Moore. Good to see the 2YO Filly of the Year back on top. Resumed in August after a year away, and won first up. Then 3 places from 6 starts before starting outside the back line as 3rd favourite, zipped around to the breeze with 1400 to go, no change up front at the 400, raced up to the leader at the top of the straight, a battle down the straight and a strong run from the breeze to win the \$21,000 3YO Fillies Pace by a head in 1:57.8, last qtrs 28.8 and 28.6.

For December, Westbreds provided 84% of 2yo fillies, 87% of 3yo fillies and 70% of the racing mares. Fillies and mares contributed 36.6% of starters.

## **SUPPORT THE COMPANIES THAT SUPPORT YOU**

**We thank our sponsors** for their support and contribution to our industry. They make it possible for us to provide incentives such as stakes, awards, rugs, trophies, garlands and breeding vouchers. **They also assist greatly with donations for rehoming.** Please support your sponsors by purchasing their goods and services.

**Alabar Farms, Allwood Stud Farm, Woodlands Stud and Gloucester Park** are our great long term supporters. **Australian Pacing Gold (APG), Pacing WA, KTC Bloodstock, PSC Bloodstock Services, Australian Premium Feeds and Westbred Pacing,** are welcome additions.

All our sponsors, including those who assisted us on our Breeders Stakes Night are shown next. For website information and more contact details, go to the Breeding News Page of our website [www.wasba.com.au](http://www.wasba.com.au) :

- ✓ Alabar Farms (03) 5859 2201;
- ✓ Allwood Stud Farm, Bullsbrook 9571 3777;
- ✓ Australian Premium Feeds 0448 448 588
- ✓ Australian Pacing Gold (03) 5275 1999;
- ✓ Budget Stockfeeds, Oakford 9397 1659;
- ✓ Cobbitty Equine Farm, 0417 621 050;
- ✓ KTC Bloodstock 0413 669 474;
- ✓ Larkhill Vets Port Kennedy 9295 3838;
- ✓ Medowie Lodge 0429 817 199
- ✓ Milne Feeds, Welshpool 9351 0700;
- ✓ Northern Rivers Equine (03) 5852 2845;
- ✓ PSC Bloodstock Services, 0413 056 364
- ✓ Ramsays Horse Transport, 9277 5779;
- ✓ Soho Standardbreds 0413 923 333
- ✓ Westbred Pacing 0435 059 777;
- ✓ Woodlands Stud (freecall) 1800 615 143;

### YOUR COMMITTEE

If you have a genuine interest in promoting breeding and harness racing in WA, have been a financial member for at least one full calendar year and have relevant experience and time to contribute to a Committee position involving meetings and undertaking various projects, please forward a brief profile to the WASBA Secretary.

President	Jeanine Diederich	M: 0407 383 256	Committee	Pat Borg	M: 0433 331 087
Vice President and Treasurer	Howard King	M: 0418 207 079	Committee	Joe Schaper	M: 0409 101 540
Secretary		M: 0447 053 040 <a href="mailto:info@wasba.com.au">info@wasba.com.au</a>	Committee	Joy Fletcher	M 0417 980 302
			Committee	Luke Tabbakh	M 0423 299 240
Committee	Michael Holtham	M: 0421 331 586	Committee	Wayne Morrisison	M 0416 093 294
Committee	Peter McAllister	M: 0419 464 842	Committee	John Coffey	M: 0418 500 211

Don't forget to check out the facebook page and website from time to time for news, breeding information, links to various items of interest and contact information. The WASBA website is [www.wasba.com.au](http://www.wasba.com.au)

**And Facebook** [https://www.facebook.com/WesternAustralianStandardbred BreedersAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/WesternAustralianStandardbredBreedersAssociation)



The WASBA AGM (for the 12 months ending 31 August 2023) was held on **Friday 24 November 2023**.

The **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** has been scheduled for **28 February 2024**. Meetings are scheduled monthly on the last Wednesday of each month, except on specific occasions and over the Christmas New Year period. If you would like to raise any issues or make comment, contact a Committee member or:

- Send an email to [info@wasba.com.au](mailto:info@wasba.com.au) .
- Write to WASBA at PO Box 3237 EAST PERTH WA 6892.
- OR you can PM us on facebook or use Messenger to get in touch.

*Bank Details for payment of Membership and other:*  
**Bank: Westpac; BSB 036 043; Account Number 129810**

Go Harness racing!