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**Purebred Arabian Races
Around the World 2020**

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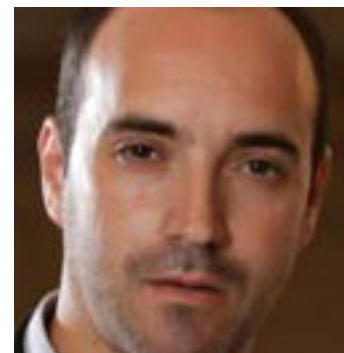
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Mullen and De Vries win Fillies & Colts Classics in Abu Dhabi
Jawaal shows his class at the HH Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan Cup
Al Naama and Al Mustafiz win The Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy and National Day Cup
Rodess Du Loup won for the first time in Qatar
Céphale de Ghazal on debut completes a double for Al Shaqab Racing
Al Shaqab Racing's homebred Almafjar backs up promising debut with cosy victory at Pau
Sisterson Sets Sights on The Saudi Cup for True Timber
Trainer Al Alawi wins two races in a roll at Al Ain
Messi, the horse, takes the Crown in Abu Dhabi for Belgium
AF Alwajel won impressively confidently ridden by Tadhg O'Shea
Winked won HH Sheikhha Fatima Bint Mubarak Cup for Ajban Stables
AJS Wathanan bolted to a scintillating victory in the The Late Rabiah Saad Al-Kaabi Cup
ARO Patron HH Sheikh Hamdan secures 19 Owners Championship

A 1-2-3 for HH Sheikh Hamdam's homebreds in the Shadwell Arabian Stallions Handicap Stakes
King Abdulaziz Turf Hosts First Race of the Season on January 23, 2021
Shadwell will stand seven Arabian stallions in 2021
Al Nabooda and Oertel dominated in Sharjah Paddys Day and Uptown Sandy Girls wins in Texas Arabian Stallion Stakes Gr 3
Munir Du Soleil wins Listed Prix Ourour
Faleh Bughanaim conquers his second victory of the season with Akma
Injaaz Stud's Lekhraib races to thrilling at Al Huwaila Cup Day
Al-Tabari leads 1-2-3-4 home for Hammersley
Abiyah Athbah scores in the Baileys Horse Feeds Conditions Stakes
ES Nahawand and Pinheiro shine in Al Ain
Brazilian Pinheiro wins with Jayide Al Boraq first PA race in Meydan
Mahatma Rach wins two races in a row
Serafim Forta impresses in the Racing to School Inspiring Young Minds Handicap
The respected trio Al Nabooda, O'Shea and Oertel wins in Abu Dhabi
Yaraa Takes Al Ain Feature for Yas Racing, Al Jahoori and Jara
UAE Champion Owner Al Nabooda's AF Al Moreeb wins the only Arabian race at Jebel Ali
Lekhraib sprints to Doha Cup glory
Al Ajeeb W'Rsan, Mujeeb and Onward winners of the first meeting in Abu Dhabi
Dragon dominates UAE President Cup in Shadwan's absence
Wanaasa a clear winner in the Baileys Horse Feeds Novice Stakes
Mahatma Rach wins first race of the year in São Paulo
Mon'nia and RS Rasheeda shine on Umm Salal Oaks Trial day
Chaval de Ghazal registered a fantastic race at the Umm Al Houli Cup day
History repeats as Al-Tabari wins the Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap
AF Sail gives second victory to Al Nabooda
RB Kindle sprints to Losail Cup victory
Ghali Al Athman made a spectacular debut
Brazilians Pinheiro and Paiva win in the first races in Al Ain

Al Shaqab Racing's Al Naama leads one-two in Umm Bab Cup
 Al Shaamikh confirm promise in Emirates Breeders Novice Stakes
 Maiuf, Joudy, Muthhil and Abahat winners of the Third Meeting in Doha
 Arwen Forta wins the Zayin Arabian Stud
 Bughanaim with Hajadie Du Croate wins Al Gharafa Cup
 Rajeh, Tahri Baha, Badda and Alsdry winners of Arabian Races at Al Ghariya Cup
 Sand Canyon JS wins his first race in Texas
 Saudi Arabia Announces Second Renewal of World's Richest Race \$20m Saudi Cup High-light of Boosted \$30.5m
 Race distance extended for AED 5 million
 Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Group 1 Jewel Crown
 The UAE President Cup series has enjoyed a return to prominence in recent years
 PVE Remington – Australian Racing Royalty
 Al Kaaser wins the Baker McVeigh International
 Paddys Day Takes the \$100,000 President of the UAE Cup
 Tayf wins Qatar Arabian World Cup
 Lady Princess dazzles at ParisLongchamp winning Gr1 P/A Qatar Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe
 Alawsj and Hadi de Carrere winners of Gr1 PA in St. Cloud
 Natalma Al Maury, the winning choice of Olivier Trigodet
 Jaazmah Athbah wins in thrilling race
 Toofan wins on debut in thearabianracehorse.com
 Hattal gains Arabian Derby double in UAE President Cup at Doncaster
 Paddys Day on Top again in Colorado in Jerry Partin Stakes
 AA Rich Mother, AA Speedball and RB Kinetic winner of Emirates Breeders at Arapahoe Park
 Ebraz wins Qatar International Stakes for the second consecutive year

£2.3 million in prize money set to be on offer at the Qatar Goodwood Festival
 Race fixture list for 2020-21 approved by HH Sh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
 Namira Al Cham winner of Prix Fernand Flottes at Toulouse
 Abbes wins Qatar Coupe de France des Chevaux Arabes
 Sir Monlau wins Prix Quitaine
 Al Shaqab Racing's Snan stays unbeaten
 Miss Boum Al Maury wins Prix Aissa
 Mountasir wins Prix Djerba Oua
 Hayyan won QREC-sponsored Qatar Prix De L'Dlevage
 Deryan wins Coupe D'Europe, The President of the UAE Cup, at Deauville
 Shadwell Stud unveils New Site
 Decision taken to postpone Dubai International Arabian Races 2020
 Shadwell Farm in USA celebrates 35 year
 Bel'izam wins Prix Damas at Toulouse
 Mzoon wins Prix Cherifa
 Amyr du Soleil wins Prix Nefta-Dormane
 Joud Al Cham wins with ease
 Sihrano du Cayrou wins at Jägersro Galopp
 Hilal Al Cham, in the way of the strong
 Tallaab Al Khalediah conquers Obaiya Cup STRI at The Saudi Cup - Realising Saudi Arabia's racecourse vision
 Australian Jockey Isabella
 The Mashhur Al Khalediah assures victory in The Jewel Crown
 Tadhg O'Shea dominates Wathba Stallions Cup For Private Owners Only
 HH The President Cup victory in Abu Dhabi for Rmmas
 RB Lam Tara stars in Al Asayl double at Abu Dhabi
 Sivit Al Maury, Shadwell Arabian Stallions welcomes a new stallion for the 2020 breeding season
 Races in Qatar - Season 2019-2020



Al Saqib Race, Doha. Photo: Juhaime/QREC



Lekhraib wins Al Shaqab Cup for Injaaz Stud

Injaaz Stud's Lekhraib (AF AlBahar x Grace T) made his love for the dirt very evident when the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali trained horse landed the AL SHAQAB CUP (Local PA) at Al Rayyan Park on December 31.

The 6yo had won two out of his three outings on the surface this year, both sprints. On Thursday, with Marco Casamento in the saddle again, the chestnut horse was unstoppable in the 1700m run, winning the feature by five lengths and a quarter.

The win was Lekhraib's seventh overall and sixth on the surface. At the post, Lekhraib beat Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalid Bin Nasser Al Thani's Hazm Al Sulaimi (TM Fred Texas x Hasna), ridden by Soufiane Saadi for Gassim Mohammad Ghazali, for the win, while Ali Khalid Al Mosallam guided Abdulaziz Hamad Al Marri's Lama (Hatten x Ahazeej) to third.

Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari's Salsabiel (AF Al-Bahar x Jabara) made a spectacular debut on dirt

as the filly shed her maiden status in style on Thursday. After finishing an encouraging fifth on a mile long debut on turf earlier this month, the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali trained 3yo once again partnered Marco Casamento in the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (No Official Rating). Stepping down to six furlongs and the switch in the surface worked as Salsabiel won by three and a half lengths on her second outing.

After showing promise in his season opener, Injaaz Stud's Mister General (General x Last Guest) had not built on that in the last few races. That changed on Thursday as Mohammed Riyaz Ibrahim Kasim trained colt was in a league of his own on his first run out on dirt. In the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (4 Year Olds), the grey colt had apprentice rider Khalid Al Balushi for company and the duo outpaced everyone to win by five lengths and three quarters at the post.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: Juhaime/QREC



Gaby De Faust shines on Dukhan Cup

Injaaz Stud's Gaby De Faust (Dahess x Vol-tah) made a good impression when fourth on her Qatar debut in the Oaks earlier this month. On Wednesday, December 30, running on dirt for the first time ever, the French recruit built on that performance and was dominant in the DUKHAN CUP (PA 3yo & older Fillies and Mares) at Al Rayyan Park. Partnered by Michael Forest, the Mohammed Riyaz Ibrahim Kasim trained 4yo was unstoppable, especially at the business end of the matters, finishing a mammoth six lengths and three quarters ahead of the competition. Umm Qarn's Dabaab (Munjiz x Haifaa), trained by Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle, finished runner up under Ronan Thomas while Saeed Bin Mubarak Saeed Aljafali Al Naimi's Safae (Majd Al Arab x Tidja D'ibos), schooled by Majed Mahadi Seifeddine, was guided to third by Ivan Rossi.

Al Shaqab Racing's Bsheer (Amer x Frynch) and longtime partner Faleh Bughanaim entered the winner's circle together for the first time in almost two years when the duo landed the Pure-

bred Arabian Handicap (90 & below) in a thrilling fashion on Wednesday. After Bsheer took the lead coming on to the final straight in the 1900m run, Ronan Thomas ridden Winne Taouy began a pursuit of his own, eventually breathing down the leader's neck in the final furlong. However, Bsheer managed to keep his neck ahead throughout for a scintillating victory.

Mubarak Zayed Al Shahwani's Satam (TM Fred Texas x Dixie Darlene) was fourth over C&D in his season opener in October before a few fair results since then. On Wednesday, in the 1700m Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (Rated 70 & Below) (4-6yo), Mansoor Mesfer Al Hajri trained horse had Tomas Lukasek for company, like in the season opener, but this time the duo put up a determined run on the straight to win by three quarters of a length in front of Faleh Bughanaim ridden Razad.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photos: Juhaime/QREC

AJS Moaddie wins Jaafer Cup for Al Jeryan Stud



H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani crowned the winners of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed Bin Khalifa Al Thani Trophy (QA GR2) (TB 3-year-old & older) and Jaafer Cup (Far Bend) at Al Rayyan Park on Saturday, December 26, 2020. The ten race card concluded with Al Wasmiyah Farm's NOOR AL HAWA (Makfi x Majestic Roi) landing the QAR 1000000 finale, and Al Jeryan Stud's AJS Moaddie (AF AlBahar x Gabie De Carrere) winning the Jaafer Cup.

Al Jeryan Stud's AJS Moaddie (AF AlBahar x Gabie De Carrereby Manganate) won a thriller halting a string of near misses since the Qatar bred 5yo won the Qatar Silver Sword in April of 2019. The crack at Jaafer Cup (Far Bend) (Local PA) was also the grey horse's second attempt the 2000m run, with the Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani saddled horse finishing runner up last year. Ridden by Alberto Sanna, AJS Moaddie

held off a threatening challenge by Umm Qarn's versatile Sealine (Amer x Jalalah), the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained 6yo who finished second under Ronan Thomas by a neck. A length behind was H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Khatafaynee (AF AlBahar x Fifth), ridden to third by Tomas Lukasek for Julian Colin Smart.

Patrice Alexandre Nicolet's Barra (Munjiz x Daniah by Al Mouwaffak) won for the first time since February 2019 when the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle schooled horse won the Harran Local Purebred Arabian Conditions (Far Bend) in a breezy finish. With apprentice rider Ali Khalid Al Mosallam in the saddle, the 7yo was unstoppable racing to a dominant finish with five lengths and a quarter to spare at the post as another De Mieulle ward, Umm Qarn's Abahat, finished runner up under Ronan Thomas.

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Ghali Al Athman (Harran ASF x Al Nefor) had made a promising start to his time in Qatar with a maiden win, followed by promising top three finishes in two handicaps thereafter. Julian Colin Smart trained colt was back in the winner's circle on Saturday when the grey horse landed the Djendel Local Purebred Arabian Novice Plate (Far Bend) in fine fashion. Ridden by Tomas Lukasek for the fourth straight start, the duo won by a length and a quarter at the post, beating Marco Casamento ridden Muthhil for the victory.

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Dawi (Amer x Djamour Des Forges by Tidjani) made a winning debut on Saturday. In the Mared Al Sahra Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (Far Bend), Julian Colin Smart-trained colt had Francois Herholdt for company, and despite a wide start to the 2000m race, a fantastic ride put the 3yo grey horse in a great position for the win. Dawi made good use of the advantage on most in the field to win by a length and a quarter in front of Soufiane Saadi ridden Bin Al Tair.

Injaaz Stud's Fahd De Faust (No Risk Al Maury x Hagnes De Faust by Dormane) had not finished

outside the top three since a fifth place finish in the Aziz Asf Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (Far Bend) last year, even as a win had eluded the Gassim Mohammad Ghazali trained horse. The 5yo finally entered the winner's circle on the seventh time of asking as Marco Casamento guided the bay horse to a fine win with a length and three quarters to spare in the seven furlong run, with Alberto Sanna ridden Rammah finishing runner up.

After missing out on his first win in his last couple of starts, Mohammed Bin Fahad Al Attiya's Goldamer (Amer x Nacree Al Maury) finally stepped into the winner's circle on Saturday. Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward landed the Asraa Min Albarq Purebred Arabian Handicap (70-90) with a dominant display. The 4yo was helmed by Soufiane Saadi who was in the saddle in a C&D outing earlier this month too. This time there was no stopping the duo on the home straight in the mile long run as Goldamer breezed past the post for a five length win.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photos: Ju-haim/QREC



Barra ridden by Ali Khalid Al Mosallam



Ghali Al Athman ridden by Tomas Lukasek



Dawi ridden by Francois Herholdt



Fahd De Faust ridden by Marco Casamento

Dubai World Cup purse retained at US\$12 Million



Af Maher winner of the 2019 Dubai Kahayla Classic Sponsored by Mubadala.
Photo: Noëlle Derré/CCA

Nominations Deadline Extended, Revised Prize Money Announced

Dubai Racing Club has announced that the Dubai World Cup Purse has been retained at US\$12 Million and that the deadline for free nominations to the historic 25th Dubai World Cup has been extended until January 20, 2021. Held on the final Saturday of March each year, the single day of racing boasts an impressive six G1 and three G2 races, reflective of the elite standard of competition, hosted at the iconic Meydan Racecourse. Last year a total of 1,774 nominations were accepted from 902 horses trained in 21 countries.

Scheduled on March 27, 2021 prize money for the flagship G1 Dubai World Cup race sponsored by Emirates Airline has been retained at US\$12 million. Contested over 2000m on dirt since 1996, it has been won by horses trained in France, Japan, UAE, UK and USA.

Purses for the remaining eight races are slight-

ly reduced from the previous running, but given the challenging events over the past few months on account of Covid-19, Dubai Racing Club has made every effort to ensure the return of racing in safe and secure conditions.

A positive addition is the decision to modify the purse structure, allowing for payment all the way down an 8th-place finish in all races on the night.

The brochure with further details regarding nominations of horses to Dubai World Cup day will be released shortly; meanwhile the link below may be used for nominations.

<http://carnivalhorsemen.dubairacingclub.com/DWC-nomination>

The first supplementary stage for all races on Dubai World Cup day will close on Wednesday, February 10, when connections can nominate their horse for 0.1% of the prize money of their chosen race. The second supplementary stage is on Monday, March 8, when horses can be supplemented for 1% of the prize money. The third

and final supplementary stage takes place on Sunday, March 21, when horses can be supplemented into the race for 10% of the prize money. Entry/declaration takes place Monday, March 22.

For further details regarding nominations, Dubai Racing Club's International Racing Liaison Officer Stephanie Cooley can be contacted at: Stephanie.cooley@dubairacingclub.com

All races are being contested and regulated in a standard fashion and results are being recorded in an official capacity. In line with the UAE Government regulations, Dubai Racing Club is following strict health and safety measures, including full sanitization, thermal screening of attendees and social distancing.

About Dubai Racing Club

Dubai Racing Club (DRC) serves to organize and host horseracing at Meydan Racecourse, from November through to April, including the Dubai World Cup. Formed in 1992 to further develop and promote horseracing in Dubai, the first races held under rules were contested in March 1992 at the Nad Al Sheba Racecourse. Meydan Racecourse is the world's largest integrated racing facility and the racing season and Dubai World Cup play a key role in international racing.

Source: Media-Dubai Racing Club

Dubai World Cup Revised Prize Money:

G1 (Arabian) 2000m Dubai Kahayla Classic Sponsored by Mubadala - **US\$750,000.**
 G2 1600 m (Dirt) Godolphin Mile - **US\$ 750,000.**
 G2 3200m (Turf) Dubai Gold Cup Sponsored by Al Tayer Motors – **US\$ 750,000**
 G1 1200m (Turf) Al Quoz Sprint Sponsored by Azizi Developments– **US\$ 1,000,000**
 G2 1900m (Dirt) UAE Derby Sponsored by Emirates NBD– **US\$ 750,000**
 G1 1200m (Dirt) Dubai Golden Shaheen Sponsored by Gulf News – **US\$ 1,500,000**
 G1 1800m (Turf) Dubai Turf Sponsored DP World – **US\$ \$4,000,000**
 G1 2410m (Turf) Longines Dubai Sheema Classic – **US\$5,000,000**
 G1 2000m (Dirt) Dubai World Cup Sponsored by Emirates Airline – **US\$ 12,000,000**



Thunder Snow, winner of the 2018 & 2019 Dubai World Cup, Sponsored by Emirates Airline.
 Photo: Dubai Racing Club

Messi has Obaiya Arabian Classic as his Goal



Messi, ridden by Pat Dobbs lands the Group 1 \$1.3m Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown at Abu Dhabi Racecourse's National Day meeting on December 4, 2020. Photo: Cedric Lane

Belgian businessman targets Saudi Cup meeting with the star of his eight-horse Arabian stable

Part-time Belgium trainer Timo Keersmaekers has his eyes set on The Obaiya Arabian Classic with his superstar horse, Messi.

Named after Argentina's world-famous Barcelona footballer, Messi netted more than USD\$816,000 when storming home to win the \$1.3m Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown at Abu Dhabi on December 4, 2020, having narrowly failed to land an all-the-way victory in the Qatar Arabian World Cup at Longchamp on Arc day in October.

Now Keersmaekers, who has just eight horses in his family's stable located 30km from Antwerp in Belgium, is dreaming of another huge pot in the \$2m Obaiya Arabian Classic, the world's richest race for Purebred Arabians, staged at the glittering Saudi Cup meeting in February.

Keersmaekers said: "It's a great target for Messi. He proved himself in Paris and what he did in Abu Dhabi was great. We had dreamed of competing against the best Arabian horses and Messi has helped us live that dream."

"I wouldn't have thought about the Obaiya

Arabian Classic before now, but he deserves his place in those sort of races.

"He's an eight-year-old, nearly nine, so I'm aware we need to do it now. We're not able to say 'maybe next year or the year after' – that's not possible. We need to enjoy him now."

"I need to try to keep him at the level he is at and go to the races with him in the form he is in now."

If it wasn't for the global Covid-19 pandemic, Keersmaekers would have been too busy to have been able to worry too much about the world's top Arabian races. He would have had other cups – plus saucers and plates – on his mind as the boss of a successful tableware business in Belgium.

He had started training his parents' Arabian horses while studying at college as a teenager but had to pack it in as his business interests began to take over, leaving little time for the demanding world of racing.

Keersmaekers said: "I've always had horses but with my business I didn't have the time to train them myself. Normally, I spend 70 days a year travelling at trade fairs and visiting clients. This year, due to the coronavirus, I was able to spend

that time with the horses so I said 'ok, we're going to train them ourselves again'.

"Messi won his first race this year even though I didn't think he was ready, so I thought there was a lot of improvement in him. He won his second race as well so I kept on training him and I thought he was capable of winning races in France.

"I was extremely happy with him when he finished second in the Arabian World Cup at Longchamp. It made me start dreaming of the races in the Middle East but, due to coronavirus, I didn't think I would get the chance to go. All of a sudden I got a message asking me if I wanted to go. I was lucky to get the invitation and I'm very thankful."

Having started riding showjumpers in his early teens before switching to racing Arabian horses, Keersmaekers has developed a unique training style.

He added: "I started riding showjumpers at 14 and then my parents got involved in Arabian show horses. There were a few which are not good enough for shows so we started racing them. Our trainer wasn't getting the results so I said to my mother that we should start training them ourselves at home and it went very well.

"We try to mix a little bit of the normal horseracing training and a few ingredients of showjump-

ing training. We have a 750m oval training track. It's not fancy or anything special and the horses are ridden out in the woods and forests.

"Messi trains a little bit in the morning and spends a lot of his time in the field – he enjoys it. He's had a bow tendon in the past and he had to have an operation. I think being out in the field with the surface not being perfectly flat surface helps give him more elasticity in his legs."

Much like his footballer namesake, Messi has been in great demand since rising through the ranks to the premier league of Arabian racing. There have been big-money offers from inside Belgium as well as from Turkey and the Middle East.

None of them have been enough to tempt Keersmaekers to part with his star striker and there is a certain football-mad member of his family keen to keep hold of the stunning snowy grey.

The trainer said: "I was breeding horses on the side and we had this foal. I said to my nephew that he could name him. He picked Messi. It's easy for people to remember his name now and he's often been the underdog in his races so that's generated even more interest."

Source: Ben Cleminson / Sarah Tregoning



Capella Stakes winner Justin guaranteed spot in Riyadh Dirt Sprint



Justin, ridden by Ryusei Sakai and trained by Yoshito Yahagi. Credit: (C) Weekly Gallop

Yahagi-trained four year old lands second Japanese Saudi Cup Qualifying Race

Justin landed the Grade 3 Capella Stakes at Nakayama Racecourse on Sunday, guaranteeing him a spot in the \$1.5 million Riyadh Dirt Sprint at The Saudi Cup meeting on 20 February 2021.

It was an eighth win from 20 career starts for the son of Orfevre and after the race his trainer Yoshito Yahagi confirmed that connections would strongly consider heading out to Riyadh in February.

"I am very glad to win the race which is a 'win and you're in' for The Riyadh Dirt Sprint," said Yahagi. "I will see how he comes out of the race if he is fine, I will talk to the owner about future plans. When I had a little chat with him soon after the race, we shared the feeling that The Riyadh Dirt Sprint is a suitable race for Justin."

The Capella Stakes is the second qualifying race to be staged in Japan over the past week with last Sunday's Champions Cup winner, Chuwa Wizard earning a place in the \$20 million Saudi Cup.

The Japanese did well at the inaugural Saudi Cup meeting earlier this year with Full Flat beating the progressive Mishriff to land The

Saudi Derby, while the globetrotting Deirdre and Matera Sky claimed the runners-up spot in The Middle Distance Turf Cup and Riyadh Dirt Sprint respectively.

The final two qualifying races for February's meeting are next month at Gulfstream Park where the Pegasus World Cup guarantees a spot in The Saudi Cup and the Pegasus World Cup Turf provides a ticket for the \$1 million Middle Distance Turf Cup.

Tom Ryan, Director of Strategy and International Racing at the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia, said: "We are delighted that the connections of both Justin and Chuwa Wizard are strongly considering The Saudi Cup meeting after winning our first two qualifying races.

"We are committed to building relationships with key races and events around the world and following a successful meeting for the Japanese this year, we hope to welcome a number of Japanese horses in February.

"The Pegasus World Cup and Pegasus World Cup Turf are our remaining two qualifiers and we are excited to see those races at Gulfstream Park in January."

Source: Ben Cleminson / Sarah Tregoning

Spanish ace takes aim at new \$500,000 Saudi Arabia prize



Jockey Borja Fayos celebrates winning the Gran Premio Gobierno Vasco at San Sebastian Racecourse in Spain with Oriental on 18 August 2019. CREDIT: Dabid Argindar (Argindar.com)

Oriental out to prove Saudi Cup Credentials

Spanish trainer, Alvaro Soto is aiming to fly the flag for his country with his star horse, Oriental in the \$500,000 Saudi International Handicap.

The 2100m race, a new addition to The Saudi Cup meeting, is open to horses trained in countries not included in the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' Part One nations.

Oriental was horse of the year in Spain in 2019 having joined Soto from his old boss Carlos Laffon-Parias, a Spaniard based in Chantilly, France. He had been used as a lead horse for the top-class Recoletos, who won two French Group One races before retiring to stud at the end of 2018.

Having won two of Spain's biggest mile (1600m) races in 2019 – the Gran Premio Gobierno Vasco and Gran Premio de la Hispanidad – as well as one of Morocco's top prizes, the 1m4f (2400m) Grand Prix de la Sorec, Oriental was hampered by breathing issues earlier this year.

Madrid-based Soto is now confident he has solved those problems and he will give the six-year-old a run on December 30 before hopefully

preparing him for the Saudi International Handicap on February 19.

Soto said: *"He's in great form. He could have run two weeks ago but I was waiting for this race. I think it's going to be a very easy race because it's on the all-weather and all-weather races in Spain are not strong. In the morning Oriental is doing things I saw last year – I didn't see them at the beginning of this year. He's been galloping with a filly who won by six lengths last week and he was very easy beside her. I'm full of hope."*

Soto might only be 29-years-old but he has packed a lot into life so far with little room for anything but racing. His father owned horses in Seville, where Soto grew up, and he started riding out racehorses in his early teens having started off with showjumpers. After riding 15 winners as an amateur jockey he turned to training in Madrid three years ago and he now has 22 horses in his yard.

Soto said: *"My whole life has been racing. When I was at school I was always riding. I used to go to the racetrack in the morning and then on to school at 9am. It was the same when I was at*

university studying business. I had a very good relationship with Carlos Laffon-Parias as he is from Seville also. Our families are good friends so every summer I went to him in Chantilly."

The link with Laffon-Parias has certainly been a fruitful one as it led to him snapping up Japanese-bred Oriental after he had won a Listed race at Craon, France in September 2018.

He explained: *"When I came back to Spain I met M'Hammed Karimine, a Moroccan owner who was looking for a good horse. I saw Oriental work and said 'you have to buy this horse – you are going to have a great time with him'."*

"I knew he was a very good horse and we only had to change his mind as he had been the lead horse for Recoletos. I think we've done it. He was expensive but he won two of the best mile (1600m) races in Spain last year and he was runner-up behind a good French horse in the other. He won in Casablanca, Morocco, over 1m4f (2400m). That's why I think he can be very useful in Saudi Arabia."

"He is very competitive from a mile up to 1m4f. The race is very good for him. He's also a good traveller. To go to Casablanca last year, he had to travel for 18 hours and his behaviour was amazing."

Travelling horses to the Middle East is nothing new to Soto. He took runners to Qatar and Dubai when pupil assistant trainer to Marco Botti in Newmarket, England.

Having also spent time as assistant to Laffon-Parias, he was tempted back to Spain to start training three years ago. He is fiercely ambitious and sees the Saudi International Handicap as a chance to show what he can do on racing's world stage.

Soto added: *"We would love it if we were invited to Saudi Arabia for the International Handicap. This is the type of opportunity I'm looking for – it is very important for my career. Everyone will be at The Saudi Cup meeting and everyone will be watching. It's very important to go to these type of races to meet people."*

"I'm always thinking big. If you don't think big you don't go anywhere. I started training to be involved in these sort of races. It's why I decided to make my life about racing. This is what makes me get up at 5am every morning – in the cold, on Sundays. I love horses and I love training – I don't like anything else more than racing."

"For me, it would be amazing to go to Saudi Arabia but I wouldn't be going there to make up the numbers, I'd be going because I think Oriental can be very competitive. If we could win, personally for me it would be very important and it's also very important for Spanish racing. In Spain we only have 600 horses – that's like two yards in Newmarket!"

Source: Ben Cleminson / Sarah Tregoning



About The Saudi Cup

Organised by the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia and run at the King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, The Saudi Cup is a two-day festival of international racing headlined by the US-D\$20m Saudi Cup – the world's most valuable race.

Established in 2020 with the second renewal set to be run on Saturday February 20, 2021, The Saudi Cup day card carries a total prize purse of \$30.5m and features dirt and turf races for the highest calibre of racehorses in the world.

A full card of racing on the preceding Friday includes an International Jockeys Challenge which sees seven female and seven male jockeys compete as individuals as well as the \$500,000 Saudi International Handicap for horses trained in IFHA-registered Part II and III racing countries.

The Saudi Cup is charged with raising awareness of horse racing in the country, encouraging participation among men and women. It also aims to promote Saudi Arabia at international level, acting as a marker for the Kingdom's transformational journey, encouraging tourism and investment.



Veron highlighted by feature Abu Dhabi Championship aboard Mujeeb

The final UAE race meeting of 2020 was at Abu Dhabi on Sunday, December 20, highlighted by the Listed 1600m Abu Dhabi Championship, restricted to 3-year-olds and won relatively comfortably by Mujeeb (Dahees x Nymphaea Du Paon by Mahabb) under Fabrice Veron.

Having his third start for Eric Lemartinel and his main patron, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the homebred grey colt had made a winning debut here in the capital in early November, but was then well beaten on his only subsequent start in a conditions race over this 1600m course and distance. He bounced back in style, travelling strongly for Veron in midfield before the pair were able to sneak up the rail leaving the home turn and were soon in front in the short straight. Defeat thereafter never looked likely with Ottoman (Valiant Boy x Caviyar by Calin De Louve), finishing fast from the rear, getting closest, but without appearing likely to deny Veron's mount.

Veron said: "He was very disappointing last time and I not know why because we know he is a good horse as he showed first time and again tonight. The 1600m is ideal for him at the moment,

but he has the speed for shorter and should stay further, so is a nice horse to have in the yard."

A capacity field of 12 contested the opening 2200m maiden in which Pat Cosgrave always looked happy aboard Zalman (Hilal Al Zaman x Zalcala by Volcano De Carrere), the pair hitting the front 200m out and always holding the late challenge of AF Ramz (AF Albahar x Sanha Du Paladin by Djouras Tu) who chased him home just ahead of Will Power who flew home in the final 300m to claim third. Having his tenth career start, the 4-year-old colt had finished second over the same course and distance when chasing home, the very useful Ihtesham in the UAE Arabian Derby in March.

Saddled by Helal Alalawi for Abu Dhabi Racing, this was his second start of the current campaign and Cosgrave said: "He had the form in the book to suggest he was entitled to win that and he did it nicely enough."

The owners were celebrating a quick double just 30 minutes later, this time combining with Mohamed Daggash who saddled Hisham Al Khalediah II (Laith Al Khalediah x Enssaf by Al-



AF Majalis ridden by Tadhg O'Shea

hamal) who was probably never headed under Fernando Jara in a 1600m maiden. It was a sixth winner of the season for the trainer, enjoying his best ever campaign and eighth in total. A 6-year-old entire, he was making it third time lucky having raced just twice last season, for Alalawi, finishing well beaten both times over 2200m then 2000m. This seasonal debut was his first outing since the end of February.

Jara said: "I did not know a lot about the horse, but we broke well and I soon found myself in front. He has enjoyed bowling long in front and has run on strongly in the straight, so it was a decent effort."

Adrie de Vries then adopted identical tactics in the following 1600m handicap, making every post a winning one aboard Qader (Munjiz x Fazza by Dahman El Arami) for Jean de Roualle and Yas Racing. Another making a successful return to action, having not been seen in public since early February, the 8-year-old homebred was registering a fifth career victory, all over this course and distance.

De Roualle said: "That is the way this horse likes to race and to be ridden. I was a bit worried he was out of form at the end of last season, but

we have freshened him up and he has shown a great attitude to win his fifth race."

De Vries added: "I was always pretty happy and he enjoys being out in front dictating matters. That is actually my third win on him."

In the Wathba Stallions Cup for Private Owners Only, a 1600m handicap produced a gutsy performance from AF Majalis (AF Albahar x Khute by Djouras Tu), another to make virtually all the running, this time with Tadhg O'Shea successfully utilising the positive tactics. Riding in the silks of his main employer, UAE Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda, O'Shea was hard at work on the homebred 4-year-old early in the straight, but found a very willing partner who answered his every call to make it consecutive course victories having landed a 1200m maiden here in the capital five weeks ago.

O'Shea said: "That was very pleasing because it was my last ride for both the owner and trainer in 2020, so it is the perfect way to sign off for them. He has had to dig deep there for me because AF Alareeq was trying his best to get past, but my fellow was determined not to let him."

Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority

Lady Princess conquers Qatar Derby for Arabians



Lady Princess ridden by Julien Auge

The Minister of Culture and Sports HE Salah Bin Ghanem Bin Nasser Al Ali crowned the winners at the Qatar International Derby Festival at Al Rayyan Park on Sunday, December 20. The QREC Chairman HE Issa Bin Mohammed Al Mohannadi and the Chairman of the Qatar and Asian Equestrian Federations and QREC Vice Chairman Hamad Bin Abdulrahman Al Attiyah were present during the trophy presentation ceremony.

Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari's Lady Princess (General x Nacree Al Maury by Kesberoy), second in the Qatar Derby last season, landed the Purebred Arabian feature QATAR DERBY (Gr2 PA) (Far Bend) (Purebred Arabians 4 Year Olds ONLY)

on Sunday comfortably. Runner up behind Umm Qarn's Jabalah (Al Mamun Monlau x Kouthar by Nizam) last year, Thomas Fourcy's ward, ridden by Julien Auge, reversed the order of the top two this time round as the HH The Amir Silver Sword topper bagged the 2000m run with two and three quarters of a length to spare at the post. H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Methgal (TM Fred Texas X Theeba By Amer), saddled by Julian Colin Smart, completed the top three under Alberto Sanna.

Umm Qarn's Antar (Al Mamun Monlau x Al Dahma by Amer) stayed unbeaten in Qatar, winning his second straight outing at Al Rayyan

Park in the QATAR DERBY (Gr3 PA) (Far Bend) (Purebred Arabians 3 Year Olds Only) on Sunday. The mile long run saw Ronan Thomas giving a go-ahead to Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward 200m from the finish and Antar was soon in the lead but being pursued by French raider HM Jal-fane (Dahess x Al Musk by Azadi), ridden by Julien Auge in the colours of Abdullah Bin Fahad Al Attiyah for Thomas Fourcy. Antar was able to keep his lead as Auge and his partner could only manage second by half a length. Hassan Ali Al-abdulmalik's Tarek Du Soleil (Dahess x Musique Du Soleil by Munjiz), ridden by Faleh Bughanaim for Deborah Amanda Clare Mountain, was third.

Saeed Bin Mubarak Saeed Aljafali Al Naimi's Wilyan (AF AlBahar x Ussania Du Pouy by Dormane) made light work of a step up in distance in the mile-long Local Purebred Arabian Plate (3 Year Olds) (Far Bend) on Sunday. Last month, the Majed Mahadi Seifeddine trained colt had

impressed many with a runner up finish in a six furlong maiden sprint, and Alberto Sanna was astride the grey colt again. This time the colt went one better in breezy fashion taking the advantage on the straight and going past the post five lengths in front of the rivals.

Injaaz Stud's Rodina (Munjiz x Al Naamah by Amer) halted a string of fifth-place finishes to make a late run for victory in the Local Purebred Arabian Handicap (70 & below) on Sunday. Qatari rider Saleh Salem Al Marri continued what has been a big season for him so far as the apprentice jockey guided his 14th winner of the season in the 1850m run. As Meteb Ali Al Marri and his partner Rajab took the advantage coming on to the home straight, Rodina changed gears and the jockey guided her on to the inside, edging out her rival by a neck at the post.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club.
Photos: Juhaïm/QREC



Antar ridden by Ronan Thomas

Al Efreeta ridden by Ronan Tomas



Al Shaqab Racing's Al Efreeta shines in Qatar Oaks

Al Shaqab Racing's Al Efreeta (Dahess x Dormadora by Dormane) was trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's fourth winner at Al Rayyan Park turf on Saturday, December 19, as the bay filly landed the Qatar Oaks (F) (Far Bend) (4yo PA Fillies) comfortably. The win was third for jockey Ronan Tomas who had also guided the filly to a victory on her mile long Qatar debut in a maiden a week ago. A step up in distance to 2000m did not upset the 4yo's credentials around Al Rayyan Park as she surged forward to grab the lead and then held on to beat Tomas Lukasek ridden Challenge De Ghazali, owned by H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani, by two lengths at the post.

Al Shahania Stud's ALF Lyla (Mared Al Sahra x Ultafa Al Maury by Munjiz) went one better than her debut outing last month to land her first win. On Saturday, in the Local Purebred Arabian Plate (3 Year Old Fillies) (Far Bend), Julian Colin Smart's ward had stepped up in distance lining up in Gate 1 for the miler under Tomas Lukasek. The bay filly stayed on and surged forward to build a comfortable gap on the home straight, winning by two and a half lengths in front of Alexander Reznikov ridden AJS Beirut.

Umm Qarn's Muqla (Tabarak x Sarahmina by Tornado deSyrah) went one better than her last

two C&D outings to shed her maiden status in fine fashion on Saturday. Helmed by Ronan Thomas on all three runs in Qatar so far, the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle saddled 3yo had narrowly missed out on victories but that changed this time round. In the Purebred Arabian Plate (3 Year Old Fillies) (Far Bend), Muqla kept her line coming out of Gate 1 and went past the post one and a quarter length ahead of stablemate Yaqhar, ridden by Soufiane Saadi.

Al Shaqab Racing's Mkaayns (Dahess x Kado De Ghazal by Kesberoy) and jockey Ali Khalid Al Mossallam combined well for their second straight outing together landing a C&D victory on Saturday. After shedding her maiden status earlier this month, the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained 4yo lined up for another six furlong sprint, this time the Purebred Arabian Handicap (Far Bend) (75 & below). The filly, despite a weight disadvantage, had little trouble making an impressive down the middle of the track to win by one and a half lengths. The win was the apprentice jockey's tenth this season.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club.
Photos: Juhaime/QREC



Jawaal ridden by Fernando Jara

Al Wathba Racing, Al Jahoori and Jara doubles highlighted by Jawaal

Sharjah Longines Racecourse staged its final meeting of 2020 on Saturday afternoon, December 19, with a 1200m conditions race with prestige status, the 1200m Crown Prince of Sharjah, was the Purebred Arabian feature and went to the 'upwardly mobile' Jawaal (Mahabb x Gabra by Dormane), ridden by Fernando Jara for Majed Al Jahoori and Al Wathba Racing, completing a double for connections. Only a 4-year-old, the homebred colt had won a prestige handicap over this course and distance just last Saturday and followed up in style here, taking up the running about 300m from home and never appearing likely to be caught. Prior to last week he had won once, again in prestige company, when taking last season's Emirates Colts Classic over 1600m on the Abu Dhabi turf.

Jara said: "This horse is improving all the time and that was a very good effort in a decent little race. He was good last week in a quality handicap, but this was a lot stronger."

"He stays further, has won on turf and is tactically versatile, so is a really smart horse to be associated with. He has not had much racing and you would like to think there is more to come."

Al Jahoori and Jara are forming a fruitful association in these races and earlier combined to land a 2000m handicap for horses foaled in the UAE with Fandim (Bibi De Carrere x Vermeille by Manganate) for Al Wathba Racing. A 5-year-old homebred, the gelding was another recording a second career victory, in his case supplementing a course and distance maiden success on his fourth start last November.

Jara said: "Obviously these conditions really suit him because he ran really well last time when I rode him over course and distance when we were fourth. It is nice to get his head back in front."

The opening 1200m handicap went to Najem Al Rwasi (Morshed x Doumba Du Cayron by Dormane), ridden by Fabrice Veron for Ahmed Al Shemali and doubling his career tally on career start 15. A 6-year-old entire, the horse had posted his previous victory on his third career start,

over the same track and trip, as well as for the same jockey, in February 2019.

Veron said: *"I actually won on this horse early last year when it was a fair bit easier than today when he has really had to battle, so all credit to the horse."*

A 1700m maiden produced what appeared a most unlikely winner when Harbh (Nonolitho x AF Azmaah by Madour) flew home from a most unpromising position under Pat Cosgrave. Trained by Ahmed Al Mehairbi for Saif Mohd Fan Abdulla Al Mehairbi, the 5-year-old mare had plenty of her 11 rivals in front of her entering the home turn, but, once in the short straight, finished with great purpose to snatch the spoils close home.

Cosgrave said: *"To be fair she has shown great heart to win from what was not looking a winning opportunity. Once in the straight she really picked up well and, in the end, probably won a tad comfortably."*

Also for horses foaled locally, a 1700m maiden developed into a duel between AF Mukhrej and Wakeel W'Rsan after the duo fought past

early leader AF Mukhrej, who battled on gamely in third, leaving the home turn. Wakeel W'Rsan (Nitagor x Wadouda W'Rsan by Heir Apparentt) stuck his grey head in front about 150m out and kept responding to the urgings of Richard Mullen, riding in the colours of W'Rsan Stables for Jaci Wickham. A 5-year-old, he was losing his maiden tag at the ninth attempt and has also shown promise on turf at Abu Dhabi, so appears versatile.

Mullen said: *"I had a very willing partner and was always travelling nicely throughout the race. When I pulled him out he responded well, but is still a big baby because he was looking at everything, the big screen, the grandstand, but he did dig deep."*

"I am delighted for Jaci Wickham who is a very good trainer and, hopefully, has a nice horse here. He is only going to improve for that experience and I would like to think he will be back in the winner's enclosure soon."

Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority



Fandim ridden by Fernando Jara



RB Frynychh Dude wins the only Purebred Arabian race in Meydan

Racing at Meydan on Thursday, December 17, evening was officially highlighted by the opening 1900m Group 2 Madjani Stakes presented by Longines, the only Purebred Arabian race on the card, was won pretty comprehensively by RB Frynychh Dude (Baseq Al Khalediah x RB Frynych Broad by Maadjani), confidently ridden by Pat Cosgrave for trainer Helal Alalawi and owners Byerley Racing.

Having led briefly soon after the 16 runners departed the gates, Cosgrave was then happy to allow Dane O'Neill go on aboard Sauternes Al Maury (Mahabb x Savavit Al Maury by Dormane), owned by HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, settling in on the rail just behind the leader.

When that rival started to paddle, Cosgrave was happy to take the initiative, fully 800m from home and, once he committed his mount for home about 500m out, the race was effectively over. Having just his third local outing after two attempts on the Abu Dhabi turf, the 4-year-old

colt arrived from the US with two victories to his name, including a 1700m Grade Three contest.

Cosgrave said: *"He ran well enough at Abu Dhabi last time from a bad draw on a surface he does not like so much and going clockwise which he is not used to."*

"He is a smart Arabian though and a pleasure to ride because you can put him anywhere in a race because he is tactically versatile. I imagine he will go to Saudi for their big race, but he will be competitive back here in these races, depending where connections want to go."

Eric Lemartinel's Amwaj (Abu Alemarat x Sylphide Al Maury by Dormane), ridden by Fabrice Veron and bred and owned by HH Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan finished second followed by Aoun (Mahabb x Shumoos by Djouras Tu) conducted by , trained by Jean-Claude Pecout, owned by Yas Racing and bred by HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority

Ricardo Saliba's Menthor Rach and Osiris Rach win Wathba Stallions Cup for Colts and Fillies



Menthor Rach ridden by I. Silva

HE Ibrahim Salem Alalawi, Consul General of the UAE in São Paulo, crowned the winners of the Wathba Stallions Cup for Colts and Fillies at Cidade Jardim Racecourse, Jockey Club de São Paulo, on Friday December 4.

Through Rach Stud Agropecuária; Brothers Ricardo and Paulo Saliba and trainer Lucas Quintana won both races.

The races were played in 1,000 m on turf and had a purse of R \$ 20,000. The Wathba Stallions Cup for Colts for 3 years old & more, up to 3 victories, while Wathba Stallion Cup For Fillies for 3 years old & more, up to 2 victories.

While Ricardo Jamil Saliba's Menthor Rach won the Wathba Stallions Cup for Colts, Osiris Rach won the Wathba Stallions Cup for Fillies.

Before starting the first race, Menthor Rach already demonstrated that this time he wanted to win, as he finished second in the first race of the year.

The race was well contested until the final 700 meters when Menthor Rach (*Sarmata x Musa

Rach by *Polonez), conducted by the Apprentice jockey I. Silva, takes the lead while El Chall LA (Magnun Chall HVP x Arabesca LA by *Ansata Shaamis) ridden by A. Mesquita fight with Gracrus Rach (Veracious Rach x Gracyara HCF by LD Halston), guided by Apprentice jockey R. Mendonça, for the second place.

In the final 200 meters, the duo Menthor Rach and Gracrus Rach take the lead and strive for victory.

With six lengths of advantage, Menthor Rach wins the 1,000 m race on turf and Gracrus Rach finishes again in second, followed by El Chall LA.

*"Menthor Rach is a Pure Polish stallion and another son of *Sarmata to win in Cidade Jardim. The previous two races were won by his paternal brother Mahatma Rach. *Sarmata was an excellent runner in Poland and his sons have given us a lot of joy. In this race, Menthor broke the male record for 1000m and now we will see how he will do over the longest distances. We believe that due to the consistency of his pedigree and excellent*



Osiris Rach ridden by A. R. Oliveira

conformation, he should go very well!" said Paulo Saliba.

*"Menthor Rach is a pure Polish stallion son of *Sarmata in a daughter of *Polonez, two of our stallions champion of the breed and who have had excellent results in the sport. At the same distance, he broke the record that Mahatma Rach won in the November 14th race. Menthor will probably be our main racehorse in the 2021 season", declared Ricardo Saliba.*

In the Wathba Stallions Cup for Fillies, Maísa do Bagdá (Magic Shadeedeh x Katyusha LM by *Shahllenger), ridden by O. Pereira Filho, owned by Marta Regina Oliveira de Moraes, and Zarmacja Rach (*Sarmata x Zahara Rach by *Ek-sport), conducted by apprentice jockey P. Jesus and owned by Paulo Jamil Saliba, stand out and remain in the top positions until halfway through the five furlong race, however Osiris Rach (Eksort Rach x Olympia Rach by *Aicyng AHRA), under the command of A. R. Oliveira and Revelation Rach (*Ek-sport x Rapunzel Rach by Voltaire Rach)

mounted by R. Mendonça attack; and in the final 200 meters Osiris Rach opens four lengths of advantage, followed by Revelation Rach who made an excellent race and both cross in first and second place followed by Zarmacja Rach.

Two big wins for Rach Stud Agropecuária, which has supported Purebred Arabian races in Brazil since returning in 2014 and its trainer Lucas Quintana.

"On the mares, Osiris Rach, a beautiful chestnut daughter of Eksort Rach, a purebred Polish blood stallion who successfully completed 160km Endurance races, had a firm victory and showed a lot of category in this early career. We are very pleased with her performance and soon she should be ready for longer distances, as she seems to have a huge heart!" Paulo Saliba declared.

"Osiris Rach is also a mare with a predominantly Polish lineage, the daughter of Eksort Rach, a stallion of ours who ended up in two 160 km races in endurance and proved to be a very fast horse. So we had a lot of hope that his sons would

do well in the Arabian races and last year Gunther Rach, who is his son, won and in her first race, Osiris also won.

Revelation Rach made its second race and finished second and Zarmacja Rach third. In the four races in a row that we won, I believe it is because during the quarantine they continued training on the farm, where we made a track to train. And I believe this has been a great advantage, because they arrived trained and now we will hope that they will maintain this quality in 2021", commented Ricardo Saliba.

"The Purebred Arabian Horse Race, held at Racecourse of Cidade Jardim, State of São Paulo, Federative Republic of Brazil, is an event that is sponsored by HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Racing Festival and is administered and supervised by the Brazilian Arabian Horse Breeders Association in partnership with the Jockey Club de São Paulo."

"On this occasion, I would like to thank His Highness Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Presidential Affairs, for his unlimited support for sport in general and equestrian sport in particular, which has had a major impact on the current status and in the future of Arabian horses around the world."

"We are proud when we see the flag of the

United Arab Emirates flying in the fields of Brazil and also with the success that the festival has achieved here and in various parts of the world."

"Finally, I would like to thank Ms. Lara Sawaya, CEO of the festival, and also the team for their continued efforts to make this festival a local and international success", said His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Salem Alalawi, Consul General of the UAE in the State of São Paulo.

The Wathba Stallions Cup for Colt and Fillies are organized by the Brazilian Arabian Horse Breeders Association in partnership with the Jockey Club de São Paulo.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Horse Racing Festival is sustained by the Abu Dhabi Department of Culture & Tourism coordinated by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with National Feed and Flour Production and Marketing Co. LLC as associate sponsors, The National Archives as the official partner, Emirates Airline as the official carrier, sponsored by Al Massood Automobiles Nissan, Areej Alameerat, Omeir Travels Agency, YAS Sports TV, Viola Communications, Abu Dhabi Falconers Club, the UAE's General Women's Union, Emirates Arabian Horse Society & Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club.

Text and photos: Cidinha Franzão



HE Ibrahim Salem Alalawi, Lucas Quintana, I. Silva and Almir José Ribeiro



HE Ibrahim Salem Alalawi, Almir José Ribeiro, Lucas Santana, A. R. Oliveira and R. Mendonça

Mullen and De Vries win Fillies & Colts Classics in Abu Dhabi



Heba Al Wathba ridden by Richard Mullen

Sunday evening's racing on the Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club turf featured joint highlights, the Abu Dhabi Fillies Classic and Abu Dhabi Colts Classic, both restricted to 3-year-olds, on December 13.

Each race carries Prestige status and it was 'ladies first' with the fillies' event preceding the colts' version, won impressively by debutante Heba Al Wathba (Rabbah De Carrere x Rudina by Burning Sand). A polished effort from Richard Mullen, riding for Al Wathba Racing and Frenchman Jean de Roualle. Settled in about fifth, in a race few of the 13 fillies were ever really competitive, Mullen challenged between rivals halfway up the straight, grabbing the initiative about 175m from home and staying on strongly.

Of the homebred filly, Mullen said: "She has a touch of class this filly and we hope she is one for the future because there is definitely plenty of ability there. We really like her and there should be a lot more to come, but I imagine she will probably only have one more run this season because she is going to grow and strengthen. She could be very smart and is in perfect hands with Jean de Roualle who will give her plenty of time, as will the owners. It is always special to win a feature race with a homebred."

Half an hour later over the same 1400m, a capacity field of 16 contested the Abu Dhabi Colts

Classic which was run at a furious early gallop with AF Thayer and Sawt Assalam scorching the turf throughout the first 1100m. As those two duelled for the lead, Adrie de Vries and Hameem (Valiant Boy x RB Burn Baby Sun by TH Richie) led the remaining runners, closing on the leaders to challenge with about 250m remaining.

AF Thayer was the first to crack, Sawt Assalam lasting a bit longer, but soon beaten off with Hameem shooting clear with the race in safekeeping. A 1600m winner on dirt at Al Ain, the colt, saddled by Abdallah Al Hammadi for Al Ajban Stables, the colt remains unbeaten having also scored over the same trip just last Friday in a conditions race here in Abu Dhabi.

De Vries said: "He is a very nice horse who I won well on here just last week over 1600m. That was a concern; coming back so quickly and dropping in trip, but he learned a lot last week because he was always travelling much better today. The fast gallop has really suited him and he showed a really good turn of foot. In fact, I ended up in front sooner than I wanted, but he is a proper little horse and galloped on strongly."

The meeting kicked off with a 1200m maiden for horses foaled in the UAE in which AF Yastafez made a bold attempt to make all under Bernardo Pinheiro, the pair having most of their 13 rivals beaten off early in the straight, only to be snared

close home by Sam Hitchcott aboard Majd Al Megirat (Big Easy x Platine de Sinuhe by Amer).

Settled in behind the leaders throughout the first half of the race, Hitchcott sent his mount after the early leader leaving the home turn and found a willing partner, the pair finishing well to snatch the spoils in the final 30m, the 4-year-old making it third time lucky. Well beaten on debut in February, over 1400m on dirt at Al Ain, he was then second exactly a month later over the same 1200m course and distance as this victory. It was a first ever winner for trainer Ahmed Al Shehhi whose career highlight, prior to this, was the aforementioned runner-up finish by this horse in March. It was a second, but first for a long time, that the silks of owner Ahmed Aljneibi had been carried to victory.

Hitchcott said: "In fairness to the trainer he was pretty confident as the colt showed last season that these conditions suit him. The plan was always to sit just behind the speed, then challenge in the straight and everything went smoothly."

Drawn widest of all the 15 runners in a 1600m handicap, Pat Cosgrave decided to stay there aboard Dassan Da (Majd Al Arab x Froda DA by Altis Del Sol), initially settling about halfway down the field before making smooth progress approaching the home turn.

Still widest of all, they were soon in front before powering clear down the centre of the track

to, ultimately, win relatively easily for Helal Alalawi. It was a fifth career success for the 8-year-old gelding, but first since February 2019. The only horse to have carried the colours of Mohd Ali Saif Ali Al Mezaini, he was registering the owner a maiden success at the fourth attempt, all this season and in the capital.

Alalawi said: "Pat has given him a great ride. We decided to keep him out of trouble, which Pat has done perfectly, and then to be positive because we know he stays further. That said, these are probably his ideal conditions."

For horses in private ownership, a 2200m handicap provided the perfect opportunity for Richard Mullen to complete a double, producing Jawal Al Reef (Bibi De Carrere x Darffa by Kesbey) to lead early in the straight before staying on strongly for trainer Ahmed Al Mehairbi and owner Saif Asheer Ali Sulaiman Al Mazrouei, a second winner for each this season.

Settled nearer last than first after a tardy start, the 7-year-old entire made stealthy progress on the back straight before challenging as the leaders entered the home turn. It was a fourth win for the horse, third on turf, but over further than a 1400m and two 1600m victories.

Mullen said: "Stamina was perhaps a concern, but he settled very well and has actually seen the trip out very well indeed. It has been a good evening."

Hameem ridden by Adrie de Vries



Source and Photos: Emirates Racing Authority

Jawaal shows his class at the HH Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan Cup



Jawaal ridden by Fernando Jara

Racing at Sharjah Longines Racecourse on Saturday afternoon, December 12, was highlighted by the first renewal of HH Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan Cup, a 1700m prestige handicap and class prevailed with dirt debutant Jawaal (Mahabb x Gabra by Dormane) able to concede weight to all 13 rivals to post a snug success.

Saddled by Majed Al Jahoori for Al Wathba Racing, the homebred colt, part of a quartet of 4-year-olds clashing with their elders, made smooth progress from midfield to lead inside the final 400m, running on strongly under Fernando Jara and always seemingly holding the late challenge of AF Taghzal (AF Al Buraq x Voici Kossack by Bengali D'Albert).

One of four Purebred Arabian races on the card restricted to horses foaled in the UAE, it was won last year by AF Alwajel (AF Al Buraq x Samira De Carrere by Djouras Tu), recent winner of this year's Group 3 National Day Cup. On just his seventh start, Jara's mount was doubling his career tally, having previously won February's 1600m Emirates Colts Classic, on the Abu Dhabi turf. Well beaten on his seasonal return, eight days ago in a 1400m Abu Dhabi handicap having led early on before weakening; he seemed to relish the conditions on his first start away from the capital's turf.

Jara said: "I rode him last week and he showed plenty of early dash which he has replicated here

to win what appeared a strong race nicely. Connections will have more options with him now as he is clearly versatile with regards to distance, surface and tactics."

The opening 1200m handicap, also limited to horses foaled locally, looked particularly competitive on paper, but proved a fairly straightforward task for AF Senad (AF Al Buraq x Fleur Du Cayrou by Dormane) under apprentice Nathan Crosse who, after a course double at the previous meeting, was taking his record to three wins from just four Sharjah mounts.

It was also a memorable occasion for rookie trainer Kareem Ramadan, saddling his very first winner with just his tenth runner from his Al Ain Racecourse base. Owner Saleh Omar Ali bin Haidar was able to celebrate his first victory of the new campaign. In ten previous career outings, AF Senad had one runner-up and two third placings to his name, but lost his maiden tag in style, hitting the front 300m from home and soon going clear.

Ramadan said: "Obviously I am delighted to get that first winner. This horse was third over this course and distance last year, so we hoped conditions would suit him on just his second start for me."

For 3-year-olds only, but again for horses foaled in the UAE, the 1000m maiden produced a thrilling finish with debutant ES Rubban (Az

zam Al Zobair x Jolie Du Cassou by Baco Du Cassou) trying grimly to cling on to the lead he had established passing the 300m pole only to be denied in the very final stride by Ashjaan (Al Nasr x Maharani by Darike). The filly was making it third time lucky, her head in front only where it mattered under Fabrice Veron, riding for Eric Lemartinel and the trainer's main patron, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Connections would feel it was a deserved success as the filly had finished second on both previous starts, over 1000m then 1200m, also at Sharjah.

Veron said: "I have twice finished third on this filly, so it is nice she has managed to get her head in front. She took me there strongly, but credit to the runner-up who really put up a good fight. When we crossed the line I was hopeful we had won, but it is always nice when the judge confirms the result."

The fourth contest for those born locally, a 1700m handicap, was turned into a procession by JAP Al Yaasooob (Madour x Nazwah by Dormane), a welcome belated first winner of the season for trainer Irfan Ellahi whose string returned to action this weekend having not been seen in public since early November.

Settled just behind the speed by Szczepan Mazur, sporting the predominantly green silks of Sheikh Saeed bin Maktoum Al Maktoum, the homebred 6-year-old entire grabbed the initia-

tive leaving the home turn before pulling clear in the short straight. After 18 previous efforts, his sole previous victory was registered over this course and distance in early November 2019.

Ellahi said: "Sharjah has been a lucky course for us over the years and most of our horses seem to thrive here. It is great for the whole team to get the season rolling."

A capacity field of 16 may have gone to post for a 1700m maiden, but from a long way out only two mattered, AF Ramz (AF Albahar x Sanha Du Paladin by Djouras) leading with 500m to go under an industrious Tadhg O'Shea. They were stalked by a motionless Connor Beasley aboard Amirah (Al Saoudi x Aria Vege by Kesberoy) and, once the jockey asked his mount for maximum effort, the pair dashed clear to post a clear cut success for Ali Rashid Al Rayhi.

In doing so, the 5-year-old mare not only lost her own maiden tag at the fifth attempt, but also that of her owner, Mohd Jasim Mohd Al Mahmoud whose silks have only been carried, thus far, by this winner. This was actually her first start for Al Rayhi, having raced thrice last season and returned to action six weeks ago for Doug Watson.

Beasley said: "That was quite impressive because I was always going very well and then, when I asked her, she picked up nicely before running all the way to the line."

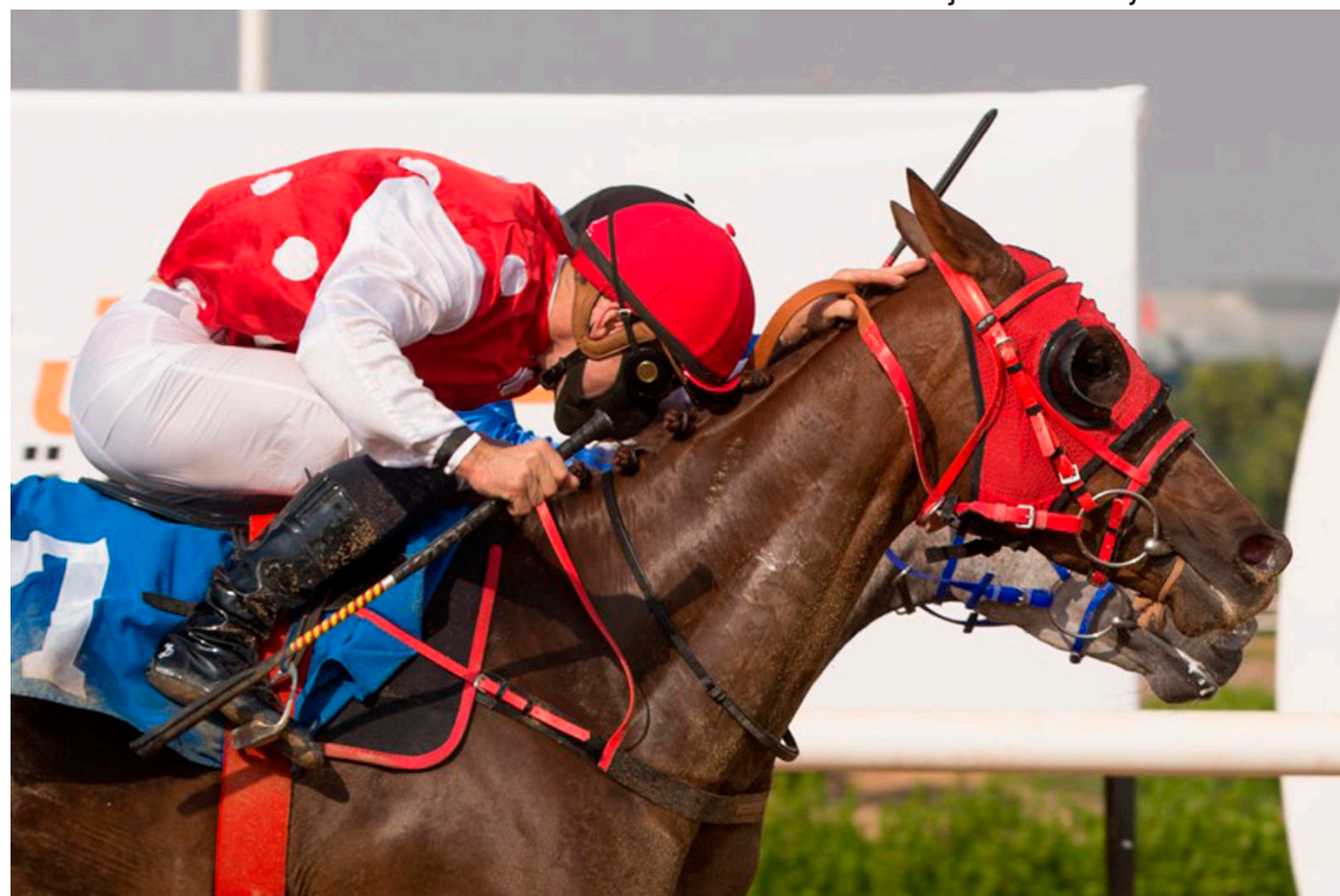
Amirah ridden by Connor Beasley





JAP Al Yaasoob ridden by Szczepan Mazur

Ashjaan ridden by Fabrice Veron



Source and Photos: Emirates Racing Authority



Al Naama ridden by Soufiane Saadi

Al Naama and Al Mustafiz win The Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy and National Day Cup

HE Salah Bin Ghanem Al-Ali, Minister of Culture and Sports, crowned the winners of the Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy and Qatar National Day Cup at Al Rayyan Park on Saturday, December 12. While Al Shaqab Racing's Al Naama won the Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy, Injaaz Stud's Al Mustafiz won in the National Day Cup.

Al Shaqab Racing mares and trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle celebrated a one-two in the The Late Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Al Thani Trophy (Gr2 PA) (Far Bend) (3yo & older) at Al Rayyan Park's turf track on Saturday as Soufiane Saadi guided Al Naama (Majd Al Arab x En-

tisar) to a fantastic victory. Al Naama, who had lined up for her longest distance in over a year at 2000m, and stablemate Gtnah (TM Fred Texas x Mayada), ridden by Qatari rider Faleh Bughnaim, were the only ladies in a high quality field.

Closer home, Al Naama had a healthy gap on the other contenders and she had little trouble winning by a length and a quarter, as Gtnah finished runner up for the second straight time behind her stablemate.

Julian Colin Smart-trained Ebraz (Amer x Mas-samarie) rounded up the top three under Tomas Lukasek, riding in the colours of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani.

Injaaz Stud's Al Mustafiz (AF AlBahar x Djimana) was running seven furlongs for the first time since a C&D win almost two years ago. But the Zuhair Mohsen Zuhair Maki's ward was up for the task as the 7yo landed the National Day Cup Local Purebred Arabian Conditions (Far Bend) in a thrilling finish on Saturday.

Soufiane Saadi had his mount midfield early on in the race, before picking up the pace on the home stretch and staying on the heels of Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's wards, Barra and Aahil, who had taken a slight advantage between themselves.

In the final 50m, dipping into his reserves, Al Mustafiz edged out Umm Qarn's Aahil (Munjiz x Daniah), ridden by Ronan Thomas, to win the local Arabian feature by a neck, while Barra (Munjiz x Daniah), helmed by Michael Forest in the colours of Patrice Alexandre Nicolet, finished third.

Salman Mohammned Alemadi's Djalnor (No Risk Al Maury x Djalmina) stepped down to a mile on Saturday for the first time in Qatar, but the result was still the same. The 4yo colt opened

his time in Qatar with wins over 2000m, and that run continued in the Purebred Arabian Handicap (Far Bend) (95 & below), when Qatari jockey Saleh Salem Al Marri guided the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali trained colt to a fine victory with a length and a quarter to spare. In the process, not only did the bay horse lead a one-two for the trainer, with Al Junood in second spot, but also completed a hat-trick this season.

Al Shaqab Racing's Al Efreeta (Dahess x Dormadora) made a spectacular debut in Qatar with a dominant win in a miler on Saturday at Al Rayyan Park. The French recruit had two runners up finishes in Europe. With Ronan Thomas in the saddle for the first time, the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained filly was unstoppable in the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (4 Year Olds) (Far Bend) as she surged forward and was up and away on the home straight to go past the post five lengths in front of her rivals.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photos: Juhaim/QREC



Al Mustafiz ridden by Soufiane Saadi

Rodess Du Loup won for the first time in Qatar

Al Jeryan Stud's Rodess Du Loup (Dahess x Aurore Du Loup) won for the first time since making a move to Qatar earlier this year. Having finished just outside the frame on a couple of occasions, Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani schooled 6yo finally entered the winner's enclosure at Al Rayyan Park, on December 11, after landing the Purebred Arabian Conditions (Far Bend). With Alberto Sanna guiding the horse for the first time in the 1850m run, Rodess Du Loup finished just behind Saleh Salem Al Marri ridden Askar, before the stewards reversed the decision citing interference to hand the former the victory by a length.

A switch to turf after promising results on dirt, including a win and a runner up finish, made no difference to the form of Umm Qarn's Abahat (Al Mamun Monlau x Al Anqa) as the 4yo notched second win of his career on Friday. Helmed by Ronan Thomas yet again in the Local Purebred Arabian Handicap (Far Bend) (85 & below), the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained colt did well to hold on to his advantage on the home straight finishing a length and a quarter ahead of Tomas

Lukasek ridden Ghali Al Athman.

Qatari rider Saleh Salem Al Marri rode his 12th winner of the season as when he guided Mekhezzi Mubarak Al Mansouri's Ghalaad (No Risk Al Maury x Ghahramana) to the horse's second career victory. In the Purebred Arabian Claiming Race (Far Bend) (60-90), with the apprentice jockey in the saddle, the Mansoor Khali Al-Mansoori trained 7yo bounced back from two forgettable finishes this season to enter the winner's enclosure for the first time in a little more than three years. The duo beat Qatar bred Fazan by half a length.

Despite a few promising runs this season, Umm Qarn's Umm Bab (Al Mamun Monlau x Rahab) had missed out on a stroll through the winner's enclosure. That changed on Friday, as Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained colt bagged the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (Far Bend). Ronan Thomas was astride the 4yo once again and blistering run on the outside on the home stretch saw the colt coast to a cozy victory in the miler, ahead of Gassim Mohammad Ghazali trained duo — Tayeel and Fahd De Faust.



Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photos: QREC-Juhaim



Céphale de Ghazal on debut completes a double for Al Shaqab Racing at Pau

Shortly after the success of Almafjar (Mister Ginoux x Al Dhabi by Mahabb), Al Shaqab Racing celebrated a second Purebred Arabian winner at Pau on Tuesday, 8 December 2020!

Céphale de Ghazal, a three-year-old daughter of Munjiz, lifted the UAE National Archives Cup, a smart maiden race on the all-weather track over 2,000 metres, on her debut in a contest against horses, who had already won.

Just like Almafjar, Céphale de Ghazal (Munjiz x Chamade de Ghazal by Dormane), is trained by Elisabeth Bernard and was ridden on her winning debut by apprentice jockey Anaëlle Mekouche.

She led home a 1-2 for Al Shaqab Racing and Elisabeth Bernard, with Alarish (TM Fred Texas x Nasrat by Amer) finishing runner-up three quarters of a length behind her.

Elisabeth Bernard commented: *"I wasn't expecting Céphale de Ghazal to win against this field on her debut. I don't often have my horses sharpened up before their debuts, so it's a nice surprise. Her jockey told me that she has a fantastic ride and that the filly was easy to ride. She rode her exceptionally well. The weight allowance is a definite help, but it is still great to win on debut. It's often a size of quality. I think she will be very nice next year. As for Alarish, I'm very happy with his race and he should improve with age."*

Djafar (Dahess x Badira by Munjiz), ridden by Jerome Cabre, finished third. He is trained by Thomas Fourcy and owned by Amandine Fourcy.

Source: Jour de Galop/Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: Robert Polin



Al Shaqab Racing's homebred Almafjar backs up promising debut with cosy victory at Pau

Bred and owned by Al Shaqab Racing, and by the Al Shaqab Racing sire Mister Ginoux, the three-year-old Purebred Arabian colt Almafjar (FR) was the latest winner in the silver and maroon silks at Pau, France on Tuesday, 8 December.

In the DCT Abu Dhabi Cup, over 1,400m, the colt was having just his second career start having finished fourth on his debut at Toulouse three weeks earlier. He was ridden up near the pace and on the rail in third position by apprentice jockey Gary Sanchez.

Coming under pressure from his jockey at the beginning of the straight, he showed some immaturity when drifting to the centre of the track. However, once he found his stride, Almafjar (Mister Ginoux x Al Dhabi by Mahabb) showed plenty of class to accelerate past the front runners, who had gone two lengths clear. He maintained his run to the line to notch a two-and-a-half length victory in front of the hot favourite Namrood (General x Essalda by Al Sakbe).

Trainer Elisabeth Bernard commented, *"I am delighted, as Almafjar is very complicated to train. He pulls a lot in the mornings, but he is much easier in the afternoons, like very good racehorses are! He's a good looking horse. He suffered from sore shins during the summer and needed time. I would like to thank Ioritz Mendizabal who respected the horse when he debuted and gave him an excellent ride. In the race today, he profited from that experience and Gary Sanchez's weight allowance, which is always important. I think he could run over further, but given his behaviour in the mornings, I am obliged to run him over a shorter trip. But I believe he would stay up to 1,800m."*

Almafjar is out of the Mahabb mare Al Dhabi, who was bred in Qatar. He is her first foal, and she has a two-year-old by General in training with Thomas Fourcy.

Source: Jour de Galop/Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: Robert Polin

Sisterson Sets Sights on The Saudi Cup for True Timber

Cigar Mile winner could head to Saudi Arabia in February to contest world's most valuable race

British born Jack Sisterson, a rising star of the US training ranks, is strongly considering The Saudi Cup for his impressive Cigar Mile winner True Timber

A five and a half-length victor of the Grade 1 handicap at Aqueduct on December 5, his handler was thrilled the six-year-old was able to perform to such a high level.

"We were very proud of him and it was so rewarding for all the staff that put the hard work in 24/7. He came to us from Kiaran McLaughlin in early springtime. We gave him a brief break and he was pencilled in to run at Keeneland but we couldn't because of the pandemic. He ran in an open allowance race there in July and ran very well to be third. Any race at Keeneland is a tough one and we thought it would be a stepping stone. It shows how good a trainer Kiaran is that he came to us in such good form. His best race last year was the Cigar Mile, so it was a race we wanted to target", said Sisterson

The son of Mineshaft is now heading for warmer climes: *"He's heading back home to Keeneland and then we'll be shipping him down to Florida towards the end of the week. We're going to be changing his training regime up a bit, from a sprinter to more of a miler,"* said Sisterson.

"We'll then be looking at races like the Pegasus World Cup and The Saudi Cup. These are the races you dream of and it's important to capitalise when the moment's right. [The Cigar Mile] gives us the confidence to go for races like that. I don't think the trip will be an issue at all, he has the presence of a distance type of horse, not a one-dimensional sprinter."

Originally from Durham in England, Sisterson has now been in America for 15 years: *"I came over on a soccer scholarship from the University of Louisville,"* said the 35-year-old. *"My family had a few horses in point-to-points back in the UK and I always wanted to be involved at some level."*

He couldn't have received a better education in US racing: *"I've been incredibly fortunate to*

learn from the best and the support I've received has been amazing. I started off working for Todd Pletcher and then Doug O'Neill, so I've been around some incredible horses," said Sisterson.

A trip to Saudi Arabia wouldn't be a first for Sisterson either, as he travelled to Riyadh when working with Doug O'Neill: *"I made it out to Saudi when we took Bailoutbobby over there for a Grade One in 2016. He had been bought by Prince Faisal and I had a great time, meeting lots of people. It would be fantastic to go over there again."*

About The Saudi Cup

Organised by the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia and run at the King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, The Saudi Cup is a two-day festival of international racing headlined by the USD\$20m Saudi Cup – the world's most valuable race.

Established in 2020 with the second renewal set to be run on Saturday February 20, 2021, The Saudi Cup day card carries a total prize purse of \$30.5m and features dirt and turf races for the highest calibre of racehorses in the world.

A full card of racing on the preceding Friday includes an International Jockeys Challenge which sees seven female and seven male jockeys compete as individuals as well as the \$500,000 Saudi International Handicap for horses trained in IFHA-registered Part II and III racing countries.

The Saudi Cup is charged with raising awareness of horse racing in the country, encouraging participation among men and women. It also aims to promote Saudi Arabia at international level, acting as a marker for the Kingdom's transformational journey, encouraging tourism and investment.

INTERNATIONAL JOCKEYS CHALLENGE

Friday February 19, 2021

SAUDI CUP DAY

Saturday February 20, 2021

King Abdulaziz Racetrack, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

Source: The Saudi Cup. Photos: Janet Garaguso



True Timber ridden by Kendrick Carmouche



Trainer Al Alawi wins two races in a roll at Al Ain



Racing at Al Ain on Saturday, December 5, was highlighted by a 1000m handicap in which eight went to post, but very few ever mattered with Ghazwan Al Khalediah (Jalood Al Khalidiah x Loubna Bouznika by Bartaba) seemingly in control virtually throughout under French apprentice Hugo Lebouc, doubling his UAE tallies in the process in this his first local campaign.

On paper, the race had appeared a match between the winner and fellow top weight Cakouet De Bozouls, but when the latter, likely to have been his main rival, was badly buffeted as the stalls opened, losing any chance, the task became a lot more straightforward and Lebouc's mount took full advantage.

Trained locally by Helal Al Alawi for Abu Dhabi Racing, the 8-year-old entire, on just his tenth start, was winning for the fourth time, but first since registering his second victory over this Al Ain 1000m in March 2019. His 1400m maiden victory was also on his local track, on a belated debut in November 2018.

This was by far the easiest task he had faced since that victory last March and Al Alawi ex-

plained: *"He is a horse we have always liked, but had to be very patient with. Obviously he loves this Al Ain surface and he has so much natural pace the 1000m really suits him."*

An hour later the trainer was celebrating another easy victory, this time combining with Pat Cosgrave who was aboard Dinar Al Khalediah (Tornado De Syrah x Shagraa El Biwaibiya by Tiwaiq) in a 1400m maiden, the horse able to make it third time lucky having not made his belated debut until the end of October. Previously sixth and fourth, well beaten both times, in 1600m Al Ain maidens, the 9-year-old entire raced in third before Patrick Cosgrave sent him for home about 550m out, the pair powering home to win comfortably in the colours of National Stables, the Al Ain base from which Al Alawi trains.

Cosgrave said: *"I was fourth on him the last day, a fortnight ago and he has clearly improved with each run. He did that well today."*

The meeting kicked off with a 1000m maiden for horses in private ownership which attracted the maximum allowed field of 15, but was totally dominated by Hazeem Al Raed (TM Fred Texas x



Karizma CS by Kador de Blaziet). In front after a handful of strides, the 5-year-old entire was clear at halfway under Antonio Fresu who was able to allow his mount to coast home to record a clear cut victory.

The drop to the minimum trip and the addition of a visor for the first time clearly suited him on his fifth start, providing trainer Ahmed Al Shemali a career best third winner of the season. It was a second victory of the campaign to sport the predominantly green silks of owner Hassan Saleh Al Hammadi who also trained this horse for his first career start.

Fresu said: *"That was pretty comfortable. He broke ok, but was soon into stride and showed plenty of speed to win in style."*

Making every post a winning one was becoming a recurring theme and Bernardo Pinheiro was the next jockey to do so when never headed in a 1600m maiden, restricted to 3-year-olds, aboard Only Smoke (Valiant Boy x RB Burn Baby Burn by TH Richie). Riding in the lime green silks of Al Ajban Stables, the winner is trained by Abdallah Al Hammadi and was having just his second career start after a promising third behind stable companion Oss in a 1600m course maiden a fortnight ago.

Pinheiro said: *"I rode him when he ran well on debut behind a good horse from the same connections. He learned plenty then and I was never concerned this evening because he was always galloping strongly."*

A 1600m handicap provided another fairly comprehensive winner, on this occasion AF Ramz (Al Kesbe x Obayya Al Faisal by Zefiro de Nulvi) and Omani apprentice Saif Al Balushi, having ini-

tially raced in fourth, sweeping to the front having just entered the long straight and the pair staying on strongly. Trained by Khalifa Al Neyadi for Mohd Salem Ali Alafreet, the 6-year-old entire was registering a third career success and is now thrice an Al Ain winner.

The meeting reverted to type in the concluding 2000m maiden, for horses foaled in the UAE, with Tadhg O'Shea never headed astride a determined steed in AF Mass (AF Maqam Alezz x AF Majidah by Martin Al Maury) on whom he was pushing and shoving fully 700m out, but finding a very willing partner. Riding for his main employer, Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda and the owner's principal trainer Ernst Oertel, the winner was representing the same connections as Friday's Purebred Arabian National Day hero, AF Alwajel.

Like the vast majority of the Al Nabooda runners a homebred, the 4-year-old colt was another shedding his maiden status at the third attempt, in his case having never threatened over 2000m at Sharjah on his seasonal return at the end of October. Interestingly though, he was considered worthy of a place in the 1800m Al Ain Derby for his debut in March when unable to muster a challenge.

Oertel said: *"He is a nice horse, but one we have had to be patient with. Hopefully he can build on this."*

O'Shea added: *"All credit to the horse there because he has had to find plenty for me, but in fairness, just kept on galloping and was going away from the rest at the finish."*

Source and Photos: Emirates Racing Authority

Messi, the horse, takes the Crown in Abu Dhabi for Belgium



European class scored the winning goal on Friday evening, December 4, when Timo Keersmaekers-trained Messi (Dahess x Jeanne D'Arc by Dormane) flashed home an easy winner in the Group 1 AED 5 million (\$1.35 million) Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown at Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, December 4, the most valuable race to be staged in the capital all season.

Previously contested over 1600m, but increased 600m in distance this year, the new trip certainly suited the winner under a very polished and confident ride from Pat Dobbs.

Under a confident ride by Pat Dobbs, sitting

comfortably in third, then fourth on the back-side, the grey Belgium-bred/owned/trained son of Dahess relaxed noticeably amid foes. Dribbling up three-wide with 600m remaining on the final turn to strategically keep his position, Messi then was asked by Dobbs as they straightened out with just under 400m to go and quickly had the goal line in sight. Opening up a comfortable lead that ultimately became 3 1/2 lengths at the finish, the nearly white Purebred Arabian landed his first G1 race—a feat made that much sweeter after a pair of unlucky seconds in top-level company at Paris-Longchamp this fall.

HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum's

Meydan-based Al Zahir (Madjani x Petite Class by Barour De Cardonne) closed well to finish second, a nose to the good of Yas Horse Racing Management's France-based Hayyan (Munjiz x Dahwa by Tidjani) in third. Well-fancied Hajres and Somoud managed sixth and 12th in the 16-horse field.

The remarkable Messi, who is hitting his peak at age eight, has finished first or second in eight of his past 10 starts and won for the seventh time in 24 tries. Two starts back, he was second in the Arabian World Cup (G1) on the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe undercard. Dobbs, based locally with Doug Watson's Red Stables, was riding him for the first time.

The final time was 2:30.65 for 2200m, an increase in trip (from 1600m) for the affair, commencing this year.

"I was always travelling strongly, though he was a bit on and off the bit until he saw real daylight. Then when he quickened, I knew it would take a really good one to get past us and nobody was able to challenge us. "He is clearly a very good Purebred Arabian and it is amazing to win such a

prize in one of the world's biggest Arabian races". Pat Dobbs said.

This was his seventh career win, fifth on turf, but his first at Group 1 level and a delighted Timo Keersmaekers said: "That was brilliant! The horse has been in such good form all year and had been working well, so we were hopeful."

Keersmakers added: "It's a dream come true. I've been coming to Abu Dhabi and seen what's happening and you think one day maybe you could have something like that. I'm really happy with what (Messi) achieved. I want to thank all the people involved with him. It has been a great year and I hoped he could close the year like he started the year and he did. I'm extremely happy."

"Pat Dobbs has given him the perfect ride and I must thank Adrie de Vries for recommending Pat when it was clear he could not take the ride. My wife is here with our young daughter which makes it extra special."

Source: Emirates Racing Authority – Image Credit: Shamela Hanley Photos





AF Alwajel won impressively confidently ridden by Tadhg O'Shea

The main support race, one of four on the card over 1600m, was the Group 3 Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan National Day Cup, at Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, December 4, was won impressively by AF Alwajel (AF Al Buraq x Samira De Carrere by Djouras Tu) confidently ridden by Tadhg O'Shea in the colours of his main employer, Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda for the owner's principal trainer Ernst Oertel.

Several of the 15 runners threatened at some stage in the straight, but once O'Shea pressed go on the winner, they dashed to the front with about 250m remaining and never looked in any danger. The 5-year-old homebred entire shrugging off a penalty and making it win number five on just his tenth start. He earned his penalty with success in the 1400m Liwa Oasis on his previous visit to the capital, at the beginning of March.

Al Nabooda said: "As an Emirati owner and breeder this is one race I have always wanted to win. Now I have and I am so proud."

O'Shea added: "What a horse, what a trainer. It is a great result for everyone, especially the owner and this horse had quite a hard race on dirt at Meydan just a fortnight ago, so a lot of credit has to go to Ernst and his team for bringing him here in such great shape."

The jockey Ryan Curatolo completed a double – the first was with Boerhan in the Thoroughbred race over 1600m – landing a 1400m handicap aboard Harrab (Mahabb x Habaib by Al Sakbe) for Jean de Roualle and Yas Racing, the pair hitting the front inside the final 300m before scoring comfortably.

Restricted to 3-year-olds, the opening 1600m HH Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan Racing

Festival Purebred Arabian Cup, a conditions contest, was won stylishly by Hameen (Valiant Boy x RB Burn Baby Burn by TH Richie), who shot clear in the final 200m under Adrie de Vries.

After a tardy start, the colt raced in about tenth of the 13 runners before making good progress on the home turn when briefly short of room. Once De Vries found racing room, his mount quickened to the front and had the race in safekeeping as soon as he hit the front. Saddled by Abdallah Al Hammadi for his main patron, Al Ajban Stables, the colt had won his only previous start, a 1600m maiden on the dirt at Al Ain, five weeks ago. He was chased home by stable companion and the same owner's Ottoman to complete a memorable result for connections.

De Vries said: "We did not break too well, so I had to niggle him early on, but he is a bonny little horse who carried me into the race strongly. "I had to wait for a gap, but when it appeared he picked up very nicely and was a good performance."

Beasley was also reunited with an old friend to land the concluding 1400m handicap for horses in private ownership, producing AF Alareeq to lead in the closing stages. The pair landed a 1600m maiden in the capital in March for trainer Ahmed Al Mehairbi and owner Saif Asheer Ali Sulaiman Al Mazrouei.

Source: Emirates Racing Authority with inputs of Cidinha Franzão / Image Credit: Shamela Hanley Photos



Hameen ridden by Adrie de Vries



Winked won HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Cup for Ajban Stables



Abdallah Al Hammadi and his main patron, Al Ajban Stables, just 30 minutes after the first race, were celebrating a double, this time combining with Connor Beasley who was also aboard Ottoman, when Winked (Thoroughbred (x Sand Witchh by Burning Sand) led close home to take the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Cup, a conditions race over 1600m, but for fillies and mares. Top weight RB Money To Burn (Majd Al Arab x RB Burn Baby Burn by TH Richie), owned by Shkha Alyazia bint Sultan Al Nahyan and trained by Eric Lemartinel, looked the likely winner entering the short straight, but seemingly tiring, she hung left towards the standside under Fabice Veron, initially forfeiting the lead to Hakeemat Muscat (Akim De Ducor x Djourella by Kerbella), owned and bred by Muscat Stud and trained by Ibrahim Al Hadhrami, about 150m out.

Veron's mount tried to fight back but eventually had to settle for third behind Hakeemat Muscat, ridden by Szczepan Mazur in what was virtually a triple photo finish. Meanwhile, after a slow start, Beasley crept Winked into contention on the bend and his 4-year-old filly finished powerfully, leading in the closing stages to reg-

ister a hard fought victory, her second career success after just five outings.

"I won a 1600m maiden at Al Ain on dirt on this filly. We were probably never headed that day, but this evening she half missed the break and I have had to be patient. She has finished the race very strongly and I was able to glance across so was pretty confident we had won", Beasley said.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Horse Racing Festival is sustained by the Abu Dhabi Department of Culture & Tourism coordinated by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with National Feed and Flour Production and Marketing Co. LLC as associate sponsors, The National Archives as the official partner, Emirates Airline as the official carrier, sponsored by Al Massood Automobiles Nissan, Areej Alameerat, Omeir Travels Agency, YAS Sports TV, Viola Communications, Abu Dhabi Falconers Club, the UAE's General Women's Union, Emirates Arabian Horse Society & Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club.

Source: Emirates Racing Authority with inputs of Cidinha Franzão

Image Credit: Shamela Hanley Photos

Al Ghazali Stud's AJS Wathanan (Amer x Mangaline Du Loup) was well held on his C&D season opener in October. But that proved to be no benchmark for the Gassim Mohammad Ghazali saddled gelding as the 8yo bolted to a scintillating victory in the The Late Rabiah Saad Al-Kaabi Cup (Local Purebred Arabian Conditions) at the dirt track in Al Rayyan Park on Wednesday, December 2. Alberto Sanna was astride the grey gelding for the first time and the duo were unstoppable as they surged forward to a healthy advantage, eventually winning by a dominant six lengths in front of Umm Qarn's Mehdi (Majd Al Arab x Jaljalah), helmed by Michael Forest for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle. Another De Mieulle ward, Sealine (Amer x Jaljalah), completed the top three five and three quarters lengths behind under Ronan Thomas.

Mansoor Ebrahim Al Mahmoud's Al Neksh (Amer x Redjila) was well held on his past three outings on dirt, with his turf runs showing promise. On Wednesday, that changed for Gassim Mohammad Ghazali trained 6yo as the grey horse entered the winner's enclosure for first time since April of 2019. With Qatari jockey Ali

Khalid Al Mosallam in the saddle, the 6yo managed to hold his own over the 1900m Purebred Arabian Handicap (100 & below) beating Carlos Henrique ridden Tasslam by two lengths.

Stepping down in distance from earlier efforts saw Abdulaziz Hamad Ateeq Al Marri's Lama (Hatteen x Ahazeej) improve dramatically when she shed her maiden status over C&D last week. On Wednesday, in the Local Novice Plate, the 4yo filly was once again partnered by Qatari apprentice rider Ali Khalid Al Mosallam and the duo breezed past the competition and the post for their second straight victory together. The grey filly won the 1100m run by five and a half lengths.

Umm Qarn's Khaldoun (Al Mamun Monlau x Farraaha) has only improved since his sixth place finish on debut in October. The 4yo hit the frame a month ago over C&D and finally stepped into the winner's enclosure on Wednesday in dominant fashion. Ridden by Ronan Thomas for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle in the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate, the grey colt had little trouble stamping his authority and topping the 1900m run on dirt by seven and three quarters lengths at the post.

AJS Wathanan bolted to a scintillating victory in the The Late Rabiah Saad Al-Kaabi Cup



AJS Wathanan ridden by Alberto Sanna

ARO Patron HH Sheikh Hamdan secures 19 Owners Championship



Al Neksh ridden by Ali Khalid Al Mosallam



Lama ridden by Ali Khalid Al Mosallam



Khaldoun ridden by Ronan Thomas

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photos: QREC-Juhaim

The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) season concluded today at Wolverhampton with some familiar names heading the championship tables. ARO Patron HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum secured his nineteenth Owners Championship, which was also his seventeenth consecutive win. James Owen achieved his fourth Trainers Championship, with his stable amateur jockey Alex Chadwick retaining the Jockeys Championship for a second successive year.

Speaking of his success Owen said: "Of course it's been a difficult season, so all our thanks go to ARO, our team, all our owners and the sponsors for waiting. We've got some nice progressive types coming along and with Shadwell's support, who have been great, and our Racing Club who have also been very patient, we're looking forward to next year when hopefully everyone can return to the races as normal."

Chadwick was also full of praise for the team behind him saying: "It's a massive achievement for me, as coming into this season with less races, I knew it would be a much harder task. I'd like to thank James, His Highness and all the owners for giving me the opportunities and all credit goes to everyone at home. I have the great job of riding nice horses at the races, but there's a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes, with everyone doing much more than me to get these horses to the track. Hopefully we can keep the momentum rolling on to next season."

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "ARO sends their warmest congratulations to His Highness on his continued success this season, and also to James and Alex whose hard work continues to pay dividends on the racecourse. His Highness also bred and owns the leading Arabian mare, Wanaasa, trained by James, and it is also her sire, No Risk Al Maury who heads the UK leading sires' championship for the first time."

"We also congratulate Peter and Michelle Hammersley on the success of their Al-Tabari and his breeder Julie Kelway, as he earns the leading Arabian horse title. Which is a very pleasing achievement for small-owner breeders in what has been an incredibly difficult and challenging year for all in racing. ARO is thankful for the support of our participants who chose to keep their horses in training during these uncertain times

and is extremely grateful to all our valued sponsors this season. Even though we were only able to hold fourteen races, it is due to this support that we have maintained our presence as part of UK racing. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and everyone at Chelmsford City, Doncaster, Goodwood and Wolverhampton Racecourses for their continued assistance in ensuring that we were able to race in 2020."

Source: www.aroracing.co.uk / Photo: Debbie Burt



Shadwell Arabians Marketing and Nominations
Co-ordinator Marion Lachat receives the 2020
ARO Champion Owner trophy on behalf of HH
Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum



2020 ARO Champion Jockey Alex Chadwick



The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) season came to a close at Wolverhampton this afternoon, with the nine-and-a-half-furlong Shadwell Arabians Stallions (0-95) Handicap Stakes. ARO Patron HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum's homebreds filled the first three places with Loolwa winning convincingly, providing trainer Phil Collington with his first UK win of the season.

Fittingly in a race named for Shadwell Arabian Stallions, the three fillies were by Shadwell sires, with Loolwa and second placed Farhaa being daughters of Al Saoudi, whilst third placed Anfaas is a daughter of No Risk Al Maury.

Though familiar with the breed from time spent riding in Dubai, jockey Kevin Stott was recording his first UK win on an Arabian and was pleased with Loolwa's professional attitude saying: "She's a nice big filly; I can only see her going forward from this. I said to Phil that back on Turf she'll probably enjoy a bit of cut in the ground and I think she could get further too. I couldn't fault her performance at all."

Collington was obviously relieved to be back in the winners circle and was delighted with Loolwa commenting: "It's been frustrating, her debut effort was above expectations, when she was third in the UK Arabian Derby, but to see her win

today confirmed the ability that she showed then. I'm longing to see her back on Turf next season."

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "We congratulate His Highness on his success this afternoon and thank Shadwell Arabian Stallions for their support. ARO is extremely grateful for the support of all our valued sponsors this season, which has enabled us to maintain our presence as part of UK racing. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton Racecourse for their continued assistance in 2020."

www.shadwellarabian.co.uk - From its origins in the Middle East, Arabian racing has become increasingly popular across Europe and Shadwell stallions have played an important role in breeding for this sport since the beginning. The original UK based operation was housed at Melton Paddocks, Norfolk. From there, the high quality and popularity of the stallions offered by Shadwell meant the business of standing Arabian at stud soon expanded to become a global one.

Source: www.aroracing.co.uk / Photo: Debbie Burt

King Abdulaziz Turf Hosts First Race of the Season on January 23, 2021

Preparations are fully underway for the US-\$30.5m Saudi Cup day, with the turf track at the King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh scheduled to stage its first race of the new season on January 23, 2021.

The race, held over the same 2,100m trip as the \$1m Middle Distance Turf Handicap which opens proceedings on Saudi Cup day, carries an SAR85,000 (\$22,000/£17,000) purse and is open to imported horses aged four and older.

There will be a total of \$5m (£3.75m) in prize money offered for the four turf races at the 2021 Saudi Cup two-day meeting held on February 19-20, 2021: the \$2.5m Long Distance Turf Handicap, the 1351 Turf Sprint (\$1m), the Middle Distance Turf Cup (\$1m) and the inaugural Saudi International Handicap (\$500k) for horses

trained in IFHA Part II or Part III countries.

Michael Prosser, Regional Head of Racing, East Region for The Jockey Club in England, renews his 2020 role as Clerk of the Course for The Saudi Cup and will travel to Riyadh to oversee the turf track's first use of the new season.

He said: *"It's really great to be part of The Saudi Cup in year two and to have the opportunity to build on the successful delivery of the inaugural running. Working alongside the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia, STRI and Desert Group, we were able to provide a safe and fair racing surface in year one which received some excellent feedback. Now we look forward to staging another high-quality event in 2021 and to attracting even more of the world's most exciting racehorses and their connections to compete on the excellent turf*

and dirt tracks at King Abdulaziz Racecourse."

Having successfully constructed the turf for the inaugural event earlier this year, sports surface solutions agency STRI has once again been appointed to oversee the project.

STRI's specialist support for the 2021 Saudi Cup is aimed at re-establishing a world-leading racing surface ahead of the winter racing season. This involves retaining the underlying track profile following its construction in 2019 and re-establishing the surface with a "cool season" grass species, usually found in more temperate climates, but used to great effect for The Saudi Cup 2020. The renovation of the track is a vital component in ensuring horse welfare and optimal winter racing conditions.

Tom Ryan, Director of Strategy and International Racing at the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia, said: *"A world class event requires world class facilities and we were delighted with the positive feedback we received about the turf track following the inaugural Saudi Cup. When constructing a racing surface, horse welfare is always the main priority and with an additional race set to be staged on turf in 2021, we could not be happier with how the surface is already looking. We are also very pleased to welcome Michael Prosser back for The Saudi Cup 2021; he brings a wealth of international operational experience to this*

event and is a familiar face to horse connections."

Richard Stuttard, Director of Consultancy at STRI Group, added: *"Having successfully constructed the turf track to great acclaim for the inaugural turf racing at the King Abdulaziz Race-track, we are thrilled to be overseeing the preparations for The 2021 Saudi Cup. The track was seeded in October, as soon as temperatures were suitable, to allow the maximum time to establish a hard-wearing surface suitable for racing. We are well ahead of schedule and are looking forward to another hugely successful Saudi Cup in 2021."*

Scheduled a week earlier than the inaugural event, the free to enter – free to run 1800m \$20m Saudi Cup remains the highlight of an eight-race card, which now features a boost to the prize money of three dirt races on the undercard.

The 1600m Saudi Derby sees an increase from \$800,000 to \$1.5m. The Obaiya Cup for Purebred Arabians held over 2000m will now be worth \$2m, up from \$1.9m while the purse for The Jockey Club Local Handicap will double to \$1m up from \$500,000.

The International Jockeys Challenge held the Friday before Saudi Cup will once again see 14 of the world's best jockeys, seven women, five international men and two Saudi-based jockeys, compete for a challenge purse of \$100,000 and 15 per cent of prize money.



Maximum Security ridden by Luis Saez wins the inaugural Saudi Cup at the King Abdul Aziz Racetrack in Riyadh. (Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia/Doug DeFelice)

Source: <http://peterellisracing.com/>



The Obaiya Arabian Classic as Tallaab Al Khalediah stormed the 2,000m on the dirt track. (AN Photo/Huda Bashatah)

Shadwell will stand seven Arabian stallions in 2021

AF AL BURAQ (Amer x Al Hanouf by Sabaan)



Three stallions will stand at Haras de Saint Faust in France: AF AL BURAQ (Amer x Al Hanouf by Sabaan), the leading sire in the UAE by number of wins for three consecutive years and sire of Stakes winners, will stand alongside MANARK (Mahabb x Mendra by Sousse), whose first crop of foals born in 2020 show great promise, and SIVIT AL MAURY (Akbar x Savavit Al Maury by Dormane), who has his first foals due in 2021.

All three sires will be available for natural cover and we invite breeders to contact the stud directly for any enquiries. SIVIT AL MAURY is also available for artificial insemination with frozen semen.

HANDASSA (Madjani x Ziva by Dormane) will stand at Haras du Mazet in France. The best son at stud of the exceptional MADJANI has produced very promising foals in his first two crops. We are looking forward to working with Haras du Mazet for the upcoming breeding season. HANDASSA will be available for natural cover and artificial insemination with frozen semen.

AL JAKBAR (Al Sakbe x Essaada by Hosni) will continue to stand in the UK and will be available for artificial insemination with frozen semen. TA-AJER (Madjani x Ziva by Dormane) has produced good-looking foals since his debut at stud and remains at S.A. di Besnate in Italy for the 2021 season.

The progeny of NO RISK AL MAURY (Kesbe-roy x Nectarine Al Maury by Maroud III) have impressed all year long, including several stakes victories this year: in France, with the three-year-old filly HYL A DU LOUP, winner of the Prix Razzia III (Gr.3 PA) and the four-year-old filly MIN'HA, winner of the Shadwell Critérium des Pouliches (Gr.2 PA); with the four-year-old filly JAHRA winner of the Prix Gantouria (Gr.2) in Tunisia; with the four-year-old filly SALMA NOUR GRINE, winner of the Grand Prix de sa Majesté le Roi Mohammed VI (Gr.3 PA), the four-year-old colt AL NOURY, winner of the Grand Prix de S.A.R le Prince Héritier Moulay El Hassan (Gr.3 PA) and the three-year-old filly OUMAYMAT GRINE winner of the Prix

Mansour Dahbi (Listed PA) in Morocco, among other winners. NO RISK AL MAURY will only be available via artificial insemination with frozen semen in 2021.

Richard Lancaster, Shadwell's Stud Director, commented: "After a difficult year for all due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Shadwell team is looking forward to the breeding season ahead.

"Our roster is more than ever diverse in stallions' profiles and fees. We hope that all breeders will be able to find a suitable match for their mares.

"SIVIT AL MAURY has started his career at stud in challenging times and we are grateful to the breeders who have given him a chance. We hope that the foals born next year will prove them right. In 2021, SIVIT AL MAURY will stand at Haras de Saint Faust in France alongside the champion sire AF AL BURAQ and MANARK, whose first foals have come down really well.

"The performances of the progeny of NO RISK AL MAURY were outstanding, and we are very grateful to the breeders who continue to support him. Due to his popularity, the number of artificial insemination nominations to NO RISK AL MAURY with frozen semen is limited for the 2021 breeding season. We urge breeders to contact Shadwell to apply for a nomination before the 15th Janu-

ary 2021. He will be open to approved mares only and the owners of the mares who will have been accepted will be contacted before the end of the following week.

"Our 2021 stallion roster offers various opportunities to all breeders to find the right match for their mares. We are thankful for all the support we receive from breeders worldwide."

Shadwell is pleased to announce the launch of the new and improved Shadwell Arabian Stallions website: www.shadwellarabian.co.uk.

The re-designed site has extensive content including up-to-date information about Shadwell Arabian Stallions: pedigrees, race records, pictures, and progeny performances. The new site also provides practical information for breeders, including a page where breeders can directly apply for nominations.

The website launch coincides with the release of the Shadwell Arabian Stallions roster for the 2021 breeding season.

Source: Shadwell Arabian Stallions:
www.shadwellarabian.co.uk
arabians@shadwellstud.co.uk
www.facebook.com/ShadwellArabian



AL JAKBAR (Al Sakbe x Essaada by Hosni)



HANDASSA, winner of the AL Maktoum Challenge Round 2, Gr.1 PA, Meydan



MANARK, winner of the Dubai Kahayla Classic, GR.1 PA, Meydan



NO RISK AL MAURY (Kesberoy x Nectarine Al Maury by Maroud III)



SIVIT AL MAURY, winner of the International Malazgirt Trophy, Gr.1, PA, Istanbul



TAAJER, winner of the Prix Magicienne, Pau

Al Nabooda and Oertel dominated in Sharjah



AF Thobor ridden by Szczepan Mazur

Racing at Sharjah Longines Racecourse on Saturday afternoon, November 28, was dominated by Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda and Champion Trainer Ernst Oertel.

The opening 1200m maiden, for colts and geldings foaled in the UAE, was won by a determined debutant in the shape of AF Thayer (AF Alsalaam x Aberfeldy by Amer) who was soon in front under Tadhg O'Shea and probably never headed despite a persistent challenge from the far more experienced Shawall, the race between the pair from shortly after halfway. Riding for his main employer, Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda and Ernst Oertel, O'Shea had to conjure up a brave effort from the homebred 3-year-old colt, in doing so denying a 5-year-old gelding who had already had no less than 15 starts.

O'Shea said: "Full credit to my horse who has shown plenty of speed early on and then a fantastic attitude to hold off the second who has plenty of placed form. Hopefully he will improve with that experience behind him and he should stay further, so with luck, there is more to come from him."

Thirty minutes later, the fillies' equivalent, was a memorable one for the connections of AF Sahwa (Victor Adam x Hermes De Carrere by Tidjani) with apprentice Nathan Crosse opening his local account at just the second attempt and seeing trainer Mohamed Ramadan back among the winners after two blank seasons. It was just a second UAE success for owner Ahmed Obaid Mohd Al Neyadi.

The success looked unlikely entering the final 500m when early leader Ashjaan went clear under Fabrice Veron and Crosse's mount had more of her 11 rivals in front of her than behind. However, the 4-year-old, actually bred by Al Nabooda, on just her second career start having never landed a blow over 1000m at Al Ain a fortnight ago, realised what was required of her about 400m home, finishing fast to snatch the spoils close home.

The ever enthusiastic Ramadan bellowed his filly home and said: "That was very exciting and a great performance from an inexperienced filly and promising young jockey. She learned plenty on her debut and appreciated the extra 200m here. She will stay further also."

Thirty minutes later Al Nabooda was again celebrating as an owner after a 1000m handicap in which he owned four of the 15 runners with the three saddled by Oertel finishing first, second and third. This time O'Shea could only watch on as his choice, AF Meeqat (Mahabb x Voici Kossack by Bengali D'Albret) faded in the final 100m to finish third. Meanwhile, AF Hajeej (AF Alsalaam x Khouteez by Khoutoubia) and apprentice Hugo Lebouc, who appeared to be almost unseated 250m out, had hit the front, strongly challenged by AF Thobor (AF Al Buraq x Voici Kossack by Bengali D'Abret) and Szczepan Mazur. The latter pair snatched the initiative in the final 50m to win cosily. A 9-year-old entire horse, it was a sixth career success for the veteran and first since defeating AF Meeqat over 1200m here at Sharjah just over a year ago.

Al Nabooda said: "That was a very pleasing outcome as I also bred the three of them which is particularly satisfying for me. As I have said very many times Ernst Oertel is a very good trainer and we have a great team behind us."

The owner added: "Tadhg O'Shea is obviously a big part of that, but even he cannot pick the right horse each time. It has been a good afternoon so far."

The Al Nabooda and Oertel bandwagon rolled on in a third contest restricted to horses foaled locally, a 2000m handicap, with O'Shea having to settle for second this time aboard AF Mahaleel. They completed a 1-2 for owner and trainer with,

again, Mazur the beneficiary of a winning spare ride.

Partnering AF Mezmar (AF Al Buraq x AF Wardat Biladi by Madoua De Piboul), the young Polish jockey drove his mount to the head of affairs and he found a willing partner who never really looked likely to be denied, showing a tenacious attitude to see off Ma'Aaly and always holding O'Shea on his stable companion. It was a third career success for the homebred 5-year-old entire whose previous taste of victory was also over this Sharjah 1700m in February and he won his maiden, over 1200m, on the same track on his second start in December 2018.

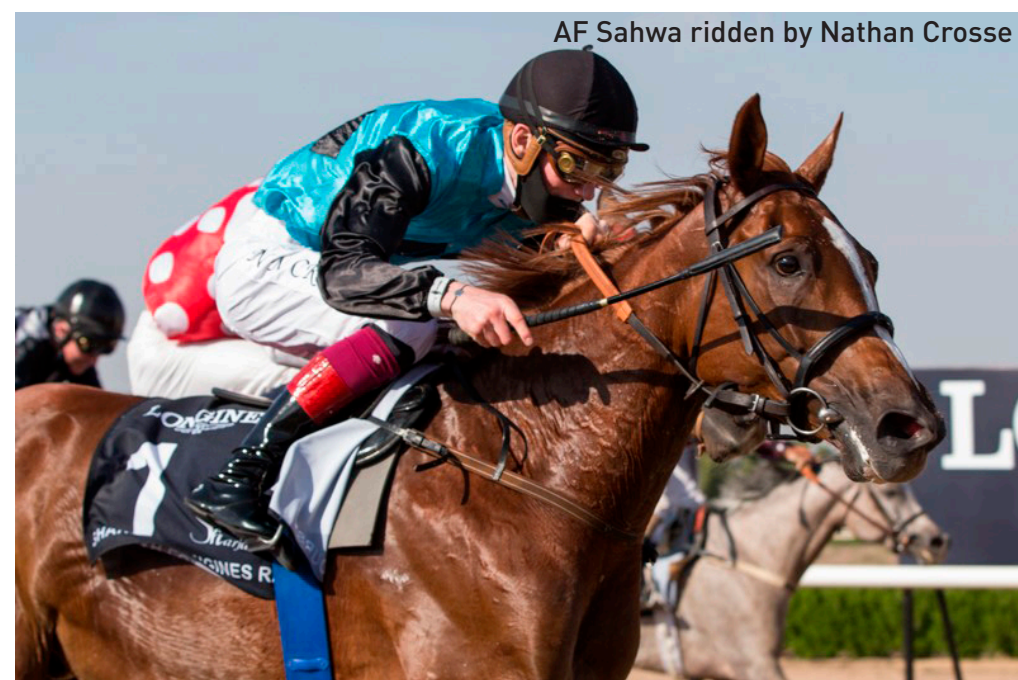
Mazur said: "You always know when riding for these connections that you have some kind of chance and I have been lucky enough to get on a pair of winners this afternoon. I am very grateful for the opportunities."

With Al Nabooda and Oertel not represented in the concluding 1700m handicap, Mohamed Daggash was able to take full advantage, saddling Ajaj (Al Amyr x Nasma Al Chame by Kesberoy) to success for owner HE Abdulla Bakheet Saif Murshed Al Marar with Bernardo Pinheiro performing the steering. Settled in midfield, they made notable progress on the home turn before staying on strongly to lead in the final 50m, denying stable companion AF Fakhama (Al Kesbe x AF Hakimah by Amer) what looked a likely winner at the top of the straight under Fernando Jara.

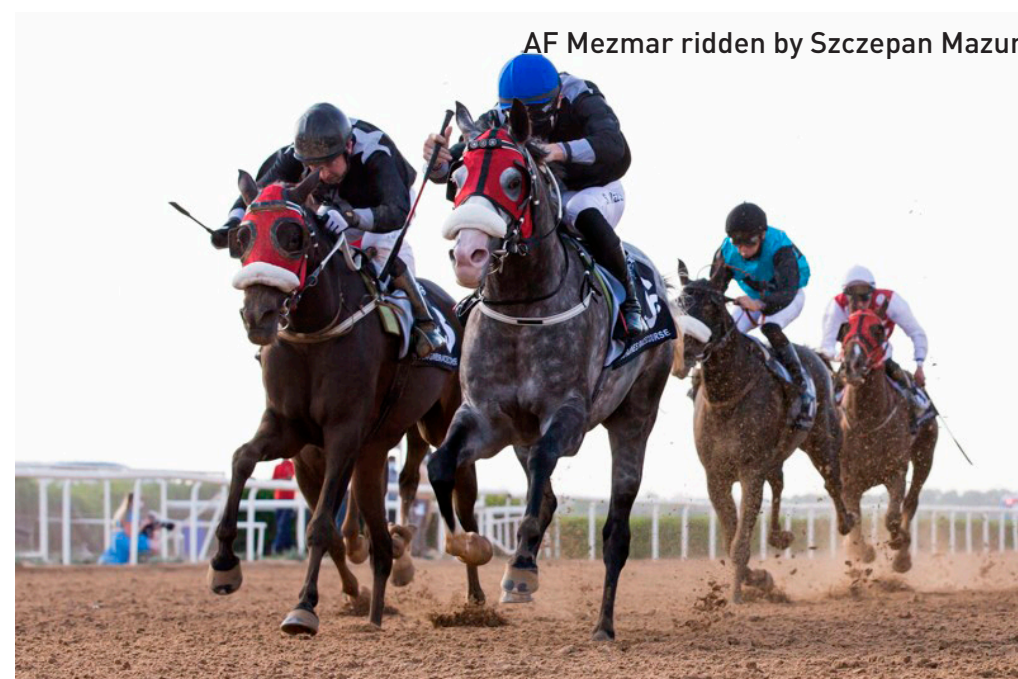
AF Thayer ridden by Tadhg O'Shea



Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority



AF Sahwa ridden by Nathan Crosse



AF Mezmar ridden by Szczepan Mazur



Ajaj ridden by Bernardo Pinheiro

Paddys Day and Uptown Sandy Girl winners in Texas Arabian Stallion Stakes Gr 3

On 22 November 2020, Lone Star Park hosted the final two Arabian Stakes races for 2020 where Paddys Day made short work of his six competitors in the Arabian Stallion Stakes Gr 3 and Uptown Sandy Girl defending her 2019 title in the mares and fillies Gr 3

Nine-year-old multiple champion Paddys Day made a bold start to the race and finished in the same fashion, after a brief mid-field interlude when he was challenged by RB Rich Lyke Me and Quick Sand AA. The three raced together with Paddys Day trailing until jockey Ivan Arellano brought Paddys Day back to attention with a tap of the whip, whereby he charged ahead down the stretch and finished in style. He was followed into second by Quick Sand AA then RB Rich Lyke Me for third. Winning race time was 1:49:49.

Paddys Day (Burning Sand x AK Loretta by Virgule Al Maury) was bred and is owned by Jane Teutsch and was trained by Nicole Ruggeri.

Ruggeri said after the race: "This horse has an incredible amount of heart and a personal mission to win. He led the race out and then was caught by RB Rich Lyke Me and Quick Sand AA, where he seemed content to say hello, but when reminded he was racing, he put his head down and took off."

Paddys Day has won three out of four races in 2020. His last win before this was the Gr 1 UAE President Cup Stakes at Pimlico on 3 October.

Also ran in order: Kissour, Madjestic, Uptown CruiseDirector, Uptown WTF.

Uptown Sandy Girl and Dance With Me BW flew out of the gate together and took up the lead position and shortly RB Gaim Changer had moved up to duel with the front runners. Around the 1/4 pole the two greys, Dance With Me BW and Uptown Sandy Girl, were again racing each other until Uptown Sandy Girl under Jose Garcia moved on by and flew down the stretch to win with Dance With Me BW maintaining second over RB Gaim Changer, while Dream Pearl won the battle for fourth over Risky Red. Final win time was 1:50:80.

Uptown Sandy Girl is trained by Glen Rottweiler for owner Jon K Henningsgard and was bred by Krista Henningsgard. Uptown Sandy Girl has

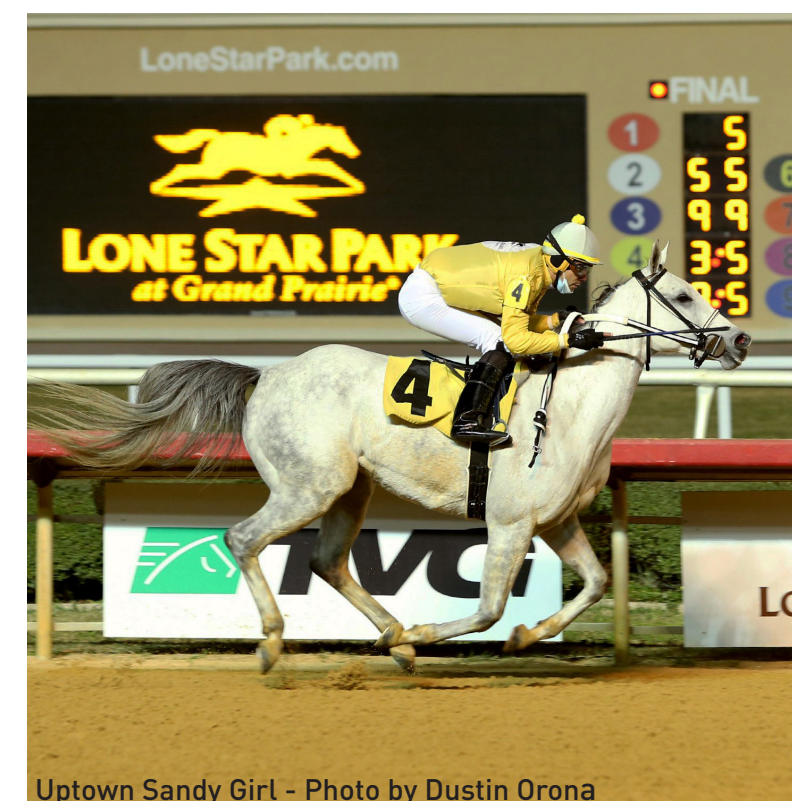
had 3 firsts from 6 starts in 2020.

Also ran: 5. Risky Red, 6. RB Whistlin Dixie, 7. WMA Hope, 8. Golly Shez Hot SV.

Source: <https://www.horsereporter.com/>



Paddys Day - Photo by Dustin Orona



Uptown Sandy Girl - Photo by Dustin Orona



Munir Du Soleil wins Listed Prix Ourour

Munir du Soleil (Munjiz) was the comfortable winner of the Prix Ourour (Listed PA) at Toulouse, France, on Thursday, 26 November, an evening for owner Abdullah Bin Fahad Ah Al Attiyah, posting his first career wins. A first of many, as this exciting colt has already performed at Group 1 PA level, despite his lack of experience.

Soko (Nieshan) took the lead in the race, alongside Muntasir (Josco du Cayrou) with Munir du Soleil in third in the rail. Coming into the straight, Munir du Soleil took the lead and cruised to an impressive victory with Julien Augé in the saddle. Soko held on for second, with Al Shaqab Racing's Hazzam (Al Mamun Monlau) in third.

Trainer Thomas Fourcy was winning the Prix Ourour for the third consecutive year. He remarked on this year's winner, "He's done it well, without being impressive, but that's how he is

– he always does the minimum. He will improve with time and should be an interesting horse for next year." A staying colt, Munir du Soleil could head to Qatar for the winter, but nothing has been decided yet.

Munir du Soleil is one of the top class purchases made by his young owner, Abdullah Bin Fahad Ah Al Attiyah. Raised at Haras du Saubouas, he was bred by Du Soleil Stud, which is run by Lisa and Pierre Deymonaz. He is by the late, great sire Munjiz (Kesberoy) and out of Rahab (Amer), a sister to champion General, dual Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1 PA) winner who stands at Haras du Grand Courgeon and the champion mare Al Dahma, winner of 25 races, including four wins in the Qatar International Trophy.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: Robert Polin



Faleh Bughanaim conquers his second victory of the season with Akma

Qatari rider Faleh Bughanaim rode his second winner of the season astride Mohammed Nasser Al Naimi's Akmar (No Risk Al Maury x Safa) at the Al Rayyan Park turf track on Thursday, November 26. The Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani schooled 5yo returned to the new season in the Purebred Arabian Conditions (Far Bend).

The 2000m run saw the grey horse edge out Alberto Sanna ridden AJS Moaddie at the post by half a length. The penultimate race of the card saw Akmar enter the winner's enclosure for the first time in over a year.

Salman Mohammned Alemadi's Djalnor (No Risk Al Maury x Djalmina) made a winning debut in Qatar with a thrilling victory in the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (Far Bend). In the 2000m run on Thursday, the French recruit had Marco

Casamento in the saddle and the duo was locked in a battle for supremacy with Michael Forest ridden Al Malhouf on the rails and Ronan Thomas helmed Goldamer and Ivan Rossi ridden Khattab De Faust between them. At the post, Mohammed Gassim Ghazali's ward edged out the rest by a quarter of a length in a blanket finish.

Al Jeryan Stud's AJS Berline (AF AlBahar x Dormaline) brushed aside a forgettable outing last time round to shed her maiden status in spectacular fashion on Thursday. In the Local Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (3 Year Olds) (Far Bend), with Marco Casamento in the saddle for the first time in the filly's short three-race career, the Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani schooled chestnut filly was unstoppable on home straight, winning by seven and a half lengths.

Injaaz Stud's Lekhraib races to thrilling at Al Huwaila Cup Day



Lekhraib (AF AlBahar x Grace T) raced to his second straight victory for Injaaz Stud on Wednesday with the 6yo topping the penultimate race of the day. After landing Doha Cup two weeks ago over six furlongs under Marco Casamento, the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali saddled 6yo lined up for the Local Purebred Arabians sprint on Wednesday. Casamento was at the helm once again and the duo comfortably won by two and a half lengths in the 1100m run.

Mansoor Mesfer Al Hajri's Haddaj Dukhan (Majd Al Arab x Gantra El Maraka) had shown promise when runner-up last month, before being well held earlier this month in a handicap on dirt. With Ali Khalid Al Mosallam in the saddle, the 8yo lined up closer to the rails in the Purebred Arabian Handicap (90 & below), and by the

time the action reached the business end in the 1900m run, Haddaj Dukhan made his presence felt eventually edging out Faleh Bughanaim ridden Bsheer by half a length.

Abdulaziz Hamad Ateeq Al Marri's Lama (Hatteen x Ahazeej) had a forgettable outing after a 11 month gap last time round earlier this month. On Wednesday, however, the 4yo, despite a wide start from Gate 11 had little trouble topping the Local Purebred Arabians Novice Plate. The 1100m sprint saw the filly winning under Qatari rider Ali Khalid al-Mosallam with a length and three quarters to spare. It was the apprentice rider's fifth win this season.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: QREC-Juhaim



Source: Arabian Racing Organisation. Photo: Debbie Burt

It was a night to remember for local trainer Peter Hammersley with Al-Tabari (Tabarak x Altesse Kossack by Marwan) leading home a one-two-three-four in the Equine MediRecord (0-70) Handicap Stakes at Wolverhampton on Saturday 21 November.

Owned by Hammerley's wife Michelle, Al-Tabari was given another well-judged ride by Howard Cheng, drawing six and half-lengths clear of the Connally's Samawaat (Munjiz x Tarteel). Zayin Arabians' Zayin Zyperion (No Risk Al Maury x CS Comete) was a further half-length away in third, with HH Sheikha Maryam Bint Al Maktoum's Bin Al Reeh (Al Reeh Janoob x Edelphy) beaten a short head in fourth.

The nine-and-a-half-furlong contest supported by Emirates Breeders was the penultimate race in the shortened Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) season.

Hammersley has his team in in tremendous form with Samawaat and Zayin Zyperion placed here on Monday and another winner on Thursday at Chelmsford City. After the race he commented: "Al-Tabari surprised me really. Howard said he would ride him a bit more prominently this time and afterwards he couldn't believe how much he's improved from his last win here.

"We've been patient with him; we'll look forward to next season now, as he looks to be versatile as to trip. I'm thrilled with all four of them though, I thought Paddy [Barlow] rode a nice race on Bin Al Reeh and I'm pleased for the Connally's and Paul Simmons too."

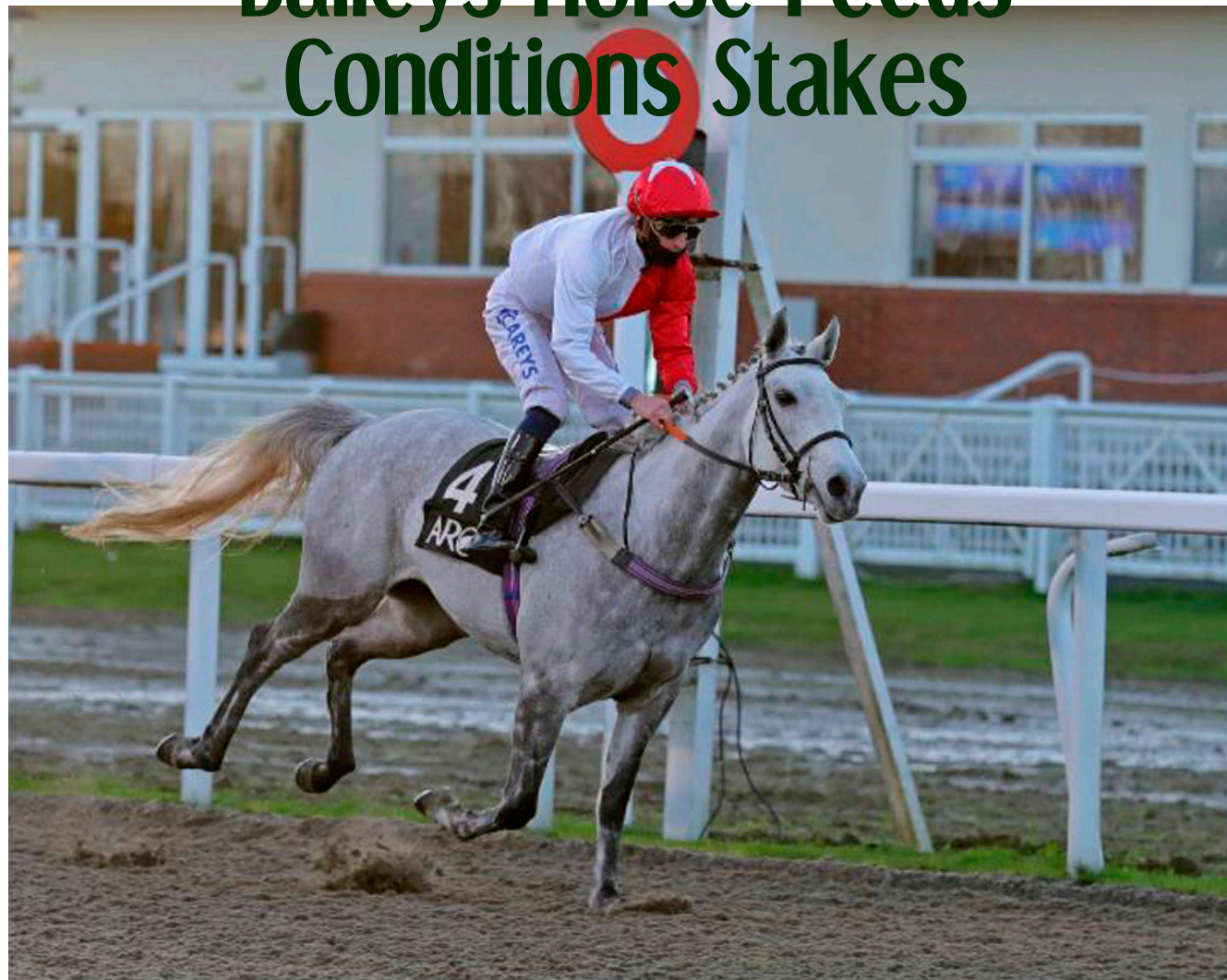
Equine MediRecord's Chief Operating Officer Finlay Dargan commented: "We're delighted to support Arabian racing in the UK and overseas. That was an impressive run from Al-Tabari and a great result for Peter Hammersley, training the first four home in the first Equine MediRecord Handicap Stakes!"

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "That was a wonderful result for Pete and all his owners who we warmly congratulate on their success.

"We also thank Equine MediRecord for their sponsorship today, joining with Emirates Breeders who have been supporting us throughout the season. Equine MediRecord's digital system has been instrumental in allowing us to race this year and has been a huge help to all our participants.

"ARO is very grateful for the support of all our valued sponsors this year, which has enabled us to maintain our presence as part of UK racing. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton Racecourse for their continued assistance this season."

Abiyah Athbah scores in the Baileys Horse Feeds Conditions Stakes



Dilmun Racing's Abiyah Athbah was a ready winner of the Baileys Horse Feeds Conditions Stakes run in association with Emirates Breeders at Chelmsford City. The six-year-old who was last seasons' leading mare finished two and a quarter lengths clear of Tijaary in second, recording her first win of 2020.

After the race trainer Peter Hammersley commented: "I'm sure it was just the weight that beat her last time over a mile and a half. Joey Haynes has given her a beautiful ride today. We thought there would be plenty of pace, but if there wasn't he'd just let her bowl along and she travelled really, really well, I'm so pleased. We've always thought she had bags of speed, so we have plenty of options for her now."

This was the second of two races that Baileys Horse Feeds have sponsored with ARO this season. Their export manager Mark Buchan commented: "We're pleased to be putting something back into the domestic sport and supporting our

local course at the same time as Chelmsford City is just ten minutes from our mill."

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "We were thrilled to continue our association with Baileys Horse Feeds whose support of Arabian racing began in 2017. We now welcome them back as lead sponsor of two races after their generous support of the Leading Trainer Award at Dubai International Arabian Races last year.

"ARO is very grateful for their increased support, which has enabled us to maintain our presence as part of UK racing, as have all our valued sponsors in 2020. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Chelmsford City Racecourse for their continued assistance this season."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation. Photo: Debbie Burt

ES Nahawand and Pinheiro shine in Al Ain



ES Nahawand ridden by Fernando Jara

Racing at Al Ain on Friday, November 20, the third meeting already in 'the Garden City' this season, featured a 1400m handicap which provided the most exciting finish of the evening with ES Nahawand (Big Easy x Crystale by Dahman El Arami) posting a gutsy success under Fernando Jara.

One of four runners locked in battle at the 200m pole, when AF Tathoor cried enough, Jara's mount had led as the leaders left the home turn, hassled throughout the straight by Pharitz Oubai. The latter may have led briefly with about 180m remaining, and when Opera loomed as a serious challenger. However, ES Nahawand was not for being beaten, fighting grimly to make sure he claimed a fourth career victory and second at Al Ain. The 8-year-old entire also has a pair of Sharjah victories to his name, on his debut in December 2016 and on his seasonal debut at the end of October. The victory also doubled owner Ahmed Mohd Saif Mushed Al Marar's tally while trainer Mohd Daggash was completing a brace on the card, from his first two runners, from just three in total on the evening.

Jara said: "All credit to the horse because he has really had to battle for that, a very hard fought success. I am not sure if we were headed, but once he

was being challenged on both sides, he was determined to win."

An hour later Bernardo Pinheiro was back in the winner's enclosure, this time combining with Mahmood Hussain who saddled Pharitz Al Denari (Lahoob x Sophia by Kerbella) to a fairly comfortable victory, a maiden success for owner Yousif Ali Yousuf Alkhaja Al-Ali. Third on his sole previous start, just last Saturday over 1000m here at Al Ain, the 4-year-old colt would have scored more comfortably had he not chosen to wander towards the stands side rail entering the final 350m. Once straightened by Pinheiro, connections did not have any further worries as the horse finished strongly.

Pinheiro said: "He ran well last week, staying on nicely over a trip too short. He showed his inexperience here which suggests there is more to come as he gains more experience."

The Brazilian completed a memorable treble in the finale, a 1000m maiden, when probably never headed aboard AF Lewaa (Al Kesbe x RS Suhaylah by Burning Sand), owned and trained by Qaiss Aboud, doubling his tally in both categories in the process. Quickly away, the 6-year-old, unsuccessful in 11 previous efforts, was gaining a deserved

maiden success after finishing second in a virtually identical race, on his debut for Aboud, last Saturday.

That was actually his first appearance since December 2018 when third in another Al Ain 1000m maiden.

Pinheiro said: *"It has been a great two days and I have to thank all the owners and trainers who have given me these chances."*

A 1600m maiden for 3-year-olds only attracted the maximum allowed field of 15, but the majority may as well have stayed at home with only a handful of the runners ever really able to get involved. Continuing the South American rider theme, it was Argentine Jesus Rosales who was celebrating after producing Oss (Valiant Boy x RB Burn Baby Burn by TH Richie) with a decisive challenge 300m from home, the pair soon hitting the front and crossing the line almost three lengths clear of the field. Patiently ridden by Rosales, who settled him in fifth or sixth, the rear of the small group that ever really counted in the race, they made smooth progress before storming clear to record an impressive victory for Abdallah Al Hammadi and his main patron, Al Ajban Stables.

As with Pharitz Al Denari 30 minutes earlier, Rosales and his mount had finished third on debut just six days earlier, in his case over the same 1600m. Rosales said: *"It was a good first effort last weekend and he learned plenty because he was quite professional today."*

After 24 defeats, AF Almahjaz (AF Al Buraq x Aicha Croixnoire by Dahman El Arami) finally managed to get his head in front, ultimately winning quite cosily in a 1000m maiden for horses foaled in the UAE. A 9-year-old gelding, he is owned and trained by Khalifa Al Neyadi. Never far off the speed under Omani apprentice Abdul Aziz Al Balushi, he was never going to be denied his moment of glory once hitting the front just under 200m out, powering home to the obvious delight of connections.

In doing so, he bettered his previous career highlights, four runner-up finishes as well as finishing third five times and Al Neyadi said: *"He was a good second over 1400m at Jebel Ali last Friday, so we knew he was in good form and hoped this flat 1000m would suit him. Happily it did!"*

Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority



Pharitz Al Denari ridden by Bernardo Pinheiro



Brazilian Pinheiro wins with Jayide Al Boraq first PA race in Meydan

Racing at Meydan on Thursday evening, November 19, was officially highlighted by the only Purebred Arabian contest on the card, the 1400m Group 2 Bani Yas sponsored by Gulf News, won by the improving and consistent Jayide Al Boraq.

Confidently ridden by Bernardo Pinheiro, in the predominantly yellow silks of Al Rahmani Racing, the 6-year-old entire was winning for the seventh time on just his ninth start and in by far the strongest contest he had tackled. One of his two defeats was actually over 1400m, but that was his sole turf outing, when second at Abu Dhabi in a handicap having landed his previous start, a handicap at Al Ain, over 1400m.

This was his third attempt at the trip and, as well as consistent, he has to be considered versatile as he is now victorious over 1000m, 1400m and 1600m, the distance over which he made a winning debut, at Al Ain, in March 2019. He also won at the same track on his reappearance, over 1000m, exactly three weeks ago, but that was in handicap company and, as alluded to, this was a big step up in class.

Success looked unlikely at halfway when RB Money To Burn, ridden by Fabrice Veron, was going clear at the front whereas Pinheiro was attempting to find racing room, appearing trapped on the rail in about sixth, albeit travelling well. Pulled wide entering the straight, Jayide Al Boraq

made relentless progress and, with RB Money To Burn, weakening in the final 150m, was able to sweep past that rival about 50m out to score going away at the line.

It was a biggest UAE winner for all the connections and Pinheiro said: *"I was pretty confident coming here this evening because he is a lazy horse who only ever really does enough, so I thought there was improvement there."*

The jockey added: *"I was not able to race as prominently as I wanted, but he was always going strongly. The eventual second was a long way clear, but I knew, entering the straight, I would at least get second and in the final 200m I was always going to win. It is a great result, not only for myself, but for a smaller trainer and owners, so we will enjoy it and hope there is more to come. An extra 200m will not be a problem, but I doubt he will stay much further than 1600m."*

Trained by Eric Lemartinel for Sheikha Alyazia bint Sultan Al Nahyan, RB Money to Burn finished second.

Winner of half his eight races, AF Alwajel, homebred by Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda, was the choice of retained jockey, champion Tadhg O'Shea, from two runners set to be saddled for Al Nabooda by Ernst Oertel, finished third place.

Source and photo: Emirates Racing Authority

Mahatma Rach wins two races in a row



Mahatma Rach lined for Grand Prix Nacional on Saturday, November 14, with F. Larroque in the saddle for the second straight time, and this time too the result was the same, after Larroque guided Mahatma Rach (Sarmata x Magic All Rach by Ulisses Rach) to a spectacular pillar to post victory.

After a start with everyone together, Mahatma Rach takes the lead and keeps it until the end, opening lengths and more lengths ahead and winning the race with more than 10 lengths ahead of Graccus Rach, in second place, and El Chall LA in third.

Both Mahatma Rach and Gracchus Rach are trained by Lucas Quintana and owned by Paulo Jamil Saliba. Breeder Rach Stud Agropecuária belongs to the Saliba family.

Graccus Rach (Veracious Rach x Gracyara HCF by LD Halston) was very well conducted by apprentice jockey R. Mendonça, while El Chall LA (Magnum Chall HVP x Arabesca LA by Ansata Shaamis), trained by A. Magalhães Filho, was assembled by apprentice jockey W. Ariel and is owned and bred by Leandro de Aguiar.

El Chall LA is a half-brother of Egyto LA (Magnum Chall HVP x HLP Darkyna Fame by Legacy

of Fame), fifth place, who won the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship last year.

Paulo Saliba said: "Mahatma Rach again went very well and won firmly, reaching the fourth victory of his career. Now, he must run only the Classics. In this waiting time, other winners will appear and soon again we will have very balanced matches. It is difficult to start all over again and this stop because of the Covid-19 pandemic has hindered the pace of the races a lot, but we are back, excited and at full strength. Several breeders are already sending their horses to the Jockey Club and the number is growing again. Let's move on!"

The Grand Prix Nacional, held at the Cidade Jardim Racecourse, Jockey Club de São Paulo, was part of the 39th National Arabian Horse Exhibition. The GP was held at 1,000 m on Turf for three-years-old animals & upwards up to 3 victories.

The Grand Prix Nacional is organized by the Brazilian Arabian Horse Breeders Association in partnership with the Jockey Club de São Paulo.

Text and photos: Cidinha Franzão



El Chall LA ridden by W. Ariel

Graccus Rach ridden by R. Mendonça



Serafim Forta impresses in the Racing to School Inspiring Young Minds Handicap



Source: Arabian Racing Organisation. Photo: Debbie Bur

Forta Stud's homebred Serafim Forta was an impressive winner of the Racing to School Inspiring Young Minds (0-60) Handicap today at Wolverhampton. The nine-and-a-half furlong race supported by Emirates Breeders, attracted 12 runners, but it was Serafim Forta, the youngest horse in the race that showed the greatest improvement. He finished two and a half lengths ahead of the Connally's Samawaat, with Zayin Arabian's Zayin Zyperion a neck behind in third.

Trained by James Owen and ridden by leading ARO amateur Alex Chadwick, the three-year-old colt has improved with every race and is a first UK winner for Forta Stud's own stallion, Sadeem.

Speaking after the race Chadwick said: "James was a bit worried I'd gone too soon on him, but he was going so well, I didn't want to take a pull and unsettle his stride. At home he's very buzzy and we go out at six in the morning when it's much quieter, but everyone loves him at the yard."

Racing to School Programme Manager Ollie McPhail commented: "We send our warmest congratulations to the winning connections at Wolverhampton today. It has been great to renew our association with the Arabian Racing Organisation even if we can't be there in person. Like everyone in the industry we have had to adapt our working methods and though we can't attend live

race days, the fact that we are outside and with a low number of people on site, means that the children can still have a meaningful educational experience.

"We are looking forward to getting back on track when the restrictions are lifted and to working with ARO to increase awareness of the career opportunities within the sport."

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "We are delighted for Forta Stud, the owner breeders of Serafim Forta, who have supported UK Arabian racing with both runners and race sponsorship for many years now.

"We are also pleased to be able to continue our association with Racing To School, as lead sponsor of this race with the Emirates Breeders. We also sincerely hope we will be able to welcome this excellent educational charity to our Arabian races in 2021 as part of their regular programme of events in what will be their twentieth anniversary year."

Haynes concluded: "ARO is very grateful for the support of all our valued sponsors this season, which has enabled us to maintain our presence as part of UK racing. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton Racecourse for their continued assistance this year."

The respected trio Al Nabooda, O'Shea and Oertel wins in Abu Dhabi



The second meeting of the new season to be staged in the capital, at Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, on November 15, kicked off with a 1200m maiden and the always respected trio of Champion Owner, Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda, his retained jockey, champion Tadhg O'Shea and main trainer, Ernst Oertel, landed the spoils courtesy of AF Majalis (AF Albahar x Khute by Djouras TU), opening his account at the fourth attempt on his seasonal debut.

Having just his fourth career start, after three efforts, all at Abu Dhabi, last season, the homebred 4-year-old colt was either first or second throughout before grabbing the initiative early in the straight and staying on strongly to post an easy victory.

Oertel said: "He is a very nice horse and I must admit coming here we were very hopeful he could

win today and he certainly has not disappointed us."

O'Shea added: "All credit to the trainer who convinced me to stay loyal to this one over AF Mohanak who finished third. This horse has certainly improved from last season, mentally and physically. He has plenty of speed and it all worked out well."

For 3-year-old colts and geldings foaled in the UAE, a 1400m maiden went to debutant Sawt Assalam (Mahabb x Prime D'Or by Dormane), a homebred confidently ridden by Szczepan Mazur for Ibrahim Al Hadhrami. Sporting the silks of Ben Shahwan Arabian Stables, the colt was sent straight to the head of affairs by Mazur and, apart from a brief challenge by O'Shea and eventual runner-up AF Al Ahkaf, never appeared in any danger.

Mazur said: *"This is a nice horse and he has done that very well. Obviously it was only his debut, so you would like to think, he is going to improve from that."*

An identical race, but for fillies appeared pretty mundane on paper, while actually producing a great finish with long-time leader AF Kharissa overhauled about 30m from home by Rawat Al Reef who was then, as the winning post approached, denied by Foah (Nieshan x Richly Blessed by TH Richie), the three debutantes serving up a thrilling spectacle. Trained by Eric Lemartinel for Sheikha Alyazia bint Sultan Al Nahyan, the homebred filly was settled in midfield early on before making relentless progress in the straight and then delivered with a perfectly timed challenge by Fabrice Veron.

Veron said: *"I had to push her quite early on because she was quite green and, basically, a baby, so she will certainly progress from that. At home, she has been galloping nicely in the mornings, so I actually thought she would be more educated which offers hope for the future."*

Italian jockey Antonio Fresu endured a frustrating start to the season, forced to miss the first fortnight having tested positive for Covid-19, but has soon been back in the winning groove, following a Friday Jebel Ali winner with another success, this time aboard RB Dixie Honor (Majd Al Arab x RB Dixie Diva by Burning Sand) in a 1600m handicap.

Fresu raced in second until entering the relatively short Abu Dhabi straight at which point he sent his mount, a 5-year-old mare, for home in what proved a race winning move. Saddled in Al Ain by Helal Al Alawi, it was actually a maiden victory for the mare, raced by National Stables, the base from which Al Alawi trains. It was a win at the eighth attempt for the mare and fifth for a horse carrying the owner's silks.

Al Alawi said: *"Her best previous run was here at Abu Dhabi when 2200m probably proved too far. She had a lovely low weight today and, luckily, has taken full advantage."*

Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority

Sawt Assalam ridden by Szczepan Mazur



Foah ridden by Fabrice Veron



RB Dixie Honor ridden by Antonio Fresu





Yaraa Takes Al Ain Feature for Yas Racing, Al Jahoori and Jara

Seven races at Al Ain on Saturday, November 14, all for Purebred Arabians, featured a handicap over 1800m, won stylishly by Yaraa, ridden by Fernando Jara for Yas Racing and Majed Al Jahoori.

Jara was content to settle his mount, quite wide, in a share of third and fourth, but was always in a good position to make a telling challenge in a race at least half of the 15 runners held realistic claims as the leaders left the home turn. At that point AF Ramz was in front before Mujahid, trained on the Al Ain track by Mohd Ramadan, took over, immediately hassled by Dagui Lotois and Salb.

As the 200m pole approached, Jara 'pressed go' and his mount darted to the front, running on strongly to land the spoils from Mujahid with Onward staying on from the back to snatch third.

Homebred, the 5-year-old mare was winning for a third time, having arrived locally with one success to her name in her native France, a victory she added to in February, over this 1800m Al Ain course and distance when trained by Ana Mendez. It was her second appearance for Al Jahoori, the first, 16 days ago, resulting in a fourth over an inadequate 1000m, also at Al Ain.

Al Jahoori said: *"She ran well over a short trip two weeks ago and we knew this extra distance would suit her. She had a nice low weight and we were quite hopeful."*

The following 1600m maiden was turned into a procession by dirt debutant Ottoman (Valiant Boy x Caviyar by Calin De Louve) whose 14 opponents may as well have stayed at home in their stables once he hit the front at the top of the long straight under Szczepan Mazur who has

returned to UAE action this weekend and was riding his first winner of the season at just the fourth attempt.

Saddled by Abdallah Al Hammadi for his main patron, Al Ajban Stables, the 3-year-old had made his one previous start last Sunday when fifth over 1400m on the Abu Dhabi turf. The extra 200m and switch to dirt, allied with that experience, clearly suited as he shot clear, eventually winning by ten lengths.

Al Hammadi said: *"We were pleased with his debut last week and that was very impressive, so we have to be delighted because he is only a young horse who, hopefully, can improve."*

Owner and trainer were then denied a quick double when their Will Power just failed to reel in Sharkh (Majd Al Arab x Siheme by Dormane) in the following 1800m maiden, the latter clinging on grimly for Pat Cosgrave, sporting the predominantly red silks of Abu Dhabi Racing. Trained locally by Helal Al Alawi from his base at The National Stables, the 4-year-old was making it third time lucky on his local and dirt debut having raced twice in his native France, narrowly beaten when third on debut and again when fourth as recently as August.

Never far off the pace, Cosgrave set sail for home fully 600m out, looking set for a comfortable success until Bernardo Pinheiro conjured a late lunge from Will Power, one which only just failed.

Al Alawi said: *"The horse only made his debut in June and is still learning his job. We think he is a nice new horse in the yard and we now know this surface suits him so it opens up options."*

Pinheiro may have been out of luck on that occasion, but was able to complete a brace for Al Ajban Stables and Al Hammadi when Maaly Al Reef (Bibi De Carrere x Matheela by Tibet) prevailed in a thrilling finish to the 2000m handicap.

The gallant AF Al Baher led for about the first 1850m only to be headed by Pinheiro's mount, but refused to lie down under Tadhg O'Shea, regaining the initiative in the centre of eventual winner and his stablemate Opera, one of three saddled by Al Hamamdi. Maaly Al Reef reclaimed the lead about 50m out, staying on to land the spoils from AF Al Baher with Opera in third, the trio separated by a neck and short-head.

It was a third career, second on dirt, success for the 6-year-old entire and Pinheiro said: *"He is a good little horse who was second last time and*



Maaly Al Reef ridden by Bernardo Pinheiro

we only had 53kgs today, so was receiving a lot of weight from the runner-up which we took advantage of with a battling display."

The maximum allowed of 15 contested the 1000m maiden, but almost from the second the stalls opened the race developed into a duel with Fabrice Veron and Jinjal being stalked by Sandro Paiva aboard AF Lewaa. The latter probably pulled level with about 300m remaining, but after the protagonists bumped entering the final 175m, Veron's mount always had the upper hand, finally winning relatively comfortably.

Trained by Ahmed Al Shemali for Hassan Saleh Al Hammadi, who used to train the 6-year-old entire, Jinjal (AF Albahar x Fantasia CS by Bandjo De Falgas) was making his initial outing for his new trainer a winning one and shedding his maiden status at the fifth attempt, just second on dirt. His best previous effort was over 1400m on the Abu Dhabi turf when he led throughout only to be denied right on the line.

Al Shemali said: *"He has lots of natural speed and has led in most of his races over further, so we*

hoped this first try at 1000m would suit him and it appears it has."

Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda and his main trainer, Ernst Oertel, rarely leave the 'Garden City' empty handed, but were forced to wait until the finale, a 1000m handicap, to get on the scoresheet. Partnered by the owner's retained rider, UAE champion Jockey Tadhg O'Shea, AF Sail (AF Albahar x Maftoona by Fadjik) was soon in front and was probably never headed, following up on his 1200m maiden success at Sharjah on his seasonal return on the last day of October. That was just a third career start for the homebred 4-year-old who has now won half of his four racecourse appearances.

Oertel said: *"He is a good horse and we were very hopeful coming here that the drop to 1000m would suit him and it clearly has."*

"He was second here, over 1400m, on his debut last year, so we knew the surface was not an issue. We will keep him to sprint trips now though."

Source and photos: Emirates Racing Authority



AF Sail ridden by Tadhg O'Shea



UAE Champion Owner Al Nabooda's AF Al Moreeb wins the only Arabian race at Jebel Ali

Italian jockey Antonio Fresu had been forced to miss the first fortnight of the season after a positive Covid-19 test, but wasted no time opening his account for the season, landing the opening 1400m handicap for Purebred Arabians foaled in the UAE on November 13. He combined with Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda whose main trainer, Ernst Oertel, saddled four of the 13 runners, including winner AF Al Moreeb.

Like so many of the Al Nabooda horses, a homebred, the 5-year-old entire was doubling his career tally, his previous taste of victory having been achieved in a 1600m maiden on the Abu Dhabi turf in March 2019. This was a tenth racecourse appearance, third on dirt, for the winner who raced in about fifth before asked to challenge entering the final 450m, snatching the initiative 200m later and never looking in danger thereafter.

Oertel said: *"He is a very nice horse who was just too high in the handicap last season, but has now come down in the weights which has helped him win again."*

Fresu added: *"I lost two weeks of the season, but at least it was at the beginning of the campaign and obviously it is nice to have a winner on my comeback ride."*

UAE Champion Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Na-

booda was also present during the online press conference and praised the efforts of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum and HH Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan in promoting racing of local breeds. *"Shadwell are doing a lot to promote Purebred Arabian racing around the world and in the UAE as well there is a lot of work being done to preserve the heritage of the breed and ensure there is a lot of racing for local connections,"* said Al Naboodah, who is well represented in the only Purebred Arabian contest on the card which is a 1400m handicap.

"There has been a lot of support for local breeds from Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid and Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan and as you can see this season we get five races for UAE breeds at Jebel Ali. "We will try our best to increase our participation in the races for local breeds and more than 14 and 15 lining up you can tell that there is a lot of demand for these races. "With the support of His Highness we will try to increase the numbers of races through the right channels at different race-tracks with the help of the ERA. "We are happy to be racing at Jebel Ali this weekend and we would like to extend our thanks to organisers and race sponsors for coming forward and wholeheartedly supporting our sport."

Source and Photo: Emirates Racing Authority





Baker De Saularie ridden by Mickael Berto



Safae ridden by Alberto Sanna



Faadi ridden by Meteb Ali Al Marri



Lekhraib sprints to Doha Cup glory

Lekhraib ridden by Marco Casamento

Injaaz Stud's Lekhraib (AF Al Bahar x Grace T) had narrowly missed out on a victory on his last outing but the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali saddled horse made amends on dirt on Thursday, November 12, landing the Doha Cup (Local Purebred Arabian Conditions) at Al Rayyan Park.

Having finished runner up last month over C&D, the 6yo chestnut had Marco Casamento for company in the six furlong sprint, and despite a threatening challenge by a duo saddled by Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle – Patrice Alexandre Nicolet's Barra (Munjiz x Daniah) and Umm Qarn's Sealine (Amer x Jalalah) – in the final few metres of the race, a timely lunge of the head at the post handed Lekhraib a short head victory.

Soufiane Saadi ridden Barra edged out Ronan Thomas and his partner Sealine by half a length for the runner up spot.

Osama Omer Al Dafea's Baker De Saularie (Kerbella x Babiche De Saulari) built on the momentum he built in the first two races of his season to win the Purebred Arabian Conditions.

Having finished in the frame on the first two outings, all on dirt, Mickael Berto partnered the horse in the 1800m run on Thursday. After staying midfield for the bulk of the race, Berto let his mount go and Baker De Saularie took the advan-

tage 300m out and eventually won by a length and three quarters. It was the 6yo's fourth win overall.

Saeed Bin Mubarak Saeed Aljafali Al Naimi's Safae (Majd Al Arab x Tidja D'ibos) brushed aside her forgettable debut in February to top the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate (Fillies & Mares) in a thrilling finish on Thursday.

Alberto Sanna had the Majed Mahadi Seifed-dine trained filly move up front early on in the 1700m run. Coming off the final bend, the 4yo began building a gap, but had Tomas Lukasek ridden Monati in pursuit. Monati ran out of real estate as Safae won by a head.

Qatari rider Meteb Ali Al Marri guided his third winner of the season with Injaaz Stud's Faadi (Burning Sand x Hareq ASF) entering the winner's enclosure for the second time in his career on Thursday. In the Local Purebred Arabian Novice Plate, the Ali Yousuf Al Kubaisi-saddled colt, a maiden winner a little over a year ago over C&D, won handsomely, going past the post five lengths ahead of the competition.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: QREC-Juhaim



Al Ajeeb W'Rsan, Mujeeb and Onward winners of the first meeting in Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club staged their first fixture of the new campaign on Sunday evening, November 8. The meeting kicked off with a 1400m maiden for horses foaled in the UAE and proved a memorable occasion for apprentice Hugo Lebouc who, on just his eighth local mount, registered his first winner aboard Al Ajeeb W'Rsan (Dilijans x Al Jummana W'Rsan by Monarch AH) for Jaci Wickham, immediately equaling her tally from last season.

Sporting the silks of Sheikh Hazza bin Sultan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Lebouc, who is based at Al Asayl Stables with fellow Frenchman Eric Lemartinel, settled his mount in midfield before asking him to close just after halfway. Switched wide off the home bend, they flew home to snatch the initiative about 150m out and staying on strongly to win well.

A 4-year-old colt, the winner was making just his fourth racecourse appearance and has finished second on debut and third on his previous appearance in March.

A delighted Lebouc, who was a replacement for the injured Pat Dobbs, said: "I have 14 win-

ners in France and it is great to get one here and so early in my first season here in the UAE."

Lebouc appeared set to complete a rapid double in the following 1400m maiden, for 3-year-olds, having gone straight to the front on the Lemartinel-trained debutante Almahroosa, only to be collared close home by Fabrice Veron aboard stable companion Mujeeb (Dahess x Nymphaea Du Paon by Mahabb) for the trainer's main patron, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

In a race all 12 were appearing in public for the first time, there was drama at the start where Oboe deposited the unfortunate Adrie de Vries on the Abu Dhabi turf. Meanwhile, Almahroosa led the field at a decent gallop, tracked by Mujeeb and the pair appeared to have the race to themselves throughout the short straight, before RB Kindred threw down a late challenge under apprentice Abdul Aziz Al Balushi, just failing to snatch second.

Veron said: "That is a good result for the team with both horses making good debuts. The filly had a very light weight and my horse has had to

work very hard to get past, but has shown a very good attitude. He is a horse I like and one who should improve and will stay further."

It was then a similar story in a 2200m handicap with AF Al Aassi making a bold bid from the front under Bernardo Pinheiro, only to be denied close home by Onward (Munjiz x Samrah by Akbar) but having enough left in the tank to hold on for second ahead of Waadh. Ridden by Connor Beasley, the 5-year-old has now won four times for Abdallah Al Hammadi and his main patron, Al Ajban Stables. Having been well away

from the stalls, Beasley was content to bide his time, settling nearer last than first before easing into contention on the back straight. Once in the home straight, they finished with purpose to lead in the final 25m.

Beasley said: "This is a very versatile horse and was in good form last season on both turf and dirt. Last season included wins for him over this course and distance, so I knew conditions were not a problem and he has really finished his race off strongly."

Source: Emirates Racing Authority



Mujeeb ridden by Fabrice Veron



Onward ridden by Connor Beasley

Dragon dominates UAE President Cup in Shadwan's absence



Stefano Mura & Dragon

After the withdrawal of the injured Shadwan Al Khalediah, Dragon (Dahess x Djaima by Nominus) became a strong favorite of the UAE President Cup race (Comparative Award), who easily defeated the most dangerous rivals in the competition for the Michałów Award.

After the start, Stefano Mura, who rode him, positioned at the end of the field, and the solid pace was dictated by Seiful Muliuk and Hamal. Grand Dakris was running in the middle of the pack, but traditionally he started causing problems for the rider in the distance.

Meanwhile, Dragon unexpectedly moved forward at the bend and even before going straight, he took the lead. He started a dynamic escape at the canat, quickly jumping away from his rivals several lengths. Hamal and Seiful Muliuk fought for second place but soon the first one folded. Meanwhile, through the field, strongly sent Grand Dakris finally began to walk and broke away from the peloton.

Dragon was winning convincingly, although in the end he was already slowing down, while the Grand Dakris, speeding up under Abaev, defeated Seiful Muliuk quite confidently (for the second time this year). Three-year-old Echaron was fourth, which should be considered a very good trailer for next year's appearances, and General Lady moved to fifth in the ending.

The breeder and owner of Dragon trained by Maciej Janikowski is Zbigniew Górski. Thanks to additional donations funded by the UAE Ministry of Presidential Affairs in Abu Dhabi, the race has the status of Listed PA. In addition to the basic prize (PLN 30,000), Dragon won an additional PLN 40,000 for the owner, PLN 20,000 for the trainer and PLN 10,000 for the rider. Additionally, each of the five paid places was subsidized. We can also be glad that the top four included as many as three horses bred in Poland!

Source and Photo: foto: Służewiec Horse Racing Track

Wanaasa a clear winner in the Baileys Horse Feeds Novice



Source: Arabian Racing Organisation. Photo: Debbie Burt

It was third time lucky for Wanaasa in the Baileys Horse Feeds Novice Stakes run in association with Emirates Breeders at Chelmsford City on November 7. The three-year-old filly finished six lengths clear of Balqees, with Nadelshiba a further two lengths behind in third. All were home-breds for Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) Patron, HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum.

The seven furlong contest featured some exciting newcomers in the eight-runner line-up, however Wanaasa was able to let her previous experience tell. After the race trainer James Owen commented: "It was a good run from Wanaasa, I think she bumped into two nice horses previously. I was bit disappointed that she didn't win first time out, and though she's beaten inexperienced rivals, she's done it well. She's the fastest Arabian I've ever had. She'll strengthen up, like her half-sister Al Azeeza, I think she's got more class than her. She's got a great mind."

This was jockey Jack Mitchell's second win on an Arabian, having scored on Mayzoonah for the same connections last month. He said: "Wanaasa gave me a great ride. Obviously with two runs under her belt she was entitled to be very pro-

fessional today. She travelled very well throughout and I just had to push the button, she's very straightforward."

This was the first of two races that Baileys Horse Feeds are sponsoring with ARO, their export manager Mark Buchan commented: "We're pleased to be putting something back into the domestic sport and of course it was good to see a winner fed on Baileys Horse Feeds. We look forward to coming back again later this month, as Chelmsford City is just ten minutes from our mill."

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "We were thrilled to continue our association with Baileys Horse Feeds this season after their generous sponsorship of the Leading Trainer Award at Dubai International Arabian Races last year."

"We now welcome them back as lead sponsor of two races. This increased support, enables us to maintain our presence as part of UK racing, like all our valued sponsors have done in 2020. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Chelmsford City Racecourse for their continued assistance this season."

Mahatma Rach wins first race of the year in São Paulo



Purebred Arabian Races at Cidade Jardim Hipodrome returned on October 24, following all the protocols due the pandemic, with the holding of the Prix Arabian Returns, a 1000m conditions contest on turf for three years-old and upwards up to two wins and a purse of R\$10,000 (ten thousands Reais) and won emphatically by Mahatma Rach, among the six runners.

Mahatma Rach (Sarmata X Magic All Rach by Ulysses Rach), conducted by Fernando Larroque, takes the lead at the start and in the last furlong opens nine lengths of advantage over Mentor Rach (Sarmata x Musa Rach by *Polonez) ridden by Apprentice 2 jockey: I. Silva.

Both are trained by Lucas Quintana, who had four of the six horses in the race, and are bred and owned by the brothers Paulo and Ricardo Saliba from Rach Stud Agropecuária Ltda.

With this race, Mahatma Rach adds three victories in his career that started last year. In his debut last year on June 22, Mahatma Rach won with a new record for colts at the Desert's Heritage Prize and was the winner of RG Kreta Hall of Fame Prix, held on October 12, 2019.

Breeder and owner Paulo Saliba said: "More important than victory was the return to Purebred Arabian racing in São Paulo. We had stopped due to the Covid-19 pandemic and it is clear



that uncertainty remained whether we would return. It was a resumption day and the race was very good, despite the short training time of the animals. Mahatma Rach is already more experienced and we thought the dispute would be between him and Egyto LA, also a great horse. Our other two horses that came in 2nd (Mentor Rach) and 3rd (Graccus Rach) places have also very future and with pedigrees aimed at racing and sport. Anyway, it was a great start!"

Almir Ribeiro, Racing Director of the Brazilian Arabian Horse Breeders Association, points out that "during the 2020-2021 calendar, the total purse for all races will be R\$ 390,000. Thus, the value exceeds the previous year's calendar, which had a purse of around R\$ 210,000, in addition to the support of several sponsors, which shows that the Purebred Arabian races in Brazil will soon be part of the international calendar."

The next races will be on November 14: Grand Prix National 2020 for colts and geldings up to three wins and GP Arabian Ladies for Fillies up to

two wins. Both with a purse of R \$ 15,000 each one.

The 2020-2021 Calendar started on October 24, 2020 and will end on December 4, 2021, comprising 27 races.

The Prix Arabian Returns is organized by the Brazilian Arabian Horse Breeders Association in partnership with the Jockey Club de São Paulo.

Results: Mahatma Rach (first), Mentor Rach (second), Graccus Rach (third - Veracious Rach x Gracyara HCF by LD Halston, ridden by B. Queiroz), El Chall LA (fourth - Magnun Chall HVP x Arabesca LA by Ansata Shaamis, ridden by W. Ariel), Egyto LA (fifth - Magnun Chall HVP x *HLP Darkyna Fame by Legacy Of Fame ridden by A. Mesquita) and Revelation Rach (sixth - *Eksport x Rapunzel Rach by Voltaire Rach ridden by R. Mendonça).

Text: Cidinha Franzão. Photos: Porfírio Menezes

Mon'nia and RS Rasheeda shine on Umm Salal Oaks Trial day



Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club.
Photos: QREC/Juhaim

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Mon'nia (Amer x Margouia by Tidjani) improved her strike rate in Doha with Tomas Lukasek guiding the filly to her fourth win in five starts around Al Rayyan Park on Thursday, November 5. Julian Colin Smart's filly, who had a C&D victory on her Qatar debut a year ago, had little trouble taking the advantage in the Umm Salal Oaks Trial (Purebred Arabians 4yo Fillies) once on the home straight. She went past the post two lengths and three quarters in front of JP Guillambert ridden Arguya, runner up on Qatar debut.

Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's wards swept the top three spots in the Umm Salal Oaks Trial (Local Purebred Arabians 4yo Fillies) with Al Rabban Racing's RS Rasheeda (AF AlBahar x Agdalya by Akbar) managing to stay ahead of two Umm Qarn fillies in the tense final moments of the 1850m run on Thursday. With Carlos Henrique in the saddle, the filly was comfortable compared to her previous starts in higher company. Once she took the lead, she held on against a challenge by Umm Qarn duo – Soufiane Saadi ridden Ashoura and Ronan Thomas ridden Abida – by a neck.

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Eaz Qatar (Amer x Djainka Des Forges by Kerbella) made a fantastic career debut winning the Purebred Arabians Maiden Plate (3 Year Olds) (F) (Div 2) in thrilling fashion. Helmed by Alberto Sanna for trainer Julian Colin Smart, the filly stayed at the back of the pack for much of the miler. On the bend, Eaz Qatar began her move forward, and she was in prime spot to attack coming on to the home straight. She held a slight advantage in a furlong out, and then held on by a head in front of Ronan Thomas ridden Muqla.

After a promising fifth on Qatar debut three weeks ago over C&D, Patrice Alexandre Nicolet's Quepos (Al Tair x Bonnett by Burning Sand) finally shed his maiden status in thrilling fashion on Thursday. Saddled by Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle, the 3yo started widest of them all from Gate 12 in the mile long Purebred Arabians Maiden Plate (3 Year Olds) (C & G) (Div 1), but ran a determined race under Ronan Thomas who timed his move just right to be able to go past the post ahead of Mohammed Hussain Afroz trained Hidalgo Du Croate, another Qatar debutant, by three quarters of a length.



RS Rasheeda ridden by Carlos Henrique



Eaz Qatar ridden by Alberto Sanna



Quepos ridden by Ronan Thomas



مهرجان سباقات سمو الشيخ
منصور بن زايد آل نهيان

HH SHEIKH MANSOOR BIN ZAYED
AL NAHYAN RACING FESTIVAL



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5th December, 2020
Hippodrome of
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Chaval de Ghazal ridden by Marco Casamento



Chaval de Ghazal registered a
fantastic race at the
Umm Al Houli Cup day

Mohammed Bin Fahad Al Attiya's CHAVALE DE GHAZAL (Munjiz x Chamade De Ghazal) registered a fantastic first career win topping the PUREBRED ARABIAN CLAIMING RACE (4 Year Olds & Older) in a thrilling finish on Wednesday, November 4. In the 1800m run, Marco Casamento had Mohammed Gassim Ghazali trained horse set the pace up front early on. As the proceedings headed to the business end of the race, the 5yo had Eduardo Pedroza ridden Anees breathing down his neck. Chaval De Ghazal dipped into his reserves to surge forward in the final few metres to win by three quarters of a length. The bay horse was claimed by trainer Mohammed Khaled Elahmed for QAR 60,000.

Umm Qarn's SEALINE (Amer x Jaljalah) went one better than his last two outings to lead a one-two for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle in the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS sprint on Wednesday. In the six furlong sprint, Ronan Thomas was astride the 6yo as he showed some impressive turn of foot on the home straight to surge forward and takes a thrilling victory. Soufiane Saadi helmed Barra to a close second by a quarter of a length. The win in his season opener was sixth of Sealine's career.

There was no stopping Ahmed Hassan Al

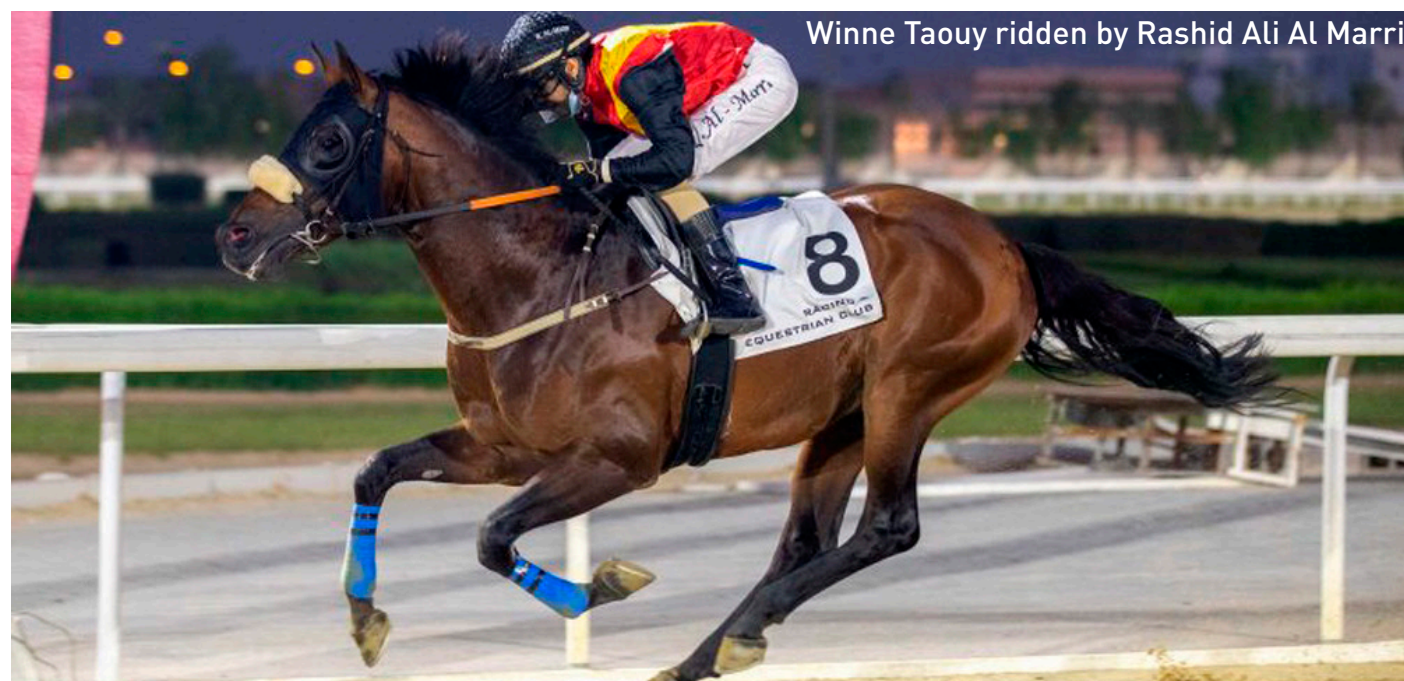
Malki Al Jehani's WINNE TAOUY (Dahess x Win Taouy) as Qatari jockey Rashid Ali Al Marri guided the 5yo to his second career win on Wednesday. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN NOVICE PLATE, the Hamad Ahmed Al Malki Al Jehani trained horse bided his time taking full advantage of a gap between the leaders on the home straight to surge forward and pull away for a dominant victory with six lengths and a quarter to spare. The bay horse won for the first time in Qatar.

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's KHATAFAYNEE (AF AlBahar x Fifth) made a scintillating start to his time in Qatar winning the opening event of the eight race card. Saddled by Julian Colin Smart in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE, the 4yo that had finished down the field in his sole start in France in August made a wide start to the 1900m run from Gate 9. Tomas Lukasek kept the grey colt within striking distance of the leaders, before steadily taking the advantage on the home straight and winning by four lengths and three quarters.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photos: QREC/Juhaim



Sealine ridden by Ronan Tomas



Winne Taouy ridden by Rashid Ali Al Marri



Khatafaynee ridden by Tomas Lukasek



History repeats as Al-Tabari wins the Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap

It was a case of history repeating with Al-Tabari winning the Royal Cavalry of Oman (0-75) Handicap Stakes over a mile and a half at Wolverhampton on October 31. Ridden by Howard Cheng the four-year-old is trained by Peter Hammersley for his wife Michelle and was bred by Julie Kelway, for whom Hammersley also trained the dam, winner of the same race in 2013. Al-Tabari broke his maiden in style, finishing a length and a half clear of Jen Harris's Kayack, with HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum's Jinaan a further eleven lengths adrift in third.

A delighted Hammersley commented: "I'm thrilled to bits and the wife will be pleased too! It was Howard's idea to drop him out, he's ridden him in his last two starts and he admitted that he rode him wrong last time. After that race he said 'give me another chance and I'll make it up to you' and he has done. On his breeding we thought Al-Tabari would be suited by the step up in trip as his dam stayed all day and we have his two-year-old brother at home for next year too."

"I'd also like to thank the Royal Cavalry of Oman for sponsoring the race. This year has been challenging for all of us and it means a lot to have their continued support."

Al-Tabari is a gelded son of young Group 1 PA winning sire Tabarak, out of the eight-time winner Altesse Kossack. In a further echo of races

past, Altesse Kossack beat Kayack's dam, Penny Black in another Royal Cavalry sponsored race in 2010.

Genny Haynes, Arabian Racing Organisation Commercial and Finance Director said: "We are delighted for Pete to gain his first winner of the season with a horse that he has raised from a foal. Despite the difficulties we have faced to ensure racing takes place this season, ARO is still actively seeking a sponsor to fund a breeders scheme in the UK. It is vital that we fill the void of support so that small breeders such as Pete, Jen Harris, Mrs Skepper and Paul Simmons, who have all raced home-breds with ARO this year are encouraged to stay in the sport and improve the breed as a whole."

Haynes concluded: "ARO is also pleased to join with our long-term sponsors, the Royal Cavalry of Oman, in upholding the grass-roots of our sport. We have valued their involvement in UK Arabian racing for over ten years now and we are delighted that they, like all our sponsors in 2020, have helped us to maintain our presence as part of UK racing. In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton racecourse for their continued assistance this season."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation. Photo: Debbie Burt

AF Sail gives second victory to Al Nabooda



Source: Emirates Racing Authority

The third meeting of the new UAE season, at Sharjah Longines Racecourse on October 31, saw the opening 1200m maiden, as was the case at Al Ain on October 29, was snared by the Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda, Ernst Oertel and Tadhg O'Shea team, AF Sail emulating stable companion AF Nashrah with a smooth success.

Never far off the speed, O'Shea eased his mount to the front fully 600m out after which the result was never in doubt, the homebred 4-year-old colt making it third time lucky after two 1400m Al Ain outings earlier this year. Second on the first occasion, he was then somewhat disappointing when sixth past the post, but promoted to fifth a month later.

Al Nabooda said: *"It has been a good start to the new season and, as I have said many times, I have a great trainer and jockey behind me. This horse showed plenty of speed in his two starts last year and has benefitted from another summer on his back."*

A 1200m handicap for horses foaled in the

UAE, was won quite stylishly by Atrash, confidently ridden by Pat Cosgrave in the colours of Yas Racing for Majed Al Jahoori. Racing virtually alone towards the nearside, Cosgrave's mount was always travelling strongly and once let loose, shot clear just after halfway. They were never going to be caught, despite perhaps tiring in the final 50m, and the homebred 4-year-old gelding has now won half of his four starts, his previous success achieved in a 1000m Sharjah maiden on his second appearance in February.

Cosgrave said: *"He has done that nicely and shown plenty of natural speed. He is a young horse who has not had much racing and should be capable of more improvement."*

Also for horses born locally, the 1000m maiden for 3-year-olds was dominated by Eric Lemartinel with a pair of horses he saddled for his main employer, HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan with Zuhoor chased home by stable companion and fellow debutante Ashjaan. It was a first UAE winner for jockey Ryan Curatolo who settled

the homebred filly just behind early leader Zayd before sweeping past that rival over 500m out, powering clear and staying on strongly to win comfortably.

Curatolo said: *"Obviously I am delighted to have opened my account after a couple of seconds and it is great to do it in such famous silks for a major owner."*

A third contest restricted to UAE-breds, a 1700m handicap went the way of ES Nahawand who battled gamely to gain the initiative from early leader AF Mezmar early in the short straight. That rival responded gamely under apprentice Hugo Lebouc before crying enough in the closing stages, eventually losing second to Ma'Aaly who was finishing fast having been out-paced leaving the back straight. Saddled by Mohamed Daggash for Ahmed Mohd Saif Murshed Al Marar, the 8-year-old entire was recording a third career victory. He actually made a winning debut for Ibrahim Aseel, in December 2016, over 1200m here at Sharjah, but had to wait until this March and his penultimate outing to double that score, when he and Jara won a 2000m Al Ain handicap.

Daggash said: *"It is very pleasing to get an ear-*

ly winner on the board. This horse is pretty versatile, though seems to prefer dirt and Fernando Jara gets on very well with him."

Fifteen may have gone to post for a 2000m maiden, but only two ever really mattered with Richard Mullen immediately grabbing the initiative aboard Bassaam, stalked by Tadhg O'Shea and AF Ramz. And that is exactly how it remained throughout with O'Shea challenging strongly leaving the home turn, but his mount never really looked like getting past with Bassaam pulling away again in the final 100m. It was a second winner on the card for Yas Racing, this one prepared at Al Ain by Jean de Roualle and losing his maiden tag at the fifth attempt, fourth in the UAE. A homebred 5-year-old gelding, his best previous effort was when runner-up, under Mullen, in a 2000m Al Ain maiden on his penultimate start in February.

Mullen said: *"He ran very well at Al Ain earlier this year and then put up a decent performance on the Abu Dhabi turf. He has had to dig deep here today because the runner-up was not going away and it was only close home I was confident of holding on."*



Atrash ridden by Patrick Cosgrave



RB Kindle sprints to Losail Cup victory

Al Shahania Stud's RB KINDLE (Burning Sand x Rich Kinkga) sprinted to her third consecutive victory when she landed the LOSAIL CUP (PURE-BRED ARABIANS) with ease. The Gassim Mohammad Ghazali trained mare stayed on the rails and up front under Alberto Sanna in the six furlong sprint. She held on to her advantage even as the pace upped and another Ghazali ward, ATEEJ (AF AlBahar x Sahara Croixnoire), came threateningly close under Marco Casamento.

But RB Kindle held her own and finished the matters gamely, winning by two lengths and a quarter. Osama Omer Al Dafea's EVOLUTION DU CROATE (Dahess x Salsa Du Croate) completed the top three with Mickael Berto in the saddle.

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's EBRAZ (Amer x Massamarie) expectedly made short work of the extra weight as the Julian Colin Smart trained colt bagged the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (90 & above) with ease on

October 29. Tomas Lukasek had the three-time Amir Sword winner, carrying at least 6 ½ kgs more than the rest, stay at the back of the pack early on in the 2000m run.

As the pace quickened in the seven strong field coming off the bend, Lukasek found a gap and went up front. Umm Qarn's Bin General gave a brief chase by Ebraz pulled away to win by two lengths and three quarters.

Qatari rider Saleh Salem Al-Marri rode his sixth winner of the season with Al Ghazali Stud's MAGHAMIR DES FORGES (Mahabb x Djezabel Des Forges) topping the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (90 & below) with a thrilling run down the home straight. The Gassim Mohammad Ghazali ward was much away from the leaders early on in the seven furlong race but clawed his way back into contention in the final furlong with a brilliant run on the outside, edging out Alberto Sanna ridden Ennab by an edge for a win.



Ebraz ridden by Tomas Lukasek



Ghali Al Athman made a spectacular debut

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's GHALI AL ATHMAN (Harran ASF x Al Nefor) made a spectacular debut in Qatar on Wednesday October 28.

The Qatar-bred colt, trained by Julian Colin Smart, had Tomas Lukasek in the saddle in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE. The 1700m run saw the duo move on the outside and then pick up pace coming off the bend. They steadily took the advantage on the home straight winning by three lengths to spare.

Nasser Saeed Al Eida's ANEES (Jaafer ASF x Dixie Darlene) had not entered the winner's en-

closure at the Al Rayyan Park since December 2017.

That changed on Wednesday, when Gassim Mohammad Ghazali's ward topped the PURE-BRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (70 & below) on dirt. The 1700m run was a step up from the six furlong sprint a week ago but Qatari rider Saleh Salem Al Marri was always in control astride the gelding as they took the advantage on top of the home straight and then held on for a win by one and a quarter length victory.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photos: Juhaime-QREC



Anees ridden by Saleh Salem Al Marri



Brazilians Pinheiro and Paiva win the first races in Al Ain

The new UAE racing season kicked off at Al Ain on October 29 with a seven race card on which the best was saved to last. The finale being the featured 1000m handicap, won by course specialist Jayide Al Boraq, saddled by Khalifa Al Neyadi and confidently ridden by Bernardo Pinheiro.

Settled on the outside of the ten runners in about fifth, the 6-year-old entire always seemed to be travelling powerfully and was sent to the front inside the final 350m, quickening past eventual runner-up Al Mobher and soon with the race in safe keeping. All bar one of the horse's eight career starts have been here at Al Ain where he was posting his sixth career victory, fifth for Pinheiro and fourth over this 1000m, the minimum trip.

A delighted Pinheiro said: "This horse just loves it here in Al Ain and the only time he was

beaten on this course was over 1800m. He has a lot of speed for a Purebred Arabian as he has shown consistently. It is great to get a winner on the board at the first meeting of the new season."

Veron looked set to gain quick compensation in the following 1400m maiden restricted to 3-year-olds, trying to make all aboard Almahrroosa only to be headed in the dying strides by Riccardo Iacopini aboard Mutaqadim, saddled by Ibrahim Al Hadhrami.

In a race all 15 runners were making their debut, the winner showed real signs of greenness when asked to challenge, veering towards the runner-up 200m from home and almost throwing his chance away. However, the Royal Cavalry Of Oman homebred ran on strongly to snatch the initiative where it mattered. In doing so the apprentice maintained his 100% strike rate in the UAE having won on his only previous local



AF Almomayaz ridden by Sandro Paiva

mount, Bainoona, in the HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak (IFAHR) Apprentice Jockey Championship last November.

Al Hadhrami said: "We were quite hopeful because he is a nice colt, but he will certainly have learned a lot from that experience."

Jose Santiago, sporting the lime green silks of Al Ajban Stables, partnered his first winner for three seasons when steering 3-year-old debutant Hameen to success in a 1600m maiden for Abdallah Al Hammadi. It was his first mount of the new campaign and clearly welcome after two blank seasons. Content to take his time in midfield, Santiago took the shortest route on the home turn before edging closer at the top of the long straight. Hitting the front with about 350m remaining, he found he had a willing partner and they ran out a relatively comfortable winner.

A 1600m maiden for horses foaled in the UAE

went to AF Almomayaz, bred by Al Nabooda but carrying the silks of Nasir Askar, worn by Sandro Paiva, the pair making it third time lucky in the process. Trained by Ali Rashid Al Rayhi, the 5-year-old was second over 1000m at Sharjah on his February debut before finishing third over 1400m here at Al Ain, Paiva in the saddle on each occasion.

Previously a maiden after nine starts, 7-year-old Dalil De Carrere remedied that fact with a smooth success in the 1800m handicap with Fernando Jara in the saddle for Mohamed Dagdash. Fourth, which he managed twice, was as close as he had finished previously, but he travelled strongly into contention approaching the final 500m and, once hitting the front with about 325m remaining, never looked in any real danger of being caught.

Source: Emirates Racing Authority

Al Shaqab Racing's Al Naama leads one-two in Umm Bab Cup



Al Shaqab Racing's AL NAAMA (Majd Al Arab x Entisar) led a one-two for the colours and trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle in the UMM BAB CUP (Purebred Arabians) at the turf track of Al Rayyan Park on October 22. In the mile long feature, the 6yo mare had Soufiane Saadi for company for only the second time in her career and the two kept their 100 % win record intact together. Having won over C&D twice earlier in 2020, Al Naama beat stablemate GTNAH (TM Fred Texas x Mayada), ridden by Ronan Thomas, with a length and a quarter to spare. Osama Omer Al Dafea's GINKEAU (Divamer x Eauvation Des Cedres) rounded the top three under Alberto Sanna.

Injaaz Stud's DALILAK (Dahess x Amsara D'Aroco) had made it to the frame thrice out of five starts coming into Thursday's race, including a runner up finish over C&D 10 months ago. In the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (85 & below), with Alberto Sanna in the saddle, the Mohammed Riyaz Ibrahim Kasim trained colt stayed his course coming out of Gate 1 in the four-strong field to win by three quarters of a length.

Al Jeryan Stud debutantes AJ'S BEIRUT (AF AlBahar x Miss Ginioux) and AJ'S Berline swept the top two spots in the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIANS (3-Year-Old Fillies Only) in thrilling fashion leaving the rest of the competition far behind. Rashid Al Ali saddled AJ'S Beirut had Alexander Reznikov for company and the business end of the seven furlong run saw the duo in the company of stablemate AJ'S Berline, ridden by Killian Reznikov, locked in a duel that the former won by a quarter of a length.

Mohammed Nasser Al Naimi's VEVERKA PY (Nizam x Di Amantina Py) made full use of his weight advantage to shed his maiden status on his fifth career outing. Armed with a third place finish on Doha debut last week over C&D, the 3yo had Killian Leonard for company in the miler on turf on Thursday, and the duo did enough to edge out Saleh Salem Al Marri ridden Fahd De Faust for a short head victory in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photos: Juhaim-QREC





Al Shaamikh confirm promise in Emirates Breeders Novice Stakes

Al Shaamikh made it two wins from two starts with a convincing success in the Emirates Breeders Novice Stakes at Wolverhampton on October 22. The three-year-old hit the front going into the home straight and powered clear to win by five and half-lengths from Dergham Athbah in second, with Loolwa a further half-length away in third. The race which was run over a mile and one and half furlongs had looked particularly competitive on paper with a number of highly rated young horses declared. Al Shaamikh was defying a penalty for his previous course win, whilst it was also a second career victory for his trainer Jessica Quinlan who is in her first season training Arabians.

A delighted Quinlan said afterwards: "This was more polished performance than his first win here. He jumped off better and travelled better throughout the race. I was worried when he kicked for home at the last bend, as normally he needs some company to keep him up to his work, but he kept lengthening away which was brilliant."

"It was a tough year to start training and tough to keep both the owners and the horses sweet whilst we waited for racing to start. I'm really grateful for the opportunities I've had, and I've

been really lucky with all the help I've had from the team at ARO. Hopefully next year we can improve again."

Winning jockey Daniel Muscutt was also pleased with the colt's performance saying: "He was obviously stepping up in trip from his win over seven furlongs here last month. He travelled really well and though I had to commit earlier than I would have liked coming round the turn, he did it really nicely and showed a really good attitude up the straight to win well."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director said: "We are delighted for Jessica Quinlan to have such a great start to her first season training Arabians, particularly in such challenging circumstances."

"ARO would like to thank the Emirates Breeders and all our sponsors for their valued support in 2020 which has enabled us to maintain a presence as part of UK racing during these difficult times. In addition we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton racecourse for their continued assistance this season."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation. Photo: Debbie Burt

Maiuf, Joudy, Muthhil and Abahat winners of the Third Meeting in Doha



Al Shaqab Racing's MAIUF (TM Fred Texas x Mayada) picked up from where he left off last season racing to his third victory since his arrival in Qatar late last year. Stepping up in distance from a mile and switching surfaces to dirt seemed no problem for Alban Elie Marie De Mieuille's charge in the 1900m PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (105 & below) as Ronan Thomas and his partner held off a thrilling pursuit from Alberto Sanna ridden Baker De Saularie and Carlos Henrique helmed Winne Taouy to win by half a length on October 21.

Al Wasmiah Farm's JOUDY (Seraphin Du Paon x Tarabulus Al Wasmia) rode the momentum she



Alberto Sanna and Joudy

gathered in a C&D maiden last week to register her first career win on Wednesday. After Alberto Sanna guided the Georges Mikhalides ward to third place on the opening day of the season, the 4yo lined up with the Italian in the saddle again for the six-furlong PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (75 & below). The grey filly raced to a memorable four and a quarter length victory at the post in the sprint.

Qatar bred MUTHHIL (Amer x New Princess) made a fantastic debut on dirt on Wednesday winning the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE in a comfortable fashion. Ridden by Qatari rider Saleh Salem Al Marri in the colours of Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari, the 5yo, who had been largely unexposed in Qatar since arrival from France, started wider than most in Gate 6 and did well to finish a length and a half in front of rivals in the 1700m run. It was Muthhil's sixth career outing and Al Marri's second win of the day.

Umm Qarn has a new winning debutant in ABAHAT (Al Mamun Monlau x Al Anqa). The 4yo led a one-two for the colours and trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4-YEAR-OLDS ONLY) in the first race of the day on Wednesday. In the 1700m run, Ronan Thomas was in the saddle on the grey colt as he beat stablemate and fellow debutant Bakir, helmed by Soufiane Saadi, by half a length for a fine victory.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photos: Juhaim-QREC



Ronan Thomas and Abahat



Arwen Forta wins the Zayin Arabian Stud

Last seasons' leading trainer-jockey combination of James Owen and Alex Chadwick continued their good run of form when Arwen Forta ran out a convincing winner of the zayinarianstud.co.uk (0-65) handicap supported by Emirates Breeders, run at Wolverhampton on Saturday October 17th. Racing in the colours of the James Owen Racing Club, Arwen Forta finished two lengths ahead of Zayin Zyperion and Jomanah Athbah.

Owen was delighted with the mares' performance and for the Club members saying: "It's nice to get a winner on the board for the Racing Club, we've got some nice horses, but she's just taken her time to come to hand. She's a good staying filly and hopefully she'll come back here at the end of the month for the 1m4f race, it's a step up in class, but the step up in trip will really suit her."

Chadwick, who rides the mare at home commented: "She was still quite green last season, but she has come on a lot for her last run here when she was fifth. She was very professional today and took me all the way to the line."

The six-year-old mare is leased from Forta Stud and is by No Risk Al Maury, as was the second placed horse, Zayin Zachilles - one of two representatives for the sponsor Paul Simmons' Zayin Arabian Stud.

Simmons who was also present commented:

"It was a brilliant race today, I'm delighted to support Arabian racing in this lower-level handicap. It's good to see James have a winner for his Racing Club as they are great supporters of UK Arabian racing."

"I am really thrilled with Zayin Zyperion, Zayin Zachilles younger half-brother, it's only his fourth run and the first one in his proper grade and Antonia Peck gave him a lovely ride. I'm pleased for Pete Hammersley who trains him and also the third Jomanah Athbah."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director said: "ARO was thrilled to renew their association with Zayin Arabian Stud who have been racing their homebred Arabians with us for many years. We congratulate James Owen and his team on their success and thank all of ARO's participants who have supported UK Arabian racing during this difficult season."

"We are very grateful to the Emirates Breeders and all our sponsors for their support in 2020 which enables us to maintain a presence as part of UK Arabian racing during these challenging times. In addition we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton racecourse for their continued assistance this season."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation
Photo: Debbie Burt



Bughanaim with Hajadie Du Croate wins Al Gharafa Cup

Nasser Saeed Al Eida's Hajadie Du Croate (AF AlBahar x Topaze Du Croate by Dormane) won on her Qatar debut in thrilling fashion when Qatari jockey Faleh Bughanaim guided Gassim Mohammad Ghazali's ward to a second victory overall in the AL Gharafa Cup (3yo Purebred Arabians) on October 15.

In the mile-long turf feature, the filly, who reached Qatari shores after landing a seven-furlong run in France in August, edged out the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle saddled Muqla (Tabarak x Sarahmina), ridden by Ronan Thomas in the colours of Umm Qarn, by a quarter of a length at the post. Mohammed Nasser Al Naimi's

Veverka PY (Nizam x Di Amantina Py) too made a promising Qatar debut finishing third under Francois Herholdt, two lengths behind the front duo.

Umm Qarn's Gold Amer (Amer x Al Hanoof by Manganate) brushed aside a less-than top outing on his last C&D to register his third career win on Thursday. Under Ronan Thomas, who had ridden Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle-saddled 5yo to his last handicap win in December, was in the saddle again for Purebred Arabian Handicap (90 & below). Together, the duo picked up a fine win beating Alberto Sanna and his mount Ennab by a length at the post.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club
Photo: QREC/Juhaim



Gold Amer under Tonan Thomas



Saleh Salem Al Marri and Rajeh

Rajeh, Tahri Baha, Badda and Alsdry winners of Arabian Races at Al Ghariya Cup

Qatari apprentice rider Saleh Salem Al Marri helmed his second winner of the day when Al Shahania Stud's Rajeh (Jaafer x Nelka by Tidjani) won the 1700m Purebred Arabians race on October 14. The 6yo had last run a conditions event in March, winning the 2200m race. A step down in distance and a switch to dirt did not affect the result as the horse handed trainer Gassim Mohammad Ghazali his second winner of the day. Rajeh held off Umm Qarn duo Dabaab and Al Hazm for three quarters of a length victory.

Dhafi Rashid Al Marri's Tahri Baha (Mared Al Sahara x Zamara by Dormane) emerged as the second winner on the day for trainer Mohammed Hussain Afroz. The 7yo had shown promise over C&D when finishing runner up in February, and on Wednesday, the horse followed it up with a close win under Carlos Henrique in the Local Purebred Arabians Conditions race. Tahri Baha won by a head in the six furlong sprint.

Umm Qarn's Badda (Seraphin Du Paon x Raqian) picked up right from where she had left off

last season, racing to a C&D victory in the Purebred Arabians Handicap (90 & below) on dirt on Wednesday. In the process, the 5yo led a one-two for her connections and trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle. Ronan Thomas gave the mare a patient ride in the 1700m run as they went past the post two and a half lengths in front of stable-mate Maruf, ridden by Soufiane Saadi.

Al Shaqab Racing's Alsdry (TM Fred Texas x Dixie Darlene) had hit the frame four out of five outings in Doha so far. On Wednesday, the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained filly even registered her first career victory when she topped the Purebred Arabians Maiden Plate in comfortable fashion at Al Rayyan Park. Soufiane Saadi guided the 4yo in a fantastic ride that saw the filly win by a three and a half lengths. It was Saadi's second victory on the day.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photo: QREC/Juhaim



Tahri Baha ridden by Carlos Henrique



Badda ridden by Ronan Thomas



Alsdry ridden by Soufiane Saadi

Sand Canyon JS wins his first race in Texas



The six furlong maiden special weight was won by the 3-year-old Sand Canyon JS, breaking his maiden on his first run in Texas, and fourth overall race, on 10 October.

Coming from the two boxes, Sand Canyon JS, under jockey Victor Manuel Urieta Sr., quickly took a place on the rail and was briefly challenged by Gouduriske Al Baraka that soon tired. As the field straightened out, Sand Canyon JS was never worried, strengthening his lead over Highh Sticking in the final strides to win the 6 furlong race in 1:22:29. High Sticking finished second by 1 1/2 lengths, then Golly Shez Hot, and fourth was the French-bred, Gouduriske Al Baraka.

The winning Burning Sand colt is out of Reign Supreme CS by Kador De Blaziet. The winning trainer is Terri Eaton from California, and her Texas team, Glenn and Rochelle Rottweiler for owners Nicki Forbes-Robinson, James Schleimer and partner Pleasanton Arabian Racing Club.

Niki-Forbes-Robinson said: "Although we bred

all three of our current runners, we are not in racing to be breeders. We are racers and our enjoyment is watching our horses run and, hopefully, win. It's been especially fun this year partnering on two horses with PARC, a club of Arabian horse owners and fans. So far this year has been exceptional for us and we look forward to another great year in 2021.

Forbes-Robinson continued: "Terri Eaton foaled all three and raised them at her Escalon, California, ranch and we have complete faith in her for training and jockey instructions. She is working closely with Glenn for the Texas races."

Terri Eaton said: "Sand Canyon is starting to mature. Gelding him has helped put his mind on racing, and adding blinkers focused him more forward. Glen and Rochelle have done a great job in doing what I think best for the horses. They are both good horsemen and I trust them completely."

Source: <http://www.horsereporter.com/>



Saudi Cup 2021

Saudi Arabia Announces Second Renewal of World's Richest Race

\$20m Saudi Cup Highlight of Boosted \$30.5m

Saudi Cup card prize money hike & new \$500,000 international race to feature

King Abdulaziz Racecourse, Riyadh, September 29, 2020: The Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia (JCSA) today (Tuesday) announced the return of the world's richest horse race, the \$20m Saudi Cup, as well as a prize money increase and a new international race, all scheduled to take place February 19 - 20, 2021.

At a series of press events held via video link from King Abdulaziz Racecourse in Riyadh, HRH Prince Bandar Bin Khalid Al Faisal, Chairman of the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia, was keen to build on the success of the inaugural Saudi Cup.

"It's hard to overstate the success of Saudi Cup 2020 when you consider that in year one of a brand-new international racing event, we attracted some of the very best horses, trainers and jockeys in the world," he said. "We witnessed 22 individual Group or Grade 1 winners, who had accumulated an impressive 34 wins at that level between them. That would be an excellent statistic for even the most well-established race meetings in the world, let alone to have that calibre in year one."

The first staging of the Saudi Cup weekend showcased a number of "firsts" for the Kingdom and saw the JCSA plan and deliver two days of racing on the world stage. As well as raising the profile of Saudi Arabia as a racing and sporting

venue, the event successfully introduced the country's first turf track, a surface acclaimed by jockeys and trainers, and celebrated the first female jockeys not only to ever ride under rules in the country, but also to win races.

During a day of press Q&As, held by video link in different time zones around the world, Prince Bandar revealed that prizemoney across the Saudi Cup card would buck the global trend and increase from \$29.2m to \$30.5m.

Scheduled a week earlier than the inaugural event, the free to enter - free to run 1800m \$20m Saudi Cup remains the highlight of an eight-race card, which now features a boost to the prize money of three dirt races on the undercard.

The 1600m Saudi Derby sees an increase from \$800,000 to \$1.5m. The Obaiya Cup for Purebred Arabians held over 2000m will now be worth \$2m, up from \$1.9m while the purse for The Jockey Club Local Handicap will double to \$1m up from \$500,000.

The International Jockeys Challenge, held the Friday before Saudi Cup will once again see 14 of the world's best jockeys, seven women, five

international men and two Saudi-based jockeys, compete for a championship purse of \$100,000 and 15 per cent of prize money.

Lisa Allpress became the first woman to win a race in Saudi Arabia in 2020 when the four-time New Zealand champion claimed the opening leg of the challenge. The overall title was won by another woman, Swiss jockey, Sibylle Vogt with French female rider, Mickaëlle Michel second and US Hall of Famer, Mike Smith third. Each of the four legs of the Jockeys Challenge are again worth \$400,000 in prize money and contested on the dirt track.

In 2020 the Saudi Cup card saw 64 foreign runners, representing ten different countries, take on 26 locally trained rivals in the seven international races. Five of these races witnessed overseas victories. The 2021 Saudi Cup weekend is set to surpass this number with the announcement of a new race, held on the Friday.

Providing added interest and additional international flavour the \$500,000 Saudi International Handicap will be held over 2,100m of the turf track.



Tallaab Al Khalediah ridden by Roberto Perez winner Obaiya Arabian Classic 2020
Photo: Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia-Doug DeFelice



HRH Prince Bandar Bin Khalid Al Faisal, Chairman of the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia

Horses must be trained in a country which is not included among the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' Part I nations, subject to quarantine protocols being in place and must have had at least one run in their trainer's country prior to entry.

Locally trained horses must have had a least one run in Saudi Arabia by February 1, 2021.

"With the changes we bring to Saudi Cup 2021 we hope to offer the racing and sporting public the most interesting and intriguing race cards possible, whether they are able to be with us in person or watching from home," said Prince Bandar.

"The 2020 event was a great beginning but now we turn our attention to year two and to taking on board the lessons we learned from year one. We will be using that knowledge to steer the JCSA and the Saudi Cup weekend to new heights, building regional and international bridges within the industry to engage with global racing fans, inspire domestic involvement and enhance not only our own offering but that of racing as a global sport."

Tom Ryan the JCSA's Director of Strategy and International Racing said: "To have the sport's key players bring their horses to an untested and unproven event and furthermore to see the progressive form that those horses have displayed

since is something for the JCSA to be proud of. The strength of form to come out of our event acts as a great advert to trainers and owners next year.

"Mishriff, trained in England by John Gosden, would be one we could point to having won his next three starts following his second place in the Saudi Derby, including the Group 1 Prix du Jockey-Club [French Derby].

"Call The Wind, who won the Red Sea Turf Handicap was a Group 3 winner on his first outing back in France and followed up with a runner up spot in a Group 2 and another Group 3 win.

"In addition, a number of horses have held their form since the Saudi Cup race itself. As well as the winner, Midnight Bisou, Tacitus, McKinzie, Chrysoberyl and Magic Wand have all won Group races on either a first or second appearance and indicate that horses travel well to the Saudi Cup and even return to their global campaigns having come on for the run.

Ryan acknowledged the significant global challenges to holding international sporting events saying: "It is nevertheless a difficult time to stage large-scale global events and we know that now the real hard work begins. We will keep the lines of communication open and work closely with the authorities as we seek to hold this event in the best and safest way possible."

Saudi Cup Day at a Glance Overall prize money increase.

- Prize money to rise from **\$29.2m** to **\$30.5m**, an increase of **\$1.3m**.
- **The Saudi Cup** remains the world's richest horse race at **\$20m**.
- Three of the 8 races have increased prize money.
- **The Saudi Derby**, the race in which French classic winner Mishriff was runner up in 2020, has been increased from \$800,000 to **\$1.5m**
- **The Obaiya Arabian Classic** will be worth **\$2m** up from **\$1.9m**
- **The Jockey Club Local Handicap** will be worth **\$1m** up from \$500,000.
- The card to be completed by **The Red Sea Turf Handicap (\$2.5m)**, **The Riyadh Dirt Sprint (\$1.5m)**, **The Neom Turf Cup (\$1m)** and **The 1351 Turf Sprint (\$1m)**.

International Jockeys Challenge Changes - One new international turf race, The Saudi International Handicap

- **The Saudi International Handicap** will be run over **2100m**
- It is a handicap open to horses **4 years old & up and rated between 85 and 110**.
- Horses must not be trained in one of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' part one nations.
- Horses must be trained in a country which is not included among the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities' Part I nations, subject to quarantine protocols being in place and must have had at least one run in their trainer's country prior to entry.
- Locally trained horses must have had a least one run in Saudi Arabia by February 1, 2021.
- The race will be worth **\$500,000**

The International Jockeys Challenge to return, again contested over four races on the dirt track.

- Four handicap races being run for **\$400,000** each, with a further **\$100,000** prize fund for the challenge itself.
- All races to consist of **14 runners** and **5 reserves** – all 14 jockeys to ride in each race.
- Jockeys to be made up of **7 international women, 2 local men** and **5 international men**.
- Jockeys to receive **15%** of prize money won

Source: Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia



جوهرة تاج الشيخ زايد بن سلطان آل نهيان

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown

Race distance extended for AED 5 million Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Group 1 Jewel Crown

In line with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs, The AED 5 million Group 1 Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown, one of the world's richest horse races for Purebred Arabians; will now be run over a distance of 2,200m.

The organising committee of His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Flat Racing Festival continually strives to promote Arabian Racing around the World whilst endeavoring to develop the festival, to best satisfy the expectations of the participants. With this in mind and after consultation with both Emirates Racing Authority (ERA) and The International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) it has been decided to increase the distance of the group 1, Jewel Crown race from 1600m to 2200 metres. This change to the United Arab Emirates iconic Arabian Race is seen as a positive move which will attract a greater number of horses from around the world to the Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, when it hosts this fantastic event on December 4th 2020.

This year will mark the 12th anniversary Finale of the Festival which was launched in 2009 under the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs, in Europe, and has since grown into one of the world's most prestigious racing events that attracts local and international racehorses, trainers, jockeys and owners, of the highest caliber.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival is sustained by the Abu Dhabi Department of Culture & Tourism coordinated by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with National Feed and Flour Production and Marketing Co. LLC as associate sponsors, The National Archives as the official partner, Emirates Airline as the official carrier, sponsored by Al Massood Automobiles Nissan, Areej Alameerat, Omeir Travels Agency, YAS Sports TV., Viola Communications, Abu Dhabi Falconers Club, the UAE's General Women's Union & Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club.

Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival

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THE President *of the* UAE CUP SERIES

THE ORIGINAL ARABIAN
PUREBRED CLASSIC SERIES

The UAE President Cup series has enjoyed a return to prominence in recent years

The UAE President Cup series aims to promote the United Arab Emirates by highlighting the importance of the PA horse relative to the culture/history of the nation. The series has enjoyed a return to prominence in recent years. This has been highlighted by the sponsorship of Gr1 PA races such as the Coupe d'Europe at ParisLongchamp, on the French Guineas card, and the UK Arabian Derby on St Leger day at Doncaster.

Mehdaaf Athbah scores an easy win in Sweden

Sweden staged its inaugural UAE President Cup race on August 2nd at Jägersro, which is also home to the Swedish Derby and Oaks for English thoroughbreds. The 1,730m L PA dirt race attracted eight local runners, which were out to eclipse the sole international raider, the British-trained Mehdaaf Athbah (Amer). The 4-year-old colt Sihrano du Cayrou (Mahabb), trained by Camilla Nilson for Faisal Al Rahmani, was the top local contender. His two prior victories included the first European pattern race of the 2020 season, the Wathba Stallions Cup (Gr3 PA), over course and distance on his reappearance in May. Despite his obvious ability, he remains very green and was slowly away from the gates.



Mehdaaf Athbah ridden by Jean-Bernard Eyquem. Photo: Nils Rosenkjaer

Sweating freely and racing with great enthusiasm in blinkers, his energy levels were such that he was soon dictating terms under Sweden's leading jockey, Elione Chaves. Meanwhile, Mehdaaf Athbah, ridden by the Athbah Stud's retained jockey Jean-Bernard Eyquem, was content to sit behind the leader. The 2019 Swedish 'Horse of the Year' Macallan (Dahess), and the useful mare Top Medina (Murhib), were also prominent. Unable to maintain his momentum, Sihrano du Cayrou weakened, and Jean-Bernard Eyquem made his move on the winner with over 400m to go.

Although Macallan tried to keep tabs on Mehdaaf Athbah, the latter's superior firepower carried him clear, as Ayman (General) came with a wet sail in the middle of the track to deny Macallan of second in the dying strides. The globe-trotting Mehdaaf Athbah had won in Belgium, France, Saudi Arabia and Britain, before delivering in Sweden. As an 8-year-old, the horse may not be Gr1 PA class, but he still remains a class act. His career best performance was recorded in defeat when a four and a half lengths second to Al Mourtajez (Amer) in the 2016 Qatar Arabian World Cup at Chantilly for his former handler Philip Sogorb. He held an alternative



engagement in the Qatar International Stakes at Goodwood 24 hours earlier.

However, this proved a better option and his trainer Phil Collington said: *"With the ground drying out at Goodwood, a hard race on good to firm ground wouldn't have suited him, despite there being a nice cover of grass. Looking at that race, we think he would have finished fourth to Ebraz (Amer). However, he likes a bit of cut in the ground these days, so dirt and all-weather surfaces suit him perfectly. This has provided him with a nice Listed win and he has come out of the race really well. Because of Covid-19, we will just have to see how the situation unfolds with his race programme, as it is so difficult to plan ahead with all the travel restrictions at the moment."*

From Russia with love....

The UAE President Cup race circuit returned to Russia for a third consecutive year at Moscow racecourse on August 16th. The 12 runners for the 2,000m (10f) dirt race included four French-breds, with the quartet comprising the likes of Harakan (Dahess), a €50,000 graduate of the 2016 Arqana PA sale. He had been third in 2018, and was the winner of a Russian Gr3 PA race in July. Great Viktor (Mahabb) a brother of Manark, numbers six Russian PA Group wins and

was coming off his first Gr1 PA success, the Na-seem Stakes, in which he beat Akkerland (General). Akkerland is a half-brother to Avonmouth (Cambrydge), the winner of the 2018 and 2019 editions when they were run over 1,800m. (9f) Also in the mix was Memorialia (Munjiz), a dual Russian PA Gr1, and successful in the 2019 Oaks and the Ministry of Agriculture Stakes earlier this month. Both races were run over 2,400m (12f).

In this year's renewal, Memorialia and Kamal Kavkaz (Karmel de Faust) were both prominent in the early stages, before the latter took it up on the first bend. Harakan was then dashed into the lead on the final bend and looked to be clear on the rail. However, Akkerland produced a strong finishing burst in the middle of the track and raced clear. Vipassana Silver (Pegasus) secured second, and the renewed effort of Kamal Kavkaz proved good enough for third.

Akkerland continued the dominance of Bernard Van Dalfsen-bred runners in this race and that of Avonmouth's owner, Eudard Mordukhovich.

The Belgian scene

Belgium took over the baton as regards hosting the next leg of the UAE President Cup, a Gr3 PA heat over 1,600m (1m), the following day

at Waregem's tight turf track. A field of 12 was declared, but this was reduced following three withdrawals. Still, a good international challenge materialised following the presence of the Gr1 PA winning pair, Conchita DA (AF Albahar) and Mashhur Al Khalediah (Jalnar Al Khalidiah). Also in the line-up was the Shadwell Critérium des Pouliches and the Prix Nevadour winner, Belqees (Mahabb), whereas Macallan and Sihrano du Cayrou were putting in quick appearances after prior efforts in Sweden. However, Messi (Dahess) came up trumps by just under a length, as the French-bred Freddy PY stayed along the rails to snare second from Conchita DA. The win enabled Timo Keersmaeker (the owner, breeder and trainer rolled into one) to enjoy an unforgettable first Gr3 PA win. His parents, Victor and Dorien Keersmaeker, founded the stud where Messi was born and they've been pivotal figures in driving the cause of PA racing in Belgium. Messi is out of the mare Jeanne d'Arc (Dormane), bred by the above mentioned Victor, and is herself a daughter of Hase de Colmar (Tidjani). From the same mare, Victor also bred the stallion Ambiorix (Amer), the

sire of Toutatix. The latter won a Listed race in Sweden, and was second to Muraaqib (Munjiz) in the 2016 Shadwell Dubai International Stakes (Gr1PA) in Britain.

Looking ahead

Germany staged the Listed UAE President Cup won by Freddy Py (TM Fred Texas) at Baden-Baden on September 6th. A confident mood of sorts is in evidence in the UK despite the new quarantine measures. The UAE President Cup sponsored the UK Arabian Derby (Gr1 PA) at Doncaster on September 12th, when French PA horses again made their mark.



First run in 1994, the UAE President Cup series, whose founding father was the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, is the oldest PA event of its kind. Despite the Covid-19 crisis, this series has again formed part of the 2020 season, and PA French-breds have certainly made their mark.



PVE Remington

Australian Racing Royalty



Article by Nadine Frampton and Michelle Lee Fraser
Photo Credits: Julie Cooper

Following a hiatus from horses, Renee Kelso's equine passion was reignited after her ever supportive husband; Kane encouraged her to follow her heart. A chance meeting at an endurance event that resulted in an unexpected ride subsequently whet their appetite for Arabians. Rather fortuitously, at one of the ensuing endurance rides, Arabian Sprint Racing was advertised which piqued their interest and before they knew it, they were attending the very next Australian Arabian Racing Club Meeting at Torbanlea. They found everyone so friendly and helpful it made the transition easy from the other equine disciplines, that they had previously been involved in.

Their first purebred Arabian racehorse was Bonnie Doon Ashquar. Although he was only 14.3hh, he placed third in his maiden race. An accomplishment that was all the more thrilling, as Renee was able to share this special moment

with him, as his jockey.

An unexpected call came one night from a gentleman who introduced himself as Steve. He had called to check up on his old Anglo mare that was now owned by Renee and Kane. They ended up chatting for hours about horses and an offer from Renee to come up and ride in some of his green horses, including a cheeky 3yr old colt, ensued. The Kelsos embarked the 4 hour drive north to Bracewel. Arriving late, they bunked down in the old dairy shed and awoke early the following morning. From the moment their eyes rested on the gorgeous, masculine bay colt, eagerly galloping towards them and delighting them with his rhythmic, floating movement, they knew he had to be theirs.

The following day when Renee mounted this young colt, in only his second time under saddle, her experience told her that he possessed the

athleticism, movement, trainability and temperament to be a top ridden prospect in any discipline. Negotiations were made for his acquisition in May 2017 and the decision was quickly made to put Remy into race training.

RACING

Remy's first unofficial sprint race was at Torbanlea Exhibition Race in the Purebred Arabian 1600M Sprint. He led the field from the get go but was pipped at the post by a nose. An admirable effort for his first ever starts. His next race at Gympie was the extremely professionally run Australasian Arabian Racing Club Maiden and was memorable due to the sand track. It was 1200M and he jumped well from the barriers but got the shock of his life when sand was flung up towards his face from the other horses. He decided he didn't like that and dropped back 10-15 lengths, to last in order to avoid the ungodly mess. As his jockey, Renee didn't panic. She knew he had it in him to recover, if he could just get his head around the situation. She took him out wide with 600M left, to give him a clear run and

asked him for more. As his confidence grew and he caught sight of the finish line on the last bend, he found another gear and left the other horses in his dust, winning the race by 11 lengths. His run took everyone's breath away and the decision was made that he had what it takes to be a top class Arabian sprinter.

Unfortunately, the following year was very busy for the Kelso's and Remy only managed to attend 5 out of the 9 sprint races scheduled but won all 5 he attended. In his first race of 2018 he was more than a little enamoured with Jill Colwell's beautiful mare and being a true gentleman, decided to wait for her. Renee quickly decided to take him out wide to refocus his attention on the race but he had left his run too late and he had to be satisfied with third due to his roaming eye. The rest of the 2018 season, Remy cemented himself as Australian racing royalty by winning every other race and the hearts of many followers. Additionally, Remy is so versatile he has also turned his hoof to endurance racing where he behaved exceptionally well in mixed company and was able to successfully complete a number



of Endurance events to become an Open Endurance Horse.

BREEDING

PVE Remington was bred by Peter Rutten of De-Sharvarll Arabians and was bought in-utero by Rose Siddins when she purchased De-Sharvarll Diamonds in foal to the Mulawa bred stallion Maximilliano. Maximilliano is well known to the Australian Arabian community as a very well esteemed show horse, winning at the highest level. His sire line traces back to Aladdin, US and Swedish National Champion, through Guiliano and boasts Russian and Polish influences including Padrons Psyche. Both the Russian and Polish programs are well known for their athletic horses and long racing histories. Maximilliano's dam, Mustang's Magnum incorporates a blend of Crabbet, Egyptian, Polish and Russian lines including greats such as Magnum's Psyche, Bey Shah and the double Bask grandson BPL Dante. De-Sharvarll Diamonds traces to the very important Morafic Egyptian sire line through Simeon Sayter, who was bred by Maion Richmond of the legendary Simeon Stud. With genetic giants such as Anaza Bay Shahh, Bint Deenaa, Simeon Sadik and Asfour providing important outcross opportunities to the predominantly Polish and Russian pedigree and reflecting the Egyptian history of race testing their horses. The dam line is a combination of Crabbet and Spanish pedi-

grees, tracing through another well-known stud, Bremervale who are well renowned for both their show record and endurance accolades.

PVE Remington's pedigree combines an eclectic collection of some of the most well-known breeding programs and Arabians from around the world. This magnificent combination of world class bloodlines has melded together to create a unique individual with a depth of pedigree and hybrid vigour.

PVE Remington was recently awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arabian Horse Society of Australia for his racing achievements and has an exceedingly bright competition and breeding future ahead of him. To be considered a worthy recipient of this award, the horse must have been deemed an exceptional representative in Arabian racing, with performance that would be recognised outside of the Arabian industry. These awards were introduced by the AHSA to acknowledge horses who are outstanding in their fields and promote the breed as a whole.

As everyone eagerly anticipates the return of the adrenaline rush that racing brings, plans for Remy to return to competition following the COVID-19 lockdown are in full swing with Renee and Kane overseeing his training and breeding commitments at Kelso Racing. Located at their new horse training and breeding complex named Bonnybrook, at Harvey Siding just north of the Gympie.

RACE RESULTS

October 2017 Exhibition Race (Remys first Race) 1500M 63kg - 2nd

November 2017 Gympie Sand Track 1170M Australasian Arabian Racing Club Maiden - 1st

27th January 2018 - 1200M - Warwick Turf Club - 3rd by 5.25L Jockey (Renee Dawkings) wt 61kg CLASS 2

3rd March 2018 - 1170M - Gympie Turf Club - 1st by 9.75L Jockey (Renee Dawkings) wt 60kg CLASS 3

14th April 2018 - 1200M - Warwick Turf Club - 1st by 4.75L (Renee Dawkings) wt 62.5kg CLASS3

26th May 2018 - 1600M - Nanango Turf Club -1st by 2L (Renee Kelso /Dawkings) wt 63kg OPEN

28th October 2018 - 1500M - Torbanlea Exhibition Race - Australian Purebred Arab Race - 1st by a length (Renee Kelso wt 62kg) OPEN

2nd December 2018 - 1600M - Nanango Turf Club - 1st by 6.75L (Robbie Faehr) wt 63kg OPEN

August 2019 - 1170M - Gympie Sand Track - 1st by (Robbie Faehr) BIG WEIGHT 66KG - OPEN

September 2019 - 1600M - Nanango Turf Club - 2nd by a whisker (Robbie Faehr) BIG WEIGHT 67KG - OPEN



Al Kaaser wins the Baker McVeigh International



Al Kaaser (Munjiz x Horkidee) continues the good run of form for the trainer-jockey combination of James Owen and Alex Chadwick in the Baker McVeigh International (0-105) Handicap (supported by Emirates Breeders) over a mile and a half at Wolverhampton on October 5. Stablemate Jaahez (No Risk Al Maury x Ziva) was four and three-quarter lengths second, giving Owen and owner-breeder HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum a one-two in the race, with Dilmun Racing's Abiyah Athbah (Jaafer x Burning Fancy) in third.

Owen was delighted with both horses saying: "I was worried that they were going too slow in the race as all Al Kaaser does is stay, his run in Belgium was an improvement on last years' form and I think he's improved again. That race set him right for this and he showed a bit of speed there at the end, which is great, the family do take their

time and like his half-brother Emiraaty, he's got a bit of class.

"That was another great ride from Alex, he's such good value for his three pound claim, and of course he rides them all at home too. It was a hard pick on form for Dane O'Neill who rode Halib Des Forges for His Highness as they met on similar terms as to when Halib beat Al Kaaser last year here. I think the run he'd had in Belgium helped, the same for Jaahez, as he'd had an outing overseas too. It was a big run from him, he tried really hard today and I'm pleased with that."

He concluded: "It's great to see new sponsors to Arabian racing in Baker McVeigh. My wife Jenny is part of their practice so they're a big part of our team at Hamilton Stables and it's lovely to see them supporting the sport that I'm involved in."

Stable amateur and last years' ARO champion jockey Chadwick was pleased to turn around the

form with Halib Des Forges saying: "Last year here, Al Kaaser was a bit of a monkey, going left and right and we just lost the race, but this time we had full cup blinkers on him and that made the difference. It's great to have another winner for James and HH Sheikh Hamdan, I'm so grateful for the opportunity to ride nice horses for them."

Baker McVeigh International is a group of equine veterinarians with branches currently in the UK South Africa and France, with over 30 vets and 14 partners worldwide. They commented: "Baker McVeigh are delighted to be sponsoring an ARO race at Wolverhampton on Monday. Arabian Racing is growing significantly worldwide and Baker McVeigh are proud to be a part of it."

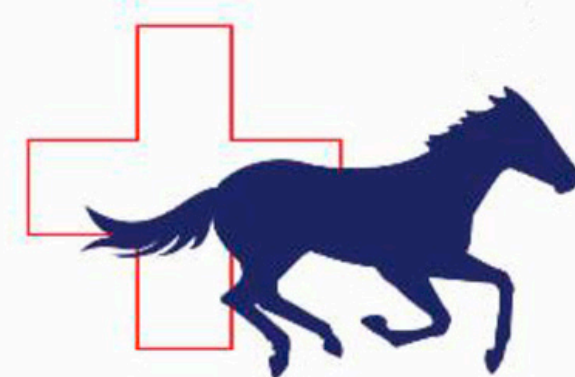
Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director was thrilled commenting. "We congratulate James and Alex and his team winning another race for our patron HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum. ARO also warmly welcomes the support of Baker McVeigh International as a new sponsor to UK Arabian racing. It is vital during these challenging times that our sport maintains its' presence as part of the UK racing scene and we are very grateful to all our sponsors in 2020."

"In addition, we also thank the British Horseracing Authority and Wolverhampton racecourse for their continued assistance so that we may provide opportunities to race at all levels in 2020."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation UK (ARO) / Photo: Debbie Burt



EMIRATES BREEDERS



BAKER McVEIGH International

Paddys Day Takes the \$100,000 President of the UAE Cup



Burning Sand's three sons - Paddys Day, Uptown Cruisedirector and Uptown Sandy Girl - shine at the UAE President Cup race

Aurora, CO – The \$100,000 UAE President Cup (G1) – America's richest Arabian race of the year – rounded out a spectacular day of stakes racing on Pimlico's Preakness Day card in Baltimore, Maryland. And once again, Paddys Day (Burning Sand x AK Loretta by Virgule Al Maury) made for an unforgettable race, cementing the status of this traveling star once more.

The seasoned 9-year-old bay stallion, now boasting lifetime earnings of \$660,005 (and well over \$1 million if one includes his bonuses earned from the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup Triple Jewel series'), hugged the rail through the stretch, never far back, and was up late dueling in the stretch with rising star, Uptown Cruisedirector.

The two battled gamely in the last furlong, but it was the veteran Paddys Day that, in a display of

heart and gutsiness that he's well known for, determinedly pulled away to win by ½ length with a final time of 1:54.66 going 1 1/16 miles.

Uptown Sandy Girl (Burning Sand x Wibwilcca by Wilkolak) finished third, seven lengths behind Uptown Cruisedirector (Burning Sand x A Noble Leap by Patriot Missile), followed by Madjikman for fourth, in a large and highly competitive field of twelve horses vying for victory in what is arguably the most significant race of the year for USA Arabian racing.

The win marks Paddys Day's second consecutive of 2020 in only three starts, his second time winning this race (he also won in 2016 at Churchill Downs), and his 27th lifetime win out of a total of 48 starts in an impressive six-year career that spans thirteen different tracks on multiple continents.

"For the only horse in America that earned the honor of 'legend in his own time,' he proved once again that he is the legend," said his owner/breeder, Jane Teutsch, who owns the horse once again with her husband, Ray.

Paddys Day was guided to victory by Alex Cintron and trained by Nicole Ruggeri. Second Uptown Cruisedirector was ridden by Forest Boyce and is trained by Gerald Iversonin, followed by Uptown Sandy Girl) in third ridden by Jose Angel Garcia and trained by Lynn A. Ashby.

Congratulations to breeder Krista and Jon Henningsgard and owners Sarah Owen - Uptown Cruisedirector -, and Jon R. Henningsgard - Uptown Sandy Girl -, for the wonderful performance of their animals

This was the second time a race for purebred Arabian horses was staged at the world-famous Pimlico Racecourse on Preakness Day, though this year was markedly quieter than in 2012 due to COVID-19 restrictions. Only 300 owners were allowed on the esteemed racetrack for the day.

"We are so thankful to have been a part of such a historic day," said Susan Meyer, president of the Arabian Jockey Club. "The horses put on a spectacular race with such an exciting finish. We can't thank the UAE President Cup Committee, the Maryland Jockey Club, the Pimlico team, and all of the Arabian owners, trainers, and jockeys enough for providing an amazing experience for all. We

look forward to the possibility of being a part of Preakness next year, and for years to come."

Presented by the UAE Ministry of Presidential Affairs, the UAE President Cup Series is the longest-running Arabian race series in the world. It began in 1994 and was the first series to visit France, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Ireland, Morocco, Egypt, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Turkey, UAE, Russia, and the United States. This race at Pimlico marks the 15th time it has been run in America, with plans to return in 2021.

"The UAE President Cup this past weekend at Pimlico Racecourse on Preakness Day illustrated the best of Thoroughbred and Arabian racing in America," said Mr. Faisal Al Rahmani, Chairman of the UAE President Cup Committee. "Through our growing relationship between the UAE President Cup, the Arabian Jockey Club, the Maryland Jockey Club, and Pimlico Racecourse, Arabian racing has a bright future."

Source: www.ArabianRacing.org / Evie Tubbs Sweeney. Photo by Jim McCue



Tayf wins Qatar Arabian World Cup (Group 1 PA)



Tayf's victory, the horse's first in five attempts at the world championship race for Purebred Arabians, further stamps Qatar's authority in Purebred Arabian racing.

In the presence of HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani and HE Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani, President of the Qatar Olympic Committee, Qatari-owned horses continued to dazzle on the second day of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend at ParisLongchamp on Sunday, October 4.

HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Tayf (Amer x Djelmila by Manganate) won the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Group 1 PA) in a thrilling fashion.

Sunday morning, Tayf was already a double

winner of Gr1 PA. His best victory to date remains his battle in the Qatar International Stakes (Gr1 PA) with Ebraz (Amer), in 2017, at Goodwood, under a flood. He started as an underdog in the Qatar Arabian World Cup. But all the elements were aligned in his favor and he offered His Highness Sheikh Abdullah Al Thani a third victory in this event!

The race was moderated by Al Shaqab Racing pacemaker Shalaa (Dahess), then Messi (Dahess)... before Shalaa regained the lead! The latter widened the gap to enter the straight three lengths ahead. Only Messi caught him, then easily passed him as he attacked first, to the point where he seemed able to win with 400m to go. But Tayf, seen in the middle of the peloton,

came forward in the straight line. He pounced on Messi, before being attacked by Ebraz himself.

Olivier Peslier, who knows Tayf can stop once in front, waited as long as possible. When he asked him to pronounce his effort, Tayf then easily took the best to win narrowly, but with confidence.

Messi finished second. Ebraz is third at two lengths. Khataab (Amer) finished fourth, ahead of Hayyan (Munjiz), who didn't like the ground. Olivier Peslier said at Equidia: "It's not Magic Peslier, it's mostly Magic Fourcy! Tayf had already won on this ground, I was confident. Last time at Goodwood, he needed a comeback race. Today he lay down nicely. When I saw he was responding to attacks, I thought, 'we're not bad.'"

Thomas Fourcy's incredible weekend. Royan's coach won his third Qatar Arabian World Cup. On Saturday, he took the first four places in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Juments (Gr1). On Friday, his residents won the first two places in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulaches but also in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains (Gr1 PA). That is a total of eight horses on the podium of a Gr1 PA in the space of three days!

Thomas Fourcy said: "It's amazing! I was very confident with Khataab, but he disappoints me a little bit. To his credit, he didn't have an easy

journey, finding himself isolated. Winning all four Grs1 in three days is exceptional. Alban de Mieulle trusted me with Tayf. It's a dream year. I never imagined that would happen to me one day."

Thomas Fourcy continues: "It's a dream! This World Cup is for the great Olivier Peslier. And I would like to thank the entire team of HH Sheikh Abdullah Al Thani for their trust. Tayf had the golden race. He made an effort to chase after Messi and then Ebraz pushed him. We know he's capable of performing well but he needs a tailor-made race - which he has today. Messi made us feel hot because he went very far. I'm on a little cloud! Maybe Ebraz was less well now. Beating him was not easy."

Tayf has spent his entire career with Alban de Mieulle, who did not come to France in 2020. Thomas Fourcy explains: "With the Covid, I got the horse back in June, from Doha. It's amazing to win this race again. The work is finished for me, he is going back to Qatar in a few weeks and is returning to Alban de Mieulle as planned. I don't know what his program will be, but you can assume he will target H.H. The Amir Sword. I hope he wins under the training of Alban de Mieulle."

Source: QREC/JDG / Photos: Scoopdyga



Lady Princess dazzles at Paris-Longchamp winning Gr1 P/A Qatar Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe



In presence of HE Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani, President of Qatar Olympic Committee, Qatari-owned horses continued to dazzle in the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend. Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari-owned Lady Princess was the impressive winner of the QREC-sponsored Gr1 P/A Qatar Arabian Trophy des Juments, for four-year-old fillies over 2,000m at ParisLongchamp on Saturday, 3 October.

Lady Princess's win was yet another demonstration of Qatar's leadership in Purebred Arabian racing, especially as it took place only 24 hours following two other Gr1 P/A victories landed by Al Shaqab Racing's Alawsj in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulaches and Sheail Bin

Khalifa Al Kuwari's Hadi de Carrere in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains at St. Cloud.

Lady Princess (General x Nacree Al Maury by Kesberoy) gave her owner Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari another prestigious title in less than 24 hours! These colours were also carried to success the day before in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains (Gr1 PA) by Hadi de Carrere (Nieshan). Lady Princess is trained by Thomas Fourcy, who in fact trained the first four homes in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Juments (Group 1 PA)!

In second was Um Taj (Al Mamun Monlau x Dyala by Amer), third Meethag (Dahor de Brugère) and fourth Ryme Al Cham (Af Albahar) – all in the colours of Al Shaqab Racing! Lady Princess was

ridden by Christophe Soumillon, who also won the first race of the day.

The filly sat quietly in second last through the race, which was run at a very steady pace in heavy ground. Once in the straight, she came immediately on the attack, flying down the center of the track past her opponents!

Naturally, Thomas Fourcy was delighted! "I am having an extraordinary weekend! Yesterday I won the two Group 1's for the Arabs at Saint-Cloud and now this. Last year i had a superb batch of three-year-olds and with them this year we have won some good prizes. They haven't ran that much due to the confinement and they have stayed nice and fresh. To have four horses finish in the first four places is incredible. Lady Princess has a huge heart. She hasn't got a lot of flair but she knows how to get the job done... Christophe

Soumillon, her jockey, was super patient. She is only small but she is much stronger than the others"

Christophe Soumillon added, "She sat down in the stalls and we didn't get a great break. Despite this I didn't want to force her early on, I knew beforehand that she is a lot faster than the rest of the field. I would have liked to have held her up in last place but Quitte lost a bit of ground. We got a little bump turning for home but once I asked her for an effort she accelerated with ease"

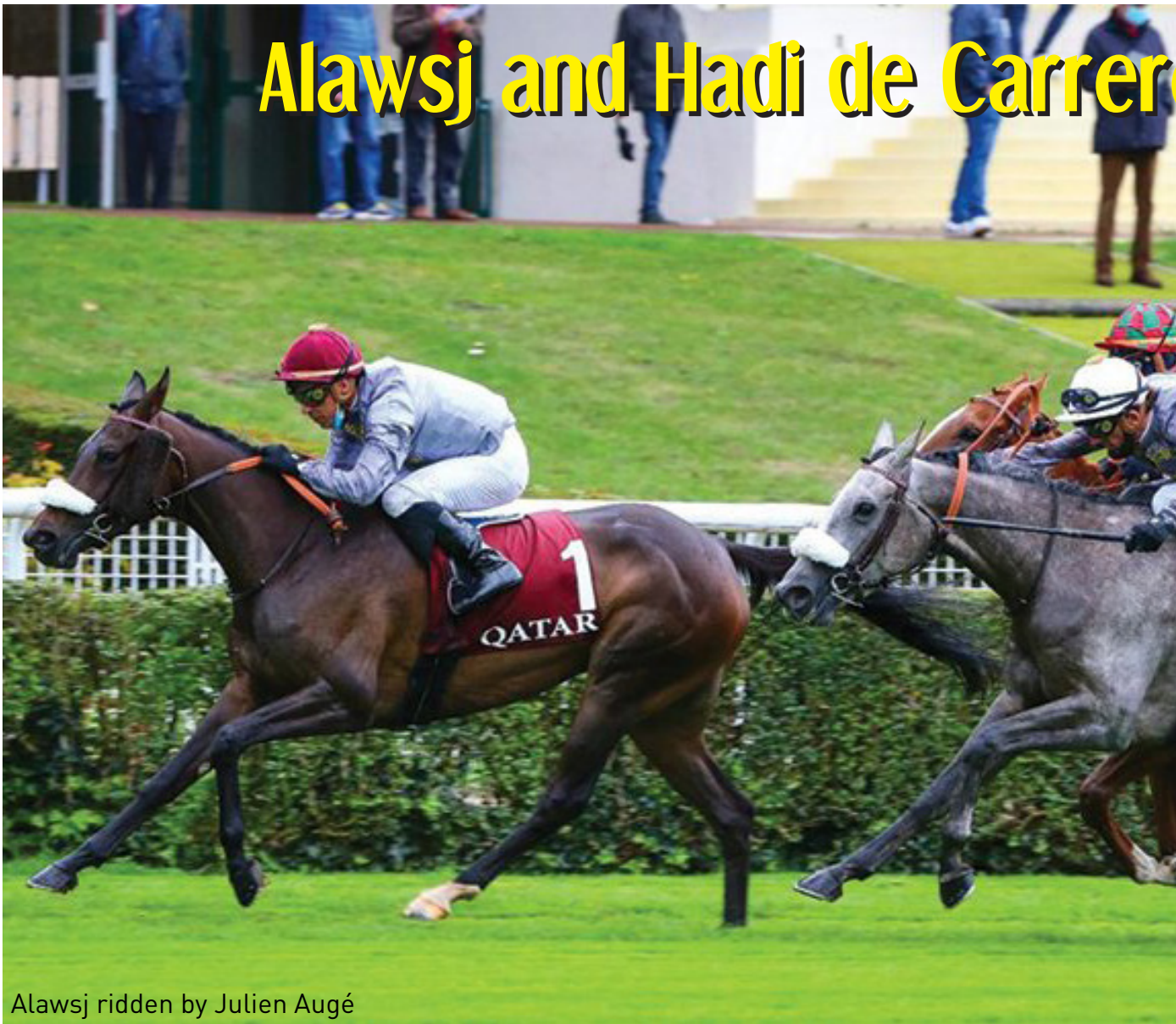
These victories further enhance the standing of Purebred Arabian races sponsored by Qatar, reflect the success of QREC's vision of promoting Purebred Arabian racing worldwide, and foster Qatar's pioneering image in this discipline.

Source: QREC/JDG. Photo credits: Scoopdyga



HE Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani, President of Qatar Olympic Committee

Alawsj and Hadi de Carrere winners of Gr1 PA in St. Cloud



Alawsj ridden by Julien Augé

Two QREC-sponsored Arabian races were run at St. Cloud, Paris, on Friday, 2 October. The two Gr1 P/A races, run over 2000m each, are held every year to set the mood for the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend. The Gr1 PA Qatar Arabian Trophy Des Pouliches for three-year-old fillies was won by Al Shaqab Racing's homebred Alawsj (FR) for trainer Thomas Fourcy and jockey Julien Augé to continue Qatari dominance over this title for the fifth year in a row. It was followed by the Gr1 PA Qatar Arabian Trophy Des Poulains for three-year-old colts, which was landed by Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari's Hadi de Carrere (FR), for the same trainer-jockey duo, who scored a quick-fire double on the day, to confirm Qatar's leadership in Purebred Arabian racing. Both events crown the leading filly and colt of this age category of the Purebred Arabian breed. QREC CEO, Nasser Bin Sherida Al Kaabi was present at St. Cloud and presented the trophies to the winners.

Al Shaqab Racing's Alawsj - Leading filly

Opening the weekend of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Pouliches, a Group 1 for 3-year-old Purebred Arabian fillies, crowns the best 3-year-old filly of her generation. Eight fillies lined up in this championship race, and it was Alawsj (Dahor de Brugere x Bint Jakkarta by AF Albahar) who lifted the trophy for her owner and breeder Al Shaqab Racing! This was a first Group 1 win for the filly, who is trained by Thomas Fourcy.

The race took place on heavy ground. There was drama at the start with the withdrawal of the favourite Alkedri (Mister Ginoux) after the jockey, Jean-Bernard Eyquem, fell when cantering to the start.

Last time out in Mont-de-Marsan, Alawsj finished third to Elaf (Rabbah de Carrère) and Cocktail Du Loup (Divamer), two fillies she met again in this race. Ridden by Julien Augé, the eventual winner traveled in third position in a race led at



Hadi de Carrere ridden by Julien Augé

a consistent pace by Elaf. She began making up ground in the final turn, moving into second. Sitting on the stand's side rail, Alawsj had to fight for the victory. She won by just under a length in front of Jalela (Mister Ginoux x Nefertarie by Mahabb) also for Al Shaqab Racing and trained by Thomas Fourcy.

Yas Horse Racing Management's Teema (Bibi De Carrere x Dahwa by Tidjani) finished a close third.

"Both fillies will stay in France to prepare for their 4-year-old season" said Fourcy, "The winner is a filly who will definitely improve with age. We looked after her this year with this race in mind... and we will now focus on next year with her. I am a bit emotional, it's a great relief. Alawsj has always shown a lot of ability at home but obviously her last race was disappointing. To see her win on the big day, this is the magic of racing! It's a shame that the favourite, owned by Al Shaqab, didn't run as she would have been in the first three."

Alawsj also provided her sire, Dahor de Brugere, with a first Group 1 win in this race. He stands in Morocco for Al Shaqab Racing at SOREC. Bred by Al Shaqab Racing, Alawsj was raised at Haras du Berlais. She is the first foal out of Bint Jakkarta (AF Albahar), winner of the Al Rayyan Cup (Gr1 PA) at Deauville.

Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari's Hadi de Carrere - Leading colt

The second Group 1 Purebred Arabian race on the card, the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains, went to Hadi de Carrere (Nieshan x Viki De Carrere by Dormane) in the colours of Sheail bin Khalifa Al Thani. The 3-year-old colt was the starting favourite in the race and came here off an impressive win in the Al Rayyan Cup (Gr1) at Deauville in August.

Alsaher (Mared Al Sahra) was quickly into the lead, with Hadi de Carrere in behind. The eventual winner came up to join him at the entrance of

the straight before moving onto the rail on the stand's side. He then battled with Alsaher, who began to weaken. At the same time, Abbès (TM Fred Texas x Raqiya by Amer) came up with a strong run to steal second place. Hadi de Carrère won by a neck, but with more in hand than the distance suggests.

The winning trainer, Thomas Fourcy, commented after the race, *"Hadi de Carrère was not a sure thing to win the race as I was also very confident in Abbès. They both ran very well. Olivier Peslier has some problems at the beginning of the straight, and that certainly cost him the win. They were the best two colts in the race. Abbès may beat Hadi de Carrère in the future. I don't know yet whether Hadi de Carrère will go to Qatar this winter. He will make into a good older horse with an easy winter. His owner has not made any decisions yet."*

Hadi de Carrère was bought privately on behalf of his owner by Gérard Larrieu of Chantilly Bloodstock. He was bred by Catherine Dell'ova, and is the first Group winner for his sire Nieshan (Akbar). His dam, Viki de Carrère (Dormane) is a sister to the Purebred Arabian sire Runner (Tahar de Candelon).

Nasser Bin Sherida crowned the winners at St. Cloud

QREC CEO Nasser Bin Sherida Al Kaabi was delighted with the excellence of Qatari-owned Purebred Arabian horses at St. Cloud just before the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend. He stressed that the two victories landed by Al Shaqab Racing's ALAWSJ and Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari's HADI DE CARRERE are a new proof of the excellence and brilliance of Qatar's Purebred Arabian racing.

"First, I'd like to congratulate the winners," he said, *"especially as the Qatari-owned horses showed an excellent level of performance and secured the top places in the two events. Alawsj won the Gr1 PA Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulaches for Al Shaqab Racing while Hadi de Carrère won the Gr1 PA Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains for Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari. It was very clear, in the two races, that Qatari-owned horses are able to win such type of tough challenge. In addition, excellence in Purebred Arabian races enhances the chances of achieving the QREC's vision of promoting Arabian racing in general."*

"We look forward to continue such success in the races of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend at ParisLongchamp, especially in the Gr1 PA Qatar Arabian World Cup," concluded Al Kaabi.

Source: QREC/JDG. Photo credits: Scoopdyga



Natalma Al Maury, the winning choice of Olivier Trigodet



Still a maiden, Natalma Al Maury (Daheess x No Worry Al Maury by Dormane) could have run the Prix Nedjari - Wathba Stallions Cup later in the day, but Olivier Trigodet made a bet by presenting this student and representative of Renée-Laure Koch in the AFAC French Arabian Breeders 'Challenge Sprint (Gr2 PA), at Hippodrome Bordeaux-Le Bouscat, on September 22.

A winning bet, since at the end of a tailor-made course, the filly opened her prize list directly in a Group.

Offensively climbing, Natalma Al Maury galloped behind Kanaan (Sarrab x Shamayol by Kesberoy), well wedged to the rope. The opening was made at the entrance to the straight line and Alexandre Gavilan clocked his partner who took the advantage.

When the favorite, Deryan (Mahabb x Haboob

by Akbar), announced himself, Natalma Al Maury got off to a good start. She won three-quarters in front of Deryan, while Kanaan retained third place. Moved, Olivier

Trigodet confided to the microphone of Equidia: *"I am very happy because Renée-Laure Koch has placed her trust in me since my beginnings as a trainer. She also let me choose the race. I thought my filly was really beautiful. She is late and I think she is maturing now. She really does something after a golden course given by Alexandre Gavilan. It is very important for her career as a broodmare to win at Group level, and as it is for her mother. There aren't many races left over this distance and we might wait until next year."*

Source: JDG. Photo: Robert Polin

Jaazmah Athbah wins in thrilling race



Mehdaaf Athbah (Amer x King Game) was expected to win the UAE President Cup (Group 2) at San Siro - Milan on Sunday 20 September and, instead, the gray was unable to go beyond fourth place.

The victory, however, also went to Athbah Racing Stable thanks to female Jaazmah Athbah (Jalnar Al Khalidiah x Keen Game), half-sister 3 years younger than the disappointing brother, ridden by Gerald Mosse.

Elisabeth Bernard's pupil beat Flying High (Dahess x A L'Ombre del Sol), very well conducted by Dennis Shiergen and trained by Kim Augenbroe, in the final which inside has reassembled the leader of the race Shadwan Al Khaledia (Nashwan Al Khalidiah x Quesche Du Paon), ridden by Antonio Fresu.

The first prize to the breeder was won by Valentino By Gonare (Gonare x Dancallia) bred from the partner ANICA Società Agricola Fratelli Deriu: a sixth place for him that counts as a victory. Foto Snaitech – Dena

Source: ANICA. Photo: Snaitech-Dena



UAE PRESIDENT CUP
ARABIAN PUREBRED CLASSIC SERIES

It was a pleasing debut win for Toofan in the Arabian Racehorse.com maiden stakes at Wolverhampton on September 30, ridden by stable amateur Alex Chadwick for James Owen and ARO Patron HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum. The four-year-old gelding put in a very polished performance on his first outing to win from stable-mate Wanaasa and the Jessica Quinlan trained Toufan Du Croate.

Owen commented: "We've taken our time with Toofan, as he's been in training with me for a year now, but he's a big horse. In his last piece of work, it looked like it was all coming together – he's starting to improve quickly, though I thought greenness would catch him out today. Obviously Wanaasa was my first choice, but she ran well in defeat, she's learnt a lot today and there will be bigger and better things for her, maybe over a bit shorter."

"Toofan's a nice horse" continued Owen. "I hope he keeps going forward in this manner, we certainly won't rush him. It's also great for Alex to win on him, as he does a lot of work with the young horses at home, he's an integral part of the team at Green Ridge."

This was a first win of the season for Chadwick, the 2019 ARO champion amateur jockey, who said:

"I came into the race quietly confident, as I ride Toofan every day. The last couple of weeks, the penny's dropped with him. That was a very

professional performance for a debutant, when we got to the front, I thought he might wander around a bit, but he kept on strongly and I had plenty left at the line.

"He does everything right at home, but you can never be sure they'll do that when you get to the track. It's also great to get a win on the board with a horse that I know so well and I'd like to thank James and His Highness for the opportunity to ride him."

Arabian Racehorse magazine editor Debbie Burt, who also acts as media executive and official photographer for the Arabian Racing Organisation commented: "It's great to be able to support Arabian racing this season when all of racing has been so badly affected by the Covid situation. Even though it may only be a small prize fund, I know it means a lot to everyone taking part. It's also great to see so many runners with a wide variety of owners from different countries and so many young unexposed horses, which are so important for our sport's future."

"I am lucky to be able to visit a number of our trainers pre-season for the magazine preview, to see as many of these young horses as I can and Toofan was certainly a stand out individual. I'm so glad he has rewarded the team's patience with a win, first time out."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO). Photo: Debbie Burt



Toofan wins on debut in
the Arabian Racehorse.com



Hattal gains Arabian Derby double in UAE President Cup at Doncaster

Hattal became the fourth consecutive colt to follow up his French Derby win in the UAE President Cup (UK Arabian Derby) run at Doncaster on St Leger day on September 12. Trained by Xavier Thomas-Demeaulle for owner-breeders YAS Horse Racing Management, the four-year-old son of Mahabb coasted into victory to win by three quarters of a length on the line from Jurgurtha de Monlau in second and Loolwa in third.

Ridden by Tadhg O'Shea who was deputising for regular pilot, Ioritz Mendizabal, this was O'Shea's second win in the Doncaster contest, having previously been successful with Nafees in 2017. Speaking after the race O'Shea said: "Hattal is a very, very smart horse. Connections were hopeful for a good result as he won the French Derby in a really quick time. It's my first time riding him, but I was unbeaten on his mother Mizzna. She was a champion so he has a bit more to prove yet to be as good as her, but he's going the right way."

"To be honest, he didn't really have a race there, if anything he was getting there too soon. It will be exciting to see where connections go with him next, whether they will head to the Arc for the World Cup or out to Abu Dhabi for the

Jewel Crown, his mother was unbeaten at that track."

Faisal Al Rahmani, event manager for the UAE President Cup series said: "The Group 1 UAE President Cup race at Doncaster is a platform for young Arabian horses to build on to become future champions."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director was delighted commenting. "This race consistently confirms a winner of the highest class and I am sure we have seen a new star today in Hattal. We thank the UAE President Cup Series for their continued generous support of our feature race for four-year-olds."

"We are also very grateful to Doncaster racecourse and the British Horse Racing Authority for their support of international Arabian racing, enabling this race to go ahead during these challenging times. This event is now firmly established as part of St Leger Day, at Doncaster's most prestigious meeting of the year, which enhances the contest's prestige and Arabian racing's status in the UK."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO).
Photo: Debbie Burt

Paddys Day on Top again in Colorado in Jerry Partin Stakes



The race on 19 August at Arapahoe Park, Colorado, was named in honor of horse trainer Jerry Partin. The one mile race was for three- years-olds and more and had a Purse of \$11,300. The race was run without spectators.

The nine-year old Paddys Day took control of the race of mostly younger horses and was never headed. He also did not let his son, three year-old, QMR Big John, have a chance at beating his sire. The winning time was 1:49:44.

Race caller Jonathan Horowitz said, "That was an incredible performance by Paddy. It was the first time I've seen that type of swagger by him in two years. You could tell as he was walking to the paddock that he was relishing being back at Arapahoe Park and ready for a big performance. It meant a lot to see him back here because this is where he started racing and where I announced him for the first time."

The race was named in honor of Jerry Partin, who was inducted into the AJC Tent of Honor in 2015. The Award recognized his training career spanning four decades with wins at more than 20 tracks. He also gave back to the sport by serving on multiple state Arabian racing boards.

RESULTS

1. **PADDYS DAY** (Burning Sand x AK Loretta by Virgule Al Maury) was ridden by Alfredo Triana Jr., trained by Scott Powel, and was bred and owned by Jane R. Teutsch.
2. **HIGHH VOLTAGE** (Lopez, Karlo), trained by David Kaden, owned by Tracy Kaden.
3. **AA RICH MOTHER** (Wales, Travis), trained by Russell Vicchilli, and owned by Garrett and Lisa Ford.
4. **KD DERBY GIRL** (McNeil, Bryan)
5. **RISKY RED** (Gonzalez, Pedro)
6. **QMR BIG JOHN** (Cruz, John)
7. **TM MADDAMEE** (Ramos, Adrian)
8. **ROYAL JOLIE** (Esquibel, Jr., Richard)
9. **WMA OLE** (Aguilar, Daniel)

Source: <https://www.horsereporter.com> / Photos: Coady Photography



AA Rich Mother, AA Speedball and RB Kinetic winner of Emirates Breeders at Arapahoe Park

The series of three Emirates Breeders races were held at Arapahoe Park, in Colorado, on the 10th, 24th and 25th of August.

The August 10 race was the Emirates Breeders Arabian Derby, of six furlongs on the dirt for horses to 3 & 4 years old; with a purse of \$12,000.

Bred by Dianne K. Waldron, the winner was RB Kinetic (Baseq Al Khalediah x Rich Kinkga by TH Richie) ridden by Deudis Pena-Mora, trained by Nicole Ruggeri and owned by Byerley Racing, LLC.

The August 24 race was the Emirates Breeders Arabian Maiden Stakes also in six furlongs on dirt and for 3 years old with a purse of \$10,800.

Although an 11-1 longshot, AA Speedball pulled off a dominant 10 1/2-length win in the Emirates Breeders Maiden Stakes at Arapahoe Park & Mile High Racing on August 24. Owned by Pamela Weidel, trained by Renee Lafleur-Diaz, and ridden by Deudis Pena-Mora.

Bred by Salem Bin Mahfooz, AA Speedball (Burning Sand x Follies Bergere by Virgule Al Maury) led from goes to whoa of the six-furlong

race for maidens. Roayl Jolie ridden by Richard Esquibel Jr. finished second followed by AA Dbuster ridden by Travis Walis.

AA Rich Mother won the Emirates Breeders VIP Stakes to conclude the 2020 Arabian racing season in Colorado at Arapahoe Park & Mile High Racing on August 26.

Trained by Russell Vicchilli, the victory of AA Rich Mother (TH Richie x DC Well Done by Dynamite Dare), ridden by Travis Wales, also gave the chestnut colt's connections the Arapahoe Park jockey, trainer, and owner titles for the season.

Congratulations to Colorado's 2020 leading jockey Travis Wales, trainer Russell Vicchilli, and owner and breeder Garrett and Lisa Ford's.

Big Purit ridden by Adrian Ramos finished second; QMR Big John with Daniel Aguilar was third and Highh Voltage conducted by Karlo Lopex finished fourth.

Source: Jonathan Horowitz, AJC. Photos: Coady Photography



AA Speedball and Deudis Pena-Mora



RB Kinetic and Deudis Pena-Mora



Photo: Debbie Burt

Ebraz wins Qatar International Stakes for the second consecutive year

The fifth day and finale, August 1, of QREC-sponsored Qatar Goodwood Festival, England, came with a massive Qatari victory when H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Ebraz won the G1 P/A Qatar International Stakes for four-year-old and older Arabians, for the second year on the spin.

The worlds' leading Arabian racehorse, Ebraz (Amer x Massamarie by Tidjani) continued his excellent record at the Qatar Goodwood Festival, adding a second consecutive win in the Qatar International Stakes, to his two runner-up successes. The Julian Smart trained seven-year-old is clearly in his prime and quickly asserted his dominance over his rivals in the one-mile contest with minimal urging from Maxime Guyon,

who also partnered him to victory last year. HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani's homebred was just too good for Deyran and the 2017 winner Tayf.

The mile contest is a G1 contest for purebred Arabian horses and forms the first leg of the Doha Triple Crown. Following his victory in 2019, Ebraz went on to become the first winner of the Doha Triple Crown, with victories in the Qatar Arabian World Cup at Longchamp and the HH The Amir Sword at Doha. With this repeated victory under his belt, Ebraz, the highest rated Arabian in the world, sends a strong message that he is targeting the Doha Triple Crown once more. The performance which son of Amer made at Goodwood shows he is not content with the historic

achievement that he is only horse ever to have landed the coveted title, but has already started his new journey for landing the title again; an accomplishment, if realised, may not be repeated by any other horse.

Deryan (Mahabb x Haboob by Akbar), bred by HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and owned by Yas Horse Racing Management, trained by Didier Guillemin, was the runner-up under by Ioritz Mendizabal. HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Tayf (Amer x Djelmila by Manganate), the runner-up last year and the winner of the 2017 edition, finished third with Olivier Peslier in the saddle. He is trained by Thomas Fourcy.

Trainer Julian Smart said: "Ebraz is very special. He is one of the best - he already proved that in Doha, winning the Triple Crown and winning the HH The Amir Sword three times. This is the fourth time he has come to Goodwood - he has been unlucky on two occasions and has managed to win it the last two years. Now we go to France for the Qatar Arabian Gold Cup and who knows, maybe the unthinkable. We already thought the Doha Triple Crown couldn't be done and he has done it; maybe he can do another one, you never know.

"It's not a crazy question to ask whether Ebraz might be getting better. I actually think since his prep race three weeks ago, he has been training unbelievably well. He is actually lighter as a seven-year-old than he has ever been. I have always said the Arabians get better with age. How much better he can get at seven or eight I don't know, but he's still going strong and, touch wood, he's still healthy.

"While he is in this kind of form, I would like to keep him going. We will obviously target the Arc meeting for the Qatar Arabian World Cup and then we'll see - do we go back to Doha for another HH The Amir Sword, or do we leave him in France to go to stud? That will all be decided by the Boss if he is sound in October."

Adam Waterworth, Managing Director of Sport at the Goodwood Estate commented: "Having Ebraz back was fantastic for us and I've been lucky enough to see him win out in Qatar too. This week has been all about superstars and returning champions and Ebraz fits that bill as well as any of the horses that we've had here this week, so I'm delighted to see him win today."

Commenting on the race ARO Finance and Commercial Director Genny Haynes said: "What a wonderful way to open our 2020 season, with a second consecutive win by Ebraz today. We congratulate HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani and Julian Smart for their achievements with such a talented horse. We are delighted that thanks to Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club and Goodwood racecourse that a contest of this quality was showcased to the world at this most challenging time.

"Though our season has been pushed back in the calendar due to the current circumstances, we look forward to announcing the remaining races in our 2020 race plan in the very near future and thank all of our participants and sponsors for their patience and support."

Source: ARO/QREC.



Photo: Sam Stephenson



£2.3 million in prize money set to be on offer at the Qatar Goodwood Festival

The Sussex course's most prestigious meeting, which this year will start with Stradivarius's attempt to win a record fourth Goodwood Cup on July 28, will offer the total prize fund across the five days.

It is around half of the amount that would be expected in a normal year but the 2020 festival cannot be held in front of paying members of the public.

The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) are delighted that Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC) confirmed today that the Qatar International Stakes will go ahead as part of the Qatar Goodwood Festival 2020 on the rescheduled date of Saturday August 1st. Held over a mile on the historic Sussex Downs, the Group 1 PA contest forms the first stage of the Qatar Triple Crown.

Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC) CEO Nasser Bin Sherida Al Kaabi commented: "Supporting and Promoting Arabian racing at this difficult time is an achievement which QREC has been able to realise through coordination with ARO and the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) and we do appreciate their cooperation. This year's edition will be exceptional as it comes

during the Covid-19 pandemic and the related new challenges. Therefore, racing at the Qatar Goodwood Festival will remain special as ever".



The feature race of the week – the Qatar Sussex Stakes – will be run for £275,000, and could be the race of the summer with Irish 2,000 Guineas winner Siskin potentially taking on Royal Ascot winner Alpine Star, and last year's top rated two-year old Pinatubo.

Adam Waterworth, MD of sport at Goodwood, said: "Obviously prize money for this year's Qatar Goodwood Festival is less than previous years, and significantly less than we would want, but

any major race meeting is reliant on attendances and hospitality for the majority of its revenue.

"Without the support of all our sponsors – but especially that from the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club – we would not have been able to offer anything like the prize money levels we have announced today.

"I would like to thank HE Issa Al Mohannadi, Chairman of QREC, and their CEO Nasser al Kaabi, for working with us in this most difficult of times and continuing to support racing in the UK. QREC have been hugely supportive and their commitment to our pattern races is hugely appreciated."

Goodwood also enjoy the support of Unibet, who continue to sponsor the major handicaps through the week, and John Pearce Racing are new sponsors for this year of the Gordon Stakes.

Waterworth added: "Unibet have been great to work with throughout their sponsorship, and so it was no surprise that they have been so supportive of their races, and although this is not the way we hoped the first year of John Pearce Rac-

ing's backing of the Gordon Stakes would play out, again I am delighted that with their support we can continue to invest in what is a really key race for us through the week".

The Qatar Goodwood Festival will run from July 28 to August 1 and a number of trainers have already expressed an intention to bring some of the stars of the flat season so far to the event - with the Sussex Stakes line-up in particular beginning to look particularly strong. The Qatar Goodwood Festival will run from 28 July to 1 August 2020. Following Government and BHA guidelines, they will not run the Qatar Goodwood Festival as a public event in 2020.

"The Qatar Goodwood Festival is a beautiful week and Goodwood is the most picturesque racecourse in the country"
Frankie Dettori, Jockey

Source: <https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk> / <https://www.goodwood.com> / ARO. Photos: Juhaime QREC

Day One - Tue 28 July – Goodwood Cup Day

Featuring the Group 1 Qatar Goodwood Cup & opening ceremony

Day Two - Wed 29 July - Sussex Stakes Day

The £1million Qatar Sussex Stakes is one of the highlights of the flat racing season and has previously been won by the peerless Frankel, the French sensation Solow and Too Darn Hot in 2019.

Day Three - Thu 30 July - Ladies' Day

Ladies' Day, the most glamorous day of the Festival, is the place to be and be seen. Our ladies' amateur jockey race, the *Magnolia Cup*, will get the day off to an impressive start, which in previous years has supported charities dedicated to helping women and children.

Day Four - Fri 31 July King George Day

The £300,000 Group 2 King George Qatar Stakes is one of the highlights of the year - taken in 2019 by the hugely progressive Battaash.

Friday's seven compelling races, including **four group races**, bring the sport's biggest names to Goodwood. The on-track action is complemented with live music, fashion and a great atmosphere.

Not to mention the *'Best Dressed'* competition!

Day Five - Sat 1 August - Stewards' Cup Day

The £250,000 Unibet Stewards' Cup takes centre stage for the final day of the Qatar Goodwood Festival. Previous winners of this iconic sprint include Lochsong, Dancing Star and 2019's winner Khaadem. The six-furlong cavalry charge of the Unibet Stewards Cup is a sight to behold, with over 20 sprinters thundering down the Goodwood straight.



Race fixture list for 2020-21 approved by HH Sh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

2020 - 2021 ERA Fixture List

		OCTOBER	DECEMBER			JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL		
THU	22			THU	1						
FRI	23			FRI	2						
SAT	24			SAT	3						
SUN	25			SUN	4						
MON	26			MON	5		1				
TUE	27		1	TUE	6		2				
WED	28		2	WED	7		3				
THUR	29	AL AIN	3 MEYDAN	THUR	8	MEYDAN (DWCC)	4 MEYDAN (DWCC)			1	
FRI	30	JEBEL ALI	4 ABU DHABI	FRI	9	JEBEL ALI	5 JEBEL ALI	5 JEBEL ALI	2	AL AIN	
SAT	31	SHARJAH	5 AL AIN	SAT	10	SHARJAH	6	6 MEYDAN (DWCC) SS	3	SHARJAH	
		NOVEMBER									
SUN	1		6	SUN	11	ABU DHABI	7	ABU DHABI	7	ABU DHABI	4
MON	2		7	MON	12		8		8		5
TUE	3		8	TUE	13		9		9		6
WED	4		9	WED	14		10		10		7
THU	5	MEYDAN	10	THU	15	MEYDAN (DWCC)	11	MEYDAN (DWCC)	11	MEYDAN	8
FRI	6		11	FRI	16	AL AIN	12	AL AIN	12	AL AIN	9
SAT	7		12	SAT	17	SHARJAH	13	MEYDAN	13		10
SUN	8	ABU DHABI	13	SUN	18	ABU DHABI	14	ABU DHABI	14	ABU DHABI	11
MON	9		14	MON	19		15		15		12
TUE	10		15	TUE	20		16		16		13
WED	11		16	WED	21		17		17		14
THU	12		17	THU	22	MEYDAN (DWCC)	18	MEYDAN (DWCC)	18		15
FRI	13	JEBEL ALI	18	FRI	23	JEBEL ALI	19	JEBEL ALI	19	JEBEL ALI	16
SAT	14	AL AIN	19	SAT	24	AL AIN	20	AL AIN	20	AL AIN	17
SUN	15	ABU DHABI	20	SUN	25	ABU DHABI	21	ABU DHABI	21	ABU DHABI	18
MON	16		21	MON	26		22		22		19
TUE	17		22	TUE	27		23		23		20
WED	18		23	WED	28		24		24		21
THU	19	MEYDAN	24	THU	29	MEYDAN (DWCC)	25	MEYDAN (DWCC)	25		22
FRI	20	AL AIN	25	FRI	30	AL AIN	26	AL AIN	26		23
SAT	21		26	SAT	31	MEYDAN	27	SHARJAH	27	MEYDAN (DWC)	24
SUN	22		27	SUN			28		28		25
MON	23		28	MON			29		29		26
TUE	24		29	TUE			30		30		27
WED	25		30	WED							28
THU	26		31	THU							29
FRI	27	JEBEL ALI		FRI							30
SAT	28	SHARJAH		SAT							
SUN	29			SUN							
MON	30			MON							
										14	AL AIN
										15	ABU DHABI
										11	JEBEL ALI
										7	SHARJAH
										9	MEYDAN
										9	MEYDAN (DWCC)
										1	MEYDAN (DWC)
										66	Total



Photo: Noëlle Derre

Dubai (June 25, 2020) – The fixture list of the 2020-21 UAE racing season has been approved by His Highness Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE, Minister of Presidential Affairs and Chairman of Emirates Racing Authority (ERA).

HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed said: "We are pleased to announce the ERA Race Fixture for the racing season 2020-21, which will provide the owners, trainers and fans an integrated season on the UAE 5 racecourses. Through this fixture, we offer Local and International races for the thoroughbred and Arabian horses".

The season will offer 66 races dates and opens at Al Ain Racecourse on Thursday, October 29, 2020. Jebel Ali Racecourse and Sharjah Racecourse will commence their seasons on Friday, October 30 and Saturday, October 31. Meydan Racecourse gets underway on November 5, while Abu Dhabi Racecourse will commence their season on Sunday, November 8.

**Meydan's season will have 19 meets: - Abu Dhabi 15 - Al Ain 14
Jebel Ali 11 - Sharjah 7**



HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Namira Al Cham winner of Prix Fernand Flottes at Toulouse



Namira Al Cham (Azadi x Al Mazina) landed her first victory in the colours of Al Shaqab Racing at Toulouse on Sunday, 21 June.

Having run in a highly competitive company on her first three starts, the chestnut filly lined up in the Prix Fernand Flottes, run over 2,100m for four-year-old and older Purebred Arabians, wearing blinkers for the first time.

M Almayssam (Mared Al Sahara) set a selective pace, with Namira Al Cham sitting in behind the leaders. After 1,000m, Al Mahbooba (Madjani) was ridden up to take the lead and she set off at a very quick pace.

The Jerome Cabre-ridden Namira Al Cham was the only other runner in the race who managed to stay with Al Mahbooba through the final turn. Once in the straight, the 4-year-old ward

of Thomas Fourcy had to put her head down and fight to the line, holding off a strong finish from Gohar Du Breuil (Al Mamun Monlau), in Al Shaqab Racing colours as well, to win by half a length.

Gohar Du Breuil ridden by Maxime Foulon, was the runner-up for trainer Charles Gourdain. The Patrick Saint-Martin-owned and D. Morisson-trained Sharkh (Majd Al Arab) was only a further head behind in third under Mickael Forest.

Namira Al Cham was bred by Hassan Mousli, Nada Mousalli, and Faiz Al Elweet.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photo: Robert Polin

Sir Monlau wins Prix Quitaine



As of June 6, Thomas Fourcy ran three representatives of His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani in 2020 (in four races) and the three of them won! The new Sir Monlau (Al Mamun Monlau) is the latest. Still in the lead group, he was unapproachable in the final phase and won with a head start on his training companion Alhareth (Al Mamun Monlau x Tameemah by Amer).

This 3-year-old Purebred Arabian was making his racing debut on Saturday evening at Toulouse, France, in the Prix Quitaine, seventh race of Wathba Stallions Cup, a highly regarded maiden for Purebred Arabians.

Seven three-year-old Arabian horses competed in the 15,000 Euro prize round, held on the turf track for a distance of 2000 meters,

Sir Monlau jumped well before sitting in second place, very relaxed with a nice action for the early stages. In the final turn, jockey Jerome Cabre switched him to the inside and he came

into the straight in the lead. The Thomas Fourcy-trained bay colt kept accelerating throughout the long home straight, winning by a comfortable length.

Sir Monlau is by Al Mamun Monlau, the exciting young Purebred Arabian sire at Haras du Grand Courgeon, who also sired the second in the race the Laurie Foulard-ridden, Alhareth, running in the colours of Al Shaqab Racing and is also trained by Thomas Fourcy. The X. Thomas Demeaulte-trained Dakiss (Dahedd x Tikis French Kiss by Esmet Arbi), was a further length behind in third under Guillaume Guedj-Gay.

Sir Monlau is out of Al Anqa, the Group 1 PA placed mare by Amer. She is already a dam of winners and a sister to Group 1 winners, who are now sires; namely, Tabarak and Al Tair.

Source: QREC/JDG/AFAC with inputs of Cidinha Franzão. Photo: Robert Polin

Abbes wins Qatar Coupe de France des Chevaux Arabes



Source: QREC/JDG. Photo: Robert Polin

Bred and owned by HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani, all eyes were on the regally bred Abbes (FR) coming into the Qatar Coupe de France des Chevaux Arabes (Gr2 PA) sponsored by the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC).

The mile race, which brings together the most promising three-year-old Purebred Arabians in France, took place at La Teste de Buch, France on Thursday 18 June. Abbes, who is trained by Thomas Fourcy, was making just his second career start in this race, having been an impressive winner on his maiden in Toulouse on 11 May.

There were six runners lining up in this race. Abbes played up in the stalls prior to the gates opening but broke well nonetheless. Settled towards the rear by jockey Olivier Peslier, the grey colt relaxed into his stride despite the slow pace, though always traveling on the bridle and Peslier clearly had plenty in hand.

HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani's Antar (Al Mamun Monlau x Dahma by Amer) crossed fifth place on the saddle of Emilien Revolte and trained by Didier Guillemin.

Once in the straight, the runners came into the middle of the track. The front runners began to sprint and for a moment it looked as if they might have put the race to bed. Abbes, however, showed he was a different class when producing a second turn of foot one furlong from the line, leaving his rivals in his wake. He won by one and a half lengths

in front of Alhafar (FR, Al Mamun Monlau x Farh by Nizam), trained by Elizabeth Bernard and ridden by Jean-Bernard Eyquem for Al Shaqab Racing.

Majd D'Or (FR, Majd Al Arab x Case D'Or by Dormane), in the colours of Sheail bin Khalifa Al Kuwari, also trained by Thomas Fourcy, was further three-quarters of a length behind third under Julien Augé and Tembel de Pine Ity (Ah Albahar x Razza di Gallura by Dormane) ridden by Jerome Cabre was fourth.

Thomas Fourcy commented, *"I have always thought very highly of Abbes, as I said to Alban de Mieulle, who manages His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani's racing interests. He is a lovely colt who is still changing. I think that he is a bit sensitive about the stalls due to his immaturity as he is very easy at home. He just needs experience. He will have a quiet summer and we will bring him back for the Autumn, once we have discussed with his connections. He has shown quality and precocity, but physically he is still changing so we have to do what is best for him. He is a lovely model, and will improve with age."*

Bred at Haras du Grand Courgeon, Abbes is of a champion mare, Raqiya (Amer), a multiple PA Group winner in France, England and Qatar. He is by one of the most exciting young sires in France, TM Fred Texas, who stands under the banner of Al Shaqab Arabians in France.

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Al Shaqab Racing's Snan stays unbeaten



A winner for his first and only start on the all-weather at Pau in January of his 4-year-old year, the Al Shaqab Racing-owned & bred Snan (Al Mamun Monlau x Nevada De Cardonne by Tornado de Cardonne) kept his 100% strike rate on the turf track in the Prix Ba Toustem at La Teste, France, on Wednesday 3 June.

Julien Augé was on board, and they started as a favourite. Taking no risks, the jockey sat him on the outside of the racing pack. Once in the straight, the Thomas Fourcy-trained four-year-old chestnut colt came up to the lead to battle with The H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned & bred Askar (Munjiz x Abigaille by Dormane), but the closer they came to the line, the bigger Snan's advantage became. He won by an impressive 4 1/2 lengths.

Askar was the runner up for trainer Francois Rohaut and jockey Damien Morin. Nachmi Al Cham (Azadi x Amira Al Chame by Kesberoy), also owned by Al Shaqab Racing and trained by Thomas Fourcy, was further one and a half lengths behind in third under Jerome Cabre.

"He only did the very minimum when he won on his debut," commented winning trainer Thomas Fourcy commented on Snan's second straight victory, "but the track wasn't for him. I thought he would be better on the turf today. He's won nicely. He could have run earlier, but we wanted to look after him and get him to win. That is done and he will now go to the Derby unbeaten."

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: Robert Polin

Owned by Mohamed Bin Fahad Al-Attiyah, the Purebred Arabian 4-year-old filly Miss Boum Al Maury (Boum De Ghazal x Melody Al Maury by Way To Go) landed her fist victory on Saturday, June 6, in Toulouse. The Prix Aissa – Prix Véronique Briat was her fourth start and she showed great improvement following her seasonal bow on 23 May.

The Gr1 PA placed Besquees was quickly into the lead in the early stages and she set a very moderate pace. Ridden by the young apprentice jockey Lily Le Pemp and trained by Elisabeth Bernard, Miss Boum Al Maury was smartly away in the 15-runner field.

She chased the leaders and traveled in 6th position throughout the race. In the final turn, the bay filly seemed to be struggling and her jockey had to encourage her.

Once in the straight, with slight encouragement from the whip, Miss Boum Al Maury

showed great tenacity to take the lead with apparent ease, winning with a comfortable three-length margin.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Caracole Du Loup (Josco Du Cayrou x Sirene Du Loup by Al Sakbe) took second place. The Francois Rohaut-trained and Matthias Lauron-ridden chestnut filly was able to secure the runner-up place in the final strides by a head from the Group Yas Horse Racing Management's filly Belquees (Mahabb x Aleefa by Kesberoy), who is trained by X. Thomas Demeaulte and was ridden by Guillaume Guedj-Gay.

Miss Boum Al Maury comes from the world-famous Renée-Laure Koch breeding operation. She is the first runner and winner for Boum De Ghazal, a well-bred private stallion owned by Renée-Laure Koch.

Source: JDG/QREC. Photo: Robert Polin

Miss Boum Al Maury wins Prix Aissa



H.H Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Mountasir (Rabarak x Basilic d'El ios by Elios de Carrere) came to the Prix Djerba Oua, a seven-furlong conditions race for Purebred Arabians at La Teste De Buch, France, on Wednesday, 20 May 2020, off a promising debut back in March when he finished fourth. He fulfilled the promise he showed that day and more to win on just his second start.

Starting as one of the favourites of the race Mountasir jumped well from an outside draw before being settled in mid-division by jockey Olivier Peslier. His jockey kept him well covered until 300m from the post. Once clear, the Thomas Fourcy-trained four-year-old bay colt, he came up under plenty of impulsion to join the more experienced Barada Al Cham (AF Albarhar x Al Ryma by Akbar), and they locked horns from several strides before two flicks of Peslier's

stick sent Mountasir forward to grab victory by a short head in the final meters.

Al Shaqab Racing's Barada Al Cham was the runner-up for the winning trainer Thomas Fourcy and jockey Julien Augé. The Royal Cavalry of Oman-owned and the Philippe Sogorb-trained Maleha (Munjiz x Tell Arca by Tidjani) was further one and a half lengths behind in third under jockey Anthony Crastus.

Mountasir is a son of Umm Qarn stallion Tabarak (Nizam), who is based at Haras du Grand Courgeon where Mountasir was raised. He was pre-trained by Eric Ventrou. His dam, Basilic d'El ios (Elios De Carrere), has already produced a number of winners in Qatar. She herself is the daughter of blue hen Bergeronnette (Djourna).

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club. Photo: Robert Polin

Mountasir wins Prix Djerba Oua



The Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC)-sponsored Qatar Prix d'Élevage, a Group 2 for Purebred Arabians, took place at Toulouse, France, on the first day of the restart of racing in France on May 11. It was won by the dual Gr1 PA winner Hayyan (Munjiz x Dahwa by Tidjani). The Yas Racing's 5YO chestnut horse was making his first appearance of 2020 in this race and on heavy ground.

Hayyan sat in mid-division in the race with jockey Anthony Crastus in the saddle. He began to make up ground in the turn and pulled clear eventually winning in front of the Al Shaqab Racing's Kair Al Cham (Dahess x Al Ryma by Akbar), who is trained by Thomas Fourcy and was ridden by Olivier Peslier.

Thierry Delègue, racing manager Yas Racing Management, commented: "He does it all the better as he wasn't at his best. He is definitely a horse that runs well when he's fresh. He has gained in maturity and he is easier to ride. On

Monday, he really relaxed, before finishing really well. He's an extraordinary horse. The problem is going to be finding him a program. There are only three races left before the Arc weekend. In the absence of visibility on the program outside France, he could run in Deauville."

Hayyan, who is trained by Frédéric Sanchez, is out of Dahwa (Tidjani), who herself won this race. He is her fourth foal, and all of her offspring are Group winners.

In addition to first place, Yas Racing Management also won third and fourth places for HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and both trained by Didier Guillemin.

Deryan (Mahabb x Haboob by Akbar) under the saddle of Ioritz Mendizabal crossed in third place followed by Ibn Gadir (Mared Al Sahra x Gadir ASF by Parador) ridden by Emilien Revolte

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club with inputs of Cidinha Franzão. Photo: Robert Polin

Hayyan won QREC-sponsored Qatar Prix d'Élevage





Deryan and Ioritz Mendizabal (#4) and Melabi and Jerome Cabre (#1)

Deryan wins Coupe D'Europe, The President of the UAE Cup

Deryan wins his first Group I at the Deauville Racecourse in The President of the UAE Cup - Coupe D'Europe des Chevaux Arabes, on June 1.

Thanks to his leader Ibn Gadir ridden by Emilien Révolte who takes a beautiful 4th place, the colt of Yas Horse Racing Management was able to benefit from a train at his leisure and relax during the course.

Being a 1600m horse, his jockey Ioritz Mendizabal waited in the final phase and asked him to put his effort in the last meters to win by a neck over Melabi.

Deryan (Mahabb X Haboob by Akbar, owned by Yas Horse Racing Management and bred by HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan) found his day at Gr 1 PA level in the Coupe D'Europe des Chevaux Arabes. Under the leadership of his leader, Ibn Gadir (Mared Al Sahra X Gadir ASF by Parador, owned by Yas Horse Management and bred by HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan), Deryan galloped in the penultimate position of a squad in single file.

In the straight line, Ioritz Mendizabal temporized to the maximum before soliciting from the horse trained by Didier Guillemin. At 100m

from the goal, the future winner came to fight with Melabi (Dahess X Quinquinna by Kesberoy, owned and bred by Al Shaqab Racing), ridden by Jerome Cabre and trained by Thomas Fourcy,, taking a slight advantage. Deryan wins with a neckline ahead of Melabi, but this gap is not representative of his superiority. Hajres (Nizam X Tohfet Ennadhine by Vent Dredy), ridden by Christophe Soumillon and trained by Mme. JF. Bernard, finished third, ahead of Ibn Gadir, also trained by Didier Guillemin, and Shalaa (Dahess X Dormadora by Dormane, bred and owned by Al Shaqab Racing), trained by Thomas Fourcy and ridden by Julien Auge in fifth place.

"We are always a little scared because it stops once in front. The tactics of the day worked well because you have to come at the last moment with him. He finally won his first Gr1 PA. The two jockeys, Ioritz Mendizabal and Émilien Révolte, did a very good job", said Thierry Delègue, racing manager of HH Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Source: AFAC / JDG – Photo: Robert Polin



UK-based Shadwell Stud has unveiled a new website with a sleek design geared as much toward aesthetics as utility. The site is filled with lush imagery, complemented by intuitive mobile and desktop-friendly interfaces.

"We've recently launched the new and improved Shadwell website, bringing our clients and those with an interest in Shadwell breeding more features and essential information," said Tom Pennington, Marketing Manager for Shadwell Stud. "We have improved the user journey; we are the first organisation in the world to roll out up-to-the-minute statistics by Weatherbys and have launched a much-improved news platform, as well as much more."

Shadwell's global racing and breeding enterprises involve both Thoroughbred and Arabian horses and encompass Shadwell Estate Company Limited in Britain; Shadwell Farm LLC in the USA and Derrinstown Stud in Ireland.

Each year a world class group of horses are bred and bought to race in the renowned blue and white racing silks of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

Under his guidance, the three studs have been responsible for the winners of more than 100 Group 1 races and producing the winners of 15 Classic races since 1987.

Stallions

Since its construction in 1987, The Nunnery Stud has been home to some of the world's greatest racehorses and most influential stallions.

Type: <http://shadwellstud.com> into your browser to know the new site

Source: Shadwell Racing Media



Decision taken to postpone Dubai International Arabian Races 2020

On the day Thoroughbred racing resumed in Britain on 1 June, the Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) decided to postpone Purebred Arabian racing's flagship event, Dubai International Arabian Races Day indefinitely.

The event was due to take place at Newbury on 26 July but has been postponed to a date later in 2020 according to a statement issued by organisers ARO. The statement said the difficult decision was taken "in the best interests of the sport, its participants and sponsors".

"With British Thoroughbred racing resuming today, Monday, 1 June, the Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) board wish to clarify the current situation with regards to the Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR), scheduled for 26 July at Newbury racecourse," the statement read.

"Due to a number of factors arising from the Covid-19 situation, it has been decided that it is in the best interests of the sport, its participants and sponsors that the meeting be postponed until later in the year.

"ARO, Shadwell Stud and the DIAR Committee are actively sourcing an alternative date and are fully committed to keeping all participants informed as the situation develops.

"ARO continues to hold positive discussions with British Horseracing Authority and are thankful for their support and understanding of the need to resume UK Arabian racing as soon as it can be accommodated into the revised calendar.

"The ARO board thanks His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the DIAR Committee, Shadwell Stud, Newbury Racecourse, Sportsguide and all of ARO's registered participants for their ongoing support and commitment to DIAR 2020."

The decision follows the cancellation of the DIAR prep races at Bro Park in Sweden and Duindigt in Holland. Three races were set to be staged at both Bro Park and Duindigt on 14 June and 28 June, respectively.

DIAR prep races had also been scheduled in Rome, but that particular fixture was cancelled very early in the year as Italy turned out to be one of the country's worst affected by the outbreak of Covid-19.

Speaking on behalf of the races' main patron, Sheikh Hamdan, Richard Lancaster, director of the sponsor's Shadwell Stud, said: "In light of everything that is happening at the moment and with so many imponderables at this stage, we concluded that the right decision would be to cancel the prep races in Sweden and Holland this year.

"It is a great pity, but the world has never seen anything of this magnitude and people's health is, and must be, the number one priority."

Source: <https://www.aladiyat.ae/>



SHADWELL FARM

USA division celebrates 35 years

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum's global Shadwell operation marked a milestone this week when Shadwell Farm, its USA division, celebrated 35 years of excellence. Nestled just off Military Pike in Lexington, Kentucky — the heart of the American equine industry — the farm has foaled and raised the likes of champion Nashwan, Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Sakhee and Epsom Derby victor Erhaab, while housing such brilliant race fillies-turned-outstanding broodmares as Height of Fashion, Salsabil and Thawakib. The farm has also been the stud home to such outstanding racehorses as world champion Invador, Belmont Stakes winner Jazil and the highest-rated sprinter of our time, Dayjur.

"Shadwell Farm was incorporated in 1984, but farm operations didn't start until June 1, 1985," said Rick Nichols, vice president and general manager. "What started as 350 acres of land,

through HH Sheikh Hamdan's guidance and leadership, quickly grew into 3,400 acres of rich, fertile Kentucky farmland.

"Over the years, Shadwell has produced countless winners, both in the United States and Europe for Sheikh Hamdan, including nine classic winners," Nichols continued. "I am proud and highly honoured to have been the general manager of Shadwell from the start. For me, it has been fantastic working with great horses and for a wonderful man."

It was only fitting this week that a promising Shadwell Farm-bred and -raised filly won on debut when 3-year-old Shatha (by champion Muhaarar out of G1 winner Lear's Princess) won smartly at Kempton on Wednesday afternoon.

Source: Shadwell Racing Media.

Photo: Shadwell Farm

Bel'izam wins Prix Damas at Toulouse



Not seen since his second place in the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown (Gr1 PA), in November 2011 in Abu Dhabi, Bel'izam (Nizam X Djesabelle by Dormane) could just miss a little competition. Trained by Damien de Watrigant, however, showed enough class to come and dominate a tough Hilal Al Cham (Hilal Al Zaman X Ya Hala by Azadi, owned by Al Shaqab Racing), ridden by Julien Auge and trained by Thomas Fourcy near the post and remove this Prix Damas (Gr3 PA) under the saddle of Jean-Bernard Eyquem.

Bel'izam wears the colors of Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, the son of Sheikh Hamdan, who gave him the horse for the big race in Abu Dhabi last November. Coming from the back rows, Amjiz de Piboul (Munjiz X Amerella by Amer), under the saddle of Guillaume Guedj-

Gay and trained by Mme JF Bernard, drew a nice straight line to take third place in Nenawa (Dahess X Gharnooga by Al Hasim).

"It is a quality horse, which made up for the fact that it was still a bit round. It is a great victory for the Mandore Stud Farm, for Sheikh Hamdan and also for his son. They have trusted us for a long time. AFAC and its president managed to make a regular program, which required a lot of work in the current context. I hope everyone will be happy. These speed horses are used to going abroad, especially to England. Now they have a program in France with Listed coming soon", told Damien de Watrigant, trainer of the winner, to Equidia.

Source: Source: AFAC / JDG – Photo: Robert Polin



Mzoon wins Prix Cherifa

HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Racing Festival attracted several four-year-old horse races. Through two races: Prix Nefta-Dormane and Prix Cherifa, held on May 23 at the Hippodrome Bordeaux-Le Bouscat, under the auspices of the 12th edition of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival.

The Mzoon skill, bred and owned by Saeed Al Suwaidi, under the supervision of Eric Dell'Ova and conducted by Antoine Werle, won the title of the Prix Cherifa race, played over a distance of 1900 meters, with a prize of 14 thousand euros.

The last 200 meters witnessed an interval of excitement, before the daughter of Kerbala x Nagdine overtook Dihya de Monlau (bred and owned by Robert Bourdette), under the super-

vision of Olivier Trigodet ridden by Ioritz Mendizabal.

Third, Princesse du Connors (bred and owned by Owner Jean-Pierre Sarret), trained by David Morrison and ridden by Julien Grosjean, while UAE star Al Mahbooba came in sixth for a slight difference due to exit delay, but performed well in the last meters.

Mzoon (Kerbella x Nagdine by Baco du Cassou) Dihya De Monlau (Nizam x Salalah de Monlau by Tidjani) Princesse Du Connors (Al Mamun Monlau x Pia du Cassou by Darikel)

Source: AFAC. Text: Cidinha Franzão. Photo: AFAC



Amyr du Soleil wins Prix Nefta – Dormane

Best 3yrs of the 2019 season, Amyr du Soleil confirmed that he survived his generation, since he very easily dominated the opposition for his return at the Sheikh Mansoor Festival - Prix Nefta-Dormane (Gr2 PA), at Hippodrome Bordeaux-Le Bouscat on May 23.

The race was disputed in 1,900m, for horses of 4 years and had a purse of 30,000 euros.

The representative of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani, trained by Thomas Fourcy, has everything to become a champion.

As he likes to do it, Amyr du Soleil, ridden by Julien Augé, took the lead, taking the small squad at his own pace, escorted inside by Jarif and outside by Zalej Al Cham. But, as soon as the final turn came out, Amyr du Soleil was irresistibly detached, encountering no opposition.

The filly Artemis finishes second, providing a double for Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al

Thani. She is trained by Mme. JF. Bernard and was ridden by Olivier Peslier. Jarif also trained by Mme. JF. Bernard and ridden by Jean-Bernard Eyquem, finished third.

Thomas Fourcy, the winner's trainer, said: "*Julien Augé told me that the horse had moved up a level compared to last year. He is much calmer when he leaves. We're going to go on the 4yr Derby. He wasn't 100% today but we don't ask him more. The only thing is that nobody comes to face him and it can be annoying for the rest of his career. It has hardened over the year, and this winter it has gained mass. So he has a lot more strength and that can make him a champion, if we take our time well. He has not yet faced the "old" horses including Ebraz, which belongs to the same owner. But it will be at the end of the year.*"

Source: AFAC/JDG. Photo: Robert Polin

Joud Al Cham wins with ease



Joud Al Cham, from Al Shaqab Racing and Nada Mousalli, trained by Thomas Fourcy and led by Julian Oge, was crowned champion of the sixth round of the Wathba Stallions Cup - Prix Aicha - series, on Wednesday 20 May, at Hippodrome La Teste de Buch, under the umbrella of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Flat Racing Festival. Ele foi discreto ao longo do caminho. Mas na fase final não deu chance aos adversários. Um único toque de seu jôquei foi suficiente para aumentar a distância.

No and No Al Maury, who carried 3.5 kg more than the winner, crossed in second place. Owned by HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, trained by Damien Watrigant and ridden by Anthony Crastus, No and No Al Maury entered a

strong competition in the final stretch with winner Joud Al Cham

The debutante Midrass won an interesting third place. Trained by Elizabeth Bernard and led by Antoine Werle, he is owned by HE Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani.

Also trained by Elizabeth Bernard, King Monlau (owned by HH Sheikh Tahnoon Bin Zayed Al Nahyan), ridden by Jean-Bernard Eyquem, won fourth place with a difference of just one nose. In addition to first place, trainer Thomas Fourcy took fifth place with Murbeh, ridden by Alexandre Gavilan and owned by Royal Cavalry of Oman.

Source: AFAC (Association Française du Cheval Arabe de Course).

Text: Cidinha Franzão. Photo: Robert Polin

Sihrano du Cayrou wins at Jägersro Galopp



Sihrano du Cayrou became the first Pattern Race winner of the Swedish 2020 season, at Jägersro Galopp on May 15. The Mahabb son is one of the contingents of horses Faisal Al Rahmani graciously has sent in training in the country.

The 4-y-o raced but once last year on Sicily, where the ex-Italian Frenchman finished a close second to a stablemate. Now trained by Camilla Nilsson, Sihrano du Cayrou made his seasonal bow on dirt.

Meeting seasoned warriors with already a race or two under their belts this year. Not deterred he made short work of it in the 1730 m long Gr3 race for the fifth round of the Wathba Stallions Cup sponsored by HH Sheikh Mansour and his partners' Global Festival.

Sihrano du Cayrou dictated the pace from early on and when asked by the mare Top Medina, he slipped her easily and alone down the straight he won as he pleased by a handfull of lengths

under just educational pressure from his jockey Elione Chaves.

Top Medina finished second from last year's DIAR Stockholm Cup (Gr3) victor Ayman with another 4-y-o newcomer Mohaymin in fourth place and multiple pattern race winner Macallan fifth.

"There are always question marks when you race a horse for the 'first' time", Camilla Nilsson said. "Especially in a Group race as the Wathba Stallions Cup we are so grateful the Festival continues to sponsor along with its other pattern races. I'm also very lucky indeed Mr Al Rahmani has this horse in training with me and I won't be afraid of racing him abroad once the traveling restrictions are lifted. I also have a 3-y-o which could bring Mr Al Rahmani a lot of fun, once those are allowed to race."

Source: IFHAR / Photo: Stefan Olsson (Svensk Galopp)



Hilal Al Cham was crowned champion of the third round of the Wathba Stallions Cup series. Owned by Al Shaqab Racing, he is trained by Thomas Forsey and was led masterfully by Julien Augé.

In the wake of his promising debut in July, Hilal Al Cham made his reappearance in the Wathba Stallions Cup - Prix Djouras Tu at Toulouse, on March 14.

Julien Augé wasted no time in making a bee-line for the lead on the winner, and the Al Shaqab Racing runner was never headed. Maleha was two and half lengths away in second, as the experienced Al Mahbooba was left to collect third.

The race, with a purse of 14,000 euros and disputed in 1,400 meters, had 10 horses registered for 4 years and up.

In second place and after a strong competition in the final stretch, Maleha, in the colors of the Royal Cavalry of Oman, under the supervision of Philip Sogorb and ridden by Julien Grosjean.

Third place went to the experienced Al Mahbooba, owned by HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, trained by François Rohaut and ridden by Valentin Seguy.

The first round was held on the Pooh French Track, while the second round was held in Houston, Texas.

The Wathba Stallions Cup races will be held according to the festival's strategy and the implementation of the guidelines of HH Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, with the aim of supporting small breeders in much of the world and motivating them to increase interest in the Arabian horse.

1° HILAL AL CHAM (Hilal Al Zaman & Ya Hala, by Azadi) / Owner: Al Shaqab Racing / Breeder: F. Al Elweet / Trainer: Thomas Fourcy Jockey: Julien Augé

2° MALEHA (Munjiz & Tell Arca, by Tidjani) / Owner & Breeder: Royal Cavalry of Oman / Trainer: Philip Sogorb / Jockey: Julien Grosjean

3° AL MAHBOOBA (Madjani & Amaan, by Al Saoudi) / Owner: Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid. Al Maktoum / Breeder: Shadwell France / Trainer: François Rohaut / Jockey: Valentin Seguy

Source: Source: AFAC (Association Française du Cheval Arabe de Course). Text: Cidinha Franzão. Photo: JDG

Tallaab Al Khalediah conquers Obaiya Cup



On Saturday evening, February 29, at the packed King Abdulaziz racecourse, the 2018 Dubai Kahayla Classic winner Tallaab Al Khalediah (KSA) overcame a 10-month absence to lift the inaugural Obaiya Arabian Classic, now the richest event in the Purebred Arabian racing world with prize-money of \$1,900,000.

Ridden by Roberto Perez, who has been based in Saudi Arabia for many years, the Saad Mutlaq trained Tallaab Al Khalediah left the gates to take the lead in the 2000m race and was never threatened. Hajres (TUN), ridden by Christophe Soumillon and trained in France, closed in on him in the final stages but had to settle for second place, three lengths behind. Mashhur Al Khalediah (FR), ridden by Jean-Bernard Eyquem finished third.

"He doesn't like to stay in the back. He always keeps going in the front. That is how he won in Dubai, that's how he won everywhere. We were just a bit afraid because of his injury, but he has proven himself today. More than being confident, I think we had a lot of pressure to keep the Al Khalediah name up and that was the most pressure. He ran last time in March and thank God it makes us feel so much better and we are now looking forward to going to Dubai once again. I hope he can run again in the Dubai Ka-

hayla Classic. I think it is a historical day for horse racing in Saudi Arabia and a historical day in the racing world whether it is in Saudi Arabia or not. We hope for many more to come", Prince Fahad, representing owner Al Khalediah Stables, said

"So, you know, we made a plan last night for this race. I know that horse, I have ridden him like 10 times. I know when I worked the horse the last two times; I knew he was going to fight, that he had a great chance to win. He hasn't run in a long time, not since Dubai. It is a long time, but he has too much class. He is a very good horse. This is a good race to win and I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to ride him, the Prince, the trainer, everyone", said jockey Roberto Perez.

"Hajres jumped out really well. I was lucky to be just behind the winner. On the turn he was really off the bridle. I thought he'd have trouble to finish the last 400 (metres) but he kept going the whole way and finished second. He was really tough today and quite lazy, but he's a really nice horse. We got beat by the best (Arabian) horse in the world. I was really lucky to be on his back today and I'm proud to see we did a great performance", said Christophe Soumillon.

Source and photo: Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia/ Doug DeFelice



STRI at The Saudi Cup - Realising Saudi Arabia's racecourse vision



World-leading sports surface solution provider, STRI Group, recently completed one of the most ambitious projects in its 90-year history - a turf racetrack in the challenging terrain of Saudi Arabia.

STRI was chosen by his Excellency Prince Bandar Bin Khalid Al Faisal (chairman of the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia) to support his vision of making Saudi Arabia a destination for world class horse racing on turf. Critical to achieving this was the delivery of an elite turf track in time for the inaugural running of the world's richest horse racing event, the Saudi Cup.

As the Principal Contractors for engineering and construction of the new turf track at The King Abdulaziz Racecourse, STRI provided an end-to-end design, build and operate solution to Riyadh Equestrian Club. Here's a sneak peek

into how STRI delivered this mammoth project.

Making racing history

Prince Bandar's vision was to create the first ever elite turf racetrack in Saudi Arabia. The course had to perform to the highest possible standards and be constructed using the finest materials available. The entire design required the construction and establishment of the track to be undertaken in a record-breaking period of just six months, requiring a large-scale resource input to achieve such a fast turnaround.

Key challenges

The major hurdles to overcome were timescales and climate. Following our engagement in July 2019, STRI's teams of researchers and consultants quickly established the most effective

way of producing a surface that would meet the needs of our client. Our on-the ground mobilisation was immediate, to ensure we made the most of the time available to us to deliver the track and deal with the challenging and variable climate of Saudi Arabia.

Design and build

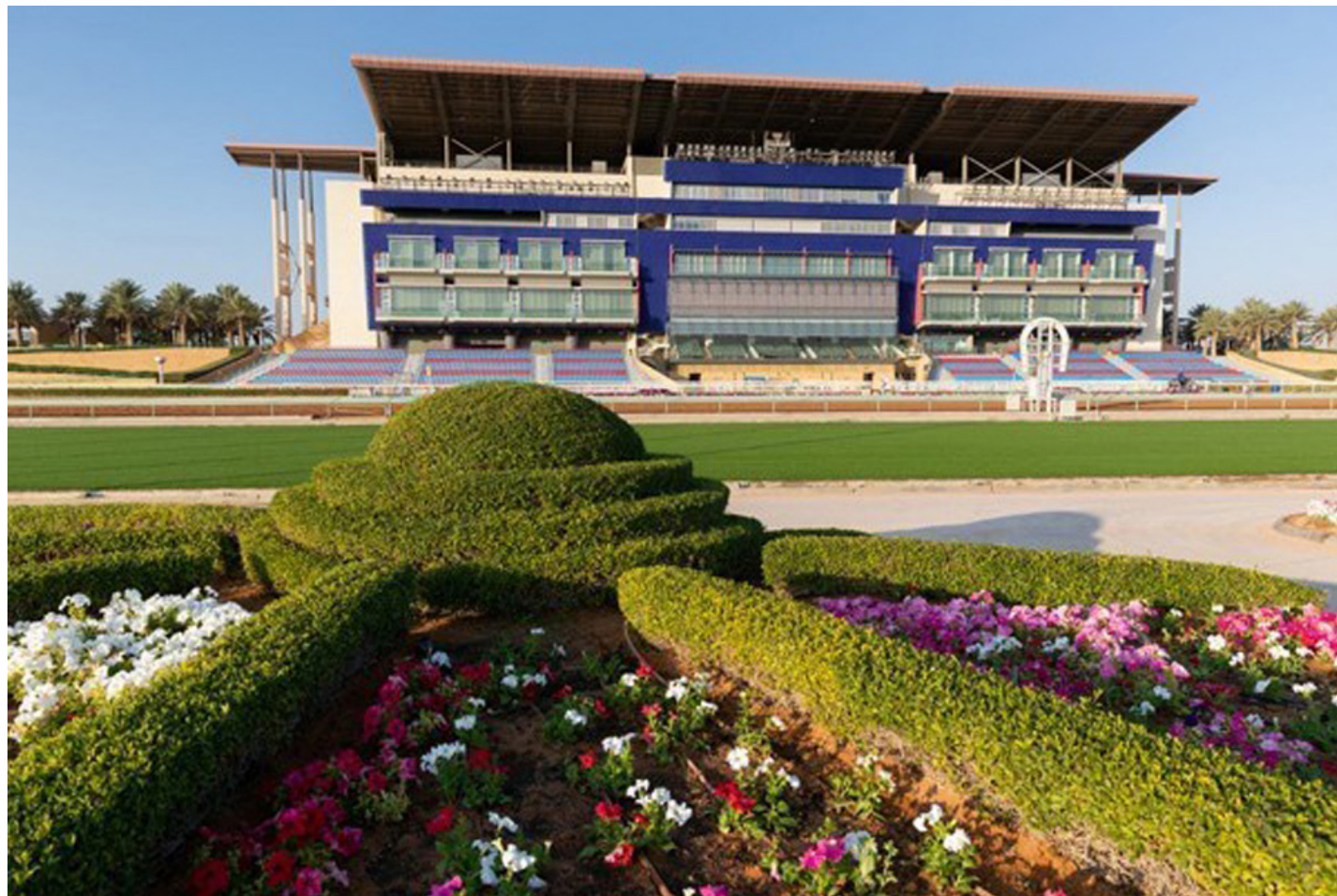
Engineering a track of this standard is a highly complex process requiring input from our world-leading experts in drainage, irrigation, construction, materials analysis and biomechanics.

The primary constituents that make up the track are relatively few in number, but the type and amounts of those constituents are critical to making the track a success. First steps are to understand the baseline environment of the de-

velopment site. Our team conducted a detailed study of the site including a comprehensive review of climatic conditions.

From there, an extensive materials selection regime was undertaken, taking a range of sands and gravels from around the Kingdom and testing them for their compatibility to create a firm surface ideal for racing. This rootzone, once mixed with stabilising fibres, provides the perfect medium within which to install the grass surface.

The construction process itself was rapid and extensive resources were drafted from across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to excavate the existing track material and install the new one. Timing was critical and the earth movement work had to be completed at breakneck speed as we needed to be ready to sow with the



selected grass species as soon as temperatures reached the optimal level.

The turf track

To meet the needs of a winter race in Saudi Arabia, the track was established with a “cool season” grass species - ie a species usually found in more temperate climates. This grass thrives in the winter climate of Saudi Arabia and, when combined with a special blend of stabilising fibres incorporated into the mix, it provides a surface which not only performs exceptionally well but also looks visually stunning.

Once sown, a daily bespoke maintenance regime was developed to ensure the correct levels of water and fertiliser were applied to maximise strong sward establishment. Deep rooting was critical to develop a grass surface that not only looked fantastic, but also held together under the stresses created by a galloping horse.

After several months of careful maintenance, we are delighted to have presented and demonstrated a track that is befitting of this prestigious race event.

A note on sustainability and future-proof design

Sustainability underpins STRI's approach to all design projects. Our R&D teams are continually innovating technologies to make developments more sustainable, through the construc-

tion and operational phases of their lifecycles.

This not only relates to sustainability from a climate perspective, with the key pressures being water and resource use, but we also work with clients to design facilities which will fit their business model needs in the short, medium and long-term.

For example, water use per capita in the Middle East is amongst the highest in the world.

Current forecasts suggest that local aquifers will run dry in the next 20 years. STRI develops technologies and techniques to reduce the water requirement of natural turf.

HRH Prince Bandar's project in Riyadh is a great example of our ability to problem solve.

STRI has made its name developing elite sports surfaces across the world and our in-house R&D combined with global network means that we are able to adapt to even the most challenging of situations. However, it is exactly these kinds of projects that we relish the opportunity to get involved in.

The timescales, climate, resource availability and the need to have a surface of exceptional quality all made this project a challenge. Striving to achieve the wider National Vision 2030, we believe this facility will form part of a network of world leading venues in the region and create a global powerhouse of natural turf racing.

“I'm very happy, although I'm not surprised. We engaged some of the best people in the world to design and work on the track. They said they would deliver and they have, so I'm extremely happy. STRI has done an amazing job.” His Excellency Prince Bandar bin Khalid Al Faisal (chairman of the Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia).

“What has been achieved in a short period of time is staggering. We know STRI are world class, world leaders in their field, I think what they've done is superb. The detail and the attention that they've gone to is phenomenal. It's been an absolute pleasure to work with them. This track is unbelievably consistent; I don't think you'll walk on a more consistent racing surface anywhere in the world. It's level, beautiful cambered bends. It's some achievement.”

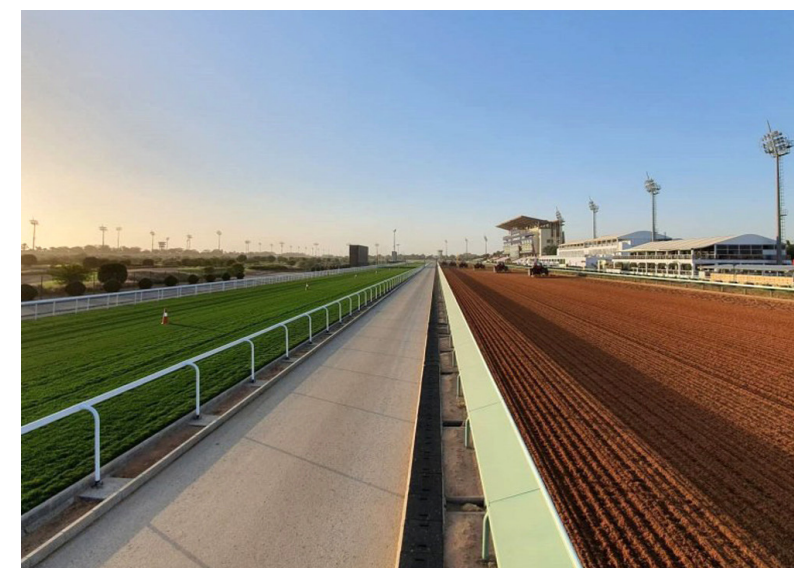


Clerk of the course and Newmarket Head of Racing, Michael Prosser.

“I'm very happy with the ground on the turf track. After three months when you see what the team has done here, they've worked very hard and done a fantastic job. I have ridden here for a very, very long time and at the other track and I see the construction here and it's very good.” Oliver Peslier, jockey, Call The Wind, 1st: Longines Turf Handicap.

“What they've done in the space of two months (with this turf course) is remarkable.” Frankie Dettori after his win on Dark Power, 1st: The STC 1351 turf sprint.

© Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia // Becky Donald





Congratulations to Australian Jockey Isabella Teh on attaining her Queensland Thoroughbred Jockey Licence on the 24th January 2020. She is apprenticed to Pat Duff in Brisbane, a trainer renowned for producing outstanding apprentice riders which have included: Mick Dittman, Mike Pelling, Jim Byrne and Mandy Radecker. Pat has been training thoroughbreds for over 50 years and thinks very highly of his young apprentice.

Isabella began her race riding as a licensed Arabian Racehorse Jockey in 2014, the next few years Isabella would go on to win many races aboard an imported French stallion called Djehbi (9: 8-1-0) owned and trained by her mother Michelle Amos. More wins and places for a number of Arabian racehorse owners would be added to the list before taking up riding full-time for Pat Duff Stables. Pat stated that 'riding Arabians put her in good stead by giving her confidence on racehorses'. Isabella has been one of the leading jockeys with the Australasian Arabian Racing Club and is always ready to help and assist her fellow jockeys at any time.

Isabella has also spent several years training and competing in Endurance. She has ridden both for other people as well as having trained and campaigned her own horse, a 3/4 Arabian grey gelding named Piccolo Burasca. He stands at only 13.2hh being part Thoroughbred and Welsh pony in the mix. With a big heart and trot, together they completed a gruelling Tom Quilty (160km) in 2015 at Kholo NSW, to get a coveted Quilty buckle.

A fortnight ago Isabella rode in two country races finishing 4th and 7th. Most recently she

was booked for 3 rides and got her first race win aboard Ringo's Magic for trainer Gavin Dempsey of Bell in Queensland. Making this a dream come true for one of our future champions on the track.

It has taken Isabella seven years to get her Thoroughbred Jockey License, but she has enjoyed a varied journey that has seen her work for both Arabian and Thoroughbred stables - breaking in horses, retraining, preparing horses for sale, track riding, endurance, riding school instructor, Arabian racing and training.

Before her interest in racing Isabella represented her local Pony Club for many years, she competed in EFA/FEI Interschool program, Dressage, show jumping, Show Hack and Western Performance Sporting. Since then Isabella has completed studies in Horse Breeding (Cert III), Cert III in Racing (Trackwork Rider) and now to complete her apprenticeship a Cert IV in Racing (Jockey).

This is a reminder to never give up on your dreams and goals. That the journey is full of surprises and valuable experiences. To give thanks and appreciate the people who have been part of the journey. Isabella's journey as an apprentice jockey is just starting, there will be highs and lows, challenges, defeats and victories...but that's racing...and she loves it!

Text: Nadine Frampton with inputs: M.Amos. I.Teh / Photos: Nadine Frampton

To follow Isabella Teh's Career
View: <https://www.racingqueensland.com.au/>
View: <https://www.arabianracing.com.au/>



Australian Jockey Isabella Teh



Sunday's card, November 24, at Abu Dhabi was highlighted by the most valuable race of the season staged in the capital, the Group 1 AED 5,000,000 Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown. Over 1600m on turf, it was won by Mashhur Al Khalediah, who was providing a truly cosmopolitan result as he snared the prize in style.

Trained in Newmarket by an Englishman Philip Collington the 5-year-old horse was ridden by Frenchman Jean-Bernard Eyquem for Saudi Arabian owners Athbah Racing. It was a sixth career victory for the horse in what was his local debut.

With RB Money To Burn setting a strong pace, last year's winner Al Shamoos and this year's victor settled in just behind, with the former making her bid for glory with about 450m remaining. However, Eyquem had her in his sights and shot to the front about 250m from home, opening up a substantial advantage in what proved a race-winning move. His mount was either lonely or tiring in the final 100m, allowing the chasing pack a glimmer of hope, but the winning post came too soon for them with Bel'izam and Chaddad taking the minor honours. It was the winner's first start

since a third in the Arabian World Cup at Longchamp in October.

"He can start to misbehave if he is somewhere too long, so we decided to arrive quite late (into the UAE) and it has worked out," Collington said. "This was a plan for him for a while and it has worked out perfectly. Jean-Bernard knows this horse so well and gave him a brilliant ride and I am indebted to the owners for allowing me to train this calibre of horse. It is why I started training."

Carrying Prestige status, the 1600m HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak (IFAH) Apprentice Jockey Championship was won for a sixth consecutive year, the latest five trained by Eric Lemartinel, by a runner owned by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, in this instance Bainoona.

A 6-year-old mare, who had the assistance of Italian Riccardo Iacopini, she was winning for the sixth occasion, but first since a course and distance handicap victory last December from no less than AF Maher, subsequently winner of the Group 1 Kahayla Classic at Meydan in March. Given a confident ride by the young Italian, she was



**Mashhur Al Khalediah
assures victory in
The Jewel Crown**



eased into contention on the home turn before swooping to the lead at the 200m pole, shooting clear before seeming to get lonely close home, but never in any danger of defeat.

Iacoponi said: "I look up to some of the top Italian jockeys in the world, like Christian Demuro and Frankie Dettori. Everybody is a fan of Frankie. It was a really very good race and there was a bit of a challenge at the start, but then I managed to get the horse to do what I wanted to do and we won. It's an incredible feeling winning on my first ride on an Arabian abroad. I have ridden Arabians in the past and won at Rome's Cappanella Racecourse, where I am based. It was the 70th win of my career for me and feels very special."

Also over 1600m and a Prestige contest, the HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) went to the same owner and trainer with Asyyad, who actually won the apprentice race on this card last season.

In a race contested at a furious gallop, set by Arif, Asyyad raced in third of the ten runners before, as the leader understandably tired, he cruised to the front under Victoria Larsen, the pair darting away from the other nine to win easily. The winning 5-year-old gelding earned a fourth career victory and third on turf, having most recently won on dirt at Al Ain in February.

Denmark's Larsen was ecstatic and said: "I cannot believe it. I am loss for words. Obviously I hoped to come here and win on the biggest of stages, so to actually do so is amazing."

Restricted to horses in private ownership, the 1400m Wathba Stallions Cup For Private Owners

Only was won stylishly by Jawal Al Reef, swooping late under Richard Mullen to claim a second career victory. Trained by Hassan Al Hammadi for Ahmed Ebrahim bin Aamer Al Shemeili, the 6-year-old entire was settled in midfield, albeit wide throughout, before producing his decisive finish.

"It is always nice to get a winner on a big night like this," Mullen said. "We all have to thank Sheikh Mansoor for what he does for Purebred Arabian racing and I am very fortunate to have his support personally. It is great this fellow has won again because he was a good second two weeks ago and deserved a change of luck and I am delighted for his connections."

Trainer Abdallah Al Hammadi and his main patron Al Ajban Stables celebrated an Al Ain double on Friday and were back in the winner's enclosure after the 1600m maiden for those foaled locally in which Salima Al Reef came out on top in a three-way battle over the final 100m. Stable companion and eventual third Rayqa led at this point before being passed by Ezz Al Rawasi who was then denied victory by Jesus Rosales and Salima Al Reef who was opening his account at the third attempt.

Rosales said: "That was my only ride tonight, so it is the perfect outcome in front of a big crowd. I had a very willing partner who battled hard."

Photos: Cidinha Franzão



Asyyad under Victoria Larsen



Riccardo Iacopini on Bainoona



Nicola Ivan from Romania





Jawal Al Reef under Richard Mullen



HH Sheikh Mansoor
Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Global Arabian Horse
Flat Racing Festival



مهرجان سُمو الشيخ
منصور بن زايد آل نهيان
العالمي للخيل
العربية الأصيلة



جوهرة تاج الشيخ زايد بن سلطان آل نهيان
Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown



كأس الوثبة ستاليونز
Wathba Stallions Cup

Bought by HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum at two, SIVIT AL MAURY joined François Rohaut's yard at three and won the Prix Flipper on debut the same year. At four, he won his first Stakes races, the Prix Damas (Gr.3 PA) at Dax and the French Arabian Breeders' Challenge Sprint (Listed PA, now given a Gr.2 PA status) and finished third in the President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) (Gr.1 PA) in Newmarket.

The following year, SIVIT AL MAURY won the Prix Damas (Gr.3 PA) for the second time and travelled to Turkey twice to win the International Ali Riza Bey Stakes (Gr.2 PA) and the Malazgirt Trophy (Gr.1 PA) in Istanbul. After a setback, SIVIT AL MAURY joined the stables of Musabbeh Al Mheiri in Dubai and finished second to MANARK in the Mazrat Al Ruwayah (Gr.2 PA) in Meydan.

SIVIT AL MAURY (AKBAR) was bred in France by Haras de Saint-Faust and Renée-Laure Koch. He is the half-brother to champion racemare SYLVINE AL MAURY (MUNJIZ) who won four Group 1 PA races. His outstanding dam line has produced some of the leading racehorses in Europe such as: NIZAM, DAHESS, EASTER DE FAUST, LWSAIL, KAOLINO, KANDAR DU FALGAS, LIGHTNING BOLT, NIVOUR DE CARDONNE, MKEEFA, MISTER GINOX, NO RISK AL MAURY.

SIVIT AL MAURY will stand in the UK and will be available via artificial insemination only. Also standing in the UK will be AL JAKBAR and AL SAOUDI. The latter had a very successful year in 2019 when ADI DE SAINT LON became the leading Arabian racehorse in Morocco with five Listed PA victories and a place in the Grand Prix de S.A.R. le Prince Héritier Moulay El Hassan (Gr.3 PA) and TJAARY was awarded the leading Arabian racehorse in the UK. Furthermore, AL SAOUDI sired his first Group winner in 2019 when AWZAAN won the Royal Cavalry of Oman Clarendon Stakes (Gr.3 PA) at Newbury.

AF AL BURAQ, HANDASSA, MANARK and NO RISK AL MAURY will stand at Haras de Saint-Faust in France where they will cover mares naturally. AF AL BURAQ sired his first Group 1 PA winner in 2019 with AF MAHER who won the Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 in February and the Dubai Kahayla Classic a month later. His progeny continues to improve and impress.

NO RISK AL MAURY sired several Stakes performers in 2019 with AL SHAMOOS (Gr.2 PA), MIN'HA (Gr.2 PA) and AL NOURY (Listed PA) as well as SALMA NOUR GRINE who was placed twice in Group races. The two sons of MADJANI (TIDJANI), HANDASSA and his full-brother TAAJER who stands in Italy, sired their first foals in 2019.

MANARK's first year at stud was very promising, as he demonstrated an outstanding fertility.

Richard Lancaster, Shadwell's Stud Director below, said: "After the sad loss of MADJANI in 2019, we are now looking forward into the future with our young sires. We are delighted to welcome the new addition to our stallion roster: SIVIT AL MAURY. His performances as well as his pedigree and conformation are remarkable.



"MANARK was very well received with quality mares now safely in foal. HANDASSA and TAAJER's first foals exceeded expectations.

"The performances of the progeny of our proven sires AL SAOUDI and NO RISK AL MAURY were outstanding. We are very grateful to the breeders, owners and trainers who have placed their faith and hopes in our stallions and have been rewarded by such great results.

"Our 2020 stallion roster offers various opportunities to all breeders to find the right match for their mares. We are thankful for all the support we receive from breeders worldwide."

The complete roster, with the nomination fees and conditions, will be available shortly on Shadwell Arabian Stallions website and Facebook page. Breeders are invited to contact our team to receive their 2020 stallion brochure.

For more information about Shadwell Arabian Stallions:

arabians@shadwellstud.co.uk / www.facebook.com/ShadwellArabian/ www.shadwellarabian.co.uk

SIVIT AL MAURY

Shadwell Arabian Stallions welcomes a new stallion for the 2020 breeding season



Photo: Debbie Burt



SIVIT AL MAURY under François Xavier Bertras - winner of the French Arabian Breeders' Challenge Sprint (Listed PA) in Toulouse - photo: Robert Polin

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RACES IN QATAR SEASON 2019-2020

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photos: QREC Juhaim



After a few hiccups, Al Ghazali Stud's **AJS WATHANAN (Amer x Mangaline Du Loup)** picked up a fine victory, third of his season so far, in the RODAT AL MAIDA CUP (LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS) on Wednesday, March 11. The feature race on dirt saw Anas Al Seyabi guide the Gassim Mohammad Ghazali trained gelding to a two-length and a quarter victory, handing Umm Qarn's **SEALINE (Amer x Jaljalah)**, ridden by Ronan Thomas for Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle, his second straight runner up finish. Al Moatasem Al Balushi guided Mohammed Riyaz Ibrahim Kasim trained **SAA'D (Burning Sand x Mataleb ASF)** to a close third in the 1700m run.

Qatari rider Saleh Salem Al-Marri raced his second winner of the day in the penultimate race of the meeting with Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalid Bin Nasser Al Thani's **HAZM AL SULAIMI (TM Fred Texas x Hasna)** topping the PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS in thrilling fashion. The jockey was astride Gassim Mohammad Ghazali's ward

for the first time and the two did well to Ronan Thomas ridden Barra by a nose at the post.

Sheikh Faisal Bin Hamad Bin Jassim Al Thani's **JAHFAL (Amer x Synaps)** had two third-place C&D finishes this season coming into LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (75 & below). On Wednesday, Ibrahim Saeed Ibrahim Al Malki's ward finally stepped into the winner's circle with a fine victory under Leo Salles in the 1700m run. The two-length win was second on the day for the colours, trainer and the jockey.

Brooq Stud's **NASHMI BROOQ (Burning Sand x Doranikaa)** was the ninth winner of the season for Qatari rider Meteb Ali Al Marri. On Wednesday, in the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (80 & below), Hamad Ateeq Al Marri saddled horse had the apprentice rider in the saddle for the fourth straight time, and the duo raced to a C&D victory for the second straight time this month in the six furlong sprint.



Saleh Salem Al-Marri on Hazm Al Sulaimi

Anas Al Seyabi guides AJS Wathanan to Rodat Al Maida Cup win



Anas Al Seyabi with AJS Wathanan





Leo Salles on Jahfal



Meteb Ali Al Marri on Nashmi Brooq



Lukasek rides Fuwairat to victory

Sheikh Faisal Bin Hamad Bin Jassim Al Thani's **FUWAIRAT (Amer x Sakina De Faust)** was well held in Group 1 company last time round but Ibrahim Saeed Ibrahim Al Malki trained horse bounced back with a victory with Tomas Lukasek guiding the 5yo to a C&D victory in the PURE-BRED ARABIAN GRADUATION PLATE, on March 4. In the 1700m race, Fuwairat started the widest of the nine contenders but did well to win by three lengths and three quarters.

Umm Qarn's **BADDA (Seraphin Du Paon x Raqiyah)** picked up a second C&D victory this season with the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle saddled mare topped the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (90 & below) in a thrilling fashion on Wednesday. In the 1700m run on dirt, the 5yo was partnered by Soufiane Saadi for the second straight time, and the two started on the inside off Gate 2 and managed to hold off as many as five other contenders for a fantastic victory with three-quarters of a length to spare.

Qatari rider Faleh Bughanaim helmed his fifth winner this season on Wednesday. Bughanaim was astride Osama Omer Al Dafea's **GINKEAU (Divamer x Eauvation Des Cedres)** for the second straight time, and the colt showed versatility moving from turf to dirt and stepping down in distance to six furlongs in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (Div 2). The two followed up their third-place finish in the top notch Silver Sword race two weeks ago with a thrilling victory by a neck.

Injaaz Stud's **AWAMIR (Nizam x Assana D'Aroco)** had shown promise on his debut when he finished fifth over a mile in October. On Wednesday, the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali trained colt stepped down in distance to a six-furlong sprint in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (Div 1) with JP Guillambert in the saddle once again. The 4yo managed to pick up a thrilling victory, winning by a short head at the post.

Qatari jockey Meteb Ali Al Marri raced to his eighth win this season when the apprentice rider helmed **NASHMI BROOQ (Burning Sand x Doranikaa)** to a fine win on Wednesday. In the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN NOVICE PLATE, the Hamad Ateeq Al Marri saddled 5yo topped the six-furlong run with a length to spare. It was the horse's second victory in a busy season that has seen him line up 14 times.



Soufiane Saadi on Badda

Faleh Bughanaim on Ginkeau



JP Guillambert on Awamir

Meteb Ali Al Marri on Nashmi Brooq





Ebraz wins Triple Crown



In the presence of HH The Amir Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Ebraz and HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani's French King played out a repeat of last year's results winning the two, USD 1 million each, features at Al Rayyan Park on Saturday, February 22.

The Julian Smart-trained **EBRAZ (Amer x Massamarie)** showed some late pace on the long home straight to complete not only a treble of the HH THE AMIR SWORD (GR1 PA) (Sponsored by Al Hazm) (4yo & older PA), but also won the Triple Crown, having won at Goodwood and Longchamp last year.

Stablemate Aaley Al Magam set the pace in the 2400m race with Umm Qarn's Chamekh and Ya-zeed not too far behind. As Aaley Al Magam weakened on top of the straight, **YAZEED (Munjiz x Al Dahma)**, ridden by Olivier Peslier for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle was joined by another stablemate **TAYF (Amer x Djelmila)**, who had Soufiane Saadi in the saddle, up front. French Champion Jockey Maxime Guyon managed to find a gap between the two Umm Qarn horses and urged his mount forward and Ebraz pulled away easing to a victory with a length and three quarters to spare.

A spectacular run on the long home straight at Al Rayyan Park saw **LADY PRINCESS (General x Nacree Al Maury)** complete a hat-trick for the colours of Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari on Saturday. Cristophe Soumillon was in the saddle of the Thomas Fourcy-trained filly for the HH THE AMIR SILVER SWORD (Sponsored by Ooredoo) (4yo PA). After staying behind another Fourcy's ward, Emporio, for the bulk of the race, Soumillon had his mount pick up the pace coming off the bend and then just kept pulling away for a spectacular victory in the USD 250,000 race.

HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **METHGAL (TM Fred Texas x Theeba)** found some late reserves on the home straight to ease through to a memorable victory in the QATAR INTERNATIONAL CUP (GR1 PA) (4yo & older). Coming off a handicap victory last month, the colt settled midfield under Maxime Guyon even as the Mickael Barzalona-ridden Khozan set the pace early on. Julien Auge had the Thomas Fourcy-trained Shalaa (Dahess x Dormadora) move up on the outside two furlongs out and take the advantage. However, the Julian Smart-trained Methgal too joined the leader and pulled away 100m out for a one length victory. Umm Qarn's Marid (TM Fred Texas x Al Dahma) completed the top three under Olivier Peslier.



Maxime Guyon on Ebraz



Cristophe Soumillon on Lady Princess



Lady Princess winner of HH The Amir Silver Sword



Ronan Thomas on Aahil



Maxime Guyon and Methgal – Qatar International Cup

Aahil winner of Gulf Cup

Umm Qarn's **AAHIL (Munjiz x Daniah)** improved his strike rate with his seventh career win and second straight this term on Friday, February 21. Helmed by Ronan Thomas yet again, Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward followed up his C&D victory with yet another comfortable win when he topped the GULF CUP (GCC bred 4yo & older PA) on turf at the Al Rayyan Park. The 6yo got going in the miler in the home straight, with the Maxime Guyon-ridden AJS Moaddie giving chase. However, eventually Aahil won with two lengths to spare, even as the Mohammed Nasser Al Naimi-trained **AJS MOADDIE (AF Albahar x Gabie De Carrere)** finished second ahead of the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali-saddled **ZAHWA (Aaber ASF x Matalieb ASF)**, who completed the podium under Theo Bachelot.

Al Shahania Stud's **R B KINDLE (Burning Sand x Rich Kinkga)** showed some late pace to

register her second straight sprint victory under Harry Bentley. After a Group 3 victory last month, the Gassim Mohammad Ghazali-trained mare was midfield coming off the final bend in the six-furlong run on Friday. The Champion Jockey had the 6yo step out for a clear run at the post and eventually took the advantage in the final furlong to win by a length.

Umm Qarn's **HAKIDA (TM Fred Texas x Al Dahma)** had shown promise when third on her mile-long debut in December. On Friday, the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle-schooled filly partnered Ronan Thomas once again, this time running 2000m in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE. Biding their time, the filly was let go at the business end of the race and she surged forward to eventually go past the post with two lengths and a quarter to spare.

Umm Qarn's **ASHOURA (Tabarak x Dherwah)** stayed unbeaten after registering her second straight victory at the Al Rayyan Park on Friday. In the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN NOVICE PLATE (Fillies & Mares), the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle-trained filly had Soufiane Saadi in the saddle once again, and the duo did well to negotiate the mile after a seven-furlong debut earlier this month. The 4yo held on well at the post, winning a packed 16 strong race by a quarter of a length.



Aahil Group

R B Kindle under Harry Bentley



Ronan Thomas with Hakida



Ashoura under Soufiane Saadi



Dahra under Eduardo Pedroza



Mon'Nia under Tomas Lukasek

Thomas rides Mehdi to victory



Ronan Thomas (5) on Mehdi and Olivier Peslier (6) on Sealine

Umm Qarn's **MEHDI (Majd Al Arab x Jaljalah)** led a thrilling one-two for the famous colours and trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle in the AL ZUBARA TROPHY (LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIANS) on the first day of the HH The Amir Sword Festival at Al Rayyan Park on Thursday, February 20. The 2000m feature on turf saw Eduardo Pedroza guide Abdulatif Hussain Al Emadi's She'ris (Mared Al Sahra x Kerbelle Du Loup) to set the pace up front with the Ronan Thomas-ridden Mehdi close behind while the latter's stablemate Sealine (Amer x Jaljalah) not too far behind under Olivier Peslier. As the pace quickened coming off the final bend, the Ibrahim Saeed Ibrahim Al Malki-saddled She'ris weakened as the two Umm Qarn colts moved ahead. The two were neck and neck right till the post before Mehdi managed to take his first win of the season by a nose. She'ris settled for third. Asian Equestrian Federation and Qatar Equestrian Federation President Hamad Bin Abdulrahman Al Attiya presented the trophies to the winners of the feature.

Al Shahania Stud's **DAHRA (Mared Al Sahra x Djaima)** may have made a low key start to her life in Qatar, but the filly chose the biggest racing weekend of them all to open her account in the country. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP, the Ibrahim Saeed Ibrahim Al Malki-trained filly showed some turn of foot in the final furlong under Eduardo Pedroza that was good enough to edge out the Ronan Thomas-ridden Djamil by half a length at the post.

H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **MON'NIA (Amer x Margouia)** opened the HH The Amir Sword Festival with a smashing victory. Having narrowly missed out on a hat trick last time out in better company, Julian Colin Smart's ward was in her elements under Tomas Lukasek in the mile-long PUREBRED ARABIAN PLATE. The duo picked up pace on the home straight to pull away from the competition eventually going past the post with four lengths to spare.

Injaaz Stud's **LEKHRAIB (AF Albahar x Grace T)** continued with his run of promising results on Thursday, February 13, at the Al Rayyan Park dirt track when the Gassim Mohammad Ghazali schooled horse won the THE LATE RASHID MUBARAK AL SHAFI CUP (4yo & older PA) in a thrilling finish. The six-furlong sprint had JP Guillambert astride the 6yo and as the action heated up at the business end, Lekhraib held his own edging out Luca Maniezzi ridden TAHRI BAHHA (Mared Al Sahra x Zamara), trained by Mohammed Hussain Afroz for owner Dhafi Rashid Al Marri, by three-quarters of a length. Hassan Ali Alabdulmalik's **ALMUHEET (AF Albahar x Maboud)** was ridden to third place by Pierantonio Convertino for trainer Ahmed Mohamad Kobeissi.

Al Naif Racing's **FAHDAH AL NAIF (Amer x Midjal)** built on her promising run over C&D a month ago when she won for the second time this season on Thursday. In the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (85 & below), Gassim Mo-

hammad Ghazali trained mare was helmed by JP Guillambert, and the two picked up a fine victory in the six-furlong sprint, going past the post two lengths a quarter ahead of the competition.

Abu Fass Stud's **FLORIN DE FAUST (Kerbella x Isis Du Clos)** bounced back from a forgettable finish last time out to register his first career victory. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (75 & below), Leo Salles was in the saddle of the Mohammed Riyaz Ibrahim Kasim trained horse and the duo pulled off a close victory with three-quarters of a length to spare. The outing in the 1700m run was the 5yo's first ever on dirt.

Mansoor Mesfer Al Hajri's **SHALEESH (Zaeem Al Shajaa x Rakayez)** switched surfaces and moved up a bit in distance to shed his maiden status on his third career outing on Thursday. In the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE, rider Gary Sanchez helmed the colt to a close victory in the 1700m run with half a length to spare. This was the apprentice rider's second victory this season.

Lekhraib won The Late Rashid Mubarak Al Shafi Cup



JP Guillambert on Lekhraib



JP Guillambert on Fahdah Al Naif



Gary Sanchez on Shaleesh

Tayf, Minstrel and Al Naama win on H.E Sheikh Joaan Trophies Day



Ryan Curatolo on Minstrel (above)



Soufiane Saadi on Tayf (right page)



Faleh Bughanaim on Al Naama

His Excellency Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani crowned the winners on the H.H Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani Trophy Day at QREC Al Rayyan Park on Saturday, 1 February. Also present on the occasion were QREC Chairman H.E Issa bin Mohammed Al Mohammadi, OREC Vice Chairman Hamad bin Abdulrahman Al Attiyah and CEO Nasser bin Sherida Al Kaabi.

After missing out narrowly on victories on his first two outings this season in Qatar, Umm Qarn's **TAYF (Amer x Djelmila)** won the H.E Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani Trophy (Gr3 PA) (4yo & older) in fine fashion. The 8yo led a sweep for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle, with stable-mate **BIN GENERAL (General x Noorah)** and Al Shaqab Racing's **GTNAH (TM Fred Texas x Mayada)** finishing second and third respectively. Soufiane Saadi had Tayf follow leader Bin General, ridden by Ronan Thomas, and the Tomas Lukasek-ridden MAXR for the bulk of the 2200m race. Coming off the bend, TAYF took the advantage and stayed unchallenged even as BIN GENERAL held his own with the Faleh Bughanaim-ridden GTNAH joining the party upfront in the final furlong. It was TAYF's first win since May 2019 when he won at ParisLongchamp.

Hassan Ali Alabdulmalik's **MINSTREL (Majd Al Arab x Colette)** registered his first victory in Qatar since making a move from France last year. Helmed by Ryan Curatolo, the Deborah Amanda Clare Mountain-saddled 4yo took the lead in the H.E Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani Trophy

(4YO P/A) coming off the final bend. Despite a healthy gap, the Theo Bachelot-ridden **SHAMAYEL (AF AlBahar x Melusine)**, owned by Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari and trained by Mohammed Gassim Ghazali, picked up the pace in the last 100m and came within a head of MINSTREL at the post. Pierantonio Convertino rode the Ahmed Mohamad Kobeissi-trained **GOOD DES VIALETES (AF AlBahar x USA Des Violettes)** to third place in the colours of Dr Fahad Bin Abdullah Al Attiyah & Son.

Qatari rider Faleh Bughanaim rode his fourth winner of the season when he guided Al Shaqab Racing's **AL NAAMA (Majd Al Arab x Entisar)** to a fantastic victory in the H.E Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani Trophy (P/A). The victory in the miler was the mare's third straight having won a Conditions race in December and a Group 2 last month. Bughanaim had his 6yo mount take charge on the home straight and off to a memorable victory.

Umm Qarn's **ASHOURA (Tabarak x Dherwah)** made a fantastic debut on Saturday when the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle-trained filly won the first race of the big meeting. In the seven-furlong Local Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate, the 4yo breezed through to a victory with four and three-quarter lengths to spare with Soufiane Saadi in the saddle.



Tomas Lukasek on Ebraz



Meteb Ali Al Marri on Kasser

Ebraz, Kasser and Ennab win features

After closely missing out on a Group 2 win last time round, H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **EBRAZ (Amer x Massamarie)** raced to a hat-trick of sorts in the PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS on Thursday, January 23. Julian Colin Smart's ward has now won the 1850m race for the third straight year. In the latest edition of the race, Tomas Lukasek helmed the multiple Group 1 winner to a fine win, beating the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle-trained Chamekh by a length.

Qatari jockey Meteb Ali Al Marri continued with his promising season when he raced his sixth winner of the season, which is more than all his wins coming into the ongoing season put

together. The apprentice rider guided Mohammed Ali Yousef Al Sheeb's **KASSER (AF Albahar x Wujdan)** to a C&D victory for the second time this season. On Thursday, in the six-furlong LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS, Kasser won narrowly by a neck.

A week after moving ownership with a claiming race victory, the Majed Mahadi Seifed-dine-trained **ENNAB (Munjiz x Areej)** entered the winner's circle yet again, this time in the colours of Rakan Khames Abuzulf. Helmed by Ronan Thomas for the first time, the gelding narrowly edged out the Gassim Mohammad Ghazali-schooled Muthhil, winning the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (85 & below) with a quarter of a length to spare.

Ronan Thomas on Ennab





Tomas Lukasek with Ennab

Ennab's first win in the season



Bin General under Ronan Thomas

Qatar bred **ENNAB (Munjiz x Areej)** won for the first time this season on Thursday having featured only once in November. Ridden by Tomas Lukasek in the colours of H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Julian Colin Smart's ward hit the turf at Al Rayyan Park for the first time since December 2018 and did well to win the seven-furlong PUREBRED ARABIAN CLAIMING RACE (60-90) with two lengths to spare.

H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **METHGAL (TM Fred Texas x Theeba)** followed up his promising Qatar Derby last month with a fine win in the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (95 & below) on Thursday, January 16. Julian Colin Smart saddled colt had finished in the frame in Qatar Derby (Group 1 PA) last month under Tomas Lukasek, who was in the saddle of the 4yo once again. In the miler, Methgal won with two lengths to spare at the post for his first victory in Qatar.

Umm Qarn's **BIN GENERAL (General x Noorah)** has only been impressive in his short career so far. The 5yo had two runners up finishes in his first two outings this season, including in a high-class Qatar Derby last month. On Thursday, the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained

horse went one better for his third career victory, all of which have been under Ronan Thomas. In the 2200m PUREBRED ARABIAN GRADUATION PLATE, Bin General won by a length and three quarters as De Mieulle saddled his fourth winner of the day.

Umm Qarn's **DJAMIL (No Risk Al Maury x Al Dahma)** led a one-two for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle on Thursday. In the mile long PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4-6yo), Ronan Thomas helmed the 5yo for the third straight time. Having finished in the frame twice, on Thursday, the duo entered the winner's circle for the first time in six outings, edging out Al Shaqab Racing's Albasos by a neck.

Al Rabban Racing's **RS RASHEEDA (AF Al Bahar x Agdalya)** showed promise on her first two outings, finishing runner up each time over a mile. Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward stepped up marginally in trip to 1850m in the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4-6yo Fillies & Mares) on Thursday and went one better in spectacular fashion. Under a fantastic ride by Ronan Thomas the 4yo went past the post a massive 12 lengths ahead of the competition.



Ronan Thomas with RS Rasheeda

Aahil, Al Naama and Jabalah shine at HH Sh Abdullah Trophy



Umm Qarn's **AAHIL (Munjiz x Daniah)** had finished second behind Al Naif Racing's **MOLHEB AL NAIF (Amer x Kesbah)** last month. But Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward went one better this time round in fantastic fashion in Thursday's H.H SHEIKH ABDULLAH BIN KHALIFA AL THANI TROPHY (4yo & older Local PA, January 9) beating some top horses in the country for his sixth career victory. The 6yo had finished third over the mile long event last year but ensured a treble for trainer De Mieulle with Ronan Thomas guiding Aahil to a breezy three length victory. Harry Bentley ridden Molheb Al Naif, trained by Gassim Mohammad Ghazali, finished second for the second straight year in the event, beating Tomas Lukasek helmed **AJS MOADDIE (AF Al-Bahar x Gabie De Carrere)** for second by three quarters of a length.

Al Shaqab Racing's **AL NAAMA (Majd Al Arab x Entisar)** put up a determined display in the H.H SHEIKH ABDULLAH BIN KHALIFA AL THANI CUP (Gr2 PA) (4yo & older) for her second straight victory Al Rayyan Park. In the mile long run, Qatari jockey Faleh Bughanaim had Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward take the lead four furlongs out going into the final bend. As the pace quickened on the home stretch, Tomas Lukasek ridden **EBRAZ (Amer x Massamarie)**, trained by Julian Colin Smart for H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani, and Umm Qarn's **TAYF (Amer x Djelmila)**, ridden by Ronan Thomas for De Mieulle, began their pursuit. However,

Al Naama held on to her advantage going past the post one and a half lengths ahead of Ebraz, while Tayf was third by quarter of a length.

Umm Qarn's **JABALAH (Al Mamun Monlau x Kouthar)** continued with his fantastic form around Al Rayyan Park with the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle trained 4yo was in the winner's circle for the third straight time this season. The Group 1 PA Qatar Derby winner had Soufiane Saadi for company once again and the result was no different despite a huge step up in distance to the 2200m H.H SHEIKH ABDULLAH BIN KHALIFA AL THANI SILVER CUP (4yo PA). Jabalah beat H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **MON'NIA (Amer x Margouia)**, ridden by Tomas Lukasek for trainer Julian Colin Smart, by two lengths and a quarter, while another Umm Qarn colt, **JABIR (Al Mamun Monlau x Maleehah)** completed the top three under Ronan Thomas.

Al Shahania Stud's **R B KINDLE (Burning Sand x Rich Kinkga)** was left slightly wanting on her Doha debut a week ago, but Gassim Mohammad Ghazali saddled mare made amends on Thursday to notch her first victory in Qatar. Successful in the US, the 6yo entered the winner's circle at Al Rayyan Park after topping the MAJD AL ARAB P/A SPRINTER CHAMPIONSHIP (Gr3 PA) (4yo & older) with Harry Bentley guiding her to a fine victory with two lengths and three quarters to spare.



Faleh Bughanaim on Al Naama



Umm Qarn and Al Shaqab Racing Group



Soufiane Saadi on Jabalah

Raqee wins Al Thakhira Cup thriller



Hassan Ali Hassan Al Matwi's **RAQEE (Mared Al Sahra x Cath)** was back in the winner's circle within a year of his previous victory with the 6yo topping the AL THAKHIRA CUP (LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIANS) at the dirt track at Al Rayyan Park on Wednesday, January 8. In the six-furlong feature, the 6yo had Qatari jockey Faleh Bughanaim for company and the two won a thrilling blanket finish, edging out a trio saddled by Champion Trainer Gassim Mohammad Ghazali. The JP Guillambert-ridden **LEKHRAIB (AF AIBahar x Grace T)** was second by a neck for Injaaz Stud while Jassim Bin Ali Al Attiyah's **RASSAN (Amer x Sandytiki)** completed the top three under Harry Bentley.

Umm Qarn's **MARUF (Tabarak x Noorah)** had impressed with a fifth-place finish on his

Qatar debut in November. Running on dirt for the first time in his career, the 4yo raced to a smashing victory. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4yo-6yo), Ronan Thomas was astride Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward and the two went past the post seven and a half lengths ahead of the competition for the win.

Al Shaqab Racing's **MAIUF (TM Fred Texas x Mayada)** led a one-two for the colours and trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle, going one better than his Qatar debut last month. In the 1700m PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4 Year Olds), the Ronan Thomas-ridden colt finished a length and a quarter ahead of stable-mate MKayns, ridden by Faleh Bughanaim, for his first career win.



Maiuf ridden by Ronan Thomas

In a dominant show, Umm Qarn's **DABAAB (Munjiz x Haifaa)** continued impressing at the Al Rayyan Park when the Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle-saddled 6yo topped the DUKHAN CUP (4yo & older PA Fillies & Mares) at the dirt track on Thursday, January 2. In the 1700m run, Ronan Thomas guided the mare to her first victory this season, having finished in the top three on her other two outings since October.

Dabaab won with eight lengths and a quarter to spare, with Alexander Reznikov riding Al Jeryan Stud's **AJS JAMRA (AF Al Bahar x Mangaline Du Loup)**, saddled by Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani, finishing runner up for her second straight outing. Jassim Bin Ali Al Attiyah's **NAI-MA (TM Fred Texas x Al Zubarah)** was third for trainer Ahmed Mohamad Kobeissi under Ivan Rossi.

Umm Qarn's **SEALINE (Amer x Jaljalah)** kept

his winning record on dirt intact on Thursday. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (90 & below), Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward had Ronan Thomas in the saddle, and the 6yo did well to edge out Ivan Rossi ridden Aneeq by a neck at the post in what was the longest race of his career at 1900m. The Amer colt has never finished outside the top, and only improved his strike rate to win for the fourth time in six outings.

Khalifa Mohamed Khalifa Abdullah Al Attiyah's **HATHLOOL (Jaafer ASF x Djeldora)** won the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (Rated 70 & Below) on dirt in thrilling fashion. In the 1700m race, ridden by Alexander Reznikov for the first time, the Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani schooled 5yo edged out Julian Colin Smart trained Satam by a head at the post.



Umm Qarn's Dabaab fantastic in Dukhan Cup victory



Aaley Al Magam wins Jaafer Cup



Al Shahania Stud's **AALEY AL MAGAM (Amer x Abigaille)** had struggled in his last few outings around Al Rayyan Park but on Thursday, December 26, the Al Shahania Stud-owned horse was right where he needed to be. In the JAAFER CUP (LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIANS), Julian Colin Smart's ward was helmed by Tomas Lukasek and the 7yo continued his impressive run of results in the 2000m race, having finished third last year and runner up the year before, with a one and a half-length victory. The win was the second on the day for the colours, the trainer and the jockey.

H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **AL WANNAH (Burning Sand x Massroua)** registered her third victory of the calendar year when she topped the DJENDEL LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN GRADUATION PLATE. In the seven-furlong run, the Julian Colin Smart-trained filly had Tomas Lukasek for company and the two won a fantastic duel with the Alexander

Reznikov-ridden AJS Jamra by a short head.

Umm Qarn's **CHAMEKH (Munjiz x Al Dahma)** finished just outside the top five earlier this month and took that momentum into Thursday's MARED AL SAHRA PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE to shed his maiden status in a thrilling race. In a blanket finish of the 2000m race, Alban Elie Marie de Mieulle's ward was ridden to a neck victory by Ronan Thomas as the 4yo colt entered the winner's circle on only his second outing.

She may have been out of depth last time around in the Qatar Derby five days ago, but Al Jeryan Stud's **AJS HAMAYEM (AF AlBahar x Kamin)** made it to the winner's circle for the first time in her career in the ASRAA MIN ALBARQ PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE on Thursday. Running her shortest distance so far at seven furlongs, Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani's ward won a close one under Ivan Rossi, winning with half a length to spare at the post.

Shalaa and Jabalah shine at Qatar Derby meeting



Al Shaqab Racing's **SHALAA (Dahess x Dornadora)** made good his trip from France when the Thomas Fourcy-trained colt landed the Gr3 PA QATAR DERBY (4YO PUREBRED ARABIANS) in fine form. The USD 150,000 Purebred Arabian feature saw Julien Augé astride SHALAA who made a run for the victory on the home straight against an all-colt field, on December 21. In pursuit were three of Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's wards, including early leader Umm Qarn's **BIN GENERAL (General x Noorah)**, who held his own under Olivier Peslier to finish runner up, ahead of stablemate **MARID (TM Fred Texas x Al Dahma)**, who ran on the back of a Guineas victory last month. Another Al Shaqab Racing contender, Meblish, was impressive under Faleh Bughanaim to come from the back of the pack to complete the frame for De Mieulle.

Umm Qarn's **JABALAH (Al Mamun Monlau x Kouthar)** led from gates to post in a spectacular run to take his second straight victory. Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle's ward had Soufiane Saadi for company and the duo set the pace up front in the Gr1 PA mile long QATAR DERBY (3YO PUREBRED ARABIANS) and then survived a threatening pursuit from Thomas Fourcy's French Raider **LADY PRINCESS (General x Nacree Al Maury)**, who made a late charge under Julien Augé in the

colours of Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari, which was good enough for a close second. Another French contender, **BATTASH DE FAUST (AF Al Bahar x Ayisha De Faust)**, helmed by Adrie De Vries for trainer Jean Francois Bernard in the colours of Abdulla Mohamed Al Attiya, rounded the top three.

Al Jeryan Stud's **AJS SOGHAN (AF Al Bahar x Anayid)** shed his maiden status after following up his C&D third place finish with a victory in the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN PLATE (3 Year Olds). In the mile long race, Alexander Reznikov was in the saddle for the Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani-trained horse once again and the two did enough to beat the Marco Casamento-ridden Dalilak by a neck at the post. The win was Al Ramzani's third straight on the day and the second for the colours of Al Jeryan Stud.

Jassim Bin Ali Al Attiyah's **NAIMA (TM Fred Texas x Al Zubarah)** made it two in a row when she topped the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN NOVICE PLATE. It was the Oaks winning rider Ryan Curatolo who was in the saddle for the Ahmed Mohamad Kobeissi-schooled filly and the two ensured a thrilling finish to the 1850m race with a quarter of a length victory on the 4YO's fifth career outing.



Soufiane Saadi on Jabalah



Shalaa owner trophy AL Shaqab racing CEO
Mr Khalifa Mohamed Al Attiyah receiving from
HE Mr Salah Bin Ghanem Al-Ali

Yazeed winner of Qatar National Day Trophy



Umm Qarn's **YAZEED (Munjiz x Al Dahma)** followed up a promising Longchamp outing in October with a memorable win in the THE LATE SHEIKH JASSIM BIN MOHAMMED AL THANI TROPHY – QATAR NATIONAL DAY TROPHY (Gr2 PA) (3yo & older) at the Al Rayyan Park turf on Sunday. The going on the soft side post some rain in the Qatari capital, Alban Elie Marie De Mieuille's ward had little trouble over a mile and two furlongs as the 6yo won by a length and a quarter under a fantastic ride by Ronan Thomas. Mohammed Nasser Al Naimi's **AKMAR (No Risk Al Maury x Safa)**, ridden by Luca Maniezzi for trainer Hadi Nasser Rashid Al Ramzani, edged out another Umm Qarn colt, **TAYF (Amer x Djelmila)**, helmed by Soufiane Saadi, by a short head for the runner up spot.

Al Naif Racing's **MOLHEB AL NAIF (Amer x Kesbah)** has rarely put a foot wrong in his career and Sunday, December 15, was no different where the 7yo handed Champion Trainer Gassim Mohammad Ghazali his only victory of the day. In the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS (NATIONAL DAY CUP), the horse had Champion Jockey Harry Bentley for company and the

fantastic ride saw them win by a dominant five lengths and three quarters, with Ronan Thomas riding Umm Qarn's **AAHIL (Munjiz x Daniah)** to second place. Another Ghazali ward, **JENJAL (Af Albahar x Gold Label)** was third under JP Guilmart.

Qatari Jockey Saleh Salem Al Marri rode his third winner of the season when he was astride Khalifa Bin Sheail Al Kuwari's **DEEBAJ (Amer x Obe De Ghazal)**. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (95 & below), the Mohammed Gassim Ghazali trained mare got back to winning ways after a few blips in the last two races. The 6yo had closed out the last season with hat-trick of wins and on Sunday she won by half a length in the mile long race.

Osama Omer Al Dafea's **TAHAR (TM Fred Texas x Insaf)** perhaps took a liking to the turf when the going was soft as the 4yo shed his maiden status on his 11th outing at the Al Rayyan Park on Sunday. In the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4 Year Olds), the colt had Ryan Curatolo for company and the two did enough to win the miler by half a length in a close finish.



Harry Bentley on Molheb Al Naif



Yazeed winner of Qatar National Day Trophy Group

Qatari jockey Meteb Ali Al Marri rode his second winner of the day when he guided Mohammed Ali Yousef Al Sheeb's **KASSER (AF Albahar x Wujdan)** to victory in the LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS on Thursday, December 5. In the penultimate race of the day, Al Marri guided the 8yo to the horse's first victory in two years. The Qatar bred horse picked up a breezy victory, beating the competition by three and a half lengths.

After closing out the last season with a maiden victory, Al Shaqab Racing's **MEBLISH (Dahess x Digama)** began the new one with the second victory of his career and in the process became the third winner on the day for his handler Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle. Ridden by Ronan Thomas in the PUREBRED ARABIAN GRADUATION PLATE, the 4yo picked up a thrilling victory, edging out the JB Eyquem-ridden AJS Jamra by a head at the post, while the Rashid Ali Al Marri-helmed Taysh was only a short head behind in third.

Jassim Bin Ali Al Attiyah's **NAIMA (TM Fred Texas x Al Zubarah)** closed out last season with two top three finishes on dirt. This season trainer Ahmed Mohamad Kobeissi ran the 4yo on turf for the first time in her career and the filly was

a straight out winner in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE. The Qatar bred filly was partnered with Ryan Curatolo and they won with three and a half lengths in the 1850m race.

Umm Qarn's **JABALAH (Al Mamum Monalu x Kouthar)** made it two in a row on Thursday for trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle when the 3yo won the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (3 Year Olds) (C & G) (Div 2) on the turf track at Al Rayyan Park. Helmed by Soufiane Saadi in the miler, the colt went past the post with three lengths to spare with Pierantonio Convertino guiding Ginkeau to the colt's second runner up finish this season.

Qatari jockey Faleh Bughanaim registered his first victory of the season when he guided Al Shaqab Racing's **ALGHAF (TM Fred Texas x Entisar)** to a fine victory in the first race of the meeting on Thursday. The result in the PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (3 Year Olds) (Fillies) (Div 1) also meant that the filly, who won on her Qatar debut, led a one-two for French trainer Alban Elie Marie De Mieulle, who also saddled Al Rabban Racing's runner up filly RS Rasheeda in the miler.

Kasser winner of LPA race





Tomas Lukasek and Rajeh

Rajeh wins season-opening Owners Cup

The famous royal blue and white stars silks of Al Shahania Stud were in the winner's circle with Rajeh (Jaafer x Nelka) winning the season opening Owners Cup at Al Rayyan Park on October 23.

The 1900m dirt feature saw Gassim Mohammad Ghazali trained Rajeh track Nasser Abdulla Al Rabban's Al Afreet at the start along with Al Shaqab Racing's Al Walid. Coming off the final bend, Tomas Lukasek had Rajeh push and the 5yo immediately upped his pace, went on the inside and surged forward for a fantastic 10 length victory with Osama Omer Al Dafea's Baker De Saularie (Kerbella x Babiche De Saulari) going past Al Walid (Dahess x Al Sarwa) for the second place. The win was fourth on the day for Champion Trainer Ghazali and third for Lukasek.

Injaaz Stud's Al Mustafiz (AF AlBahar x Djimana) led a one-two for Champion Trainer Gassim Mohammad Ghazali in the Local Purebred Arabian Conditions. The 6yo had a C&D handicap victory 10 months ago, and the colt proved that the conditions are right in his comfort zone as he cantered well under apprentice rider Alexis Pouchin on the inside, before increasing his pace as another Ghazali ward, Rassan attacked coming off the final bend. Al Mustafiz however did

well to win comfortably by a two lengths and a quarter for his fourth career win.

Dr. Ahmed Mohd Hasan Al-Sulaiti & Sons' Khor Al Adaid (Amer x Si Vous Plait) had a string of top three finishes to cap his last season, and the 7yo had enough in him to keep the momentum going on Wednesday as the Ahmed Mohammad Kobeissi's ward topped the Purebred Arabian Handicap (75 & below) in thrilling fashion. Tomas Lukasek and his mount edged out Umm Qarn's Badda by a short head to pick up a victory after almost two years over C&D. It was the second victory on the day for both Kobeissi and Lukasek.

After hitting the frame on four straight occasions last season, Injaaz Stud's Rajab (Harran ASF x Fiha) finally stepped into the winner's circle, topping the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate. The six furlong sprint saw the gelding step down in distance and partnered JP Guillambert well to race to a victory at the post with a length and a quarter to spare, which also opened the account for the season for Champion Trainer Gassim Mohammad Ghazali.

Source: QREClub / Photos: Juhaime QREC



Alexis Pouchin and Al Mustafiz



Tomas Lukasek and Khor Al Adaid



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