

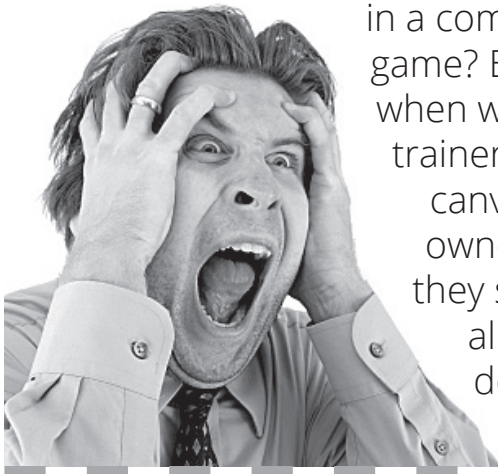
# From One Extreme To The Other

In less than a fortnight recently, former SA champion rider S'manga Khumalo was suspended for 14 days for failing to ride his horse out and prejudicing his finishing position. Then days later he uses his crop in an unnecessary manner which results in wheals on the right hind quarter of his mount. He was fined R2000. Bling is an experienced jockey – should we be playing the system or the man?

Australian Zac Purton, who rode a double at Hong Kong's Sha Tin meeting over the weekend, publicly denigrated the new Australian whip rules that prohibit a jockey from striking a horse more than five times, or in consecutive strides, in the last 100 metres. "In Australia, I'm doubtful whether either of them would have won under the new rules, I really had to get stuck into both of them and they only just won. At least I'm lucky enough to be riding in Hong Kong where I'm encouraged to ride winners - it doesn't seem to be that way back at home currently."

## SCREAM

That is what we are going to do if we hear another trainer on Tellytrack telling us what great condition a horse arrived in at his yard from the horse's former stable. And also how the previous trainer sent a list of exactly what to do. Why all the smoke -blowing in a competitive game? Especially when we hear of trainers openly canvassing owners – as they should be allowed to do in a free world.



## Equus Erred

John Freeman observes in his latest eNews that Drakenstein's Cape Champion Inara proved on Saturday in the Gr1 Empress Club Stakes how the Equus panel erred in their judgement. They omitted Trippi's dual Gr1 winning daughter from the 3yo Filly Awards nominee list giving preference to fillies who had only won one Gr1 race that season - as if to say that back to back victories in the time honoured Gr1 Maine Chance Farm Paddock Stakes and the Gr1 Klawervlei Majorca Stakes is not enough to secure a nomination.



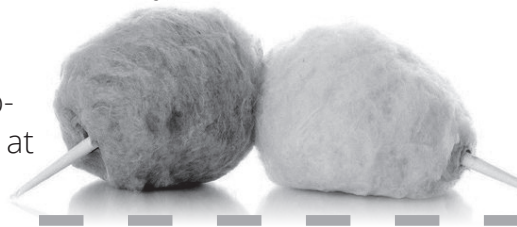
Top sprinter Brutal Force will be out for four months following a bout of colic. Trainer Joey Ramsden told Michael Clower that Fatty (as Brutal is known) got the colic in Jo'burg last Monday night and his gut was trapped between the rib cage and the liver. "It was serious – apparently it is one of the worst types of colic there is. Fortunately the vets were able to pull out the trapped gut without having to cut it and the horse returned to the yard on Saturday."

## GREAT VALUE

Rosedene Stud's promising young stallion Biarritz, whose very first runner was a stakes winner, had an eye catching juvenile winner on Friday afternoon. Grandissimo, a bargain R25 000 buy from last year's March Yearling Sale, produced a devastating turn of foot to mow down older rivals and score an impressive two and a half length win. Bred by Rosedene Stud, Grandissimo races for Messrs Bortz and Van Huyssteen and he looks a smart sort who should go on and win his share of races.

## Candy Floss

Andrew Fortune made a welcome return from injury with a double on the Fairview polytrack on Monday. The Candyman said that he loved the poly as nine times out of ten there was a pace on and all it required was positioning the horse. Quizzed on his motivation, he quipped: "I have five kids to feed and a year ago they were all still quite chubby. I have even resorted to buying the no-name brands at Pick 'N Pay!"



## Calling Talent

Phumelela is looking for new commentating talent via a competition they are running. Entrants are required to email a sound byte to [pressp@phumelela.com](mailto:pressp@phumelela.com). There are no specifics as regards age, race, colour or creed but Ali Cohen was discovered as a teenager via this route. We hear there is a teenage prodigy son of one of our veteran racecallers lurking in the wings...

## CHARITY TURF CHALLENGE

The 2016 Charity Turf Challenge kicks off on Canon Guineas Day, Friday 6 May, with R100 000 up for grabs. The entry form and horse list has now been uploaded. Visit [www.racingsouthafrica.co.za](http://www.racingsouthafrica.co.za) and you will find it under Charity Turf Challenge or see more on the rolling news. The entry form is an attachment at the end of the article.

## Lyle In Style

Lyle Hewitson looks like he could be the quickest rider ever to get to 20 winners and lose his 4kg claim. Hewitson only rode his first professional winner on 18 March and at the close of the Fairview meeting on Monday he had clocked up 16 winners – just 4 to go before his claim drops to 2,5kg, when his next target will be 40 winners. He has proven terrific value for his claim and looks set for a bright future.