

## Off Track

Winning Ways host and veteran trainer James Goodman has slammed the Greyville polytrack draw bias. Goodman said that the middle inside of the track was dead but that 'misuse' was causing the outside to become a golden strip. In a damning indictment of poor management, Goodman said that vehicles were being driven on the outside strip, thus compacting it. "That's why we have this imbalance and rush to the outside and the risk of accidents. They need to sort this out – horses must be able to win from anywhere," he said.

## Zip The Lip \$10,870,000

Former Australian champion trainer Peter Moody was having a go on Twitter but has been fined A\$3,000 for statements he made on social media. His comments were regarding one of Moody's sore points – cobalt testing. The former trainer sent two tweets on Wednesday afternoon alluding to an alleged positive test in NSW by a 'leading Vic stable'.

The 2018 Dubai World Cup Carnival programme kicks off on Thursday 11 January. The 10 fixture programme offers a total purse of \$10,870,000. 61 thoroughbred races which feature 2 Gr1, 9 Gr2, 10 Gr3 and 4 Listed races, with the addition of 4 Group Purebred Arabian races, will be run. See the full programme on [www.sportingpost.co.za](http://www.sportingpost.co.za)

## ON THE ROCKS

Sun Met winner Whisky Baron may run in the Gr2 £100,000 Shadwell Joel Stakes, over the full Rowley Mile on Friday 29 September. His recent gallop exposed his dislike for soft going, according to regular pilot Greg Cheyne. So the less water the better for the son of Manhattan Rain...



WAYNE MARKS

## Royal Families

Drakenstein sire Duke Of Marmalade enjoyed a notable royal victory at Newbury on Saturday afternoon. His daughter Daphne made a winning return to racing after a 367 day break when scoring for Her Majesty The Queen. The lightly raced four-year-old, ridden by Ryan Moore, stayed on strongly to post a three quarter length win over the Frankel sired favourite Weekender. Daphne, who has now won two in a row, had won her last outing in 2016 when successful at Goodwood.

## Dumped

The current Mauritius racing season has not been a memorable one for South African jockeys and the latest casualty is Donovan Dillon. The Gilbert Rousset stable terminated Dillon's contract after last Saturday's meeting. Dillon rode 6 winners from 51 mounts. His first winner was aboard Top Of The Rock, who won on 29 July. We hear Robert Khathi may soon be back too.



GOLD CIRCLE

## Mama Mia

Two of the best racemares to compete in South Africa in recent times have tested in foal to Australian-bred L'Ormarins Queen's Plate winner Gimmethgreenlight in their maiden season at Varsfontein Stud. Gr1 winners Bela-Bela (Dynasty) and Real Princess (Trippi) are the illustrious mothers-to-be. The future looks bright!



CHASE LIEBENBERG

## TOP CHOICE

Highlands, Part Of Ridgemont, reported last Friday that their exciting newbie, Rafeef (Redoute's Choice), has had his first mare tested in foal. She is Hemel 'n Aarde's Casey Tibbs' daughter Borneo Bell. The champion Rafeef is one of the most highly anticipated new stallion prospects.

## Going For Gold

The Ayr Gold Cup has been rescheduled for Saturday, 30 September - and will now take place at Haydock. The popular betting race was due to be run on 23 September but was called off as a section of the course was waterlogged.

## AVON CHEER

From the lush paddocks of Avontuur comes the news that Equus champion sprinter Val De Ra (Mum of the exciting Miss Frankel) is safely in foal to champion sire Trippi. Var's SA champion sprinter Val De Ra won 11 of her 13 starts, including four Gr1'S. Her first foal was Dream De Ra (Oasis Dream) who retired from racing after an injury.