

# Bad Call Sweet Century

The Radisha episode on 1 March at Fairview has had a sequel with jockey Teaque Gould being suspended for ten days as he was deemed to have 'ridden in an unprofessional manner in that he failed to encourage his mount with sufficient vigour to participate in this race'. Our opinion - the filly should never have been passed fit to run in this race. But other than jockeys, raceday officials never seem to get reprimanded.

Apprentice Callan Murray reached the 100 winner mark in his career at Turffontein on Saturday and judging from the comments and fan interest on social media, he has got to be the most marketable commodity in the riding ranks. Polite, well spoken, cute (according to some FB posters) and blessed with serious riding ability, he really has the world at his feet.



## REALLY COOL

Avontuur-bred Western Winter star filly Cold As Ice lines up in the UK All-weather Finals at Lingfield on Good Friday. Over £1million in prize money is on offer. Cold As Ice, who races for Kathy Finch and Belinda Kieswetter, is 3/1 fav for the 1400m F&M race, and 6/1 in the 1200m Sprint with Corals. Watch this space for more news.

## Bite Your Lip!

Jockey Karl Zechner's behaviour in the weighing room after the running of the third race at Fairview Racecourse on 26 February 2016 has resulted in him being charged with a contravention of Rule 72.1.18 in that he abused and swore at a licensed official. A penalty of a fine of R12 000 of which R6 000 is wholly suspended for a period of 12 months was imposed.

## Good Rules Rule

Stewards upheld a protest at the Sunshine Coast on Saturday after an objection over the number of strikes with the whip from a winning jockey. The two finishers involved dead-heated. After viewing the film stewards deemed Taylor Williams had struck her mount eight times prior to the 100m mark, which is in breach of the rules and which action materially affected the result. This is the first time a win has been overturned since the new whip rules came into force.



## Striker Still Out

While he had hoped to be back in the saddle six weeks after his fall in early February, Piere Strydom has recently been advised that he will be out of action longer than anticipated, taking him out of contention to ride Harry's Son in the forthcoming Dubai Turf on World Cup night. That will be a major disappointment for the connections.

## SPORTING SPONSORS

The Grand National will be sponsored by Radox Health from 2017 after the healthcare company agreed a "multi-million pound" five-year deal. The Northern Ireland-based firm replaces alcoholic drink Crabbie's, which will sponsor the Aintree race for the final time on 9 April. This is a second new sponsor for a major event in three months after technology company Timico took over the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

## The Place To Race

Mike de Kock was quoted after two good winners at Meydan on Friday: "Alareef is a South African-bred by Summerhill Stud's Stronghold and Shadwell-owned by Sheikh Hamdan.

Dubai remains a profitable place to race and we've shown so often how the relatively cheap South African runners can come here and earn good stakes - a Maiden Plate can be worth near half a million rands - you don't get that anywhere else!"

## Pathfork Power

Highlands Farm's exciting young sire Pathfork was represented by yet another impressive winner at Kenilworth on Saturday.

Trainer Glen Kotzen is a huge Pathfork fan, and, having saddled the young sire's first winner in the form of Corker, sent out yet another impressive Pathfork filly, South Side, to win. The R10 000 purchase Boland Stud bred South Side outgunned some highly regarded and well bred 2yo fillies when landing the odds in a maiden juvenile plate over 1000m, and she looks more than useful.



## MARKUS ON THE PONIES

Leading SA owner Markus Jooste told the Financial Mail recently that Steinhoff's success was a trifecta of opportunity, luck and timing. He also said that watching a horse win that he'd bred was like watching your child competing at primary school. He said that outside of rugby, racing was the sport he loved the most.