



Arabian Horse Intl Flat Racing



Photo: Debbie Burt

Gazwan ridden by Olivier Peslier

**Purebred Arabian Races
Around the World in 2019**

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Olivier Peslier riding Gazwan
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"Glorious Goodwood"



Richard Mullen on Saarookh won the longest race on the card

The second meeting of the new UAE season was on the Abu Dhabi turf on Friday, October 25,

The longest race on the card, a 2200m handicap Al Zahia Race, provided a thrilling finish with half of the 14 runners holding every chance in the closing stages where the lead appeared to change hands on four occasions.

Inthar entered the final 100m with a narrow advantage, but was challenged from all angles with Syed and RB Grynade, the eventual second, looming as big dangers, but, widest of all, Richard Mullen produced Saarookh to lead virtually on the line.

Sporting the colours of Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Mullen could not have timed his challenge any better on the 4-year-old who

entered the starting stalls as a maiden after four starts.

It was also a first UAE winner, at the very first attempt, for Brazilian trainer Ana Mendez and Mullen said: "The horse has really finished the race off nicely and stayed the trip well. Sheikh Mansour has a lot of nice horses and it is a privilege to wear these colours.

"Full credit to the trainer and her team for having him fit and ready first time out."

The opening 1400m maiden, Baynounah Race, restricted to 3-year-olds foaled in the UAE, attracted the maximum allowed field of 16, all making their debut and won snugly by Alnawr who caught Darya close home with the latter having appeared the likely winner when

sweeping to the front early in the straight. The first pair was among five fillies who contested the race.

Nearer last than first at halfway under Connor Beasley, sporting the silks of Ali Haddad, the winner started to creep closer on the home turn before, once pulled out and in the clear, finishing strongly to provide trainer Helal Al Alawi his first winner of the new campaign and Beasley a third after a Meydan double on Thursday.

"We were quite hopeful coming here this evening as she has shown ability at home," Al Alawi said. "It is always nice to get that first winner on the board and hopefully plenty more can follow throughout the season.

Beasley and Al Alawi looked likely to record a quick double when their Bolereau hit the front with only about 75m remaining in the following 1400m maiden only to be pounced on by Noel Garbutt and Raniah, who passed most of her 15 rivals in the second half of the race, to open her account at the fifth attempt.

A 4-year-old, the winning filly is one of the few horses in training owned by Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda that is not a homebred and, like the majority of the reigning champion owner's horses, is trained by champion trainer Ernst Oertel.

Racing over the shortest distance she had tackled, having finished second over 1600m on her one previous turf start, as well as twice finishing third, including over 1800m, she appeared to need every part of the 1400m.

Garbutt, back in the UAE after missing the last four seasons, was delighted and said: "I have to thank connections for the opportunity and she has done that well enough in the end.

"She had form over further, so I was confident she would be staying on and she picked up nicely in the straight."

Source: Emirates Racing Authority



Alnawr and Connor Beasley

Darius Du Paon Leads Lemartinel Team in Jewel Crown Prep



Darius Du Paon, right, wins the Group 3 Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup at Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club. Antonie Robertson / The National

Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club stages the second meeting of the 2019-20 UAE racing season on Friday afternoon with a six-race card. Highlighting the meet is the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown Prep, a rated conditions contest over the same 1600m as the AED 5 million big race itself, which takes place in just over a month. Introduced to provide local horses a chance to race before the big day and compete against race-fit rivals from mainly Europe and America, officials have been rewarded with a strong first edition. Six of the sixteen horses declared are rated 110 or more.

Based just outside the capital at Al Asayl, Eric Lemartinel is set to saddle four runners. Jockey bookings suggest Fabrice Veron and RB Lam Tara,

owned by Sheikha Alyaziz bint Sultan Al Nahyan, lead Team Al Asayl's challenge. A 4-year-old filly, she was far too good over this 1600m in February's Arabian Triple Crown R1 (PA Listed) before seemingly finding the 2200m of the middle round and 2400m of the final leg of the Triple Crown series too far. The return to 1600m looks certain to suit and she looks an exciting prospect for the new season.

She is rated 100, whereas stable companion Darius du Paon has an official mark of 121, which is the highest in the field. The mount of Jose Santiago, the 6-year-old is one of three in the race representing Lemartinel and His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Winner of the 2017 Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (G3 PA

and now the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan National Day Cup) over this 1600m course and distance, he has won a quarter of his 16 career starts. For the same connections, Jesus Rosales partners Mawahib with Tadhg O'Shea aboard RB Torch, a winner eight times, ridden by the champion jockey on five of those occasions.

O'Shea said: "Al Asayl look to have a strong hand and I am happy to be back on RB Torch who I have enjoyed plenty of success on. He has a bit to find at the weights on ratings, but should run well in a very hot conditions race that is a good addition to the programme book."

Darius du Paon's most recent success, again over this 1600m track and trip, was in last November's Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan

National Day Cup Prep, defeating Goshawke who went on to win the 1600m Al Maktoum Challenge R1 (G1 PA) on the dirt at Meydan. The 5-year-old, trained by Abdallah Al Hammadi for Al Ajban Stables, was then fourth, over 2200m on turf in the capital, just behind Darius du Paon, in HH The President Cup (PA G1). He followed that by finishing third and fourth in the Al Maktoum Challenge R3 (PA G1) and the Kahayla Classic (PA G1), both over 2000m on dirt.

Chaddad, a rare Purebred Arabian in the care of Salem bin Ghadayer and owned by Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed, he was a closing second (for previous connections), in the 2018 Kahayla Classic (PA G1). Yet to win over 1600m, the 9-year-old does have one turf victory to his name, over 2000m in the 2013 Arabian Trophy des Poulains at Saint-Cloud (PA G1).

The meeting concludes with the one Thoroughbred contest, a very competitive looking 1600m handicap in which O'Shea partners Shamm, who is one of four sharing top-weight, for Sheikh Ahmed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and Nicholas Bachalard. Not seen since February after just two starts during his first UAE campaign, he has been gelded over the summer.

"He is a nice horse who has been working well, but will certainly progress for the run having been off a fair while," O'Shea said.

For Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who owns six of the runners in the maximum field of 16, Doug Watson saddles Bawaasil on whom Pat Dobbs will be sporting the owner's first colours with the blue and white cap. The homebred 4-year-old Oasis Dream gelding had three runs at the end of last season for Watson and could be an interesting prospect, having spent a summer in the UAE. Watson also has Native Appeal, the mount of Sam Hitchcott, among the 16 declarations. However, neither has been helped by the draw with Native Appeal in 12 and Bawaasil widest of all in 16.

"Bawaasil has been in really good form in the mornings and we were quite hopeful until we saw he was in 16," Watson said ruefully. "We have gelded Native Appeal over the summer and he has been working well, but again, the draw is far from a positive."

Source: Emirates Racing Authority

UAE Champion Jockey O'Shea Joins Jebel Ali Stables



Seven-time UAE champion jockey Tadhg O'Shea (pictured above) will be joining a new team when the new season commences on Thursday at Meydan Racecourse. The fan favourite will start his 2019-20 tenure wearing the predominately yellow silks of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Rashid Al Maktoum and receiving a leg-up from the master of Jebel Ali Stables, trainer Nicholas Bachalard.

"A lot of illustrious names have ridden in those silks and I feel privileged to have been approached by Nicholas Bachalard and (racing manager) Mohammed Al Shahi and be offered the position," O'Shea said. "Jebel Ali obviously has some new horses this season, some promising 2-year-olds from American breeze-up sales and some old timers, so it's a great opportunity. The (new training track) rides really well and it's a beautiful facility there where they have the options to train on the track or up the hill.

"It's a new yard and new season for me, my weight is good and I feel great," he continued.

"I've been very lucky to ride for some tremendous owners and trainers and I approach it without any goals, really. First and foremost, I want to stay in one piece and then I'd like to ride in as many races as I can."

And that he will. In addition to his contracted job with Jebel Ali, he will maintain his notably fruitful relationship with 2018-19 champion owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda, whose phenomenal Purebred Arabian operation ended the season with 53 wins—19 more than second-placed Godolphin.

O'Shea exits a seventh championship season in which he won 48 races and earned nearly \$2 million in prize money, topped by a brilliant ride on Al Nabooda's AF Maher (pictured above) in the Group 1 \$1 million Dubai Kahayla Classic on Dubai World Cup day. Said victory was his second DWC night win, having also won the Dubai Kahayla Classic in 2008 with Mizzna.

"While Sheikh Ahmed has the Thoroughbreds, Khalid has Arabians and, touch wood, it hopefully

works out well and is going to keep me busy," he said. "The Arabian is part of Dubai and people of Dubai's culture. It's exciting and (Al Nabooda's trainer) Ernst Oertel likes to keep me fit. The hardest thing with Ernst's runners is often picking the right one in a race.

"I was told this way back in the beginning and it stuck with me," he continued. "You ask an Arabian; you don't tell them. You humour them because they're very clever and usually more intelligent than the Thoroughbred. You have to get inside their brain and let them feel that they have the upper edge; in a way they're in control. AF Maher is ultra-straightforward and easy to ride. He's a kind horse. When we put him on dirt, he showed he's a true class act and was able to use his huge stride and great will to win."

In the end, it is easy to see why O'Shea is the most successful UAE jockey of all time. Able to balance being affable and analytical while concurrently relaxed and resilient is a skill set that is, appropriately, both innate and intended. The father of two appears just as focused-yet-self-effacing as always while embarking on a new chapter and season.

"It's back to zero with a new season starting," O'Shea concluded. "I'm riding for two very powerful men in Sheikh Ahmed and Khalid and I just want to do them justice and justify their faith in employing me to ride their horses. I cannot thank them enough for their confidence and loyalty."

Source: Dubai Racing Club | Photo: Neville Hopwood and Noëlle Derré/CCA



Photo: Noëlle Derré/CCA

Arabian Racing returns to Ascot in 2020



The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) is thrilled to have plans to stage a new race for Purebred Arabians at Ascot racecourse approved by the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) Pattern Committee. The £15,000 Listed PA race will be run over a mile at the historic Berkshire track on 8th May 2020 and will be sponsored by Shadwell Stud.

It has been almost ten years since Arabians made an appearance at Ascot, when the French filly Kiss De Ghazal won the 2011 President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) Group 1 PA, in impressive fashion by seven lengths.

Shadwell Stud Director Richard Lancaster said: "We're delighted to be staging an Arabian race at Ascot and congratulate the team at Ascot for facilitating the race on one of their Thoroughbred cards.

"This is an important time for Arabian racing and to stage a race at Ascot is a great way of raising the profile of the sport, a sport that is incredibly important to Sheikh Hamdan."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director commented. "Naturally we are very excited to be returning to Ascot, with a race that

will be open to international competitors. We are still in consultation with Ascot, Shadwell and the British Horseracing Authority to finalise the details, after which the full conditions of the race will be published.

"HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum is our most generous patron and was recently awarded with his eighteenth ARO Owners Championship after another successful season. His continued support of our programme, not only through race sponsorship, but his horses, trainers and stallions, is integral to our success, from the grass-roots to the highest level.

"That he has chosen to increase his sponsorship with this race at one of the UK's most prestigious racing venues further enhances the status and reputation of UK Arabian racing. Last season saw a significant increase in runners from overseas in our pattern races, which shows that the appetite for top class Arabian racing around the world continues to grow. We look forward to building upon this achievement in 2020."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO)



Shadwell Stud Director Richard Lancaster

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Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director

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Congratulations to all the ARO Champions in 2019



Champion Owner: His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Champion Arabian Stallion: Munjiz (FR)



Champion Purebred Arabian: Tijaary



Champion Trainer: James Owen

Champion Jockey: Mr Alex Chadwick





Champion Lady Jockey: Miss Antonia Peck



Champion Purebred Arabian Mare: Abiyah Athbah

Leading Novice Rider: Miss Hayley Lewis



Racing Welfare Best Turned Out Winners for 2019:
 Overall Winning Yard: James Owen / Winning Individual (Large Yard): Sue Wileman (Trainer: Peter Hammersley) / Winning Individual (Small Yard): Izzie Brown (Trainer: Delyth Thomas)





Significant gains for Qatar's horse racing and equestrian sport in France

The President of the Qatar and the Asian Equestrian Federations and QREC Vice Chairman Hamad bin Abdulrahman Al Attiyah said "We congratulate His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani for winning the Qatar Arabian World Cup for the fifth time in this magnificent Qatar-sponsored event. I would like to thank His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani for their presence and supporting us in the prestigious event, especially as they have always added to horse racing both in Qatar and overseas.

"We normally assess each edition of this annual event as we are keen to invest this sponsorship in the most optimum manner, particularly since it has been leading to realizing the planned objectives one year after another. I believe that over the years and given the extra high quality of runners, the event has seen overwhelming success. It is a demonstration that the sponsorship of this event in Paris has been a perfect idea and has brought about numerous gains for Qatar's horse racing and equestrian sport.

"The Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend is very special. The presence of Qatari-owned runners in several races is, in itself, a significant gain apart from the results. Being present in such an iconic event really counts as it reflects the progress of Qatar's horse racing and the efforts to maintain and enhance its global standing."

Most successful edition of Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend

The Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC) CEO Nasser bin Sherida Al Kaabi congratulated His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani for winning the Qatar Arabian World Cup. "Ebraz's victory has been admired by everyone", he said, "It is a well-deserved win in a high quality field. Although it was a soft ground, EBRAZ confirmed his class and excellence in prestigious races as he has already done in more than on group 1 event this season.

"The Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe is fully successful in terms of organisation, turnout and results of Qatari-owned horses over three days.

This very positive outcome highlights the value of the efforts and hard work by all racing officials and horse owners in general to ensure Qatar's presence in the winners' enclosures in such world-class races and events. Everyone agrees this is the best edition of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend, especially in terms of the results realised by Qatari-owned horses. We look forward to maintaining this success in the coming editions.

Qatar's leadership of Arabian racing confirmed

His Excellency QREC Chairman Issa bin Mohammed Al Mohannadi said "We are happy with the tremendous success of this year's edition of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend with such huge turnout. In fact, France Galop officials told us that the turnout was higher than in the previous editions. We would like to thank His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani for their presence at the races, kind attention to all details to ensure the success of Qatar's sponsorship of the event and the great support we receive in order to maintain and enhance the bright image of Qatar's horseracing and equestrian sport.

"I would like to congratulate His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani for winning the Qatar Arabian World Cup for the fifth time in France. We are very proud with the victories realized by Qatar's horses over the three days both at ParisLongchamp and Saint-Cloud. They underline the successful outcome of our commitment to Arabian horses, which is in line with QREC's vision of promoting Qatar as a world leader in the pure Arabian breed. On the other hand, the presence of the His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned and bred French King in the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, is very special. The mere presence in the world's best horse race is a milestone and we look forward to maintaining success for Qatar. I hope Qatari institutions and organizations will join us on a larger scale in this event and sponsorship, especially in the Qatar Arabian World Cup."

Source: QREC / Photos: Juhaim QREC



Nasser bin Sherida Al Kaabi - Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC) CEO



HE Issa bin Mohammed Al Mohannadi - QREC Chairman

Ebraz is the victor of Qatar Arabian World Cup



H.H Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani presented to H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1 PA) following Ebraz's victory in the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1 PA) at ParisLongchamp on October 6.

Ebraz (Amer) provided His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani with his fifth win in the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1-PA). He is now the winning-most owner in this race. Ebraz started as favourite in this race, ridden by Maxime Guyon. He is trained by Julian Smart.

He sat patiently down the field, with plenty of running. In the straight he stormed down the track to take the lead from Al Shaqab Racing's Khataab (Amer), trained by Thomas Fourcy and ridden by Jerome Cabre, who battled bravely and finished second three quarters of a length behind his half-brother.

The P. Collington-trained and Jean-Bernard Eyquem-ridden Mashhur Al Khalediah (Jalnar Al Khalediah) held on to third place almost a further length behind.

"It's for day's like this that we race", commented the winning trainer Julian Smart, "I am very lucky to train horses such as Ebraz for His Highness Sheikh Mohammed. That's five wins now in this race, not bad at all! Ebraz won the H.H The Amir Sword (Gr1-PA). I don't normally train horses that shine at that age. They tend to be at their best later. He has won the best race in the world at the age of 6 and we are dreaming of next year. We do expect Ebraz to follow the example of Gazwan and continue his excellence for one or two years. My boss has had an amazing weekend after his wins on Friday and Saturday, so there was no pressure today and we've added a new victory, which is the most prestigious!"

Source: JDG/QREC - Photos: Juhaim QREC



H.H Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani presented to H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani the Qatar Arabian World Cup





Raahah wins Gr1PA Qatar Arabian Trophy Des Juments

In presence of His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani, Qatari-owned horses continued the dazzle when the His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned and bred Raahah (Asraa Min Albarq) won her first Group 1 (PA), recording her first success on her seventh attempt, when she landed the Gr1 PA Qatar Arabian Trophy Des Juments for four-year-old mares at ParisLongchamp on day 1 of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend, Saturday 5 October.

The black type 2,000-metre race carrying a purse of €150,000 was hotly contested, with a closely fought finish between the François Rohaut-trained and François-Xavier Bertras-ridden Raahah, who won by a neck. The Mrs Elizabeth Bernard-trained and Jean-Bernard Eyquem-ridden Jaazmah Athbah finished in second and

the Royal Cavalry of Oman-owned and Charles Gourdain-trained Vivabaina was a further neck behind in third under Olivier Peslier.

Drawn wide, Raahah raced on the outside of the field with no cover. Jockey FX Bertras began asking her to accelerate in the final turn and the bay mare showed great bravery to battle the whole way down the straight, holding off a strong challenge from Jaazmah Athbah.

"She was very unlucky last time out, not any fault of hers but due to another runner", commented winning jockey FX Bertras, "She has improved enormously lately and came into this race in top form. You need a tough runner to win today. Jaazmah Athbah put us under pressure in the final 50 meters, but Raahah is stubborn and never gives up!"

Source: JDG/QREC - Photos: Juhaim QREC

Lady Princess is the queen of Qatar Arabian Trophy Des Pouliches



Lady Princess, who runs in the colours of Sheail bin Khalifa Al Kuwari, added a second Group1 PA to her tally, keeping the scorecard of her young career unblemished. In the hands of Christophe Soumilon, who gave her a copybook ride, she justified her favourite status in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Pouliches when winning by three quarters of a length. She was coming here off a win in the Group1 PA Al Rayyan Cup (Pric Kesberoy) at Deauville in August, having debuted successfully at Toulouse last April.

Thirteen runners lined up in this 2000-metre race, which crowns the best three-year-old Purebred Arabian filly in France. Lady Princess jumped quietly and her jockey allowed the others to go forward before settling mid-division. He stayed in touch with the leaders in the final turn when the pace began to pick up and once in the straight, the bay daughter of General came up to join the leaders two furlongs from the finishing line before taking the lead in the final furlong.

She won under a hands and heels ride from Soumillon, who encouraged her every stride, staying on well. The Al Shaqab Racing-owned and Thomas Fourcy-trained Meethag finished in

second under Jerome Cabre. The His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned and Mrs J F Bernard-trained Artemis was further five lengths behind in third under Jean-Bernard Eyquem.

"She is a star, even though, as her jockey confirmed, the ground was not her cup of tea," commented winning trainer Thomas Fourcy, "She has a huge heart. She was holding back, but when she saw the others, she went for the win. She is the Zarkava of Purebred Arabians. She doesn't put on a show, but she is extraordinary. Meethag finished a good second. She has lost nothing by it. My runners will now have a break. Amyr Du Soleil and Lady Princess will stay in France for next year."

Lady Princess is a daughter of General and is out of Group3 PA Prix Damas scorer Nacree Al Maury, dam of Mister Ginoux, winner of the Qatar International Trophy (Gr1 PA) and the Qatar Derby des Pur-sang Arabes (Gr2 PA), now a sire at Haras de Thouars. This is the exceptional female line of blue hen and foundation mare Nevada II.

Source: JDG/QREC - Photos: Juhaim QREC

Amyr Du Soleil wins Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains



The three-year-old colt Amyr Du Soleil took his first Group 1 in hugely impressive style in the Qatar Arabian Trophy des Poulains (Gr1 PA) in the colours of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani, demolishing the field in a show of extraordinary class at Saint-Cloud on Friday 4 October.

The grey colt of Amer has come rapidly up the ladder since his racing debut in June when he was second. He then put the pendulum to rights winning the Group 3 Prix Tidjani in July with great style before returning from his summer break with an emphatic victory in the French Arabian Breeders' Challenge-Poulians (Gr2) in September at Toulouse.

Today, he confirmed that he is the outstanding leader of the three-year-old Purebred Arabian colts in France, putting the race to bed early in the straight to win by six lengths under jockey Julien Augé despite being somewhat keen in the early stages. He sat just behind the leaders in the early stages before taking the lead in the final turn.

He quickly took lengths off the racing field and was never challenged in a display of superiority. The Mrs JF Bernard-trained and Jean-Bernard Eyquem-ridden Jarif in finished in second

place, with Al Shaqab Racing-owned and Thomas Fourcy-ridden Mounjared Al Cham, a further length behind in third under Vincent Cheminaud.

“Since the beginning of the year I have told the owners that he was a very nice horse”, commented winning trainer Thomas Fourcy, “I think we have done a good job with him, preserving him throughout the year. When he has won, he has done so easily without having to dig into his reserves. He has confirmed our hopes for him today even if it was a harder race. He has won with style. I think he will improve again over the winter. He will be a top class horse, an Arabian World Cup horse.”

Amyr Du Soleil began his racing career in the colours of Lisa Deymonaz before being transferred to the famous blue and white stars of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani. He was bred by Lisa and Pierre Deymonaz and is out of Balladore (Dormane), a full sister to Dormah De Brugère, a seven-time winner including the Jumeirah International Stakes and the Arabian International Stakes (Gr2s PA).

Source: JDG/QREC - Photos: Juhaim QREC



135 horses in Arqana Arabian Sale



HH Sh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani and HH Sh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani



In presence of His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Arqana Arabian Sale was held at Saint-Cloud on Thursday, 3 October. The annual auction is considered the first of the events associated with the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend. A large turnout of horse owners and breeders from Qatar, France and other countries were present.

135 horses in training were displayed in the sale. They were divided into three categories: 2YOs (52), horses in training (38) and breeding stock (45). The sale saw a high percentage of purchases given the high quality of the displayed horses. It is an advantage that according to the rules of the sale, purchasers can run their newly bought racehorses in races with effect from today.

Present were the President of the Qatar and the Asian Equestrian Federations and

Vice-Chairman of QREC Hamad bin Abdulrahman Al Attiyah, QREC CEO Nasser bin Sherida Al Kaabi, QREC Board Members Ahmed bin Mohammed Alabdulmalik and Abdulla bin Mohammed Al Kuwari, QREC Racing Manager Abdulla bin Rashid Al Kubaisi, Al Shahania Stud Director Abdulrahman Al Mansoor, and the Manager of the QREC Chairman and CEO offices Hesham Mohammed Al Ali.

The Arqana Arabian Sale is held every year in association with Qatar's sponsorship of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend. It has been motivated by Qatar's commitment to the Arabian breed and Arabian racing both in Qatar and overseas. Such commitment is demonstrated by running the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1 PA) just 40 minutes before the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Source: QREC/Photos: Juhaim QREC

Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe to kick off at ParisLongchamp on 6 October

Issa Al-Mohannadi: QREC's vision is to promote Qatar as a leader in the pure Arabian breed

The scene is all set for the 2019 renewal of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend, which will take place at ParisLongchamp on 5 and 6 October. A number of associated events will be staged prior to the prestigious weekend with the Arqana Arabian Sale organized at Saint-Cloud on Thursday 3 October. The same racecourse will host a race day with two Qatar-named races for three-year-old Arabians the next day. On Saturday and Sunday, the truly spectacular ParisLongchamp will be the scene of action for the iconic event, which has been Qatar-sponsored since 2008 under the partnership agreement between the Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC) and France Galop. Saturday 5 October, will have a nine-race card, including six group 1 and 2 races involving a group 1 race for four-year-old pure Arabian mares. The day will conclude with the Arqana Arc Sale for the thoroughbred horses. Following the annual tradition, action will culminate on the first Sunday of October with the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe day, which will include seven group 1 races out of eight.



HE Issa bin Mohammed Al-Mohannadi
QREC Chairman

Only 40 minutes before the mega Arc race, the Qatar Arabian World Cup will see the world's top purebred Arabian runners contesting for the coveted title. The venue and the timing of running the most prestigious racing events for pure Arabians have been a very positive development in enhancing the standing of Arabian racing worldwide.

The Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe captures the attention of the world's horse owners, trainers and jockeys. As a highlight of the world's horse racing calendar, the mega event attracts dozens of thousands of racegoers as well as millions of TV viewers worldwide.

Al-Mohannadi: We look forward to maintaining success

"We have been preparing for this event for a long time now", said QREC Chairman His Excellency Issa bin Mohammed Al-Mohannadi, "through continued coordination between us at QREC and France Galop. In fact, we seek

maximum benefits from this sponsorship in accordance with the set objectives and our efforts to achieve the QREC's strategy and vision of promoting Qatar as a world hub for horse racing and a leader in the pure Arabian breed. Qatar's horses have been running and performing actively in the international races we sponsor overseas for several years now. Several memorable successes were realized in the recent years, including the Al Shaqab Racing-owned TREVE's stunning victories in the 2013 and 2014 editions of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. In addition, Qatar excelled and dominated the previous editions of the Qatar Arabian World Cup, which have been landed several times by horses owned by His Highness Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa al Thani, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani and Al Shaqab Racing. We look forward to maintaining success this year, not only at the organizational level, but also in terms of excellence at the races."

Clear-cut objectives

"We have clear-cut objectives through the international racing events, which we sponsor

overseas, including the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe." he added, "In line with the State's approach, our strategy, in this respect, is to realize the aims behind such sponsorship so that it would not be a mere presence, but rather to gain the benefits of such presence. We, at QREC, value such events as they promote Qatar and its equestrian sport at high-profile international gatherings with the intensive coverage they receive. Through the QREC-sponsored events and festivals, we are committed to highlighting and promoting Arabian racing worldwide and stressing its presence in such international gatherings. This is a main effort in supporting the Arabian breed, which is closely associated with our local heritage and is based on QREC's vision to promote Qatar as a leader in the pure Arabian breed. Moreover, the cooperation between us at QREC and the other Qatari institutions, such as Qatar Airways and Manateq, which are associated with us in sponsoring this event, leads eventually to optimum integration and outcome."

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC)

Shamayel wins Prix Dragonne



Mohamed bin Fahad Al-Attiyah's SHAMAYEL made a winning debut when she won the Prix Dragonne at Castéra-Verduzan, France, on Sunday 29 September 2019. Starting from gate number 2, the Mrs Jean-François Bernard-trained bay filly performed well to win the 1700-metre run for three-year-old pure Arabian fillies by a neck. She benefited fully from the weight advantage of her jockey, Lily Le Pemp. The H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned and Francois Rohaut-trained CARACOLE DU LOUP was the runner-up. The Libero Mazzone-owned and T. Lemer-trained MAJDA DU LOUP completed the frame under Matthias Lauron.

SHAMAYEL is a daughter of AF ALBAHAR (AMER), who at Haras de Thouars. She was bred by Mubarak Al Naemi.

Source: JDG / Photo: Robert Polin



16 quality horses entered in Qatar Arabian World Cup



of the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1/PA) kicks off, the entries of the 2000-metre race for four-year-old and older pure Arabians have been published. 16 quality horses, including the 2017 winner, Gazwan, and black type winners, have been entered in the € 1 million race to be hosted at ParisLonchamp, only 40 minutes before the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe race, on Sunday 6 October. Ten of the entries are for Qatari connections.

The list includes a trio owned and bred by H.H Sheik Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani. The

in his last two outings; a listed mile race at Baden Baden earlier this month and the mile-long (Group 1 PA) Qatar International Stakes at Goodwood in July. However, the seven-year-old grey son of AMER won the (Group 1 PA) UAE Cup at the same course (ParisLonchamp) and distance (2000 metres) in May. He finished nearer last than first in the Qatar Arabian World Cup last year. Another De Mieulle's charge, YAZEED, was a winner when was last called out.

The six-year-old grey son of MUNJIZ won the (Group 1 PA) Qatar Gold Sword over the same

distance at Al Rayyan Park, Doha, in April. He finished fifth in the Qatar Arabian World Cup last year. The Antoine de Watrigant-trained MARID finished second last time and that was in the (Group 1 PA) Doha Cup over the same distance at Deauville in August. The last win of the four-year-old grey colt of TM FRED TEXAS was in October 2018 when he landed the (Group 1 PA) Qatar Arabian Trophy Des Poulains over the same distance at Saint-Cloud.

Another trio are owned by H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani and trained by Julian Smart. GAZWAN, was the winner of Qatar Arabian World Cup in 2017 and he finished fourth in 2018. The eight-year-old grey son of AMER won the (Group 1 PA) Shadwell Dubai International Stakes over the same distance at Newbury in July when he was last seen. EBRAZ finished third in the Qatar Arabian World Cup in 2018. The six-year-old grey son of AMER won his last outings. He won the (Group 3 PA) Shadwell - Coupe Du Sud-Ouest Des Pur-Sang Arabes over 1900 metres at La teste Buch and the mile-long (Group 1 PA) Qatar International Stakes at Goodwood in July. MAXR finished third when he was last seen and that was in Prix Kann over 2100 metres at Dax this month. His latest win was in a 2400-metre race in Doha when he broke his maiden tag in March.

A third trio are owned by Al Shaqab Racing and trained by Thomas Fourcy. KHATTAB was the runner-up in the Qatar Arabian World Cup last year. He was last seen at Deauville when he finished third in the (Group 1 PA) Doha Cup over the same distance at Deauville in August. The latest win of the seven-year-old grey son of AMER was at Toulouse when he won the (Group 2 PA) Prix De Carthage - Hannibal over 2000 metres. KAIR AL CHAM remained unbeaten in his last three outings. The four-year-old grey colt of DAHESS won a mile race at Royan in June, a 2000-metre race at Newbury and finally a Group 3 (PA) 2000-metre contest at Duindigt earlier this month. MELABI finished second last time and that was in the (Group 1 PA) President of UAE Cup over the same distance at Doncaster earlier this month. His latest win was in May when the four-year-old grey colt of DAHESS won the Prix Aicha over 2300 metres at Dax.

Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al Attiyah's RODESS DU LOUP finished sixth in the 2018 edition of the Qatar Arabian World Cup. The

Charles Gourdain five-year-old grey son of DAHESS finished fourth in his last outing; a listed mile race at Baden Baden earlier this month. His record includes being the runner up of the (Group 1) Doha Cup at Deauville and the winner of the (Group 1 PA) President of the UAE Cup at Doncaster over the same distance in August and September 2018 respectively.

The other six entered horses include three who won their last outings, and are considered very strong contenders, and three who were placed when they were last seen. The P. Collington-trained MASHHUR AL KHALEDIAH who won a listed mile race comfortably in front of TAYF and RODESS DU LOUP at Baden Baden earlier this month. The Landgoed Waterland-owned and Karen Van Den Bos-trained AKOYA won the (Group 1 PA) Qatar Cup over 2000 metres at ParisLonchamp earlier this month. In his previous outing, the five-year-old bay AKOYA landed that the Group 1 (PA) Qatar Cup at Deauville in August when he got the better of MARID, KATTAB and DERYAN, who finished second, third and fourth respectively and seek to reverse the places at ParisLonchamp on 6 October. The Polska AKF SP. Z.O.O.-owned and M. Kacprzyk-trained SALAM AL KHALEDIAH won a Group 3 (PA) event over 2600 metres at Varsovie in August.

The Jean-Marc De Watrigant-owned and D. Watrigant-trained AHZAR finished fourth in the Group 2 (PA) French Arabian Breeders' Challenge Sprint over 1400 metres at Bdx Le Bouscat last week. The D. Guillemain-trained DERYAN finished fourth in the (Group 1 PA) Doha Cup over the same distance at Deauville in August. The only female in the entries is the RMP SP ZOO-owned and M. Janikowski-trained GENERAL LADY, who finished third in the (Group 1 PA) Qatar Cup the same distance at ParisLonchamp earlier this month.

Given the names and the records of these horses doubled with the fact that many, if not all, of them are facing each other again, the 2019 renewal of the Qatar Arabian World Cup will be definitely a highly thrilling contest.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC)

HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum gained his 18th Owners Championship



L to R: Jack Day (Rossdales) James Owen (ARO Champion Trainer), Alex Chadwick (ARO Champion Jockey), Richard Lancaster (receiving on behalf of ARO Champion Owner HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum), Simon Walker, Katy Groome (Rossdales)

ARO Champions Old and New crowned at Lingfield Park

The Arabian Racing Organisation's (ARO) 2019 racing season ended on September 24th at Lingfield Park having hosted 46 races, of which eight were PA Group contests. ARO patron HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum gained his 18th Owners Championship, with many of those winners trained by James Owen, who recorded his third ARO Trainers title. The ARO Jockeys Championship was won by Alex Chadwick, a remarkable achievement in his first season riding under ARO rules.

Shadwell Stud Director Richard Lancaster, who received the trophy on behalf of His Highness commented: "We are very happy to celebrate another ARO Owners Championship

title on behalf of HH Sheikh Hamdan. His dedication and passion for Arabian racing is second to none and our Arabian racing teams have done a wonderful job again this year. The UK racing season highlight for us was the successful DIAR raceday at Newbury at the end of July. We have been very pleased to see some of our young horses showing a lot of promise, as well as experienced horses performing at the highest level. We were also delighted to watch Awzaan win a Group race at Newbury this summer, a first Group winner for his sire Al Saoudi, who stands under the Shadwell Arabians banner in Newmarket."

Awzaan was also a first PA Group winner for Owen, who regained the trainers title he first won in 2016. Owen also took the leading Arabian racehorse (races won) title with



James Owen and Awzaan

Tijaary, another Al Saoudi sired performer, who has been the flag bearer for his Racing Club, in only their second season of racing.

Owen said: "The Arabians have all performed well and held their form throughout the season. It was great to get our first DIAR and Group winners, in Al Azeza and Awzaan, particularly as they were both for HH Sheikh Hamdan and I thank all my owners and staff for their support. I am now looking forward to attending the Arqana sale where I will be trying to strengthen my team for next year."

An integral part of the Owen team has been 24-year-old Alex Chadwick who joined Owen's Newmarket based stable earlier this year. After a brief spell as a conditional jockey in Scotland, he returned to the amateur ranks, initially riding point-to-pointers for Owen before commencing his first season on Arabians.

After receiving his trophy from 16-time ARO Champion Simon Walker, he said: "It's a big achievement really, I never thought at the start of the year I would end up as Champion Jockey. James has been a tremendous help, coaching me, reviewing my races and giving me rides.

Tijaary would be my highlight, we both lost our maiden tags together, I ride him every day at home and he's been my favourite throughout the season. The aim over the winter will be to ride in point-to-points and under rules when I can and hopefully getting more winners."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director commented: "We congratulate HH Sheikh Hamdan on another successful season. His continued support of our programme, not only through race sponsorship, but his horses, trainers and stallions, is integral to our success, from the grass-roots to the highest level.

"We also congratulate James Owen on his third trainer championship and are delighted for the success of the James Owen's Racing Club which has over thirty members. Syndicates are an excellent way to attract new people to the sport, which is something we would like to encourage in the UK."

"Thank you also to Rossdales Veterinary Surgeons who are in their second year of sponsoring with us here at Lingfield Park and also kindly presented our Champion Owner and Trainer trophies."

Reviewing the year she said: “This season has been a turning point for UK Arabian racing. Though we reduced the number of races to reflect the decline in horse population, it still provided opportunities for all levels with exceptionally good prize money for the lower grade horses, as well as those at the top end. The increase of single races against a reduction of stand-alone fixtures had the benefit of widening our audience, which can only be a positive. For example, The Clarendon Stakes, the most valuable of all the Royal Cavalry of Oman’s race sponsorship with us, took place in front of a near sell-out crowd at Newbury.”

“This season we have been able to open up many more of our races to professional riders. It was a significant milestone in our history to welcome jockeys of the calibre of seven-time UAE champion Tadhg O’Shea and Derby winner Martin Dwyer to our domestic races. It is also pleasing to see our former champion novices Charlie Price and Ellie Mackenzie continue to ride with us since taking out their professional licences. We are delighted for the success of Alex Chadwick in his first season with us and we hope that we will be able to continue to foster the careers of more young jockeys in the future.”

She continued: “The increase in international runners is also significant, and the support from

their owners, trainers and jockeys cannot be underestimated. We acknowledge the role that DIAR and its’ supporting series has played in encouraging overseas participation, and also of our other major sponsors, the President of the UAE Cup, Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club, the Royal Cavalry of Oman and the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Flat Racing Festival.”

Haynes was positive about the future saying: “We thank all our participants, officials and supporters for their commitment to Arabian racing in 2019. ARO will now evaluate the season to establish the programme for 2020, which we expect to be in a similar format, a model that is well established in other countries.

“The future will be challenging, but with strong support and encouragement from our sponsors this is nothing that ARO and our participants have not encountered previously. The relationship between ARO and the British Horseracing Authority is deepening as we work together on a variety of projects to ensure the sport of Arabian racing is sustainable and integrated into the UK horseracing industry, which has always been our patron, HH Sheikh Hamdan’s vision.”

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) / Photo: Debbie Burt - ©equinecreativemedia.com



HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum - patron of the Arabian Racing Organisation and champion owner for 18th time
Photo: Edward Whitaker/racingpost.com



“We are very happy to celebrate another ARO owners’ championship title on behalf of HH Sheikh Hamdan.

“We were also delighted to watch Awzaan win a Group race at Newbury this summer, a first Group winner for his sire Al Saoudi, who stands under the Shadwell Arabians banner in Newmarket.”

Richard Lancaster
Shadwell Stud director

Derby double for Hayyan in the President of The UAE Cup



The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) was delighted to see Hayyan complete the French – UK Derby double when the Frédéric Sanchez trained colt won the President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) Group 1 PA at Doncaster on September 14. Bred by HH Sheikh Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan and running in the colours of his YAS Horse Racing Management, the four-year-old son of Munjiz thrilled the Doncaster crowds winning by a neck under Ioritz Mendizabal from Melabi and Julien Augé.

This was the final top-level contest of the UK Arabian racing season and was the last chance for the four-year-old classic generation of Arabian colts, fillies and geldings to compete at Group 1 PA level in Europe.

Speaking alongside YAS Horse Racing's Manager, Thierry Deleque, after the race Sanchez confirmed: "It is possible he may have one more race this season, but we will need to discuss what happens next, once we see how the horse comes out of the race. I am delighted to win both the French and UK Derby's with him."

Medizabal described Hayyan as "A very talented colt, however he is not an easy horse to ride. Sometimes he is much too keen in the early stages of the race, but today he settled really well."

The President of the UAE Cup is the oldest Purebred Arabian race series and it is fitting that it is to be held on the same card as the UK's oldest thoroughbred classic, the William Hill St.Leger. Run over a mile and a quarter, The President of the UAE Cup resumed its' association with the UK Arabian Derby in 2016 and is exclusively for four-year-old Purebred Arabians with a prize fund of £80,000. For the last two seasons it has been won by the winner of the French equivalent, in Nafees and Rodess Du Loup.

Faisal Al Rahmani, General Secretary for the President of the UAE Cup series and Chairman of the International Federation of Arabian Horseracing Authorities (IFAHR) said: "The President of the UAE Cup Series sponsoring at the legendary St Leger meeting is indeed an honour. We believe that the series is encouraging Arabian racing to re-establish a following in countries where it had been lost, such as Germany where we held a race earlier this year".

He continued: "The support of this series and that of IFAHR has also been of great benefit to other countries such as Italy who have embraced the sport and encouraging the breeding programs which will help to secure the future of Arabian racing worldwide."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director was pleased commenting. "This is the fourth running of the President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) at Doncaster and it is significant that for the third consecutive year, the winner of the French equivalent has secured their place as the leading four-year-old of the European sea-

son. That these horses are then capable of going on to secure further Group 1 PA success as their careers develop as both Lightning Bolt and Nafees have done is also extremely important to ARO."

"We are very grateful to the President of the UAE Cup Series for their continued generous support. Holding the race on St Leger Day further enhances the status of the contest and the reputation of UK Arabian racing, with it being run as part of Doncaster's most prestigious meeting of the year."

Source and Photos: ARO/Debbie Burt



THE President of the UAE CUP SERIES
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Hayyan bids for Derby double in the President of The UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) on Doncaster ST Leger Day



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President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) Group 1PA

The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) looks forward to the final top-level contest of the UK Arabian racing season, the 2019 President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) Group 1 PA, which includes this year's French Derby winner, Hayyan.

The President of the UAE Cup is the oldest Purebred Arabian race series and it is fitting that it is to be held on the same card as the UK's oldest thoroughbred classic, the William Hill St. Leger, on Saturday 14 September at Doncaster Racecourse.

Run over a mile and a quarter, The President of the UAE Cup resumed its' association with the UK Arabian Derby in 2016 and is exclusively for four-year-old Purebred Arabians with a prize fund of £80,000. For the last two seasons it has been won by the winner of the French equivalent, in Nafees and Rodess Du Loup, so expectations will be high for this year's winner, Hayyan, trained by Frédéric Sanchez for YAS Horse Management. He faces a further four winners, including his stablemate Ibn Gadir, who finished ahead of him when third in the Prix Dormane (Gr3PA) in April.

They will face a strong challenge from Al Shaqab's Melabi who lost nothing in defeat at Newbury last month against older horses when second to six-time Group 1PA winner Gazwan at this level.

Completing the line-up are Probat T and Farhaa. Probat T is a half-brother to the 2017 fourth Pronto T and races for their owner-breeder-trainer Gerard Zoetelief, whilst Farhaa is also well-related, being a sister to 2014 UK Arabian Derby narrow-margin second Najlaa. The only

filly in the race, she runs in the colours of her owner-breeder, HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum and is a second runner in the contest for leading UK Arabian trainer James Owen, who scored his first Group victory with Awzaan last month, also for His Highness.

Faisal Al Rahmani, General Secretary for the President of the UAE Cup series and Chairman of the International Federation of Arabian Horseracing Authorities (IFAHR) said: "The President of the UAE Cup Series sponsoring at the legendary St Leger meeting is indeed an honour. This being the fourth year of our association with Doncaster Racecourse, we are confident that the President's Cup, a Group 1 race for purebred Arabian horses, will prove to be an outstanding contest on a major date for British racing".

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director was pleased commenting. "We were excited to welcome back the President of the UAE Cup in 2016 and are proud that the race has always attracted international competition.

"We are extremely grateful to the President of the UAE Cup Series for their generous support of our feature race for four-year-olds. Holding the race on St Leger Day further enhances the status of the contest and the reputation of UK Arabian racing, with it being run as part of Doncaster's most prestigious meeting of the year."

The President of the UAE Cup is the world's oldest Purebred Arabian racing series and was established by the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan to promote and celebrate the Arabian horse worldwide and its' significant place in UAE culture and history.

Source and photos: ARO/Debbie Burt

Akoya was victorious in the Qatar Cup – Prix Dragon



The Qatar Arc Trials day took place at Paris Longchamp on Sunday 15 September 2019, with the hopefuls for the biggest races on the weekend of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe lining up three weeks before the main event for their final preparation. Her Excellency Nadia Ahmed Al-Sheebi, Chargée D'affaires of the Embassy of the State of Qatar in Paris was present and presented the trophies to the winners of the two main races of the day, namely, the Qatar Cup – Prix Dragon (Gr 1 PA) and the G1 Qatar Prix Vermeille.

One month on from his success in the Doha Cup (Gr1 PA), at Deauville, Akoya was victorious in the Qatar Cup – Prix Dragon (Gr1 PA), on Sunday at Paris Longchamp, on Qatar Arc Trials day.

Trained by Karin Van Den Bos, the 5-year-old horse went from pillar to post, never threatened by second-place finisher Al Shamoos. Akoya was running for the first time at Paris Longchamp three weeks prior to his main objective, the Qatar Arabian World Cup, in which he will be facing a much tougher field.

Van den Bos duo are earmarked for the big occasion

Théo Bachelot, back on board Akoya after the combination's Deauville win, said: « *I let the horse get into a rhythm. The horse is blessed with early pace, with a stride to match, and he has good acceleration at the business end. He really impressed me on this occasion. He didn't have a hard race and there is a three week gap to his next race. He was getting his first taste of ParisLongchamp and it's quite something to have pulled it off in these conditions.* »

Karin van den Bos, the winning trainer, added: « *Akoya is in tip-top shape and has come on a lot for his last race at Deauville on August 10th. He has even strengthened up. He hails from a family of late developers and sturdy types in terms of physique, and was until recently still growing at the age of five. The horse is put out to grass for the whole day and is returned to his box at night. The mental aspect [with horses] is very important and particularly so with PA horses.* »

Regarding matters tactical she added: « *I'm*



very disappointed that this race attracted only three runners. I would love to have taken on Gazwan (Amer). Akoya is capable of making the running but he is tactically very versatile and can shine no matter how a race is run. I dream of winning the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1 PA), but it's not something which is easy to achieve as you can't legislate for how events will pan on the big occasion. I'm also planning on running Lightning Bolt (Munjiz) in the big race in October. Akoya still has scope for further improvement before the big day, and he is exactly where I wanted him to be going into a prep race. »

Akoya was bred in France by her trainer Karin van den Bos. He's a son of Muqatil Al Khalidiah (Tiwaiq), a Gr3 PA winner in Poland, having begun his career with Jean-François Bernard. Only two of his progeny have raced in France. He is notably inbred 3x4 to Dunixi (Flipper), and the dam l'Ombre del Sol (Tornado de Syrah) won three races in Belgium and Holland.

The grandam, À l'Aube del Sol (Dunixi), generated Alibaba del Sol (Kerbella): the Jumeirah International Stakes (Gr2 PA) third. This performer, having been campaigned all Europe from the ages of three to eight, was also second in the French Arabian Breeders' Challenge Classic, which has since been elevated to Gr PA status. À La Volée (Djelfor), the great grandam, has produced three black type performers: Athlete del Sol (Dormane), the winner of the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr2 PA), plus Au Vol del Sol (Darike),

The President of The UAE Challenge Derby (Gr3 PA) victor, and The Jumeirah International Stakes (Gr2 PA) third Altis del Sol (Kesberoy). This is the heralded line associated with the 'Pompadour' broodmare band, and one which has become influential in a number of breeding establishments. It is the source of performers such as Albany (third in The Hatta International Stakes, Gr1 PA), Anastasya (French Arabian

Battash De Faust wins Prix Saint Laurent



Breeders' Cup Mile & Abu Dhabi Int'l Championship, Grs1 PA), Dubai Heros (Coupe de France, Gr1 PA), Malik du Pouy (second in The Arabian Breeders' Cup Classic, Gr1 PA) and Antheus de la Varde. The latter was runner-up in the Prix Abu Dhabi (Gr1 PA).

Source: JDG/QREC - Photo by: Zuzanna Lupa

Battash De Faust wins Prix Saint Laurent

Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Attiyah's Battash De Faust had broken his maiden three weeks ago at La Teste, France. The three-year-old chestnut colt followed it up with a second victory in the Prix Saint-Laurent at Dax, France on Sunday 8 September 2019. Back over 1,400 metres, he seems to have found his preferred distance, having now won two from two over this trip.

Trained by Madame Elizabeth Bernard, he won

the race for three-year-old Arabians by a neck with Guillaume Guedj Gay in the saddle. The Al Shaqab Racing-owned and Thomas Fourcy-trained M'kayns was the runner-up and was ridden by Laurie Foulard. Alghaf who is also owned by Al Shaqab Racing and trained by Thomas Fourcy was further two lengths behind in third under Michael Forest.

Battash De Faust is a half-brother to the Group 1 winner Easter De Faust. He is by AF Albahar, who is also the sire of Alsaker

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by Robert Polin

Mon'Nia wins Prix Mona Lisa

For her first start in competition, Mon'Nia carried the colours of H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani to victory in the Prix Mona Lisa at Mont-de-Marsan, France on Saturday 7

Mon'Nia wins Prix Mona Lisa



September 2019. The filly of Amer travelled well throughout the race up near the leaders, but looked to have lost the win to Al Efreeta.

However, the latter hung sharply two furlongs from the line, leaving a clear path for Mon'Nia, who, with Clement Cadel in the saddle, took the chance to win the 2000m race for three-year-old maiden pure Arabian fillies.

The Al Shaqab Racing-owned and Thomas Fourcy-trained Al Efreeta and Ajaweed were three quarters of a length in second and three and a half lengths in third under Julien Auge and Laurie Foulard respectively.

"They gifted us the race", commented Mon'Nia's trainer, Julian Smart, "but Mon'Nia is a filly that I like a lot. She shows plenty of talent in the mornings. She is a full sister to Assy and she has a promising future."

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by Robert Polin

Min'Ha scores her first group wins in French Arabian Breeders' Cup Challenge – Pouliches (Gr2 PA)

Bred and owned by H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani, Min'Ha won her first Group race in the French Arabian Breeders' Cup Chal-

lenge – Pouliches (Gr2 PA) at Toulouse, France on Friday, 6 September 2019. The three-year-old filly, who is trained by François Rohaut, jumped well from an inside draw although ran keen in the early stages.

She then settled in behind the leaders on the rail, relaxing well before they began to accelerate coming out of the final turn. Despite showing some immaturity when under pressure, she went clear to win the 2000m race for three-year-old fillies by three quarters of a length. She was ridden here by François-Xavier Bertras, who also rode her in her previous start when she broke her maiden at Dax on just the third time of asking. The Al Shaqab Racing-owned and Thomas Fourcy-trained Meethag was the runner-up under Jerome Cabre. The M'hammed Karimine-owned and Mme J F Bernard-trained Salma Nour Grine was a further length behind under Fayos Martin Borja.

Min'Ha is by No Risk Al Maury and is out of one of Al Shahania Stud's most successful female families, being the daughter of Margouia, who is notably the dam of the champion Assy, winner of the HH The Amir Sword (G1 PA).

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by Robert Polin

Min'Ha scores her first group wins in French Arabian Breeders' Cup Challenge – Pouliches



Amyr Du Soleil shines again



Amyr Du Soleil shines again winning French Arabian Breeders' Challenge – Poulains (Gr2 PA)

Having demolished the field last time out in the Prix Tidjani (Gr3 PA), Amyr Du Soleil (Amer), in the colours of H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani, once again pulled off an extraordinary performance at Toulouse on Friday, 6 September 2019, to win the French Arabian Breeders' Challenge – Poulains (Gr2 PA).

The three-year-old colt by Amer quickly took control of the field up on the lead, pulling easily clear of the racing pack under Julien Augé in the straight to win by two and a half lengths. Mme Robert Litt-owned and Philippe Sogorb-trained Emporio was the runner-up under Jack Martin. The Mohammed bin Fahad A.H AL Attiyah-owned and Francois Rohaut-trained Good Des Violettes

was three lengths behind in third under Francois Xavier Bertras.

"We have always thought a lot of this colt", trainer Thomas Fourcy commented after the race, "He's physically still a bit immature, but he has so much class. When he is a four-year-old, he will be a horse for the Arc weekend. He is generous in his races, but he has a good character and is easy to manage."

Amyr Du Soleil was bred by Lisa and Pierre Deymonaz. He is out of Balladore (Dormane), a full sister to Dormah de Brugère, a seven-time winner including the Jumeirah International Stakes (Gr2 PA) and the Arabian International Stakes (Gr2 PA).

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by Robert Polin

2020 DUBAI WORLD CUP CARNIVAL PROGRAMME
10 RACENIGHTS
(2nd January - 7th March 2020)

	DWCC Thursday January 2	DWCC Thursday January 9	DWCC Thursday January 16	DWCC Thursday January 23	DWCC Thursday January 30	DWCC Thursday February 6	DWCC Thursday February 13	DWCC Thursday February 20	DWCC Thursday February 27	DWCC (Super Saturday) Saturday March 7
3200m										
2810m					Meydan Cup 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000				Nad Al Sheba Trophy (Group 3) \$300,000	
2410m	Dubai Racing Club Classic 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000			90 - 108 \$135,000			90 & Up \$175,000			Dubai City Of Gold (Group 2) \$350,000
2000m			Zabeel Turf 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000	90 - 108 \$135,000	90 - 105 \$135,000			Dubai Millennium Stakes (Group 3) \$200,000	Curlin Stakes 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000	Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 (Group 1) \$600,000
1900m	90 & Up \$175,000			Al Bastakiya Trial 3YO's \$100,000		Al Maktoum Challenge Round 2 (Group 2) \$450,000	Meydan Trophy 3YO's \$100,000	UAE Oaks 3YO's Fillies (Group 3) \$250,000		Al Bastakiya 3YO's (Listed) \$300,000
1800m		Singspiel Stakes (Group 2) \$250,000			Al Rashidiya (Group 2) \$250,000	90 - 105 \$135,000	Balanchine Fillies & Mares (Group 2) \$250,000			Jebel Hatta (Group 1) \$400,000
1600m		90 - 105 \$135,000	90 - 105 \$135,000	UAE 1000 Guineas 3YO's Fillies (Listed) \$250,000	90 & Up \$175,000	UAE 2000 Guineas 3YO's (Group 3) \$250,000	Firebreak Stakes (Group 3) \$200,000	Zabeel Mile (Group 2) \$250,000	Meydan Classic 3YO's (Listed) \$175,000	Burj Nahaar (Group 3) \$350,000
	Al Maktoum Challenge Round 1 (Group 2) \$350,000	Cape Verdi Fillies & Mares (Group 2) \$250,000			90 - 105 \$135,000			90 - 105 \$135,000		
	UAE 2000 Guineas Trial 3YO's \$100,000	90 & Up \$175,000			90 - 105 \$135,000			90 - 105 \$135,000		
1400m	UAE 1000 Guineas Trial 3YO's Fillies \$100,000			Al Fahidi Fort (Group 2) \$250,000		Meydan Classic Trial 3YO's \$100,000		90 - 105 \$135,000	90 & Up \$175,000	
	Meydan Challenge 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000					90 - 108 \$135,000				
1200m	Dubawi Stakes (Group 3) \$200,000	Dubai Trophy 3YO's \$100,000	90 - 108 \$135,000		Al Shindagha Sprint (Group 3) \$200,000	Dubai Sprint 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000	90 - 108 \$135,000			Mahab Al Shimaal (Group 3) \$350,000
		90 & Up \$175,000	90 - 105 \$135,000							Nad Al Sheba Turf Sprint (Group 3) \$350,000
1000m	90 - 105 \$135,000			Dubai Dash 95 & Up (Listed) \$175,000			90 - 105 \$135,000	Meydan Sprint (Group 2) \$250,000		
	Thursday January 2	Thursday January 9	Thursday January 16	Thursday January 23	Thursday January 30	Thursday February 6	Thursday February 13	Thursday February 20	Thursday February 27	Saturday March 7
ARABIAN PATTERN RACES		Al Maktoum Challenge Round 1 (Group 1) \$65,000			Al Maktoum Challenge Round 2 (Group 1) \$75,000		Mazrat Al Ruwayah (Group 2) \$55,000		Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 (Group 1) \$100,000	
		* 1600 Dirt			* 1900 Dirt		* 1600 Dirt		* 2000 Dirt	

* DENOTES NOT ELIGIBLE FOR DWCC SUBSIDIES

**2020
DUBAI WORLD CUP**

Saturday March 28	
3200m	Dubai Gold Cup (Group 2) \$1,500,000
2810m	
2410m	Longines Dubai Sheema Classic (Group 1) \$6,000,000
2000m	Dubai World Cup (Group 1) \$12,000,000
1900m	UAE Derby 3YO's (Group 2) \$2,500,000
1800m	Dubai Turf (Group 1) \$6,000,000
1600m	Godolphin Mile (Group 2) \$1,500,000
1400m	
1200m	Dubai Golden Shaheen (Group 1) \$2,500,000
	Al Quoz Sprint (Group 1) \$2,000,000
1000m	
Saturday March 28	
	Dubai Kahayla Classic (Group 1) \$1,000,000
	2000 Dirt

\$12.74 Million Dubai World Cup Carnival Programme Announced For 2020



Simon Crisford-trained SPORTING CHANCE (centre) defeats Phoenix Ladies' GOLDEN JAGUAR (left), among others, in the Listed \$175,000 Meydan Classic for 3-year-olds. {Dubai Racing Club|Erika Rasmussen}

The 2020 Dubai World Cup Carnival programme has been announced by Dubai Racing Club and will take place at Meydan Racecourse over 10 weeks, including nine consecutive Thursday evenings, January 2—February 27, before culminating with the Super Saturday card on March 7. A dress rehearsal for the \$35 million Dubai World Cup meeting—the world's richest race day—Super Saturday will feature seven course and distance preps. The total prize money for the 10 nights of the 2020 DWC Carnival is \$12,740,000 and the 2019 renewal saw horses from Australia, Denmark, France, Ireland, South Korea, Sweden, Turkey, UK and USA ship in to win or place in its races.

An historic 25th edition of Dubai World Cup day will be staged three weeks after the DWC Carnival on March 28 and is topped by the world's richest race, the \$12 million Dubai World Cup sponsored by Emirates Airline (Group 1).

The \$350,000 Dubai City of Gold (Group 2) over 2410m on turf, which has produced Dubai World Cup night winners the past two seasons, will receive a \$50,000 increase in purse, which raises Super Saturday to \$2.7 million in total prize money. The 2019 Super Saturday card produced three of the nine Dubai World Cup night winners, including Thunder Snow, who contested the \$600,000 Al Maktoum Challenge Round 3 (Group 1).

The \$250,000 Singspiel Stakes (Group 2), won the last two seasons by subsequent Group 1 winners, receives an increase in purse and upgrade in status, while six \$175,000 turf handicaps have been upgraded to Listed status (base rating of 95) and each complement a natural flow of divisional races within the DWC Carnival.

The Dubai Racing Club Classic will be contested over 2410m on opening night, January 2, and will naturally lead into the aforementioned Dubai City of Gold. On the same evening, the 1400m Meydan Challenge naturally leads to the \$250,000 Al Fahidi Fort (Group 2)—a race that has produced multiple Dubai World Cup night winners—three weeks later. The 2000m Zabeel Turf on January 16 will feed naturally into the \$200,000 Dubai Millennium (Group 3) on February 20, while the 1000m Dubai

Dash is a prep for the \$250,000 Meydan Sprint (Group 2) on February 20—a race the world's current co-top-rated sprinter, Blue Point, contested the last two seasons. Turf sprinters looking for an extra furlong have an option two weeks later on February 6, the Dubai Sprint over 1200m, which preps for Super Saturday's \$350,000 Nad Al Sheba Turf Sprint (Group 3). Lastly, the Meydan Cup on January 30 over the marathon 2810m distance will be a launching point for stayers looking to contest the \$300,000 Nad Al Sheba Trophy (Group 3) on February 27.

Among its 61 Thoroughbred fixtures, the DWC Carnival will host two Group 1s, 10 Group 2s, 10 Group 3s and 10 Listed races along with four Purebred Arabian pattern races made up of three Group 1s and one Group 2. Twenty-three non-Listed handicaps will start with a 90 rating and prize money ranging from \$135,000 to \$175,000, while six \$100,000 conditioned affairs for sophomores enrich a program that already includes the \$250,000 UAE 1000 Guineas (Listed), \$250,000 UAE 2000 Guineas (Group 3), \$250,000 UAE Oaks (Group 3), \$175,000 Meydan Classic (Listed) and \$350,000 Al Bastakiya (Listed).

Source: Media Department, Dubai Racing Club



Another thrilling turf dash! Melbourne 10's DREAM TODAY defeats an international handicap field in the \$175,000 Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi World Class Healthcare Cup in a six-horse photo finish. {Dubai Racing Club|Erika Rasmussen}

\$20m Saudi Cup - Saudi Arabia to stage world's richest race in February 2020



HRH Prince Bandar Bin Khalid Al Faisal

The world has a new richest race, with the announcement of the creation of the \$20m Saudi Cup, to be run at King Abdulaziz Racetrack in Riyadh on February 29th, 2020. Details of the contest were announced by Prince Bandar bin Khalid Al Faisal, chairman of the Jockey Club Of Saudi Arabia, at a launch event in Saratoga today.

The race will be run on Saturday February 29th, 2020 over a distance of nine furlongs (1800 metres) on dirt and have a maximum field of 14 starters. The race will be free to enter and free to run in.

The prize for the winning horse will be US\$10,000,000 with horses down to 10th place sharing another US\$10,000,000 between them.

Announcing the creation of the Saudi Cup, His Royal Highness Prince Bandar Bin Khalid Al Faisal, said: *"The introduction of the Saudi Cup as an international race is without doubt the most significant event in the history of horseracing in Saudi Arabia, and demonstrates our resolve to develop this great sport in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and also our ambition to become a leading player on horseracing's world stage."*

"We look forward to welcoming international horsemen and women, the media, racing enthusiasts and the public to Riyadh in 2020."

The Saudi Cup will take its place in the international calendar at the end of February and will be run four weeks after the Pegasus World Cup at Gulfstream Park, and four weeks prior the Dubai World Cup at Meydan, meaning that the top horses in training have the opportunity to compete in all three of the most valuable dirt races in the world.

The prizemoney of the Saudi Cup places it in esteemed company. The Pegasus World Cup had a peak value of US\$16 million in 2018 while the Dubai World Cup is currently worth US\$12 million. In terms of turf races, the richest is in Australia (the Everest) and is worth US\$9.8 million, in Japan the mark is US\$6 million for the Japan Cup and Europe's most lucrative event (the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe) has a prize fund of US\$5.6 million.

HRH Prince Bandar's connection to horses is an emotional one as less than a century ago, his

great grandfather, King Abdulaziz Ibn Saud, a renowned rider and the founding father of modern Saudi Arabia, was leading his army into battle on horseback, earning himself the title 'The Last Horseman'.

In 1932 King Abdulaziz unified the kingdoms of Nejd and Hijaz in creating the new sovereign state of Saudi Arabia. Horseracing soon became an important cultural event within the young nation and its status was enhanced in 2003 with the opening of a new racecourse in Riyadh, King Abdulaziz Racetrack, with a mile and a quarter (2000 metre) circumferences, a three-furlong (600 metre) chute and a state-of-the-art dirt racing surface.

Many of the world's leading jockeys have ridden regularly at King Abdulaziz Racetrack over the past few years and been impressed with its facilities.

Europe's jockey of the moment Frankie Detto-ri said: *"I've been going to King Abdulaziz Racetrack ever since it opened. It's based on Belmont, in that it's a one turn mile and a quarter. Of all the dirt tracks I've ridden, it's the one I like best, as you can win from the front, and you can win from behind – it's a fair track."*

"The other thing I like is that the kickback is so much less than on other dirt tracks. I don't know why, but the sand seems finer and doesn't stick. You only need a couple of pairs of goggles, where on other tracks you need four or five."

"It's a kinder track that I can see turf horses handling."

US jockey Edgar Prado was also enthusiastic: *"In my experience, all the time I rode at King Abdulaziz Racetrack I've found the track good and safe with a nice stretch run. Horses handle it very well."*

France's four-time Champion jockey Olivier Peslier added: *"King Abdulaziz Racetrack is one of the best dirt tracks in the world. A wonderful track and I know that the American jockeys like it very much because it really suits the American horses."*

"It has a long straight and there is not much kickback."

The Jockey Club of Saudi Arabia will arrange and fund the shipment of all invited horses, and arrange and pay for the flights and hotel accommodation of the horses' connections. In addition to the Saudi Cup, there will be further international races on the undercard ahead of the showcase race. Further details of these supporting races and the full race programme will be announced at a later date.

For more information, please contact:

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



King Abdulaziz Racetrack



S. Mazur on Anood Al Khalediah

Arabian Race Day Wins the Crowd in Warsaw

On 18 August 2019, the Arabian races at Sluzewiec in Warsaw, Poland, reported four top races. The Al Khalediah Poland Cup and the Europy race were both for four-year-old and older horses and the Bialki stakes for three year olds.

Al Khalediah Poland Cup

The Al Khalediah Poland Cup, race 4 of the day was over 1.600m, with prize money of 70.000 zł and was easy won with three lengths in front by the 5-yr-old Anood Al Khalediah (Nayef Al Khale-

diah x Shaza al Khalediah by Khalid El Biwaibiya). In the saddle was jockey S. Mazur, and the filly is trained by M.Borkowski. Win time was 1:47.

Europy prize (Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup)

The feature Arabian race of the day was the Europy with 148.750 zł (app.37.200 €) in prize money over 2.600 meters. Nine horses lined up with two fillies in the fray. The winner by seven lengths was the 6-year-old colt Salam Al Khale-

diah (Nashwan Al Khalediah x Qeshe du Paon by Akbar), Bred by Khalid B.S.B. Abdul Aziz Al Saud and owned by Polska AKF Sp.z.o.o. Winning trainer was M.Kacprzyk and this was a second win for the day by jockey S. Mazur. (Total win time 2:58,8") In the finish SALAM was taking the lead and no others could beat him.

Bialki Stakes

The Bialki Stakes for 3-year-old colts and fillies was over 2.000m and offered a total purse of 52.500 zł. This race is considered the most important race of the 4-year old year.

Seven horses from five different countries were nominated. Drug's Wiktorja held the pace for almost 3/4 of the race. In the last 500m the big boys started to go in front. This group of four was very fast. In the last meters Tabarak's Elvira (Tabarak x Elea by Dormane) came from behind to win with an unbelievable finish of ½ length in front. (Total win time: 2:29,9"). The trainer was Piotr Pankowski, jockey M. Srnec. Tabarak's Elvira is bred and is owned owned by Gestüt Chat Austria,

Elisabeth and Helmut Chat. Now she is following the footprints of her dam Elea by Dormane, also a very successful racehorse in Warszawa Tor Sluzewiec.

The weather was hot and humid but still the Grandstands (Tribunes) were full and all enjoyed the addition of the H.H.Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship race. Ten horses 4-yr and older were ridden in the 1600m race by amateur jockeys with their mounts selected by ballot. This exciting race was won by jockey S.Stappaerts on Monther Al Khalediah.

The famous Sluzewiec racetrack was built in 1939 and has recently undergone an extensive restoration to update the Art Deco Grandstand building and interior.

More than 1000 horses are in training at the Sluzewiec track. Now many young trainers and riders make this location very important in the Arabian horse racing world.

Text: Elisabeth Chat. Photos: Tor Sluzewiec



S. Mazur on Salam Al Khalediah



M. Srnec on Tabarak's Elvira



S. Stappaerts on Monther Al Khalediah

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بطولة العالم لسمو الشيخة فاطمة بنت مبارك للسيدات (إيفهار)
H.H. Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR)

<p>April 21 Marakesh , Morocco</p> <p>April 23 Toulouse, France</p> <p>June 6 Stockholm, Sweden</p> <p>July 6 Bucharest, Romania</p>	<p>Aug 12 Windsor, UK</p> <p>Aug 18 Warsaw, Poland</p> <p>Aug 25 Duindight, The Netherlands</p>
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Nov 24-2019, Finals, Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club

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Battash De Faust wins Prix Djourman



Battash De Faust, who is trained by Mrs J.F Bernard, marked his first win on the board in the Prix Djourman at La Teste on Friday 16 August 2019, for the colours of Abdullah bin Mohammed Al Attiyah. Battash De Faust was keen in the early stages of the seven- furlong race for three-year-old Purebred Arabians and so jockey Guillaume Guedj Gay allowed him to come up the inside of the running field to join the leaders on the rail. Turning into the straight, he began his run and despite hanging slightly in the straight, he pulled clear of the opposition to win by 2 lengths from Shadad, representing Al Shaqab Racing, trained by Charles Gourdain and ridden by Maxime Foulon. Another representative of Al Shaqab Racing, Alghaf, finished in third by a neck, for trainer The Thomas Fourcy and jockey Laurie Foulard.

Mrs. Bernard commented: "He has a lot of character. The young girl who rides him in the mornings has done an extraordinary job with him over the last four months. Guillaume Guedj-Gay had a weight allowance, which helped. I like this young jockey. He has a lot of passion and talent."

Battash De Faust is a half-brother to the Group 1 winner Easter De Faust. He is by AF Albahar, who is also the sire of Alsaker. He had previously run three times over 1900 meters, for two places, and looked to appreciate the shorter trip on Friday.

Source: JDG/QREC. Image by: Robert Polin

Akoya gets his first Group 1PA race and the amazing Lady Princess becomes the first Group 1PA winner from stallion General

Text Juliette Benoit, photos Noëlle Derré



Théo Bachelot and Akoya

10 August 2019 – Deauville – France - Each year, in August, the Deauville-La Touques racecourse, located in the Normandy region in west of France, hosts one of the great events of the French season: two group 1PA races sponsored by the Qatar Racing Equestrian Club.

The two races were run over 2000 meters and one was reserved to three-year-old colts and fillies and the other to four-year-old and upward. The prize-money of each race was €50,000.

Doha Cup-Prix Manganate: a very attractive panel of horses

Nine runners, aged from 4 to 8 years old, were in the starting blocks including: Deryan (Mahabb ex Haboob) winner of Groups 2PA and 3PA and twice runner-up of Groups 1PA, Aoun (Mahabb ex Shumoos) winner of two Groups 3PA, Rijm (Azadi ex Kerjam) Group 1PA winner, Marid (TM Fred Texas ex Al Dahma) dual Group 1PA winner at three, Khataab (Amer ex Djelana) winner of this race in 2017 and Akoya (Muqatil Al Khalidiah ex A l'Ombre del Sol) winner of two Groups 3PA.

From the exit of the starting blocks, Aoun took the lead, followed by Akoya, Dupleix and Marid in fourth position. They stayed in those positions until the beginning of the final straight where Akoya has taken the head and Marid has

gone in second place but could not join Akoya who finally crossed the finish line one neck before him. Khataab who had stayed in the second part of the group, produced an incredible turn of foot and got the third place.

Akoya wins his first group 1PA. *"I thought he could be third, I hoped he took the second place, but I didn't imagine that he could win"* said Karin Van den Boss, his breeder, owner and trainer, who was very emotional.

Al Rayyan Cup-Prix Kesberoy: second start and second victory for the filly Lady Princess

Among the six three-year-old horses who were at the departure of the race, five of them were already winners of a race and some of them were placed in Group PA races. From the start of the race to the exit of the last turn, the colt Al Hazm (Al Mamun Monlau ex Al Anood) was ahead, followed by Um Taj (Al Mamun Monlau ex Dyala) in second position, Guythoun de Carrere (No Risk Al Maury ex Panita de Carrere) in third and Lady Princess (General ex Nacree Al Maury) at the fourth position.

When they entered in the final straight, the filly Lady Princess under jockey Christophe Soumillon go ahead and none could follow her. She crossed the finish line two lengths before the



other filly of the race: Um Taj who was partnered to Julien Augé.

It was only the second start for the filly Lady Princess who won on debut on April at Toulouse racecourse. With this victory, she becomes the first Group 1PA winner from the stallion General (Amer ex Al Hanoof) who was dual winner of the Qatar Arabian World Cup, the most prestigious race for purebred Arabians.

Next Group 1PA races in France for the Purebred Arabian horses:

- Prix Dragon in September for four-year-old and upwards at ParisLongchamp,
- Qatar Arabian Trophies for 3-year-old (one race for colt + one race for fillies) on 4 October at Saint-Cloud (near Paris),
- Qatar Arabian Trophy des Juments (4-y-o mares only) on 5 October at ParisLongchamp, first day of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe weekend,
- Qatar Arabian World Cup (4-y-o and upwards)

on 6 October at ParisLongchamp, the day of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

Doha Cup – Prix Manganate (Gr.1PA)

- 2000m – Total prize-money: €50,000
- For 4-y-o and upwards
- Racing time: 2.17.4

1. Akoya (Muqatil Al Khalidiah ex A l'Ombre Del Sol by Tornado de Syrah), h 5-y-o, breeder: Karin Van Den Bos, owner: Landgoed Waterland, trainer: Karin Van Den Bos, jockey: Theo Bachelot

Al Rayyan Cup – Prix Kesberoy (Gr.1PA)

- 2000m – Total prize-money: €50,000
- For 3-y-o
- Racing time: 2.17.43

1. Lady Princess (General ex Nacree Al Maury by Kesberoy), f, breeder: Earl Champ Gignoux & Miss E. Bellaud, owner: Sheail bin Khalifa Al Kuwari, trainer: Thomas Fourcy, jockey: Christophe Soumillon



Christophe Soumillon and Lady Princess



ASKAR wins Prix Arca

H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's ASKAR wins Prix Arca

The His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned ASKAR won Prix Arca, recording his second consecutive victory at La Teste on Wednesday 7 August 2019.

After travelling wide on the outside of the running pack near the pace throughout the race, ASKAR battled with Buis de Pompadour along the home straight to pass the post in front by a short head. Francois Xavier Bertras was the man in the saddle who guided the Francois Rohaut-saddled gelding to victory in the Class 3, mile-long, race reserved for four-year-old pure Arabians.

By Munjiz, Askar opened his scorecard at the beginning of July at Pompadour on the sand track. He is a grand-son of the great Cherifa, dam of champions Djebbel and Dejmila, and notably of the pedigree of Majd Al Arab.

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by: Mr Polin



MIN'HA opens her scoresheet with Prix Dahman

Representing His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani, MIN'HA posted her first win in the Prix Dahman – Wathba Stallions Cup, a 2100m maiden for 3-year-old Purebred Arabians at Dax racecourse, France on Tuesday 6 August 2019. The filly, who is trained by François Rohaut, had an easy race sitting in at the rail just behind the leaders. Jockey François-Xavier Bertras pulled her out in the final turn, and MIN'HA, despite wandering in the straight, quickly pulled clear.

She finished in front of the Litt Robert-owned and Philippe Sogorb-trained EMPORIO, who was ridden by J.Martin, by three-quarters of a length. AJAWEED, in the colours of Al Shaqab Racing, only a nose behind, took the third place after a tricky passage in the closing stages. She was saddled by Thomas Fourcy and ridden by Laurie Foulard.

MIN'HA had previously run twice for two places. She is a sister to Champion Assy, the first ever Qatar-bred winner of the HH the Amir Sword.

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by: POLIN Oper. L. FERRIERE.





A weekend of Firsts with The Royal Cavalry of Oman

The Royal Cavalry of Oman's busiest weekend of sponsorship with Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) saw many of the participants record notable firsts in the sport of Arabian racing. The win of Awzaan in Royal Cavalry of Oman Clarendon Stakes (Gr 3 PA) run at Newbury racecourse on Saturday 17th August was a first PA Group win for trainer James Owen, for his jockey Martin Dwyer and for the sire Al Saoudi. The Sultanate of Oman Raceday followed at Wolverhampton and was significant as the first UK full Arabian fixture outside of Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR) to be open to professional jockeys.

The opening race was won by Izenterisky, which was a first homebred winner for Sheila Collington, wife of trainer Phil. Later in the card

amateur Hayley Lewis rode her first ever winner on Jaahez, for Owen and in the concluding race, professional Dylan Hogan gave the Collington trained Halib Des Forges a very positive ride to record his first win on an Arabian, both were in the colours of ARO Patron HH Sheikh Hamdan.

The Royal Cavalry of Oman Clarendon Stakes (Gr 3 PA) has been held at Newbury racecourse since 2015 and after ten declarations, two of the past three winners in Macallan and Kao Kat MHF lined up, along with Shomoos Athbah, who had been runner-up for the past two seasons. Also present was Conchita DA and El Zarka DA, the first and third in the UK's premier sprint, the Jebel Ali Racecourse Za'abeel International (Gr1PA) held over a furlong further as part of DIAR at

Newbury last month. However, on rain softened ground it was Awzaan on his first attempt at the minimum trip who was a comfortable winner by three lengths from Conchita DA and El Zarka DA.

Owen commented: "That was that was a bit of a shock actually, though we've always known Awzaan had ability, as he's been Group 1 placed at a mile, we've always run him over staying trips. He's grown up a lot this year though, I've always wanted to try him in blinkers, and I have at home, but he's just not seemed tough enough to try it on the racecourse. He's handled his races so much better this season, so we thought we'd give it a go over this trip and it's worked the oracle. Even though he was slowly away here, he's travelled really well in his race and all the way to the line. I hope we get to keep him in training next season as I think there are more options for him now."

He continued: "It's my first ever Group winner, hopefully the first of many. I'm delighted for Martin as well, he's enjoying riding the Arabians and his feedback is fantastic."

The following day the action transferred to Wolverhampton racecourse for the annual Sultanate of Oman Family Raceday, which in the

past has been held at Chelmsford City, Cheltenham, Huntingdon, Salisbury and Royal Windsor. Fifty-five runners were declared for the six-race card, with the first race starting at 1.00pm. Attending to present the trophies on both days was the Royal Cavalry's Director General Sarhan Alzedi, assisted by Mohamed Al Hashmi, Racing Manager of the Royal Horse Racing Club in Oman and Salim Al Hakmani, Director of Activities and Racing Department.

Whilst it was emotional day of first winners with the successes of Izenterisky for the Collington's and Jaahez for Hayley Lewis, it was also a final appearance for Syrah Gris in the Taqah Beach (0-50) Handicap. Trained by Adam Newey for the Almost All Partnership, after 73 starts he made his last outing a winning one, adding to his five previous victories when getting up to deny My Boy Sam in the final strides and will now be retired. Whilst trainer Owen had considered My Boy Sam to be his best chance of his Racing Club's runners, it was their Tijaary under Alex Chadwick who came out on top after a steward's enquiry demoted first-past-the-post Abiyah Athbah, following interference to the third Daleel.

Tijaary's form had been franked in the opener,



the Al Seefah Beach Maiden, when Izenterisky, who had been half a length behind him when breaking his maiden at this track in June, was a ready five-length winner under Barry Adams, whose wife Hannah co-owns the horse.

Acknowledging the pressure of training for his wife, Collington smiled saying: "The only worry today was if he would settle to get the extra furlong, stepping up to a mile. Barry gave him a lovely ride and he's quickened up and gone away from them well. He's always been very professional at home. We both wanted to breed a horse by No Risk Al Maury as he's been such a big part of our lives and of course having won on him and his dam makes Izenterisky's win all the more special. We'll have a look and see if there's anything for him abroad, but he'll probably be put away for next season."

In the second race former ARO novice champion turned conditional jockey Charlie Price was grinning following his recommendation to owner-trainer Delyth Thomas to fit Callymay with visors. Having raced up with the pace in the Sohar Beach (0-70) handicap, he drove the daughter of Dahess into the lead and finished over two lengths clear of Falcon Du Roch, who was much better back at this track, following a disappointing run at Chelmsford City.

Hayley Lewis had been smiling from half a furlong out when recording her first ever win on the maiden Jaahez in the Ras Al Hat Novice Stakes, she commented: "James told me to just let him go and enjoy himself, I've been riding Jaahez at home for a while and we get on really well. I knew I was clear and though I could hear the others behind me, he was travelling so well I left him a bit longer before I pushed him on as I didn't want him to go backwards. I've been with James for two years and this is my first season race riding, I'm really grateful to James for the opportunity, he's great to work for."

The Kasab Beach (0-100) Handicap was a competitive conclusion to the day's racing with Halib Des Forges holding off the challenge of Al Kaaser to win by a neck. This was a first win on an Arabian for apprentice Dylan Hogan, though not his first win in His Highness's colours having won a premier handicap on Aared and a rated race on Moktamel for Keven Prendergast in Ireland last year.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director commented: "It has been a wonderful weekend of racing for the Royal Cavalry of Oman,

who have been a loyal and generous supporter of UK Arabian racing for over ten years. The Clarendon Stakes is the most valuable of all the Royal Cavalry's race sponsorship with us and took place in front of a near sell-out crowd at Newbury. We were pleased to welcome runners from Belgium and Sweden who have been successful at Newbury before, proving that Arabian racing in the UK can support international competition and this comes on the back of recent overseas wins by our domestic trainers, James Owen and Phil Collington.

"We were delighted with Awzaan's win for James Owen, giving him a well-deserved first PA Group success as he is on course for a third ARO trainer championship. Though the majority of his winners are for HH Sheikh Hamdan, his James Owen Racing Club has over thirty members for the three-horse syndicate of Tijaary, My Boy Sam and Arwen Forta. Syndicates are an excellent way to attract more new people to the sport and we would like to see this increase in the future."

She continued: "The annual Sultanate of Oman Family Raceday at Wolverhampton marked a significant milestone in ARO's history as it was the first time outside of the DIAR meeting that we have had professional jockeys riding alongside amateurs at an ARO full fixture. We are proud to see jockeys of the calibre of seven-time UAE champion Tadhg O'Shea and Derby winner Martin Dwyer riding under ARO rules and we also welcome the success of apprentice Dylan Hogan on his first ride on an Arabian. It is also pleasing to see our former champion novices Charlie Price and Ellie Mackenzie continue to ride with us since taking out their professional licences and we thank their employers Tim Vaughan and Mark Usher for their support.

"This has been a marvellous way to conclude the Royal Cavalry's very generous race sponsorship with ARO during the 2019 season and we look forward to welcoming them back in 2020."

Racing Welfare continued their support of the ARO stable staff, with Felicity Marshall awarding Collington Racing and James Owen Racing the Best Turned Out Award in the first two races on the Sultanate of Oman Family Raceday with a cash prize of £20 and a Racing Welfare gilet to the winning grooms' of Izenterisky and My Boy Sam.

Source: ARO / Debbie Burt ©equinecreativemedia.com



Busy weekend for Royal Cavalry of Oman at Newbury and Wolverhampton



Conchita DA (Anna Van Den Troost) winning the Jebel Ali Racecourse Za'abeel International Stakes



The Royal Cavalry
The Sultanate Of Oman



The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) was thrilled with the declarations for the Royal Cavalry of Oman Clarendon Stakes (Gr 3 PA) to be run at Newbury racecourse on Saturday 17th August. The opening race of the Madness Live After Racing card at Newbury features two of the last three winners in Macallan and Kao Kat MHF, as well as Shomoos Athbah who has been runner-up for the last two seasons. Also in the line-up is Conchita DA, an impressive winner of the Group 1PA Jebel Ali Za'abeel International Stakes over a furlong further, also held at Newbury as part of Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR) last month. The following day the action transfers to Wolverhampton racecourse for the annual Sultanate of Oman Family Raceday. Fifty-five runners have been declared for the six-race card, with the first race starting at 1.00pm.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director commented: "We are delighted that the opening contest of what will be a very popular day at Newbury has attracted 10 horses, three of which are international runners from Belgium and Sweden. As with thoroughbreds, the Arabian sprinters turn up year after year and always produce a great race for the crowd. The declaration of Belgium's Conchita DA, who appears to be a very progressive young filly, adds further excitement to the race and helps confirm ARO's commitment to hosting competitive international racing."

She continued: "The Clarendon Stakes, the most valuable of all the Royal Cavalry's race sponsorship with us, leads us into the annual Sultanate of Oman Family Raceday at Wolverhampton the following day. This marks a significant milestone in ARO's history as it will be

first time outside of the DIAR meeting that we have had professional jockeys riding alongside amateurs at an ARO full fixture. We are proud that our three most recent champions, Simon Walker, David Turner and Will Pettis will be riding against multiple Champion UAE jockey Tadhg O'Shea, who has a vast experience of riding the top Arabian racehorses in the Gulf states. It also offers the opportunity for our younger jockeys, such as Antonia Peck and Alex Chadwick to progress their experience and establish themselves on the amateur circuit."

Highlighting Sunday's feature race she said: "The last race in particular, the Khasab Beach (0-100) Handicap, has attracted a really strong field of 10 horses who are just below PA Group level and it looks very competitive. This will be a marvellous way to conclude the Royal Cavalry's very generous race sponsorship with ARO during the 2019 season and we look forward to welcoming them back in 2020."

Continuing their support for the stable staff, Racing Welfare will be sponsoring the Best Turned Out Award for the first two races on the Sultanate of Oman Family Raceday with a cash prize of £20 and a Racing Welfare gilet to the winning groom.

The Royal Cavalry of Oman was founded in the early 1970's with just 20 horses. Today it fulfils a managerial role for all equestrian activities including racing and overseeing breeding programmes, as well as providing horses for ceremonial duties for which they are famous worldwide.

Source: ARO / Debbie Burt



THE President
of the UAE
CUP SERIES
THE ORIGINAL ARABIAN
PUREBRED CLASSIC SERIES

UK Arabian Derby Group 1 PA



Hayyan heads entries for The President of The UAE Cup on Doncaster St Leger Day

**President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby)
Group 1PA - Doncaster Racecourse – 1
4th September 2019**

The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) was thrilled to announce today that the entries for the 2019 President of the UAE Cup (UK Arabian Derby) include this year's French Derby winner, Hayyan. The final Group 1 of the UK Arabian racing season, The President of the UAE Cup is the oldest Purebred Arabian race series and it is fitting that it is to be held on the same card as the UK's oldest thoroughbred classic, the St.Leger, on Saturday 14 September at Doncaster.

Run over a mile and a quarter, The President of the UAE Cup resumed its' association with the UK Arabian Derby in 2016 and is exclusively for four-year-old Purebred Arabians. For the last two seasons it has been won by the winner of the French equivalent, in Nafees and Rodess Du Loup, so expectations will be high for Hayyan, trained by Frederic Sanchez for YAS Horse Management. He could face a further nine winners, including his stable mate Ibn Gadir, who finished ahead of him when third in the Prix Dormane (Gr3PA) in April. Other potential challengers include recent Group 1 PA runners-up, Melabi and R'ezala who

were facing older horses in the Shadwell Dubai International Stakes and the Shadwell Arabian Stallions Hatta International Stakes respectively at Newbury last month.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director was pleased commenting. "We were excited to welcome back the President of the UAE Cup in 2016 and we are proud that the race has always produced a top-quality winner. With six international entries as well as four domestic contenders we look forward to another competitive race and we are extremely grateful to the President of the UAE Cup Series for their generous support of our feature race for four-year-olds. Holding the race on St Leger Day further enhances the prestige of the contest and the status of Arabian racing in the UK, with it being run as part of Doncaster's most prestigious meeting of the year."

The Arabian Racing Organisation Limited, is the sole Arabian Racing Authority in the UK, operating with the support and permission of the British Horseracing Authority.

Source: ARO / Debbie Burt



Rodess Du Loup (Christophe Soumillon) wins the 2018 President of the UAE Cup at Doncaster

©equinecreativemedia.com



"From the beginning my aim has been to breed a Winner"
 Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda - 1st Place Owners
 Racing Statistics Pure Arabian Season
 2018/2019



"This is what Purebred Arabian do: they battle"
 Ernst Oertel - 1st Place Trainers
 Racing Statistics Pure Arabian Season
 2018/2019



Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda was awarded the TOP OWNER of UAE for the Racing Season 2018-2019 (Mr. Karl Oertel (R) receiving the trophy)

Mr Ernst Oertel as the TOP TRAINER.

Tadhg O'Shea as the TOP JOCKEY with the highest wins for the season



"Statistics and records are there to be broken"
 Tadhg O'Shea - 1st Place Jockeys
 Racing Statistics Pure Arabian Season
 2018/2019

No horse which has won in the Al Maktoum Challenge R3 – PA Group 1, has ever gone to win the Kahayla Classic in the Dubai World Cup.

AF Maher did it!

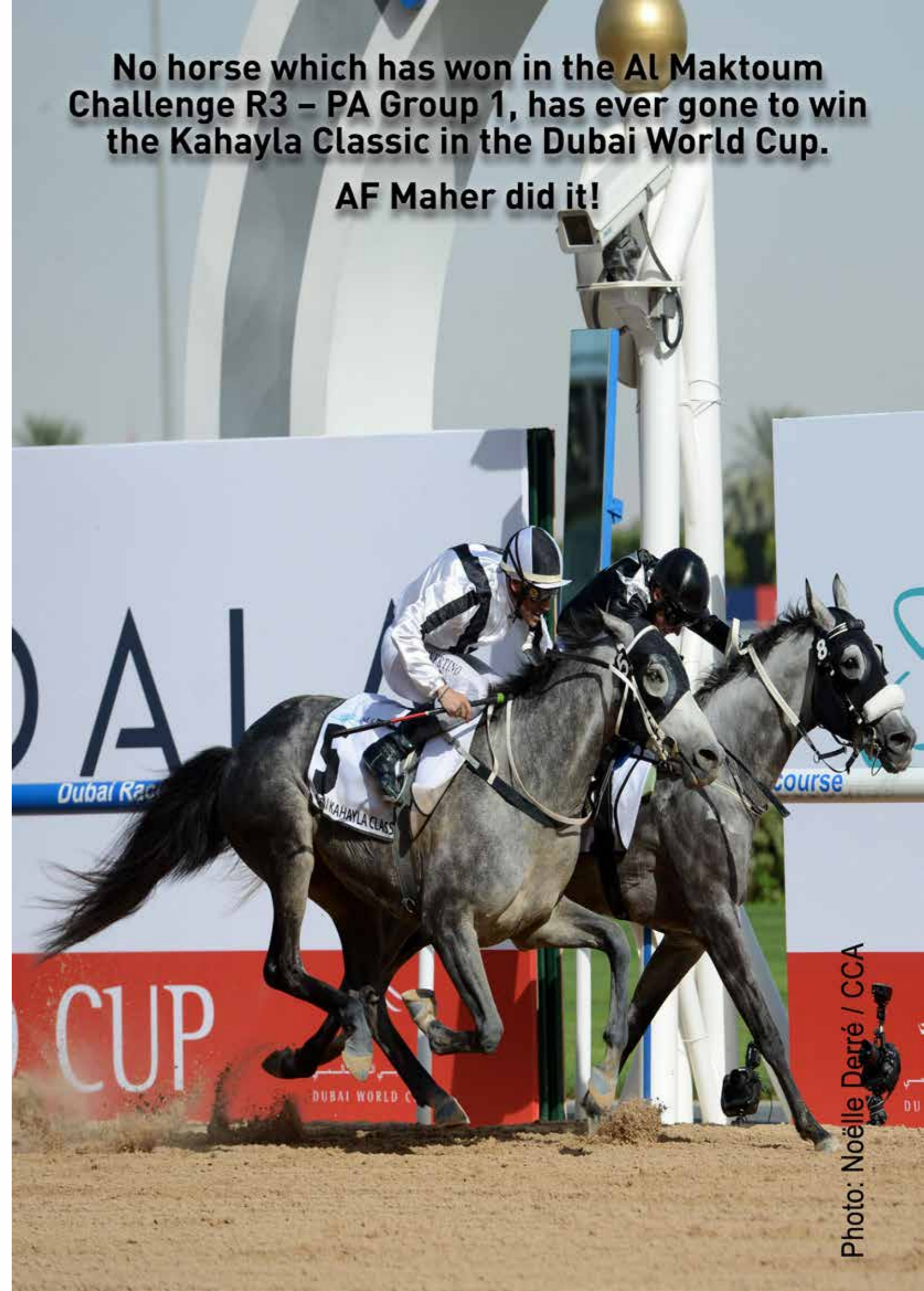


Photo: Noëlle Derré / CCA

Hajres wins Sheikh Zayed Cup, Bevan tops in ponies' race

The Highlight of the HH Sh Mansoor Festival at Royal Windsor

Text and Photos by Debbie Burt



The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) enjoyed a busy two days hosting the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival at Royal Windsor racecourse on Sunday 11th and Monday 12th August. The culmination of the Festival's races in the UK, the highlight was a win for Hajres in the HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA), becoming the first Tunisian-bred winner of a Group 1 PA race in the UK. The following day Helen Böhler riding Kamikaze won the UK stage of HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR). The two-day mixed meeting had begun with UK stage of HH Sheikha Lateefa bint Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race, run as part of the Charles Owen Series, which was won by Megan Bevan.

The prestigious HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA) had attracted eight runners including the 2017 winner Mith'haf Athbah and four other Group winners from the UK, Sweden and France. The mile contest was the first Group 1 race ever to be held at Royal Windsor racecourse, who have previously hosted the ARO Cup (Gr3PA) and whose top race for thoroughbreds is the Winter Hill Stakes (Group 3). The steady early pace was set by stable companions Storm Troup-

our and Kao Kat MHF, though entering the final furlong Storm Troupour's run was fading and the Phil Collington trained pair of Mith'haf Athbah and Mehdaaf Athbah were in a line with Macallan, with a fast finishing Hajres coming down the centre of the course. It was Hajres and Jean-Bernard Eyquem who proved the dominant force, pulling clear of Mehdaaf Athbah and Swedish challenger Macallan, to win by three quarters of a length, with 2017 winner Mith'haf Athbah in fourth.

After the race Eyquem said: "We started well, but I did not want to be going too quickly too early. When the pace picked up, I felt I was getting there too soon, so I waited behind horses, until we got to the last furlong and then we go. I love this horse, he is good."

Elizabeth Bernard who trains Hajres for Emadadein Althoushi from her base at La Teste in France commented: "I am so happy, this is the only horse I have for his owner, who is from Libya. Hajres was born and bred in Tunisia and he has won a Group 3PA in France, a Group 3 PA in Morocco and now a Group 1PA in England. It is a wonderful achievement."

The ten-runner HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR)





race featured jockeys from Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the UK. The race produced a clear-cut win for Böhler and Kamikaze who finished nearly three lengths ahead of Zayin Zachilles, with Vindetta, trained like the winner by Adam Newey for the Almost All Partnership, in third.

This was 21-year-old Böhler's first experience of riding Arabians, she is currently based in Cologne with former German champion jockey turned trainer Peter Schiergen. Talking of her experience she said: "I have no background in racing, though my parents took me racing as a child and then I started to help out with a local trainer, grooming and so on. Since then I have taken out my amateur jockey's licence and this is my fourth winner today. We have a lot of amateur races in Germany and amateurs can ride in every race so there are a lot of opportunities there. I look for-

ward to the experience of riding in the finals in November."

The HH Sheikha Lateefa bint Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race, drew seven runners and also produced a ready winner in Motor Edd ridden by 15-year-old Megan Bevan. Bevan has been competing in UK pony races for six years and is currently lying in third place in the Charles Owen Series. She was clearly thrilled with her win saying: "Before the race I was hoping to come in the top four so we could get some points for the Charles Owen Series. I think it's amazing to be able to go to Abu Dhabi in November to ride in the Sheikha Lateefa Pony Racing Finals, it's a great opportunity. I never dreamed it would happen."

Clarissa Daly, Chief Executive of the Pony Racing Authority in the UK commented: "We were delighted to be invited to run a pony race at the Sheikh Manor Festival at Windsor and for Megan



to ride her first Series winner. Thank you to everyone involved for their support of pony racing and for giving the kids such an amazing opportunity."

The UAE Ambassador to the UK HE Mansour Abdullah Khalfan Belhoul, Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) and Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director along with others gave away the trophies.

Ms. Sawaya said that the Windsor races were the third by the Festival to be staged in UK this year.

"The Festival's races in UK began with the Wathba Stallions Cup, run at Chelmsford City in June and won by Mawarid. The second Wathba Stallions Cup was run at Lingfield Park on Saturday and ended in one-two for Delyth Thomas who owns and trains the winner, Callymay and the second, Kork MHF.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director said: "We are delighted to welcome back the HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup to the UK and are proud that this is also the first

Group 1 event that Royal Windsor racecourse has hosted. The win of the French-trained, Libyan-owned and Tunisian-bred Hajres continues to underline our commitment to international racing in the UK, which of course the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival also does so much to support around the world.

"We congratulate Helen Böhler achieving a win on her first ride on an Arabian in the HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) race. The series is a wonderful opportunity for lady riders from around the world to compete against each other and share their knowledge.

"ARO is extremely grateful for the continued support of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival and Lara Sawaya and we thank all the team at Royal Windsor racecourse for their efforts over the two days. We also thank Clarissa Daly of the UK Pony Racing Authority for enabling us to host the first pony race in association with ARO."

Continuing their commitment to the ARO stable staff, Racing Welfare sponsored the Best Turned Out Award for both Arabian races with a cash prize £20 and a Racing Welfare gilet presented to the winning grooms, Tina Collins (Mith'haf Athbah) and Becca Thomas (Kayclaire) by Lizzie Harris.



ARO welcomes The HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival to Royal Windsor

The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) looks forward to welcoming the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival to Royal Windsor racecourse, following declarations for the two feature races ARO hosts in the UK this season. The HH Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA) and the HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) will be run on Sunday 11th August and Monday 12th August, respectively. Sunday's Group 1 PA race will also be preceded by the UK stage of HH Sheikha Lateefa bint Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race, run as part of the Charles Owen Series.

A field of eight will line up for the prestigious HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA), which includes the 2017 winner Mith'haf Athbah and four other Group winners from the

UK, Sweden and France. The mile contest will be the first Group 1 race ever to be held at Royal Windsor racecourse, who have previously hosted the ARO Cup (Gr3PA) and whose top race for thoroughbreds is the Winter Hill Stakes (Group 3).

The ten-runner HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) race features jockeys from Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the UK. Nineteen-year-old amateur jockey Antonia Peck is the UK representative. Based in Newmarket with leading Arabian trainer James Owen, she is currently heading the ARO Lady Jockeys Championship.

The HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA) is the highlight of HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival

events in the UK. These began with a stage of the Wathba Stallions Cup, run at Chelmsford City in June won by Mawarid, trained by James Owen and was a first winner for novice jockey Isaac Buncl. A second Wathba Stallions Cup was run at Lingfield Park on Saturday and produced a notable one-two for Delyth Thomas who owns and trains the winner, Callymay and the second, Kork MHF.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director said: "We are delighted to welcome back the HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup to the UK and are proud that this is also the first Group 1 event that Royal Windsor racecourse has hosted. The HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) race is a wonderful opportunity for lady riders from around the world to compete against each

other and share their experiences.

"ARO is extremely grateful for the continued support of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival and Lara Sawaya. Our meetings have always been very well received by the local racegoers at Royal Windsor and we are looking forward to watching some competitive Arabian racing on Sunday and Monday. We also thank Clarissa Daly of the UK Pony Racing Authority for enabling us to host the first pony race in association with ARO."

Continuing their support for the stable staff, Racing Welfare will be sponsoring the Best Turned Out Award for both Arabian races with a cash prize £20 and a Racing Welfare gilet to the winning groom.

Source: ARO / Debbie Burt equinecreativemedia.com



Over 3,000 spectators cheered in another successful purebred Arabian race run by Australasian Arabian Racing Club Ltd on Saturday 11 May 2019. Five maiden horses, 4 unraced and 1 with 2 starts, lined up for the last race at the Warwick track on Saturday the 11th May.

The three new owners of the Maidens were in attendance to cheer on their horses as well as one new trainer (Debra Pickford) who was also the jockey of her new horse. 1st across the line was Zalina (Cecily Eaton), 2nd Elan De Faust (Isabella Teh), 3rd Lindall Forte (Bridget Rooney), 4th Konfident MI (Dr Jill Colwell) and tailing off at the finish was Aloha Fashoda (Debra Pickford).

All the horses loaded well and we were off. Zalina jumped well and lead on the rail to the finish. Elan De Faust lost ground at the start and, running wide at the home turn, was rapidly catching Zalina in the home straight but failed by 3/4 of a length.

Warwick is a large regional town and is where we hold most of our races in Queensland. This is the sixth race we have organised here in the

past 3 years and this race meeting had 5 thoroughbred races with our race being race 6 on the card.

Zalina is trained by Dr Jill Colwell, who also trained Konfident MI, from Roadvale near Brisbane. Cameron Campbell from Kuranda (2,000km from Brisbane), Far North Queensland, trained both the second horse, Elan De Faust, and the third horse Lindall Forte.

AARC was very pleased CARR Farming sponsored our race and this was the second time they have joined with us. The committee of the Warwick Turf Club was very pleased with the reaction of the spectators and the fitness of the horses and they asked AARC to return and join with them again for more races during the year.

Full details of the finish can be seen below and you can find a video of the race on our WEB site: www.arabianracing.com.au

Report by Jeff Ablett, AARC – photos by Bubblez Barberato Photography



Another successful Dubai International Arabian Races

This year's Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR) was heralded as a great success by The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) who were delighted with the increase in international runners and by the crowd of 7,400 who were in attendance for their highlight fixture at Newbury racecourse on Sunday 28th July. DIAR promotes Purebred Arabian racing worldwide from the grass-roots to the highest level, with the flagship event organised under the generous patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum.

The 153 entries yielded 71 runners across the eight-race card, of which 24 were international contenders. The feature event, The Shadwell Dubai International Stakes (Gr1PA) run over 1m2f was won by Gazwan in impressive style. Owned and bred by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani and trained by Julian Smart, this was the eight-year-old's second win in the contest and he joins Bengali D'Abret, Al Sakbe, No Risk Al Maury as only the fourth dual winner in the history of the contest. Connections had already been successful earlier in the card with the three-year-old Methgal, who was a ready winner of the DIAR International Stakes (Gr3PA) for juveniles; both horses were ridden by Olivier Peslier.

The declarations also included seven DIAR prep race winners and nine horses who were placed in the prep races across Europe. Bayan, trained in France by Frederic Sanchez was successful in the Premio Taajer – UAE Embassy prep race in Rome and she repeated the bonus win for her owner-breeders YAS Horse Racing Management in the Shadwell Arabian Stallions Hatta International Stakes (Gr1PA), which they won last year with Joudh. Whilst the Jebel Ali Racecourse Za'abeel International Stakes (Gr1PA) sprint produced a notable win for Conchita DA, as she became the first Belgian Group 1 PA winner for her owner-trainer Peter Deckers and her jockey, Anna Van Den Troost.

HH Sheikh Hamdan was also present to watch his homebreds Al Azeeza and Thamaraat win the two premier handicaps. Al Azeeza gave her trainer James Owen his first DIAR success, when taking the Emirates Premier Handicap over a mile under Jim Crowley, and the Newmarket based handler also trained the second, Naishaan and

third, Farhaa for His Highness. Thamaraat's win under Tadhg O'Shea in the Dubai Developments Premier Handicap over 1m4f was a second victory in the race for Phil Collington who had won it in 2018 with Saleemah.

Emirates NBD Handicap Stakes run over 7f brought the meeting to a close and was won by the eight-year-old mare Popsstar for Jill Irwin and her Whitley Meadows Stud. Trained by Anthony Holdsworth, the mare responded well for Martin Dwyer when holding off a strong challenge from another of Owen's runners for His Highness in Mawarid. Owen was also the recipient of the inaugural DIAR Leading Trainer Award sponsored by Baileys Horse Feeds, which was a cheque for £1000 presented by representative Mark Buchan.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director, commented: "The success of DIAR and the prep race series was evident in the number of entries received and in particular, the significant increase in international horses declared. It confirms that the appetite for international Arabian racing at the highest level continues to expand and which we at ARO are pleased to encourage as it is part of HH Sheikh Hamdan's vision for the day.

"The day never fails to produce competitive racing of the highest quality, and to see Gazwan, one of the best Arabians in the world, regain his title in the feature race was a highlight, as he began his stellar career racing under ARO rules as a three-year-old at this very track. It was also pleasing to welcome new trainers, both international and domestic to the DIAR winners enclosure in Frederic Sanchez, Peter Deckers, James Owen and Anthony Holdsworth and hope that they will all be back again in 2020."

Concluding she said: "We thank HH Sheikh Hamdan, the DIAR committee, Shadwell Stud, all our sponsors, Newbury racecourse, Sportsguide and Equine Creative Media for their ongoing commitment to DIAR. We also thank the owners, trainers, jockeys and officials for making the day such a success and we look forward to their support for the 2020 fixture."

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) / Photos: Debbie Burt - equinecreativemedia.com

Gazwan won the Shadwell Dubai International Stakes in impressive style



Gazwan becomes only the fourth dual winner of the Shadwell Dubai International Stakes (Group 1PA)



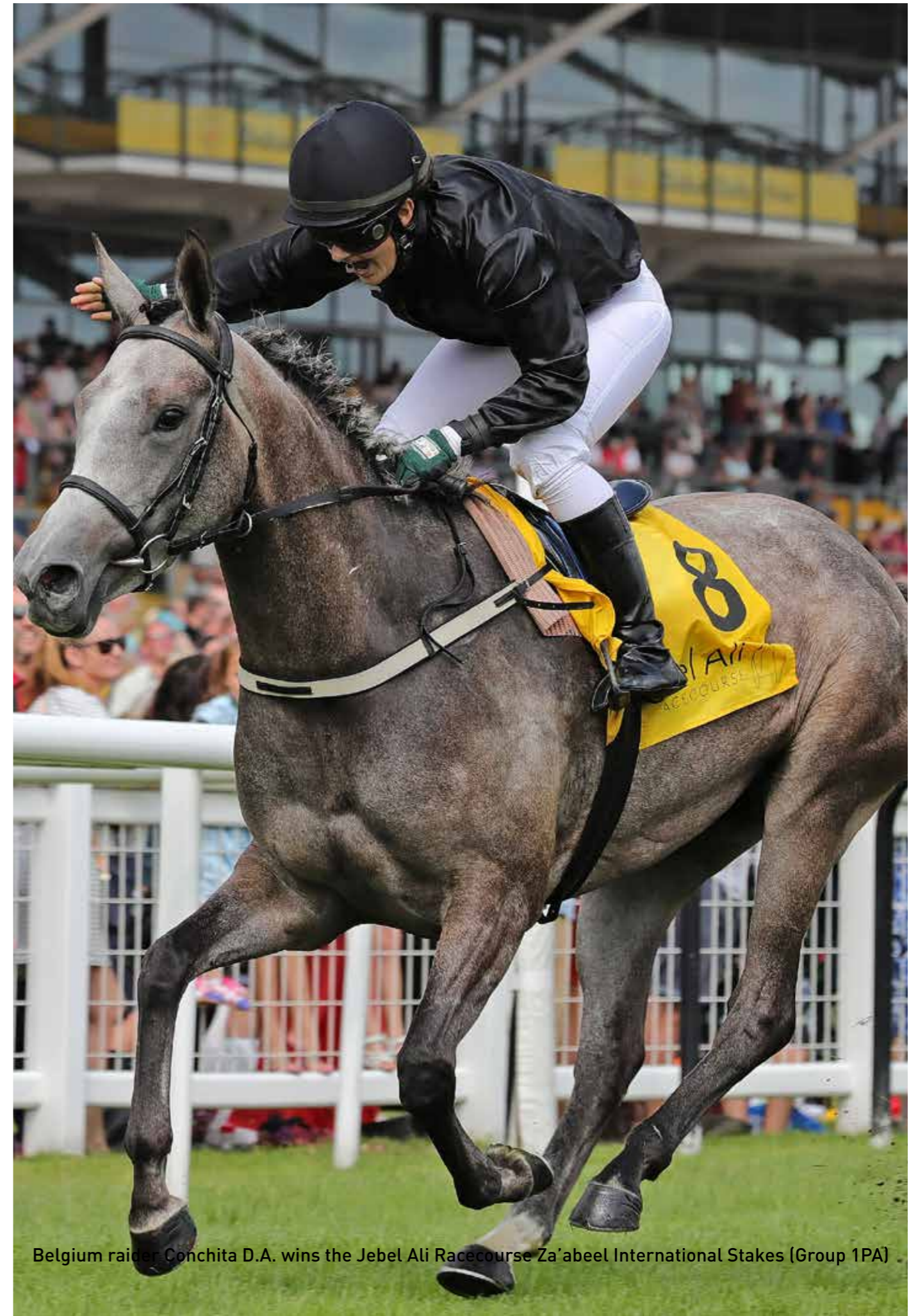
Methgal wins the DIAR International Stakes (Group 3PA)



Bayan winning the Shadwell Arabians Stallions Hatta International Stakes (Group 1PA)



[L to R] Tadhg O'Shea, Martin Dwyer, Jim Crowley, HH Sheikh Hamdan, Bryony Frost and Richard Lancaster



Belgium raider Conchita D.A. wins the Jebel Ali Racecourse Za'abeel International Stakes (Group 1PA)

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ARABIAN RACES (DIAR) SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR 2019

The now established Dubai International Arabian Races programme returns to Europe in 2019.

The series visits several countries in Europe and sponsors preparation races to encourage Arabian racehorses to get ready for the flagship event in the UK at the end of July.

In 2019, DIAR will sponsor 17 races in Italy, Sweden, the Netherlands and France, as well as the United Kingdom. This list includes six stakes races and eight international races.



Mirza Al Sayegh, spokesperson for the DIAR programme commented:

"In previous years, we have been delighted to welcome many international runners at Newbury in July, for our final race day, and we are grateful to all the connections of those horses who have made the journey.

"The eight Arabian races were incredibly competitive and we witnessed high quality racing. It was a great day for the sport. Olivier

Peslier, one of the best French jockeys, rode the winners of the four Group races! Furthermore, two winners earned a DIAR bonus: they had finished placed in a preparation race earlier in the year and won one of the Bonus races at Newbury.

"This race programme can only be achieved thanks to our team and partners, including the racing authorities from Italy, Sweden, France, the Netherlands and the UK. We are very grateful for their support and help in promoting our race programme and our showpiece at Newbury, which is now established as one of the best and most prestigious days of Arabian racing anywhere in the world."

Al Sayegh added: "In 2019, this event will be held on Sunday 28th July and will feature a total of five Group and International level races, including three Gr.1 PA races.

"We are delighted to announce the renewal of the travel allowances for international runners competing in the races at Newbury on 28th July and the renewal of the DIAR bonus prize fund for 2019."

The Dubai International Arabian Races is an international programme of Arabian racing run under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Minister of Finance and Deputy Ruler of Dubai.

This international programme of Arabian racing, run under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, aims to educate more people about the Arabian breed, the sport of Arabian horse racing and the Arabic culture that underpins it.

The DIAR bonus fund encourages international runners to the UK by offering a prize money bonus to horses placed in DIAR preparation races in Europe which then go on to win one of the bonus races at Newbury.

More information about Dubai International Arabian Races can be found at www.diaraces.com



Shadwell Day at La Teste DIAR2019 arrives in France

The Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR) prep series arrived in France, to La Teste racecourse in the Gironde region on Tuesday 2nd July. The nine race mixed card included three Purebred Arabian races as well as four Flat races and two jump races for thoroughbreds.

The feature race for the Arabians was the Shadwell - Criterium des Pouliches (Gr2PA), supported by the Shadwell Coupe du Sud-Ouest des Pur-Sang Arabes (Gr3PA), both over 1900m, as well as the Shadwell - Prix Bengali D'Albret for three-year-olds over 1400m.

Shadwell Stud Director Richard Lancaster was delighted with the competitive nature of the racing saying: "We are very pleased to be back at La Teste, all the staff at the racecourse has made a tremendous effort to ensure this day is a success and every year it exceeds our expectations."

Continuing he said: "The quality of the races this year was outstanding and we were delighted

to see such a large number of runners declared with every race producing a close finish."

Shadwell Arabian Marketing and Nominations Co-ordinator, Marion Lachat said: "We would like to thank the French owners and breeders for their support of the races here at La Teste and it was also a great pleasure to meet some of the breeders who have supported our stallions this year."

Entries for the UAE Embassy in London International Stakes (an international conditions race), as well as the handicaps confined to UK trained horses close on Wednesday July 17, whilst supplementary entries for the four Group races close on Thursday 18 July, all at 12 noon BST.

The Shadwell - Criterium des Pouliches (Gr2PA), for fillies and mares was won by Al Ryma Monlau ridden by Julien Auge for trainer Olivier Trigodet and owner-breeder Robert Bourdette,



Al Ryma Monlau ridden by Julien Auge

from Aksinya and Jaazmah Athbah in a very close finish. The four-year-old daughter of Runner was a winner of the three-year-old race here last year on her debut and also on her seasonal debut this year when she won the Prix Nefta (Gr2PA) at Toulouse.

This is the fillies' second win at this level and Bourdette is keen for her to progress in Group company. How she comes out of the race will determine her next target and whilst he would consider the Hatta International, he may wait for the Prix Nevadour (Gr3PA) back at this track in August, with the ultimate aim being Longchamp in October.

This was followed by the Shadwell Coupe du Sud-Ouest des Pur-Sang Arabes (Gr3PA), for four year olds and upwards which produced another tight finish requiring a photo to announce Ebraz as the winner.

This was also a second victory in this race for HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani colt, who won in 2017. Ridden on this occasion by Pierre-Charles Bourdot, the six-year-old overcame a poor start and had to come around the field in the home straight, taking the lead within the last 200m. He just held on from last year's winner, Taymour with Melabi half a length behind in third.

His trainer Julian Smart was delighted for his horse saying: "That was very close, it just shows what a good horse he is. As soon as he got to the front, he was pulling himself up. It's lovely to come here and win it again with the same horse. For me it just goes to show that the more time you can give these Arabians the longer their careers can be.

The first Arabian race on the card was the Shadwell - Prix Bengali D'Albret for three-year-olds. This was won by Najilah for the Royal Cavalry of Oman, ridden by Ioritz Mendizabal and trained by Frederic Sanchez. Hilal Al Cham and Mansoura Al Cham filled the places.

This was the filly's fourth start of her career and she gives her sire Josco Du Cayrou his first winner of his stallion career under the Royal Cavalry of Oman's banner.

Speaking on behalf of her husband, Mrs Sanchez said that they would now consider taking the filly to Newbury to run in the DIAR International Stakes (Gr3PA) for three-year-olds. A race the Royal Cavalry won last season with Tahirwah.

Source: DIAR / The Arabian Racehorse Magazine
Photos: Debbie Burt – Equine Creative Media



Ebraz ridden by Pierre-Charles Bourdot



Najilah ridden by Ioritz Mendizabal

Ayman winner of DIAR Stockholm Arabian Cup



Ayman ridden by Fedrik Janetzky

The Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR) prep series moved on to Sweden, to Bro Park racecourse on the outskirts of Stockholm on Sunday June 16. The ten race mixed card of Purebred Arabian and thoroughbred races included the DIAR Stockholm Arabian Cup (Gr3PA), which has been under the DIAR banner since 2016, as well as the Swedish 1000 and 2000 Guineas, and the Stockholm Stora Pris (Gr3) for thoroughbreds.

Representing the UAE Embassy was Mohammed Bin Jasim bin Khalfan, who also presented the prizes in the first race, the UAE Embassy Trophy. He was delighted with the day saying: "I came last year and we can see how popular the day is becoming with the people of Stockholm. The DIAR series is an important way for them to see and appreciate the qualities of the Arabian horse."

Arabian Marketing and Nominations Co-ordinator, Marion Lachat, who was representing Shadwell and the DIAR Committee said: "The team at Bro Park and at Svensk Galopp have done a fantastic job over the last four years since

we began sponsoring in Sweden in raising the profile of Arabian racing here. The quality of the horses competing has improved and we saw some very competitive finishes this afternoon."

She continued: "We are delighted to be associated with one of the biggest race days in Sweden and we are looking forward to welcoming the horses and their connections to Newbury on July 28 for DIAR."

The feature race, was the 1800m DIAR Stockholm Arabian Cup (Gr3PA), this produced a terrific finish with barely a length covering the three horses at the line.

Ayman ridden by Fedrik Janetzky prevailed by half a length from long-time leader Salam Al Kalediah, with Jaldi Karo just a short head away in third.

Both Ayman and Jaldi Karo are trained Maria Hagman-Eriksson who was overjoyed with her two horses said: "It's unbelievable, I'm so happy. Of course I would like to come to Newbury with Ayman. He's a really nice horse, I got him when he just turned four last season and he won five races for me. This is his second win this year, the



Assuan ridden by Elione Chaves

entries for Newbury close on Tuesday so I will look to see what will suit him best."

The meeting opened with the UAE Embassy Trophy Stakes, a handicap run over 1200m for four year olds and upwards. This was won in impressive style by the four-year-old colt Assuan, ridden by Elione Chaves, who finished well clear of Poloniz and Afja'an.

Trained by Camilla Nilsson for Abdulla Al Mansoori who had only taken over training the colt in December, she said: "He is a tough horse and he's brave. He is progressing well, the first race he ran for me was over 2100m and the trip was too far but over 12 to 1600m like today that suits him well. I will look at the race conditions for DIAR at Newbury now, we may find a race for him there, we'll see."

The DIAR International Fillies & Mares

Conditions Stakes was run over 1600m for three-year-olds and upwards. The crowds cheered another close finish with Cleopatre just winning by a head in a photo, from Anood Al Kahlediah.

Ridden by Andreas Tapia Dalbark for owner-trainer Annalie Kristina Eriksson, this is the second win for the five-year-old mare. Eriksson is a very dedicated handler as she explained: "I train three hours North from here, but come to Bro Park to do all their fast work. I only have two horses in training, this one and Eastway who ran in the Stockholm Cup. I will definitely look at the DIAR races and hopefully I will bring her to Newbury in July."

Source: DIAR / The Arabian Racehorse Magazine
Photos: Elina Björklund / Svensk Galopp



Cleopatre ridden by Andreas Tapia Dalbark



DIAR2019 begins in Italy

The new season began for Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR) at Capannelle racecourse on the outskirts of Rome in Italy on Sunday April 28. The nine race mixed card of Purebred Arabian and thoroughbred races includes the fourth running of the Premio Dubai International Arabian Races 2019 (Listed PA) as well as the Italian 1000 and 2000 Guineas (Gr3) for thoroughbreds.

DIAR have been sponsoring domestic Arabian racing in Italy for a number of years, where the appetite for the sport has been growing over the last decade. DIAR supported the Italian Arabian racing and breeding governing body ANICA (Associazione Nazionale Italiana Cavallo Arabo) and the Italian Ministry of Agriculture when they applied for membership of IFAHR (International Federation of Arabian Horse Haring) which was granted in October 2015.

Following this historic step forward for Arabian racing in Italy, DIAR were also honoured to be able to sponsor the first international IFAHR authorised pattern race in the country: the Premio

Dubai International Arabian Races 2016 (Listed PA) run over 1900m for four year olds and upwards. The race was run in May 2016 and won by the Royal Cavalry of Oman's Vulcain Du Clos.

Mirza Al Sayegh, Chairman of Shadwell commented on the day: "We were delighted to be back in Rome this year and the day is now firmly established in the DIAR calendar, a point emphasised by the number and quality of runners coming from all over Europe.

"The prep series are staged to encourage participation at the Dubai International Arabian Races at Newbury in July and it was fantastic to hear the connections of both Bayan and Avez De Pine state they plan to run their horses at the meeting this year.

The feature race, the 2000m Premio Dubai International Arabian Races 2019 (Listed PA), was won impressively by KANAAN ridden by Sylvain Ruis, for trainer Didier Guillemin. This was the third consecutive win and the second at Listed level, for the four-year-old son of Saraab, who



ph.Domenico Savi © all rights reserved

Kanaan ridden by Sylvain Ruis

is a half-brother to the Group 1 winning fillies, Joudh and Mabrooka. Six and a half lengths behind in second was Mashhururalkhaleedah and a further one and a quarter lengths in third was Salam Al Khalediah.

Thierry Delegue, racing manager for owner-breeders YAS Horse Management, was delighted with the colt's performance saying: "I think he will go to the Derby in Chantilly now. We wanted to see how much he had improved over the winter and we are very happy, his turn of foot was very, very impressive, particularly against older horses.

"He may go to Dubai Day, though we may keep to races for four-year-old for now, so the UK Arabian Derby at Doncaster may also be an option, later in the year."

This was the second win for YAS Horseracing Management as their four-year-old filly BAYAN had won the opening contest, the Premio Taajer - UAE Embassy Conditions Stakes, also run over 2000m for four year olds an upwards. She led the field from start to finish though was strongly pressed by Jadeeda in the closing stages, the pair finished clear of Manou Taouy in third.

Bayan was also ridden by Sylvain Ruis, but is trained by Frederic Sanchez, afterwards Delegue commented: "With this filly we hope to go to Newbury, she is a good filly who was second in a Group 1 last year.

"The DIAR Series is perfect. We came to Italy with two horses and will go next at La Teste, where we hope to run two or three horses and then go on to Newbury."

The Premio Shadwell Arabian Stallions Conditions Stakes was run over 1500m and was confined to three-year-olds. This was a second win in the race for Razza de Pine Stud, whose Aves De Pine, ridden by Andrea Fele, won by one and three quarter lengths from Dagui Lotois, just ahead of Amour in third.

Mattia Cadrobbi was pleased with his home-bred colt commenting: "We are based in the North of Italy, near Germany; we hope to take this colt to Newbury for the DIAR International Stakes (Gr3PA) in July."

Source: DIAR / The Arabian Racehorse Magazine
Photos: Debbie Burt – Equine Creative Media and Domenico Savi



Bayan (#1) ridden by Sylvain Ruis

ph.Domenico Savi © all rights reserved



Aves De Pine ridden by Andrea Fele

ph.Domenico Savi © all rights reserved



Dubai International Arabian Races Show Increased International Support

The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) was delighted with the declarations received for the forthcoming Dubai International Arabian Races (DIAR), to be held at Newbury racecourse this Sunday, 28th July. DIAR promotes Purebred Arabian racing worldwide from the grass-roots to the highest level, with the flagship event organised under the generous patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum. The 153 entries, yielded 73 declarations, which include Gazwan and Al Shamoos, the joint-highest-rated horse and the highest-rated filly in the world in 2018. They head the declarations for the Shadwell Dubai International Stakes and the Shadwell Arabian Stallions Hatta International Stakes, both Group 1 PA races held over 1m2f.

The declarations also include seven DIAR prep race winners and nine horses who were placed in the prep races across Europe, so the potential for the DIAR bonus awards to be claimed, in addition to the winning prize money, is high. The success of the prep series has contributed to the most significant change for this year's DIAR card, which has been in the number of international runners declared. This has increased to 24 from 17 in 2018, across the five races that are open to them, which is a very positive achievement for Arabian racing in Europe.

Also to be applauded is the number of champion jockeys across a variety of disciplines that will be riding, headed by HH Sheikh Hamdan's retained professional Jim Crowley (UK cham-



Gazwan and Harry Bentley winning the 2015 Shadwell Dubai International Stakes (Gr1PA)
Photo: Debbie Burt



Bayan [far side] wins the Premio Taajer - UAE Embassy Stakes - DIAR prep Rome 2019 Photo: Debbie Burt

pion Flat jockey 2016). This compliments four-time French champions, Olivier Peslier and Ioritz Mendizabal; seven-time UAE champion, Tadhg O'Shea and last year's UK champion conditional [National Hunt racing] Bryony Frost, as well as multiple champion lady amateur Serena Brotherton. Not that ARO's own talent has been forsaken as former ARO champion novices, Ellie Mackenzie and Charlie Price, who since turned professional, will both line up, as will amateurs David Turner (ARO champion in 2017) and Stephen Harrison, who have each surpassed the landmark of 100 winners under ARO rules.

Shadwell Stud Director, Richard Lancaster commented: "We are very happy to see the level of runners that will be racing on Sunday. Owners and trainers from the UK, Europe and further, will bring some of their best racehorses to compete at Newbury. We are very grateful for their support towards our programme and Arabian racing in the UK.

"There are 16 horses competing for the DIAR bonus, won by two horses in 2018 and we wish the best of luck to the eligible horses this year."

He concluded: "We are expecting very competitive racing and we are very much looking forward to Sunday."

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director, commented: "The success of DIAR and the prep race series was evident in the number of entries received and in particular, the significant increase in international horses declared. It confirms that the appetite for international Arabian

racing at the highest level continues to expand and which we at ARO are pleased to encourage as it is part of HH Sheikh Hamdan's vision for the day.

"We are also delighted to welcome some of horse racing's best jockeys and proud that our own homegrown talent will be riding alongside them. Apprentice Ellie Mackenzie has already ridden the juvenile Group winner at DIAR, when still an amateur and rides the favourite in that race this year. Charlie Price is currently third in the UK conditional championships and gets the opportunity to ride in his first Group 1 PA race on Sunday. There have been so many young jockeys under both codes who have already benefitted from riding Arabians such as Tom Marqand, Holly Doyle, Page Fuller, Rachel King, James Bowen and Tom Scudamore and we hope that this trend will continue."

Haynes continued: "For the first time this year, Baileys Horse Feeds will be sponsoring the DIAR 2019 Leading Trainer Award, where the trainer gaining the most points across the eight races will be presented with a cheque for £1000.

"Dubai International Arabian Races is the highlight of our season and we are fortunate that we have a grade one facility in the recently redeveloped Newbury racecourse to showcase our sport. We look forward to welcoming everyone to this unique event on Sunday."

Source: Dubai International Arabian Races

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RB Texas Hold EM Wins \$100,000 President of the UAE Cup



Byerley Racing's RB Texas Hold Em pulled off the 7-1 upset to win the \$100,000 President of the UAE Cup Sponsored by the Ministry of Presidential Affairs (Grade I), a 1 1/16-mile event for Arabian-breeds at Churchill Downs, Louisville, Kentucky, on June 15, 2019.

RB Texas Hold Em, a 4-year-old son of 2011-12 President of the UAE Cup winner T M Fred Texas, battled on the lead with 43-1 longshot Mizzdora and 20-1 longshot Thess is Awesome before taking command of the field at the quarter pole to draw away by a final margin of six lengths under jockey Gabriel Saez.

"We rested him a lot since we got him and we got lucky with a good jock," said trainer Nicole Ruggeri, who took over the training from Jerenesto Torrez in April. "He is such a fun horse. He is very feisty. He was ready and he knows that he is the best."

"I was glad Nicole gave me the call on this horse. I was in a great spot and I felt like I was back in Delaware Park like from back in the day. In the post parade I got him loose from the pony and warmed him up well, said Gabriel Saez.

RB Texas Hold Em's win took his tally to five from 10 career starts. Mizzdora under Edgar Morales was second ahead of Madjikman ridden by Keiber Coa and Carol Cedeno on board the seven-year-old Easter Man, third last year and runner-up in 2016.

The field was completed by Bellfastt, Uptown Cruisedirector, Quick and Rich and Thess Is Awesome.

With his victory in the President of the UAE Cup, RB Texas Hold Em earned \$58,280 to

boost his career earnings to \$75,270 with a record of 10-5-1-3.

Held under the patronage of the UAE President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan the world race series for Arabians is counting 26 years and was the third in the series for 2019-2020 after Egypt and France.

The races series is supported by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Dubai and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, and under the directives of HH Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs.

The meeting that also included 10 races for the thoroughbreds drew a crowd in excess of 50,000.

HE Saeed Al Muhairi, Director of Technical Affairs Department at the Abu Dhabi Sports Council (ADSC), presented the awards to the winning connections of The President of the UAE Cup in the presence of HE Matar Suhail Al Yabhouni, a member of the Federal National Council and ADSC's board of directors.

HE Faisal Al Rahmani, Racing Advisor to ADSC, congratulated the winning connections and the organisation of the race meeting.

"The Arabian horses have made their presence in some of the most prestigious race meetings around the world, and Churchill Downs are one of them," he said.

"Obviously it has encouraged owners and breeders of the Arabian horses."

Source: Kevin Kerstein, Churchill Downs Communications / Abu Dhabi Sports Council





HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani's Tayf wins Group 1 President of the UAE Cup in France

The HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned TAYF (Amer X Djelmila) landed the Group 1 President Of The UAE Cup (Coupe d'Europe) for four-year and older purebred Arabian horses at Paris Longchamp, France on Sunday, 12 May 2019.

Tayf excelled and gave a brilliant well-timed performance throughout the 2000-metre race, making it a perfect start for his seasonal debut in Europe. At the early stages, he cantered in sixth position. When right moment came, he showed a fantastic turn of foot, chasing and passing Kha-taab (Amer).

Tayf, then, continued his strong surge till the end, securing a decisive win by a margin of three quarters of a length in front of Al Shaqab Racing's Khataab who came second. Lightning Bolt (Munjiz) completed the frame

by two further lengths behind.

"Olivier Peslier knows him by heart", said the winning trainer, Alban de Mieulle.

"We could have run Yazeed in his place, but in a soft ground, Tayf seemed a better choice. He had won in heavy ground in Goodwood. He is back in great form after a long period of absence. It was two years since his last success in England. We had a hard time getting him back at this level, but he is back. 200m from the post, he had enough energy to take the lead, but his jockey knows how to do and he made him take the advantage at the end because we know he has a tendency to stop once in front", said Alban de Mieulle.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club / Photo by Zuzanna Lupa



THE PRESIDENT OF THE UAE CUP
COUPE D'EUROPE DES CHEVAUX ARABES

Akoya won His Highness The President of the UAE Cup for Purebred Arabians to become second time lucky in the Group 3 race at the San Siro racecourse in Italy on Sunday, June 23.

The runner up in the race 12 months ago, Akoya under Italian Antonio Fresu overcame the Saudi Arabian raider Mashur Al Khalediah under the six-time UAE champion jockey Tadhg O'Shea in a titanic battle on the home stretch to clinch the €50,000 race run over the 2,000-metre distance.

Aoun ridden by Roberto Montenegro in the silks of Abu Dhabi's Yas Horse Racing Management was third in the eight-runner field.

Akoya (Muquatil Al Khaleidiah) trained by Dutch trainer Karin van den Bos in the colours of Landgoed Waterland was recording his seventh win in 13 starts.

Karin Van Den Bos received from the ANICA councilor Annalisa Landucci the trophy offered for the first time by our association to the owner of the winner of the race.

His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al Saud was delighted at Mashur Al Khalediah's efforts and said he will come good from his first run for the season.

"We are still at the beginning of the season and Mashur Al Khalediah will benefit from this run," he said.

"It was a strong field and a close result. Mashur Al Khalediah will continue with his campaign for

the season and return stronger for his next race.

"We were so proud to participate in the President of the UAE Cup and this is one of the most prestigious and oldest race series in the world for the Purebred Arabians."

The world race series for the Purebred Arabians held under the patronage of The UAE President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, was the fourth leg of the race series.

The races are coordinated and conducted under the directives of HH Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs.

The winning connections received their prizes from HE Faisal Al Rahmani, Racing Advisor of Abu Dhabi Sports Council (ADSC), HE Abdullah Al Shamsi, UAE's Consul General in Milan, Saeed Al Muhairi, Director of Technical Affairs Department at the ADSC and His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

In attendance were HE Nasser Boukhmour, Kuwait's Consul General in Milan, HE Ehab Abu Seri, Consul of Egypt, HE Khalid Al Wah Consul of the Kingdom of Jordan, HE Abdulkarim Touahri, Consul of Algeria.

Source: Abu Dhabi Sports Council

Akoya is second time lucky in President of the UAE Cup in Milan





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Murad Saafan clinch opening round of The President of the UAE Cup

Murad Saafan in the silks of Mohamed Lutfi Abu Attwan clinched the opening round of The President of the UAE Cup at the Al Shams race-course in Cairo, Egypt, over the weekend, April 13.

Moqbil AL Farida finished second, Jawhar Saafan finished third and in fourth place Montaser.

The six-race card staged under the patronage of The President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan is on its 26th year and is aimed at maintaining and preserving the history and heritage of the Purebred Arabians globally.

Hosted for the fourth successive year in Cairo, it drew 50 entries across the six races.

The meeting was attended by Faisal Al Rahmani, Racing Advisor to the Abu Dhabi Sports Council, Saeed Al Muhairi, ADSC Technical Affairs Director and Dr Gilbert Bittar, head of the Egyptian Horse Racing and Owners Association.

Source: Abu Dhabi Sports Council



EBRAZ makes it third-time lucky

Day 2 of Qatar Goodwood Festival came with a huge Qatari victory when H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani's Ebraz won the G1 Qatar International Stakes for purebred Arabians. Qatar's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Yousef bin Ali Al Khater, presented the trophy to Al Shahania Stud Director Abdulrahman Al Mansour as well as the winning trainer and jockey.

H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani's Ebraz won a thrilling renewal of the prestigious £400,000 G1 Qatar International Stakes for purebred Arabians. Ridden by Maxime Guyon, the Julian Smart-trained six-year-old finished with a flourish to win the mile event by two and three-quarter lengths. The H.H Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned and Alban de Mieuille-trained Tayf was the runner-up with Olivier Peslier in the saddle. The Karen Van Den Bos-trained Lightning Bolt was third. He was ridden by Tadhg O'Shea.

Ebraz had finished second in the last two renewals of the G1 event and Smart was delighted that he had finally got his head in front. He said: "We came back to try and win this race with Ebraz again this year ... This particular race is huge and we have won it now so it is even more important. The Qatar Goodwood Festival is

a very prestigious meeting and to have an Arabian race within the meeting is very important. It gives us a wider audience and allows people to watch our racing."

Present on the day were Qatar's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Yousef bin Ali Al Khater, Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club (QREC) Chairman H.E Issa bin Mohammed Al Mohammadi, President of the Qatar and the Asian Equestrian Federations Hamad bin Abdulrahman Al Attiyah, QREC CEO Nasser bin Sherida Al Kaabi and QREC Board Members.

Al-Mansour: Congratulations to H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al-Thani

Al Shahania Stud Director Abdulrahman Al Mansour expressed his great pleasure with EBRAZ's winning the Qatar International Stakes. "First of all, I would like to congratulate H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani", he said, "It is the first victory for EBRAZ at Goodwood, during the Qatar Goodwood Festival. We had tried more than once to win the title and managed to do it today. It is certainly special because it coincides with GAZWAN's victory at Newbury a few days ago, which means that Al Shahania Stud dominates the Arabian racing scene in the UK."

Al Mansour added: "We will have other challenges in the near future, especially in the Qatar Arabian World Cup at Paris, Longchamp in Octo-



EBRAZ lands Qatar International Stakes (G1/PA) at Qatar Goodwood Festival



ber. I wish Al Shahania Stud all the best especially with the high attention paid by H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani and His Highness's keenness to own the best Arabian breeds in the world."

H.E Yousef Al Khater: Positive impact of QREC's sponsorship of the Festival

Qatar's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Yousef bin Ali Al Khater confirmed that the Qatar Goodwood Festival is developing one year after another as a result of the ongoing partnership between Goodwood Racecourse and QREC, and that this partnership has brought about many positive outcomes.

"When Qatar got the right to sponsor this prestigious Festival in 2015, the question was what Qatar would benefit from such sponsorship," said H.E the Ambassador, "Five years after the start of this sponsorship, the answer has become quite clear. The benefits which Qatar has gained from sponsoring this event are numerous. The event has been held since 1802, and therefore has its traditions and heritage. The

sponsorship has contributed to strengthening the partnership between Qatar and the United Kingdom in various fields, including the sports one represented by horse racing and the equestrian sport, which is one of the multiple sides of the partnership with the British side."

"Through the Embassy, we conducted a study on the impact of Qatar's sponsorship of the Festival. The results were great, demonstrating a high increase in the turnout of both racegoers and TV viewers and in the English people's awareness of Qatar's commitment to horse racing and the equestrian sport as well as the success of the events sponsored by Qatar. The study has also shown the appreciation of officials in England for Qatar's role in sponsoring the Festival, which is one of the best sports sponsorships in the United Kingdom currently", added His Excellency Yousef bin Ali Al Khater.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club and <https://www.goodwood.com>

Photos: <https://www.goodwood.com> and Juhaim CP (QREC)



Ebraz - Winner of Qatar International Stakes, trophy presented by HE Yousef Bin Ali Al Khatir Ambassador of Qatar to UK



'Glorious Goodwood'

A history stretching over two hundred years

From the first private race meeting for local army officers arranged by the third Duke of Richmond in 1801, to the 19 days of racing that are held each year, Goodwood has always been inexorably linked with horseracing.

With five days of thrilling action set against the magnificent backdrop of the rolling Sussex countryside, The Qatar Goodwood Festival – popularly known as 'Glorious Goodwood' – is one of the highlights of the flat-racing season.

Qatar Goodwood Festival is a world-famous five-day festival one of the highlights of the flat racing season. Over 100,000 people flock to the world's most beautiful racecourse to enjoy top class racing and entertainment, including four Group 1 races; namely, the Qatar International Stakes for pure Arabians, the Qatar Goodwood Cup, the £1-million Qatar Sussex Stakes and the Qatar Nassau Stakes.

The 2019 renewal of event takes place from Tuesday 30 July to Saturday 3 August and Qatar continues its generous support of the week, with prize money totalling over £5.5 million.

History - The Sport of Kings

Goodwood is synonymous with racing: the first public race meeting took place in 1802, the year after the third Duke of Richmond first held a private race meeting for the officers of the Sussex Militia and members of the Goodwood Hunt.

Up until 1801, the officers had held their annual races in nearby Petworth Park, courtesy of the Earl of Egremont, but the invitation was withdrawn in 1801. The Duke of Richmond came to the rescue, allowing the officers to race on "The Harroway", a narrow ridge on top of the South Downs.

The family's links to horseracing go back even further to the seventeenth century: Charles II, father of the first Duke of Richmond, rode in races himself, even setting out rules and adjudicating over disputes.

And They're Off

The private meeting in 1801 was so successful that it was decided to hold a public race meeting the following year, held over three days.



Queen Elizabeth and Frederick Gordon-Lennox, 9th Duke of Richmond

A head-to-head race was the highlight: Rebel, owned by the Prince Regent (later King George IV) beat Cedar, owned by the Duke of Richmond, for 100 guineas.

At this time, races were a test of stamina as horses might have to run three two-mile heats, with a prize for the horse who won two out of three heats.

Growing Popularity

Through the nineteenth century, 'Glorious Goodwood', as the press named it, became a highlight of the summer season. King Edward VII (who came almost every year) famously dubbed it "a garden party with racing tacked on".

Horseracing was suspended during the First and Second World Wars, but Goodwood's popularity began to grow again during the second half of the twentieth century. When Goodwood's record one-day crowd of 55,000 turned up in 1953, well over a third were to be found up on the Trundle (pictured above). Members of the public can still enjoy free, grandstand views of Goodwood racecourse from its north-east slopes.

Today, the racecourse welcomes over 100,000 racegoers during the annual Qatar Goodwood Festival. Many more come to the other fixtures in the spring and summer.



An Equestrian Family

In addition to introducing horseracing at Goodwood, the third Duke of Richmond also commissioned the celebrated architect, Sir William Chambers, to design a magnificent stable block, which is one of the grandest in the country and still in use today. The fifth Duke of Richmond was particularly instrumental in drawing up the rules of horseracing and was a successful racehorse owner himself. During the twentieth century; Goodwood also hosted horse trials, carriage driving championships and for twenty-one years, international dressage.

Greatest Moments

The Goodwood Cup (Qatar Goodwood Cup Gri)

The Goodwood Cup was first run in 1808 and is one of the leading staying races in the country. Double Trigger famously won the race three times in the 1990s, making the trip from his native Yorkshire. Arguably the most famous horse to race at Goodwood was Kincsem, a Hungarian racehorse – who won the Goodwood Cup in 1878. Kincsem was unbeaten in a staggering 54 races.



The Sussex Stakes (Qatar Sussex Stakes Gri)

The feature race at Goodwood is the Sussex Stakes – a Group 1 race for milers. The best milers in the world have contested this race over the years, including Brigadier Gerard in 1971, who was on his way to becoming the champion racehorse of his generation. The mighty Frankel, officially the highest-rated horse in the history of the turf, is the only horse to have won the race twice: in 2011 and 2012.

The Nassau Stakes (Qatar Nassau Stakes Gri)

Possibly the greatest race in the modern history of Goodwood was the Nassau Stakes in 2006. This is Goodwood's third Group 1 race, when the fillies take centre stage. On this occasion, The Earl of Derby's Ouija Board, one of the superstars of international racing, battled with Alexandra Goldrun – who had won the previous year's Nassau Stakes. The two fillies fought it out all the way down the Goodwood straight with Ouija Board eventually winning in the closest of photo finishes.



Other black type races

There will be also three Group 2 races; namely, the seven-furlong Qatar Vintage Stakes and the seven-furlong Qatar Lennox Stakes on day 1 as well as the six-furlong Qatar Richmond Stakes on Day 3.

The Qatar Goodwood Festival will also feature five Group 3 races, including the Goodwood Market Insurance Molecomb Stakes to on Wednesday, 31 July.

Source: Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club and <https://www.goodwood.com>

Photos: <https://www.goodwood.com> and Juhaim CP (QREC)





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