

PUBLIC INTEREST

Have the racing public been done a dirty with the non-disclosure surrounding the circumstances of the 'ringer' cases recently? The NHA calendar confirms this week that trainers PL Smith, C Lensley and SB Kotzen were found guilty under 72.1.45 for presenting a horse to race which was not the correct and carded horse. Smith and Lensley were fined a nett R10k, while Kotzen got R5k. But that is surely not the end of the story. What and how did they do it? In a recent similar UK case, the trainer even admitted having a distracting lunch with his young assistant. That's transparency, Mr Barends!

Mrs Okay

The nicely named Oratorio daughter Mrs O dead-heated at Turffontein on Saturday to make it 2 wins from 3 starts and was the first of two winners for her sire in the past week. The Nadeson Park bred Mrs O is out of the Western Winter mare, Ginger Hill. Oratorio's Scottsville Sunday winner Sacred Flame was even more impressive. The half-brother to Gr1 winner Guinness looks top drawer.



Chestnut Champ

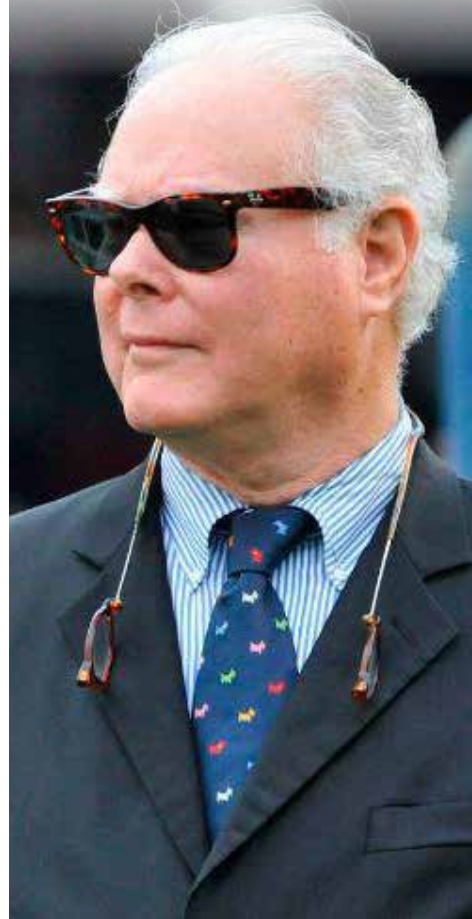
SP reader Jay Salikram kindly brought to our attention Johnny Bear's victory in the \$300,000 Gr1 Northern Dancer Turf Stakes at Woodbine on Saturday. Johnny Bear is a son of English Channel out of the Horse Chestnut mare, In Return. Johnny Bear took six runs to win his maiden and this was his first graded stakes score in 33 starts. Who knows - it could be the Breeders Cup next!

Valorific

The astute Barry Irwin was celebrating a plan come together at Woodbine on Sunday. Team Valor International and trainer Marco Botti's Breeders' Cup prospects brightened when the Irish-bred Capla Temptress won the \$250,000 Gr1 Natalma Stakes in her North American debut, stamping her ticket to the Gr1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf. Barry bought the filly with this target in mind.

NO Hat Trick

Mike Azzie was quoted as saying that dual Argentinian Gr1 winner Hat Puntano's local debut at Turffontein on Saturday was 'a comedy of errors'. He didn't blame jockey Piere Strydom, who had wanted to settle the colt, but raced wide and handy. Hat Puntano also spread a shoe in running. He warrants a second chance.



The Right Time

Racing returns to Greyville on the polytrack this Friday where the first race is off at 17h10. A minor spring treatment commenced on 21 August. The polytrack pull-up area has also been extended by 100m in the interim, as this was causing problems during inclement weather.

Owning Horses Made Easy

Australian superhorse Winx closes in on a third consecutive Cox Plate at Moonee Valley next month after notching her 20th consecutive win in the A\$500,000 Gr1 George Main Stakes at Royal Randwick on Saturday. In so doing, Winx registered the 13th Gr1 win of her career - equalling Sunline's record and trailing only Black Caviar (15) and Kingston Town (14) for most majors. Her earnings are A\$13.47 million. Makybe Diva banked A\$14.52 million.

Breaking Barriers

To celebrate September as Heritage month, Willowfountain Horse Riding Club in partnership with Ikusasa LeAfrica Foundation (ILAF) and Gold Circle is holding an Umtelebhelu Rural Horse Racing Event on 30 September at Scottsville Racecourse. The rural horse riding sport in South Africa was established more than 100 years ago and predominantly attracted rural black people. The sport is called Umtelebhelu in Nguni languages. The sport of trotting horses is celebrated and recognised worldwide. As a social event in Africa, Umtelebhelu horseracing has broken tribal and political barriers. Contact: Mbuyiselwa Mkhize - Email: Mbuyi@tpa.co.za, Cell: (076) 052 5911 and watch this space for more.

DEADLINE

A reminder that the due date for submission of applications for the KZN Breeders Premium Scheme is 31 October 2017.

In order to qualify for Premium claims, please note:

- 1) Registered and Paid up member of the KZN Breeders Association.
- 2) Registered with NHRA for the racing season Aug 2016 – Jul 2017.
- 3) Ownership of one mare or 4 x 25% shares in mares based in KZN to qualify.

Further info on www.kznbreeders.co.za