



# NEWSLETTER

Vol 311 April 2024

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



2YO	17 May \$35,000 2YO Fillies Gold Bracelet
	24 May \$50,000 2YO Champagne Classic
3YO	7 May Heats of the 3YO Diamond Classic, 14 May Heats of the 3YO Pearl Classic
Mares	3 May \$50,000 WASBA Breeders Stakes
	10 May Harry Capararo 4YO/5YO Westbred Mares (non Group winners)

### A New World

The National Rating System will commence in WA from January 2025. We all now have the opportunity to provide input to the race program that underscores this handicapping system, and it's the race program that impacts our racing opportunities, regardless of the handicapping system in play.

There will be industry consultation (dates to be announced by RWWA) and we really want everyone who has something to contribute to be there for those sessions. Identify what you do and don't like and about the HWOE system (and the NRS if you have knowledge) and contribute at the consultation sessions. We have asked for WASBA to be involved in any workshops or working groups as we have significant skillsets in the area of program development that are second to none – the program is the fundamental thing that impacts participants and we want to contribute to the process to benefit our participants.

Some background - based on the consistent feedback received from Victoria and NSW breeders, owners and trainers, WASBA did express concern regarding the decision, however, no other Eligible Body raised any concerns with the decision. WASBA's submission to the Dumesny enquiry noted the improvements we have seen in the viability of fillies and mares and the improvements in percentage of starters and winners from each foal crop, but also acknowledged that as with all handicapping systems, there remained some areas that could always be improved.

In WA we have actually made significant gains in terms of fillies and mares (up 5%) and Westbred wins (up 10%) since the commencement of HWOE. However it hasn't satisfied the desire to increase turnover (nor has it in Victoria) or reduce short priced favourites, which was the basis of the recommendation to RWWA by former NSW CEO John Dumesny who was also one of the architects of the NRS.

So tell us what you want to see under the new broom and we will try to assist the industry to achieve those goals. We will be looking to retain maiden races for Westbreds, separate 2yo and 3yo races to maintain the bonus payment levels, and maintain the intent of the WASBA mini features. We believe that the NRS may assist some older horses but want to make sure there is room for everyone in the new program.

### Yearling Sales wrap

All the major yearling sales are now complete, with the Melbourne Sale producing a welcome upswing in the average price for fillies compared to last year, along with a top price of \$150,000 for a filly and \$220,000 for a colt. As with all sales there were some bargains so it will be interesting to see which of these yearlings come through to be successful 2yos, 3yos or older horses. Good luck to all our new owners across Australia but especially to those owners who purchased one of our own Westbred horses!

There were 4 Westbred Yearling sale graduates selected in the 2024 Nullarbor – Fremantle Cup winner **Mighty Ronaldo** (breeder Trevor Lindsay), 2yo, 3yo and 4yo Westbred Classic winner **Never Ending** (breeder Steve Johnson), Bunbury Cup winner **Lavra Joe** (breeders Kevin and Annette Charles) and up and coming **Swingband** (breeder Trevor and Colleen Lindsays Karnup Racing P/L). Never Ending and Mighty Ronaldo raced without luck but Swingband and Lavra Joe both ran slashing races to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively. Mighty Ronaldo put in a super finish in the Fremantle Cup.

## From Across the Nullarbor

An exciting race with one of the best 5yos racing in the southern hemisphere being the winner of the \$1.25 million Nullarbor, after a good workout the week before and a top drive by Kate Gath. Trips win races. And he followed that up with a stunning win in a blanket finish in the \$300,000 Fremantle Cup. Way to go!

**Catch A Wave (Captaintreacherous USA)** reached almost \$2 million in earnings following his wins. While earnings are becoming skewed by these bigger races and sometimes doubtful as a measure of a horse, what is fact is that he is the 2023 Chariots of Fire and Miracle Mile winner and now the time honoured Fremantle Cup, which each have a long history of winning champions.

The brief version of his breeding might say he is the third foal and winner out of **Coppagoodone NZ (Christian**

**Cullen NZ)** 1:57 \$13,442, who is a daughter of the NZ and Victoria Oaks winner **Copper Beach NZ (Beach Towel USA)** 1:58.6 \$166,928.

However, a longer version includes that the dam of Catch A Wave is a half sister to dual Oaks and NZ 3YO Filly Pacer of the Year **De Lovely (Falcon Seelster USA)** 1:54.0 \$656,113. His granddam Copper Beach is out of a half sister to champion **Elsu (Falcon Seelster USA)** 1:53.6 \$2,030,796, whose dam was **Interchange (New York Motoring USA)** 2:02.6 \$116,495. Interchange is out of 1968 broodmare gem **Zenover (Bachelor**

**Hanover USA)**, with members of the extended family including Yarra Valley and Swan Hill Cup winner **Serg Blanco (Bettors Delight USA)** 1:54.8 \$189,175, champion racehorse and sire **Tintin In America NZ (McArdle USA)** 1:53.2 \$906,422, NSW 2YO and 3YO Breeders Challenge winner **Captains Knock (Captaintreacherous USA)** 1:49.9 \$347,354, multiple Group 2 winner **Vessem NZ (Vincent)** along with locally raced Group 1 winners **Cabsav (American Ideal USA)**, **Tuxedo Tour**, **Truckers Ruffnut** and Group 2 winner **Queen Shenandoah**. All within 4 generations of Interchange or her sisters.

Good to see the crowds on course for both the Nullarbor and New Zealands Night of Champions which was run a week prior.

On the other side of the Tasman we saw another excitement machine, and this one is a stallion.!

After a 2 week vist to Australia for the Chariots and not quite making the Miracle Mile field, **Merlin NZ (Art Major USA)** stepped out for a win in the Group 2 Flying Mile before heading to the Race By Grins, starting from 5 with the favourite Don't Stop Dreaming (Bettors Delight USA) – who did make the Miracle Mile field – in 2 and going straight to the front.

Having to be put into the race and doing some work early before getting cover, he steamed home to win over Don't Stop Dreaming, becoming a millionaire with \$1.1 million stakes. From 26 starts he has 18 wins and 6 places. Merlins mile rate of 1:53.4 over the 2200m was a New Zealand record, beating the previous record of Ultimate Sniper set in 2019.



What a smile – Kate Gath and Catch A Wave



Merlin and a determined Zachary Butcher

Merlin is out of the unraced **Imaginary Bet NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** whose dam is **Imagine Me NZ (Dream Away USA)** 1:56.9 \$247,175 who is a daughter of **Scuse Me (B Gs Bunny USA)** which of course means that Merlin belongs to the family of **Adore Me NZ** 1:47.7, Chariots of Fire and Miracle Mile winner **Have Faith In Me NZ** 1:47.5, All You Need Is Me NZ, Splendid Dreams NZ (the dam of Hands Christian NZ, Christen Me NZ and Our Dream About Me) and other mostly "Me" horses.

## ***Snippets from the USA and Canada..***

☑ You've got to be in it to win it. Adios winner and last year's winner – at 47/1 – and now 6yo stallion **Hellabalou (Sweet Lou)** was a back to back winner, again stepping from 5 to repeat his last year effort to win this year's \$457,000 Borgata Series Final. The two favourites **Desperate Man (Shadow Play)** - unbeaten in the series - and **Linedrive Hanover (Betting Line)** - second on points leading into the final - were hammer and tong in front, leaving the opportunity for a late challenge to sweep home. Just scraping into the last spot in the Final, Hellabalou ran 1:50.2. Australian bred 8yo **Whats Stanley Got (Heston Blue Chip USA)**, who has only been in the US for 12 months, finished 4<sup>th</sup> after 1 win and 3 seconds in the prelims.



The series is for 3yo and older pacers (rarely includes 3yos or mares who would be targeting other races). There are heats run on 5 separate nights, with the Final determined by the highest point scorers. You do not have to run in every leg but it obviously impacts your ability to score points. The heats are for \$50,000 though, so worth a crack but it does cost \$5,000 to nominate for the series and \$1,000 per start in each of the heats.

☑ The companion series to the Borgata, the \$257,000 Blue Chip Matchmaker Series has also been run with the top point scoring favourite and new millionaire 9yo **Lit De Rose (Leader Bayama)** working hard for her victory in 1:52.3. She has \$1,156,107 in stakes and this was her 51<sup>st</sup> win. Australian bred mare **Dougs Babe (Western Terror)** was 4<sup>th</sup> in the Final after finishing second top point scorer this year and top point scorer last year.

The bonus for the winner of the Matchmaker Series is a service in one of the next 3 breeding seasons. Not skimping on stallions the choice is any one of the Blue Chip stallions American Courage, Bettor's Delight, Cannibal, Shadow Play or Sunshine Beach. American Ideal was also on the list but he would have to be by frozen semen.

For those curious, **Leader Bayama (Artsplace)** 1:49.4s \$342,245 was a Canadian based racehorse and stallion who is a half brother to millionaire Goliath Bayama (Abercrombie) winner of the Breeders Crown and US Pacing Championship at The Meadowlands.

☑ Both the Borgata and Matchmaker run \$100,000 Consolations, with Australian bred **Jive Dancing (Rock N Roll Heaven)** winning the Matchmaker Consolation and NZ gelding **Venturesome Arden (Captaintreacherous)** winning the Borgata Consolation. No wonder our horses are welcome over there.

☑ Would be nice to own one of these. Again, by a sire that is not known in this hemisphere and stands in Canada, 6yo gelding **Shark Week (Vertical Horizon)** 1:49.2, currently the fastest horse in the region's history won his 17<sup>th</sup> race in a row at Century Downs in Western Canada, returning to racing after a 4 month break and continuing his streak that started 11 months ago. He has won 42 of 76 starts for \$354,725. Doesn't sound like a lot but when you remember that most owners have to pay a lot of money to "stake" their horses in big races, many of these lesser sires and lesser horses are never represented in the big races.

☑ Speaking of lesser known stallions, 6yo **Carbine (Somebeachsomewhere)** 1:47.4s \$398,219, who is racing and breeding (his first season) in 2024 at a fee of \$2,500 at Midland Acres in Ohio, is having one of his most successful racing seasons. He is a half brother to millionaire full siblings **Heston Blue Chip (American Ideal)** and **Sunfire Blue Chip**. Carbine is the fastest of the 3 brothers but earned the least money. Another stallion, the 4yo **Loubet (Sweet Lou)** 1:49.3 \$161,738, standing at Premier Acres in Indiana, has put up the book full

sign with 140 bookings. Although his granddam is Allamerican Nadia (Dragons Lair) 1:49.3 \$504,465, he has nowhere near the breeding credential as Carbine but is standing in a state with a lucrative State Sires Series.

☑ Some of US's very best racehorses are expecting their first crop to hit the track this year, and there are many of them. **Tall Dark Stranger** (Bettors Delight out of an Art Major mare) 1:47.1 \$2,020,195, **Papi Rob Hanover** (Somebeachsomewhere - Rocknroll Hanover), 1:47.1f \$927,979, **Capt Midnight** (Captaintreacherous - American Ideal) 1:48.3 \$551,567 and his full brother **Captain Trevor** 1:49 \$232,164, **Bet The Moon** (Bettors Delight - Artsplace) 1:50f \$796,646, **Catch The Fire** (Captaintreacherous - Bettors Delight) 1:46 \$1,494,434, **Dancin Lou** (Sweet Lou - Cambest) 1:47.2 \$991,441 and **Cattlewash** (Somebeachsomewhere - Bettors Delight) 1:46.4 \$1,134,78 are some of the prominent sires whose progeny will step out for the first time in 2024. They are come with different credentials - from minimal stakes to over \$2 million, from 1:46 to 1:50, but not necessarily over the mile track (Papi Rob Hanover is 1:47.1 over a five-eighth track), service fees from \$1,000 (Bet The Moon) to \$20,000, a broodmare band ranging from millionaires to well related, crop sizes (those that reached 2yo) range from 38 (Cattlewash) to 108 (Tall Dark Stranger). Some raced past their 3yo year, some didn't complete their 3yo year. Some raced and served at the same time. Some will never be commercially available in Australia. You would expect some, but not all, to be successful. One thing is certain - it is very difficult for a stallion to succeed without a solid book of mares to get his stud career up and running.

Not every top stallion has the fastest mile rate or a million in stakes. Hopefully you would not have overlooked trotting stallion and 3yo Breeders Crown winner **Tactical Landing** 1:50.2 \$812,300, whose stake earnings just covered his \$800,000 yearling purchase price. He is a full brother to World Champion trotting mare Mission Brief 1:50.2f \$1,599,587, and he is the sire of 2024 US Trotter of the Year 3yo **Tactical Approach** 1:50.2 \$1,544,489 from his first crop, and 2024 US 2YO Trotter (male) of the Year **Karl** from his second crop. Something in the blood. Fortunately for breeding, Tactical Landing was granted an exemption by Jeff Gural from the Meadowlands harness racing stallion restriction rule, due to an injury he suffered while racing.

In good news for trotting breeders, Hambletonian winner Tactical Approach will stand for Alabar in Victoria in 2024. It's worth noting that Tactical Approach never broke gait in a race.

☑ The Minnesota Racing Commission voted to approve an additional form of gaming, historical horse racing (HHR), at Canterbury Park and Running Aces. This means 500 HHR terminals at each track. A study commissioned by the tracks estimate that in its second year, HHR would generate \$5.9 million for purses, plus money for the state breeders' fund, retired racehorse programs and regulatory costs. Are we missing something?!?. A 3 minute YouTube video describing HHR in the US is [here](#)

☑ In Canada, the Western Fair Association (WFA) is purchasing the Dorchester Downs Training Centre in Dorchester, Ontario. The 49-acre property includes a 5/8's mile track, two barns with 100 stalls and is the home of some of the region's largest stables. In 2022, the Western Fair Association took over ownership and operation of Canada's largest standardbred yearling sale - the London Classic Yearling Sale. The acquisition of Dorchester Downs positions WFA as one of Canada's leading racing organizations. Food for thought?

☑ The arsonist involved in the Tioga Downs fire that killed 30 horses has been sentenced to a maximum of 15 years gaol, plus 3 years of post release supervision. He will be eligible for parole in 7 years. Tioga Downs will hold its first meeting of 2024 on 4 May.

☑ The USTA is accepting scholarship applications for the 2024 Racing Official's Accreditation Program (ROAP), to be held in June in Minnesota. The 60-hour course provides formal classroom study, covering both basic, day-to-day responsibilities of a judge as well as more technical subjects including medications and drug testing and administrative law and hearings. At the conclusion of the course, students must complete a series of five exams covering the information presented. Wouldn't that be great for our administrators to get behind a program like this over here! Even something through the tech programs or schools?

✚ Another great lady has passed - Canadian Horse Racing Hall of Fame inductee **Great Memories (Apaches Fame)** has passed away at the age of 23.

She is the dam of 9 including world champion Warrawee Needy and dual Breeders Crown champion and 2YO and 3YO Filly of the Year **Warrawee Ubeaut** (Sweet Lou) 1:48.6 (\$1,849,213). **Warrawee Needy (E Dees Cam)** 1:46.8 \$1,258,027 was the fastest in the world when he retired and is the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest horse ever to stand stud in Australia, behind the younger Lather Up, Always B Miki and now Confederate.



Great Memories

## And elsewhere...

☑ A decision on a return to racing for champion **Copy That NZ (American Ideal USA)**, who is still recuperating in Ballarat Victoria following surgery, will be made in coming weeks. The winner of 14 Group races including two New Zealand Cups and over \$2 million, Copy That as a stallion should have a future after racing.

Meanwhile 5yo gelding **Akuta NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** is also progressing well during his rehab, but a race start is still a long way away. Akuta last raced in December and is on the treadmill and water walker for another few weeks before a further scan. From just 31 starts he has 16 wins and 10 places for \$1,137,165 in stakes.

☑ Art Major USA continues to perform as a sire of class horses of both sexes. Apart from Merlin NZ, his 3yo filly **Flying Ellie NZ** showed her class after finishing second to All You Need Is Me NZ in the Group 1 Northern Oaks by winning the Group 2 Southern Oaks. Previous winners of the Southern Oaks include Beaudiene Bad Babe, **Aardies Express NZ (Always B Miki USA)** and **Mainland Banner (Christian Cullen NZ)**. Mainland Banner won 17 races from 22 starts including the Group 1 New Zealand Oaks, New Zealand Trotting Cup New Zealand Breeders Stakes, Noel Taylor Mile and New Zealand Messenger. Aadies Express is currently in Australia and at her first start won the \$50,000 Group 3 Sibelia Stakes over the mile in 1:48.9, defeating a very strong field. She is heading for the Queen Elizabeth in May where she will meet champion mare Ladies In Red (Mach Three CA).

The same ownership for Aardies Express saw **Aardiebytheseaside (Downbytheseaside USA)**, first up and now part owned by Team Bond, successful in the \$75,000 Empress Stakes on Nullarbor night.

☑ Catching up to his \$260,000 Yearling Sale price is 3yo **Built For Glory NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** who followed up his win in the Heat to be the winner of the Group 2 Southern Supremacy Stakes. Art Major USA is also an influence here being the sire of his dam **Fight For Glory NZ (Art Major USA)** 1:52.1 \$656,212 who won three Oaks in Australia along with the Group 1 Queen of Hearts and New Zealand Oaks. Previous winners of the Supremacy include Auckland Reactor (Mach Three), Ragazzo Mach (Mach Three).



On the same card the unbeaten **Rubira (Always B Miki USA)** won the \$100,000 Group 1 2YO Diamond Creek Classic, making it the 6<sup>th</sup> win out of 10 runnings (including the inaugural race win with **Lazarus NZ**) for Mark Purdon although this time as a co-trainer with Nathan Purdon. Purdon named Rubira as currently his best 2yo.

☑ Greg Sugars and Jess Tubbs got the spoils from the inaugural \$575,000 TAB Trot with their champion trotter **Just Believe (Orlando Vici)** winning from **Callmethe breeze FRA (Trixton USA)** and **Queen Elida NZ (Love You FRA)**. Definitely an international finish. Not so lucky was their other runner Better Eclipse in the Race By Grins but remained behind in New Zealand to run in the \$110,000 Taylor Mile while Just Believe competed in (and won) the \$60,000 Lyell Creek Stakes. Of course, Just Believe has been awarded the Vancleve Trotter of the Year for 2023 along with the Aged Horse/Gelding Trotter of the Year for 2023

Greg and Jess have announced that Just Believe will not be accepting an Elitloppet invitation this year.

☑ For those wanting to build their brand or look for a racing and breeding prospect, the 106 lot weanling session for the NZB Standardbred's 2024 National Weanling Sale is on at the Karaka Sales Centre on Thursday 23 May. You can find the catalogue by [clicking here](#)

☑ Along with the news that Tactical Approach will stand in Victoria, it has also been announced that following a lot of recent success, the Swedish raced **Volstead (Cantab Hall)** 1:51.3 \$ 729,716 will stand at Llowalong Farm Victoria after being available in 2023 by frozen semen only.

☑ A new series for lower grade horses has been introduced at Addington, for 5YO and older pacers rated R35 to R39 (NZ rating system). There will be 10 heats, each worth \$12,500, with a Consolation and a \$30,000 final May 17. All heats will be run as pref draw, and to be eligible for the Final you must start in at least one heat. We will certainly continue to try to get this type of race going in WA.

☑ **Leap To Fame (Bettors Delight USA)** is back in work getting ready for a New Zealand Cup campaign, which means getting some standing start practice – he has never raced from a stand. The Group 2 \$100,000 Redcliffe Cup on 29 June will therefore be a target. With a 20m maximum handicap it does seem a bit unequitable for the other runners, but it will be the first “handicap race” for Leap To Fame. Like most stallions he puts on weight on a break and he will be brought up to fitness slowly. His other targets will be the \$150,000 Group 1 Sunshine

Sprint and \$400,000 Group 1 Blacks A Fake, both in July at Albion Park, followed by the Victoria Cup at Melton in October and an Inter Dominion defence starting in November. Phew!

☑ New Zealand has got a new improved harness racing on free to air TV, with Entain's TAB gearing up for a relaunch of Trakside TV with a boost to its on-track presenters, including the crucial Thursday and Friday night timeframes important for harness racing. There will be enhanced coverage for all three racing codes on the three channels and improved punting information and storytelling. Now we are getting envious.

☑ Early days, but **Poster Boy** is leading the First Crop sire list with 4 individual winners from 13 starters out of his 2yo crop of 73. Next is **Stay Hungry USA** with 7 winners from 12 starters out of his crop of 46 2yos. **The Storm Inside** has 5 individual winners from 10 starters (crop size 62) and **Captain Crunch USA** has 4 winners from 16 starters (crop size 97). Other first season winning sires are McWicked USA, Soho Tribeca and Wesley. Which means that 4 of the 7 winning first season pacing sires at this early stage are Australian bred.

Leading progeny for Poster Boy is the \$10,000 Emma Steward purchase **The Highlight Reel** who is unbeaten from 3 starts including the latest win in the \$250,000 Alabar Nutrien 2YO Colts and Geldings Sales Classic.

☑ Well you never can tell what will happen next. Everyone hopes that champion racehorse and stallion **Bettors Delight USA** will get to come down to New Zealand to finish his stud career and ultimately retire to a quiet life, but the decision has been delayed following his unexplained health issues. While he is appearing to be well, there are still concerns that he is not 100% and he will not travel unless he is. Nevertheless there should be an abundance of frozen semen should breeders be interested.

## **Paying out on WA breeding**

Following on from the Sales Classics at the very beginning of March there has been some top class performances by WA bred horses in feature races.

**Water Lou (Sweet Lou USA)**, bred by KTC Bloodstock and Kevin and Annette Charles, repeated her effort of 5 weeks earlier (winning the \$50,000 3YO Fillies Sales Classic) to win the \$50,000 3YO Fillies Gold Bullion after winning her Gold Bullion Heat 10 days earlier as well as another metropolitan race – cementing her position as the top 3yo filly racing in WA this season. Water Lou belongs to the family of Fremantle Cup placed Pinny Tiger.

The Australian 2YO of the Year and now 4YO **Never Ending (Sweet Lou USA)** bred by Steve Johnson, returned to racing for the first time since November and despite the hard run in the breeze still won the \$50,000 Preux Chevalier 4YO Classic before an unsuccessful tilt at the Bunbury Cup then a top performance to lead and win the inaugural \$100,000 4YO Entires and Geldings Westbred Classic, all three races over the 2500m range. Never Ending's non winning dam **Endless Journey (Die Laughing USA)** was also bred by Steve Johnson out of one of his foundation mares **Hold Tight (Embrace Me USA)** who is also the granddam of champion WA gelding and Fremantle Cup, Breeders Crown 4yo, Vicbred 2yo and 4yo winner **David Hercules (Artesian USA)** 1:52.7 \$1,263,159. The family is a goldmine for buyers with numerous Group 1 or \$100,000 plus earners including Group 1 winners Major Martini, Isaiah Artois, Supreme Royalty and of course David Hercules.

Drawing well for the first time in quite some time, the WASBA and RWWA 2022 2YO Filly of the Year **Zephyra (Sweet Lou USA)** found just the right right to return to the winners list by leading and winning the \$100,000 4YO Westbred Mares Classic for breeder part owners Jesse and Marie Moore and part owner Hayley Moore. Zephyra is the first foal from her dam **Tricky Styx (Jeremes Jet USA)** 1:54.1 \$460,548 who was a chance \$5,000 yearling purchase in New Zealand for Jesse. Tricky Styx was a half sister to the WA raced **Go West U Terror NZ (Western Terror USA)** 1:54.8 \$273,367 out of the unraced **Pocket Rain NZ (In The Pocket USA)** who is out of a winning half sister to 2001 Australian 4YO and over Horse/Gelding of the Year, the champion **Atitagain (Bo Scots Blue hip USA)** 1:55.1 \$787,945, one of the best horses racing in the early 2000s.

Zephyra won 7 of her first 10 races and was placed second in the other three. Her wins included the Group 1 2YO Fillies Diamond as well as the Group 1 2YO Fillies Westbred Classic. Her dam Tricky Styx also won the Group 1 2YO Fillies Diamond and the Group 2 Open 2YO Champagne Classic.

A winner of the 2023 Group 3 \$50,000 Champagne Classic, 3yo gelding **Bet The House (Betting Line USA)**, bred by Karnup Racing P/L, made it



3 from 3 since resuming in March, including the Heat and \$50,000 3YO Colts and Geldings Final, performing the best of the brew in a very competitive race. With only 6 starts up to this point his owners are well ahead of his \$20,000 purchase price. Betting Line USA has been one of the best performed Bettors Delight USA sons to date, and the dam of Bet The House is the one win **Katesplace NZ (Artsplace USA)**. Her dam **Kates First NZ (Holmes Hanover USA)** 1:57.2 was good enough to run in the Hunter Cup and Victoria Cup and earned \$624,023 in her career with wins in multiple Group 1s including the Auckland Cup as a 4yo. She was named NZ 3YO Filly of the Year and NZ 4YO Pacer of the Year, and she is a half sister to the one and only **Christian Cullen NZ (In The Pocket USA)**. Chariots of Fire and Miracle Mile second placed **Sooner The Bettor (Bettors Delight USA)** 1:53.5 \$405,283 is out of a half sister to Kates First.

## RECENT MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- ♣ The visit by Kate Gath to one of her favourite horses – Renaissance Man – while she was in Perth for the Nullarbor. Treats for him at the next visit
- ♣ WASBA Life Membership award for Dr Ed Dewar – what a pleasure to reward someone like Ed for their significant contribution to breeding and racing in WA
- ♣ Winner of the 2024 \$14,000 WASBA King-Lethbridge was a maiden!
- ♣ Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Laurie Yewers, a past WASBA Committee member for over 10 years.



## BREEDER OF THE MONTH – March 2024

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.

We don't select our winners just because they won 3 races in a month. However, this month's breeder of the month has been a very handy gelding since his purchase for \$23,000 at the 2021 APG WA Yearling Sale. In fact the connections purchased 4 yearlings from the 2021 Sale and those horses have doubled their money, plus any Westbred Bonuses.

**Congratulations** to Dr Ed Dewar, our **Breeder of the Month** for **March 2024**, as the breeder of 4yo gelding **Dourado (Betting Line USA** out of Zerina Whitby by **Kinney Hanover USA)**. Dourado has won \$27,000 in Westbred bonuses as a 2yo and 3 months into his 4yo season his stakes are \$77,000.

Dourado is a half brother to 6 other winners including **Our Zak Whitby (Mach Three CA)** 1:50.4 \$409,178. His dam **Zerina Whitby** 1:55.6 \$107,827 was a metropolitan winner and is a full or half sister to 10 other winners including Group 1 Victoria Oaks winner **Montana Anna (Mystical Prince USA)** \$230,863 and dual Group 1 and Golden Slipper winner **Aikido Whitby (Life Sign USA)** 1:55.2 \$270,328. Their dam **Whitbys Merit (French Chef USA)** 2:00.3 \$168,598 won 10 of her first 12 starts including the 2YO Champagne Classic, 2YO Diamond Classic and 2YO Golden Slipper before retiring after 14 starts. Whitbys Merit is out of **Remit NZ (Out To Win USA)**, a winner of 11 races for Dr Ed before going on to be a phenomenal broodmare. Her progeny include **Fiscal Miss (Captain Hook USA)**, a winner of 15 races herself and two times Australian Broodmare of the Year. Her daughter **Whitbys Miss Penny (Booth Hanover USA)** 1:55.2 \$568,289 was Australian 2yo Pacer of the Year and Australian 3yo Pacer of the Year. Another Australian Broodmare of the Year in Sexy Lexy Whitby. Is part of the family as is standouts Whitby Timer, Whitby Heritage, Ima Spicely Lombo, To Fast To Serious etc



*Dr Dewar receiving his WASBA Life Membership Award at Pinjarra*

Ed Dewar is the leading individual breeder in WA and currently sits second on metropolitan winners behind the legendary J P Stratton. He has bred the winners of 23 Group One races including two in Victoria and one in Tasmania. Ed stood a number of successful stallions in WA and his overall contribution to WA harness racing is immeasurable.

Ed is a Life Member of Gloucester Park and with fantastic support from Pinjarra President Barry Warwick and Manager Dale Putland, was awarded Life Membership of WASBA at Pinjarra in April.

Dourado and the winners of 1000 other races would not have happened without Dr Ed Dewar.

In early March Dourado started in his first ever stand as favourite, bolted out safely, led and fought off a challenge down the straight to win at Bunbury. Next it was off to Bridgetown where he started from the 50m, scratchy away but settled into gear in last place before going forward to the breeze with a lap to go, dashed clear down the back and went on to a 12m win with a last qtr in 27.9. Obviously loving the stands it was 4<sup>th</sup> at Narrogin next up before returning to Bridgetown to start from 30m back, away safely to lead and win, this time by 30m with a last qtr of 26.5 on a track at 814m that is slightly bigger than the 804m Gloucester Park.

Congratulations to Ed, trainer driver Aiden De Campo who goes where his horses can do best, and of course the connections and **Dourado**.

## WINNERS - WA BASED SIREs MARCH 2024

A quarter of the season gone already! For March 2024 the Westsired progeny of resident sire Fly Like An Eagle won 7 races (6 individual winners), while Alta Christiano NZ also produced 4 individual winners of 7 races and now eastern states based stallion Follow The Stars produced 6 winners of 6 races with Rock N Roll World USA just behind with 5 winners of 5 races. Overall there were 29 Westsired winners of 33 races.

The dual winners in the month were 3 progeny of Alta Christiano NZ – **Alta Freeway**, **Bonsco Circus** and **Bramante Steps**, and **Travel Ban** (Fly Like An Eagle).

There were 5 first time starters collecting their \$500 first start Bonus including **Wheel Fast (Renaissance Man)** who was also a First Time winner at just his second start. Other Westsired winners collecting their First Win Bonus were – 3yos **Double The Ante** and **Twelve Oclock Rock** (Rock N Roll World USA), 4yos **Cassini Star** (Follow The Stars) and **Major Buzz** (Sweet Fame USA) and 5yo dual winner **Alta Freeway** (Alta Christiano NZ).

Congratulations to all the first time starters and first time winners.

The Westbred Bonus payments to Westsired starters (including First Win and First Start) for March 2024 were \$105,000, around \$30,000 more than March last year.

There were 51 races run at premium meetings in March 2024, with 4 Westsired wins. One of the wins was by a Westsired mare with the remaining winners being:

- ♣ 5yo **Flying Rumour** – **Fly Like An Eagle o/o Stage Whisper (Armbro Operative USA)**, breeder owner Kim Marsh. Home bred with \$45,000 last season and already exceeded that this season. Started on the 2nd line of betting from 5 in the single line field and sidled to the pegs to end up 3 back in a fast lead. Very fast first half at 28.5 and 27.8, got the opening coming off the back to follow a 4 wide move before going 5 wide on the turn and powering home to win the \$25,000 Pace by 4.2m in 1:54.2. *Half brother to **Extreme Dreams** 1:54.8 \$138,340. Dam a half sister to the dam of **Maggies Mystery** 1:53.8 \$191,796. Family of **The Die Is Cast** 1:57 \$228,250 and **Funatthebeach NZ** 1:49.4 \$1,327,228;*

- ♣ 6yo **Galaxy Warrior** - **Follow The Stars o/o Sparkling Desire (Tell All USA)** breeder Allwood Stud Farm. Three wins in December followed by a win and 4 places from 8 starts. Quite a good last season, started from 5, restrained to settle 3 back the pegs, into the one wide off the back, 4 wide round the corner, stormed home to win the \$21,000 Pace by a half head in 1:55:8, last qtrs 27.8 and 28.7. *Dam and granddam unraced, next dam a metropolitan winner and daughter of **Fiscal Miss**; and*



*Galaxy Warrior (5) and Kyle Symington about to grab the lead*



- ♠ 4yo entire **Heez Good As Gold - Rich And Spoilt** o/o **Front Paige Adda (Art Major USA)** breeder the late Harry Capararo. Resumed in December off a long absence with 2 wins from his first 3 starts then 3 places from 7 starts. Next up drew 1 and started favourite, out fast and held the front in a solid lead, sprinted down the back, just in front at the 400m, rounded the turn in front and a good performance to win the \$9,360 Pace by 1.2m in 1:55.8, last qtrs 28.5 and 28.1. *First foal. Imported granddam Paige Nicole Q USA 1:52 \$712,801 is out of a full sister to champion racehorse and sire Fake Left USA.*

## WESTBRED WINNERS – MARCH 2024

Bonus payments for March 2024 are \$300,000, which is \$68,000 higher than March 2023. For the first 3 months of the year the tally is \$900,000, or \$73,000 higher than the equivalent period in 2023. The revised payment structure for the bonuses is really kicking in.

It was also a good result for Westbred winners, with 105 individual winners of 122 races, or 62.9% of the 194 races run. This is the best March result since 2021 when 125 wins (62.5%) of 200 races were recorded.

There were 47 sires represented by winning Westbreds, with **American Ideal USA** again on top (9 winners of 10 races) followed by **Sweet Lou USA** (8 winners of 10 races) the best of the outside sires. **Betting Line USA** was next best, with 3 winners of 7 races.

With such a bumper month last month there were less first time starters in March, with 5 2yos, 6 3yos and two 4yos, including Westsired progeny.

There were 19 First Time Westbred winners. Excluding the previously covered Westsired, they were:

- 2yos **The Esplanade** (American Ideal USA), **Captain Paprika** (Captain Crunch USA), **The Bettor Side** (Downbytheseaside USA), **Do It My Way** and **Highview Heidi** (Rock N Roll World USA),
- 3yos **Lady Camel** (Always B Miki USA), **Shes A Mare** (American Ideal USA), **Simplythebest** (Rocknroll Heaven USA), **Sugar Covered** (Sweet Lou USA),
- and older progeny 4yos **Yankee Kev** (Art Major USA), **Roman Legion** (Sunshine Beach USA) and 5yos **Pandoras Art** (Modern Art USA) and **The Thirsty Vet** (Sportswriter USA).

Other than the 4 Westsired there were also 10 multiple winners – **Tux And Tails** (A Rocknroll Dance USA), **Xceptional Arma** (American Ideal USA), **Bet The House** and **Flyin Disco** (Betting Line USA), **Hunt The Magic** (Huntsville USA), **Maddy Rocks** (Pet Rock USA) and **Roman Legion** (Sunshine Beach USA). The triple winners were **The Miki Taker** (Always B Miki USA), **Dourado** (Betting Line USA) and **Water Lou** (Sweet Lou USA).

Westbreds won 7 of the 8 2yo races, with 41 of the 44 2yo starters being Westbred. The number of starters is only marginally lower that March last year (46). For the first 3 months of the season, individual starters (71) are 10 less than last year, which probably reflects the lack of target races for the age group.

Westbreds won 19 of the 21 3yo races run in March 2024. Westbred 3yos also won 5 of the 14 3yo and over races won by that age group. There were 100 3yo starters, including 85 Westbreds. This is significantly higher than March last year when there was only 72 starters in total. For the first quarter of the season the number of 3yo starters has increased from 90 in 2023 to 120 in 2024.

The number of 4yo and over starters is building, with 542 starters in March 2024 compared to 502 in March 2023. After 3 months of the racing season the numbers are level with 2023 but with a larger pool of Westbreds.

There were 19 races restricted to horses at least 4 years of age, with 4 of these being maidens. There were 165 races that 4yo and over could race in, with Westbreds achieving a 55% win rate. Winners included 44 4yos (34 Westbred), 38 5yos (23 Westbred), 31 6yos (17 Westbred) and 14 7yos (7 Westbred). The oldest winner was Disco Under Fire (Courage Under Fire NZ) who won a midweek Gloucester Park taking his stats to 18 wins and \$216,000.

In terms of strike rate for the first quarter of the season, the 3yos average a win every 5.6 starts, 4yo and over horses average a win every 9.4 starts.

Of the 51 races run at premium meetings at Gloucester Park in March 2024, Westbreds won 24, including 6 wins by Westbred fillies and mares and 4 Westsired wins. The remaining 12 winners of 14 races were:



- ◆ **4yo All Is Well - Foreclosure (NZ) o/o Cap In Hand (Auckland Reactor NZ)** breeders S & N Dickson Pty Ltd. \$60,000 for last season and already that this season after winning in each of the previous 3 months. Started favourite in 1 and withstood an early challenge for the lead, held them down the back and a length clear into the straight and came away to win the \$30,000 4YO/5YO Westbred Pace by 2.6m in 1:56.4, last qtrs solid at 28.2 and 28.1. *Dam is a winning half sister to Robbie Rocket and Major Overs, granddam Elite Angel is a half sister to the dam of Son Of Fergie 23 wins \$323,605;*
- ◆ **6yo Lavra Joe - Roll With Joe USA o/o Lavra Florence NZ (Live Or Die USA)** breeder Kevin and Annette Charles. Resumed in December after a long absence and back on top in March. Unplaced in the Pinjarra Cup after overracing then started from 7 and restrained before going to the breeze with 2 laps to go, took over the lead with 500m to go, scooted clear at the top of the straight and won the \$31,000 FFA by 1.9m in 1:53.8, last qtrs 28.3, 27.9, 28.2. Very good run for 4<sup>th</sup> in the Bunbury Cup. *Granddam a half sister to multiple Group 1 placed Anvils Star 1:54.8 \$470,115 and to the dams of Ima Rocket Star \$411,929 and Patronus Star 1:53.2 \$493,437*
- ◆ **6yo Mighty Ronaldo - Alta Christiano NZ o/o Millwoods Delight NZ (Bettors Delight)** breeder Trevor Lindsay. Golden Slipper, WA Derby and Fremantle Cup winner resumed in February off a mini break. Started favourite from 3 in the 5 horse FFA, eased from the barrier to settle 3 on the pegs, forced to breeze from the 1200m, 2<sup>nd</sup> at the 400m but improving, had the leaders measure on the turn and went on to win the \$31,000 Pace by 3.3m in 1:56.2, slick last qtrs at 27.8 and 27.5. *Winning dam a half sister to Raptorial \$316,088 and to dam of Malcolms Rhythm 1:52.9 \$386,400 and Zee Dana NZ. Family of the unraced Significant NZ (daughter of Black Watch NZ), dam of champion filly Pacific Flight NZ*
- ◆ **4yo Mister Linton - Sweet Lou USA o/o Maggies Mystery (Artesian USA)** owner breeder Kim Marsh. Lightly raced 4yo just finding his feet. Resumed at his previous start for a second, then started favourite from inside the back line, into the moving line to be one out and one back after half a lap, made a 3 wide move on the turn, just got a nose in front at the 100m to win the \$9,360 Pace by 2.3m in 1:59.6. *Only foal out of Maggies Mystery 1:53.8 \$191,796. Family of The Die Is Cast 1:57 \$228,250, Flying Rumour 1:54.2 \$103,230 and Funatthebeach NZ 1:49.4 \$1,327,228;*



- ◆ **5yo Never Ending - Sweet Lou USA o/o Endless Journey (Die Laughing USA)** breeder Steve Johnson. First race start back after the loss in the WA Derby in November and watched from the rear before going to the breeze with 1400 to go over the 2536m journey, a metre back at the 400m, had to dig deep to grab the win on the line by a half head in the \$50,000 Preux Chevalier 4YO Classic in a casual 1:59.3, last qtrs a slick 27.6 and 27.9. *Half brother to Mandy Joan, Pearl winner Isaiah Artois and to dam of Otis. Dam a half sister to the dams of champion David Hercules and Major Martini;*
- ◆ **6yo stallion Otis - Sweet Lou USA o/o Janet Gai (Art Major USA)** breeder Steve Johnson. Previous 5 starts have been stands and finally drew well in a mobile. Started 2<sup>nd</sup> favourite from 2 and driven out to get the race lead in a solid lead time, slow 1<sup>st</sup> qtr but quick final 3 qtrs, looked in control at the 400m, held out a late challenge to win the \$19,000 Pace by 2.1m in 1:55.7, final qtrs 28.6, 28.4 and 28.7. *Dam a half sister to Never Ending, Mandy Joan and Isaiah Artois. Dam a half sister to the dams of champion David Hercules and Major Martini;*

- ◆ **5yo Showpony - Sweet Lou USA o/o Bethany Aitch (Four Starzzz Shark CA)** breeder Nathan Turvey, David Young, Tracey Sermon, Peter Ensel. New trainer and 3 wins in December/January. Followed a good 3<sup>rd</sup> the previous week with a start from 2 as favourite, breezed briefly before going to the lead with 1700 to go, never looked under threat and scooted for home to win the \$9,360 L5 by 3.6m in 1:56.5, final qtrs 28.9 and 28.4. *Dam a Group 1 winner of the Diamond Classic and a half sister to The Real Nadal 1:57.3 \$109,326. Family of Hunter Cup winner Bondy 1:49.2 \$1,001,258;*



- ◆ 3yo colt **Ten To The Dozen - Art Major USA** o/o **Nolessthanperfect NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** breeder Solid Gold Standardbreds, A \$65,000 Sales purchase. Resumed in January and won 2 out of 3 before starting favourite from 1, didn't waste the barrier and quick out to lead all the way and win the \$50,000 3YO Colts and Geldings Sales Classic by a head in 1:55.5, last qtrs a slick 28 and 28.2. *Dam a half sister to Vasari 1:52 \$277,422. Granddam a half sister Group 1 placed Major Star 1:52.3 \$212,228 and to the dam of Waltzing With Cullen 1:51.7;*



- ◆ 2yo **The Bettor Side - Downbytheseaside USA** o/o **Bettor Boa (Bettors Delight USA)** breeder Karnup Racing Pty Ltd. A \$70,000 Sales purchase. Ran 4<sup>th</sup> in his heat but luck on his side got a start in the final. Started from 4 on the 4<sup>th</sup> line of betting, quick out but not quick enough and wisely took the sit behind the race leader and favourite, got the opening 550 from home, 3<sup>rd</sup> at the 400m, 3 wide off the back, strong finish to overcome the leading pair and just hold out a terrific late challenge to win the WA APG \$125,000 2YO Colts and Geldings Sales Classic by a half neck in 1:57.5. *Dam Group 1 placed Bettor Boa 1:55 \$119,000. Family of Group 1 placed Thelittle Master, Rycroft NZ, Glenledi Chief NZ;*



- ◆ 5yo **The Miki Taker - Always B Miki USA** o/o **Topless Beach Girl (Art Major USA)** breeder part owners Mike, Sharon and the late Ian Howie. Resumed in Feb with 2 places from 3 starts then started 2<sup>nd</sup> favourite from 5 over the 1730m sprint journey, worked forward to the breeze after half a lap, looked beaten coming off the back but fought hard to win the \$21,000 Pace in a bunched finish by a half neck in 1:53.9. A week later started inside the back line to settle behind the leader before getting the opening at the top of the straight to flash home and win the \$19,000 L5 by 1.2m in 1:55.9 with qtrs 28.1 and 28.7. Three weeks later made it 3 wins in 4 starts after starting from 2 and settling 3 on the pegs, getting the split and pushing out at the 400m, coming wide round the bend and making good ground down the straight to win the \$23,000 Pace by a nostril in 1:56.4, final qtrs 28.8, 27.8 and 28.6. *Dam a half sister to Bettor Be Oscar 1:52.6, Group 2 winning granddam a half sister to Copagrin 1:54.7 \$241,352. Family of Caveman and Group 1 Diamond Classic winner Copper Strike.*



- ◆ 3yo **Thenu Came Along - Bettors Delight USA** o/o **Arconite NZ (Art Major USA)** breeder the late Harry Capararo. Due for a change of luck after running places. Started 2<sup>nd</sup> favourite from 4 and strode to the lead, easy 1<sup>st</sup> half but quicker down the back under challenge from a stablemate, fought well to lead into the straight and hold the win in the \$21,000 Pace by 1.9m in 1:56.6, last qtrs 28.2 and 27.8. *Half brother to Adda Spoilt Major. Family of Ohokas Bondy NZ 1:53.6 \$388,148, Dancing Diamonds NZ, 1:57.8 \$343,276 Rock Diamonds NZ 1:50 and Our Princess Tiffany NZ 1:49.9 \$1,061,195.*
- ◆ 9yo **Tubbs Farquhar - Mach Three CA** o/o **Queen Delilah (Orange Sovereign USA)** breeder Kevin and Annette Charles. Returned to the winners list after starting favourite from 3, quick out to go to the lead unchallenged, controlled the race for the duration and went to a comfortable win in the \$9,360 Pace by 2.3m in 1:59.7. *Half brother to Group winners Jumbo Operator and Getaway Plan and to dam of champion filly Wonderful To Fly. Family of champion Daintys Daughter.*

## How did the FILLIES AND MARES GO (March 2024)

In March 2024 there were 49 filly/mare winners of 56 races (28.9%) which is below our target 31% of race wins, but is 3% higher and 14 more wins than March last year. Twenty nine of the wins were in races restricted to fillies/mares, and 43 of the wins were Westbred progeny. Fillies and mares also won \$787,230 in stakes and our Westbred fillies and mares also won \$127,000 in bonuses, both numbers being higher than March 2023.

For the first 3 months of the year fillies and mares have won 172 races, or 31.2% of available races, and just over \$2 million in stakes, or 30.6%. The Westbred fillies and mares complimented their stakes with \$449,000 in Bonuses over this period. Wins included 32 (27 Westbred) at the \$9,000 level, and 10 (6 Westbred) metropolitan, FFA or Group level.

Leading winning sires for fillies and mares for March 2024 were **American Ideal USA** (8 winners of 9 races) and **Sweet Lou USA** (4 winners of 7 races).

Last month was the big month for first time starters, with 7 fillies stepping out for the first time this month – all by different sires.

Six fillies – 2yos **Highview Heidi** (Rock N Roll World USA), **The Esplanade** (American Ideal USA), 3yos **Lady Camel** (Always B Miki USA), **Shes A Mare** (American Ideal USA), **Simplythebest** (Rock N Roll Heaven USA) and **Twelve Oclock Rock** (Rock N Roll World USA) - and 5yo **Pandoras Art** (Modern Art USA) were first time winners, with Westsired Twelve Oclock Rock earning double the first win Bonus.

There were 6 multiple winners amongst the fillies and mares including Westbreds **Bramante Steps** (Alta Christiano NZ), **Xceptional Arma** (American Ideal USA), **Hunt The Magic** (Huntsville USA), **Maddy Rocks** (Pet Rock USA) all dual winners while **Water Lou** (Sweet Lou USA) won 3 races including her 3yo Sales Classic.



Races for fillies in March 2024:

- 2YO – 3 of the 8 2yo races were restricted to fillies, with fillies winning one other 2yo race. All 4 wins were by Westbred fillies. Twenty four (55%) 2yo starters were fillies.
- 3YO – 8 of the 21 3yo races were restricted to fillies, with fillies. Fillies won an additional three 3yo races and 5 3yo and over races. Thirteen of the 16 wins were by Westbred fillies, and 48 (48%) of 3yo starters were fillies.

There were 36 wins by mares in March 2024. While this is very slightly down on the previous month it is an improvement on March last year (30 wins). Starters continue to decline (164 compared to 168 in February 2024) but it is levelling out as well as being consistent with the pattern for last year. Seventy five percent of the wins by mares were in races with stakes of at least \$9,360.

Fillies and mares won 10 of the 51 (19.6%) races run at Gloucester Park on Friday nights. Winners included 5yo mares **Mighthavtime NZ (Betterthancheddar USA)** who won a \$23,000 Fillies and Mares after winning in each of the previous 3 months, 7yo **Nullarbor Navajo (Betterthancheddar USA)** won the \$50,000 Group 3 The Lombardo Fillies and Mares and 4yo **Turn The Page NZ (Vincent)** won a \$21,000 3YO Fillies Pace.



The remaining 6 WA bred winners of 7 races at premium meetings were:

♥ **5yo Bramante Steps - Alta Christiano NZ o/o Twisted Art (Perfect Art USA)** breeder Colleen Lindsay. Lightly raced 5yo with a placing earlier in the month, then won a midweek Fillies and Mares with last qtr 27.6 before lining up from 6 at generous odds of 19/1, zoomed out to go straight to the front, slow lead and first half, still looking comfortable in the lead down the back, had the favourite locked in behind at the top of the straight and all the way home to go on to win the \$9,360 Pace by 1.9m in 2:00, last qtrs 28.7 and 28.4. *Half sister to Group 1 winner Centrefold Angel 1:55.2 \$237,348 and to dam of Typhoon Tiff and Bettor Twisted.*

♥ **3yo Copper Head Lady - Sweet Lou USA o/o Artistic Copper (Artistic Fella USA)** breeder Mike Howie. A \$40,000 Sales purchase. Won her heat at her first lifetime start then started inside the back line on the 4<sup>th</sup> line of betting. Settled 3 back the fence before getting into the clear on the turn, steadied then flashed home to grab the win in the \$125,000 2YO Fillies Sales Classic by 1.5m in a solidly run 1:57.4. *Half sister to Group 3 winner and Group 1 placed Some Copper Beach 1:57 \$100,020. Family of champion NZ juvenile Knight Rainbow.*



♥ **2yo Highview Heidi - Rock N Roll World USA o/o Highview Jackie NZ (Christian Cullen NZ)** breeder Allwood Stud Farm. A \$9,000 Yearling Sale purchase. Started favourite from 3 at only her 3<sup>rd</sup> lifetime start. Settled in the one by one after half a lap, made a 3 wide move at the 400m, almost leading at the top of the straight then worked home nicely to win the \$21,000 3YO Pace by 4.9m in 1:58.2. *Dam a winner of 12 and \$81,000. Granddam a half sister to the dam of Group 3 winner Group 1 placed Highview Ebony 1:55.6 \$189,582*

♥ **6yo Maddy Rocks - Pet Rock USA o/o Luvya Maddy Lombo (Jet Laag USA)** breeder Bill Hayes. Consistent placegetter with 6 places from her previous 8 starts and due for a win. Started in 3 at 70/1, settled 4 on the pegs, solid lead, close to even time first half, followed a one wide move off the back and 4 wide down the straight, flew home to win the \$27,000 Fillies and Mares by a head in lifetime best 1:56.7, last qtrs 28.8 and 29.1. To prove a point followed up with a midweek win 4 days later. *Half sister to Copy Cat Queen. Dam a half sister to Suave Stuey Lombo and to the dam of Rock Me Over and Handsandwheels. Family of Misty Maiden.*

♥ **3yo Water Lou - Sweet Lou USA o/o Living Hei (Live Or Die USA)** breeder KTC Bloodstock, Kevin and Annette Charles. A \$65,000 yearling sale purchase. Very talented filly and great start to this campaign. Started favourite from outside the back line, good drive to initially settle one by one in a quick lead before ending in the breeze with two laps to go. Forged forward in the back to be a half head clear at the 400m and kept on going to win the \$50,000 APG 3YO Fillies Sales Classic by 3.7m in 1:56.3. That was the first of 3 wins for the month, leading and winning a \$21,000 3YO Fillies by 3.7m in 1:57.1 last qtrs 28.3 and 28, then leading and winning her Heat of the \$50,000 APG Gold Bullion over the 1730m in 1:55.2, last qtrs a speedy 27.9 and 27.5. *Half sister to Erskine Range 1:55 \$255,480. Family of Courage Tells 1:54.1 \$433,861 and Pinny Tiger 1:51.2 \$276,706.*

♥ **3yo Xceptional Arma - American Ideal USA o/o Arma Xpress (Artiscape USA)** owner breeder Liam O'Connor, Jim Currie. WASBA and RWVA 2023 2YO Filly of the Year a little slower to get her first win for this season but started favourite from the unfavourable 7 barrier, fast out and settled 3 back the pegs over the 1730m sprint with the pace on. Moved to the breeze with 1100 to go a nose in front coming off the back and leading into the straight, moved further away down the straight to win the \$21,000 3YO Fillies by 7.3m in 1:55.2. Followed up a week later with a win in her Heat of the Gold Bullion over the same distance in 1:54.8, last qtrs 27.9 and 28.3. *Fourth foal and 4<sup>th</sup> winner from 2YO Sales Classic and Golden Slipper winner Arma Xpress 1:56.5 \$279,890. Same family as Fifty Five Reborn 1:56.5 \$263,298 and Arma Einstein 1:54.9 \$337,846.*

The number of fillies and mares racing in March 2024 (236) is 3 more than the previous month and a healthy 19 more than the same month last year, principally due to the increase of 17 in 3yo fillies. For March 2024 Westbreds provided 96% of 2yo fillies, 92% of 3yo fillies and 79% of racing mares. Fillies and mares contributed 34.4% of overall starters.

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**Alabar Farms, Allwood Stud Farm, Woodlands Stud and Gloucester Park** are our great long term supporters. **Australian Pacing Gold (APG), KTC Bloodstock, Grange Bloodstock Services 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) :

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### 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.

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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)

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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 **29 May 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.
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