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16 NOVEMBER 2022



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ANDRE FABRE
ON GODOLPHIN PLANS

KING DAVID

NIELS PETERSEN
LEADING THE
SCANDINAVIAN
RAIDERS TO BAHRAIN

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Editor's Note

**2022 Bahrain International Trophy
Pearl Souvenir**

November 16, 2022

Lord Glitters Wins The 2021 Bahrain International
Trophy//Credit: Bahrain Turf Club

Hello,

We've hit that point in the year when the GCC season starts and I prematurely start stressing about it slipping away (deep breaths). The list of possible racehorses headed to the region and the horses already in the region picking up where they left off earlier this year is endless. Wading through the list to spotlight racing journeys is a tall order, one we do as a team each year.

Its almost a reset with each season. A change at the baseline, to take stock, recalibrate and start again. Whether it be dismantling long-held methods of delivering content or prioritising the website or new ways of reconnecting with the industry people that matter. It is a concept that resonates on many levels.

To recapture the glory of the season just past and remind everyone of that carefree racing season ahead, we've packed The Pearl Souvenir, Bahrain 2022 with exclusive interviews with top trainers.



I hope speaks to you with renewed energy and the fresh vision we hope to embody and that you come with us on that journey this season.

Hope you have a sizzling Bahrain International Trophy Day!

PShevade

Pallavi Shevade
Editor-in-Chief

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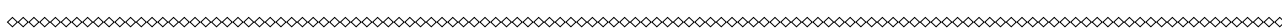
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André Fabre//APRH



Magny Cours on Course For Bahrain International Trophy

19 starts with 8 wins and a further 7 placings, the 7YO son of Medaglia d'Oro, has amassed US\$1.8 million in prize money with no plans of stopping his golden run.

The Godolphin gelding Magny Cours has always shown what he is capable of.

He will continue to do so as he looks to line up for his second run in the Bahrain International

For Andre Fabre to add to his already remarkable resume, he will be competing for the trophy.

Fabre spoke with Ten Furlongs about his career and what is next for the Kentucky-bred gelding ahead of a start in the Bahrain International Trophy.

“He has always been a nice, easy horse to train,” Fabre said.

Fabre, born in San Sebastian (Spain), grew up in different foreign countries, mainly Germany with his interest in horses coming through show jumping before a career as an amateur jockey and professional jumps jockey.

His jumps riding career saw him win more than two hundred and fifty races including the Grand Steeple-Chase de Paris.

However, Fabre's choice to begin training proved to be the master stroke, and he has had much greater success as a trainer of both jump and flat runners than he had as a rider.

It has been a training career that has seen him be named champion trainer in France on thirty-one occasions, including 21 straight years from 1987 to 2007, while also training winners across the world including four Breeders' Cup races.



Magny Cours (USA) (Andre Fabre) DUBAI WORLD CUP//Credit Dubai Racing Club & Neville Hopwood

First training a starter in 2000 and now approaching 12,000 starts closing in on 5000 winners with a massive 188 Group Ones, the first coming in the Prix d'Hispanhan with Al Nasr, Fabre has a record to be admired and respected.

His stable has included such champion horses as Trempolino, Peintre Celebre and Waldgeist under his guidance as well as two horses ranked No. 1 in the world in Hurricane Run (2005) and Manduro (2007).

For this season alone, he has had forty-eight winners: including 2 x Group Ones, a Group Two, a Group Three, and nine Listed Race honours. Add to this, a

further 73 placings from 226 starters and have made the winnings tick past US\$3,3 million.

His current stable currently boasts classy 2YO colt Belbeck who recently added another Group One win to Fabre's trophy case in the Prix Jean-Luc Lagardere.

Fabre has said that the two-time Group three, Group two winner and now Group one winner will be rested for a year before heading into training for the Qipco 2000 Guineas.

Although a run before that was suggested Fabre feels that a Group One win in what was his fifth run for the season was more



André Fabre and His String Of Horses On The Gallops//APRH

than enough for the Showcasing-Bee Queen progeny.

“He’s done for the year, we decided he did not need to run again,” Fabre told media.

“I don’t see him having any problem in staying a mile next season, he would have had no problem in staying it this season, it’s just that he has already had five runs and I don’t think he needs to run again.

“Obviously, we will run him in a prep race next spring to see if he is good enough for the English Guineas.”

For now, he is interested in what Magny Cours can do in Bahrain and continues to have great respect and regard for the horse.

“His size means he was rather late to mature but he has always done everything that has been asked of him and when he is good enough - he wins.”

Magny Cours trains out of the Godolphin powerhouse and sired by Medaglia d’Oro out of Indy Five Hundred has been improving nicely since his time in the GCC.

“He ran last winter in Saudi - it was a bad experience for him, so we decided to give him a long holiday and he gradually came back in good shape,” Fabre said.

The race the trainer refers to being the Group One Saudi Cup in February where he finished tenth before another tenth place a month later in the Dubai World Cup.

Following the break, he would return to track racing in France in the Prix de Coyo for 4YO’s where he put in a great effort taking the race out.

“He won his last race very nicely which made us take the decision to go back to Bahrain.”

The 2000-meter Bahrain International Trophy is a marquee Group Three open to 3YOs and older with a rating of 95 or above in their domestic nation. It aims to further establish Bahrain as the premier destination for horse racing while showcasing the pure elite athleticism of its entrants.

Shaikh Salman bin Rashed Al Khalifa, Executive Director of the Bahrain Turf Club is a proud spokesperson for the race and the growth of the sport in the region.

“We are very happy with the quality of horses entered for this year’s renewal of the Gr.3 Bahrain International Trophy. Some of the best trainers from around the world have once again supported the race,” he said.

“Last year was the first time the race was run with Group Three status, and it saw three high-class horses fight out



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the finish. With the race now a key date in the international racing calendar, we firmly believe that the race will continue to progress through the grades with our ultimate goal to have Bahrain host its first international Group One race.”

This will be Magny Cours’ second shot at the Bahrain International Trophy after finishing third last time last year by a neck to the Charlie Appleby-trained Barney Roy, a Godolphin stablemate.

This year’s edition looks to be even better with a field of talented starters once again that includes the Owen Burrows-trained Alflaila that earned his spot after winning the “Automatic Entry” Strensall Stakes at York in August.

Magny Cours will be joined by two other runners flying the flag for Godolphin and three locally trained horses have also been entered in, Dilawar who finished fourth in the Group One Prix d’Ispahan, Litigator racing for Haider Ebrahim and Pensiore D’Amore racing for Mohammed Hassan.

Fabre says his starter looks to be maturing nicely and is preparing greatly ahead of Group Three later this month.

“He has been doing well, he is a mature horse.

“He leaves on the 10th to go to Bahrain where the facilities are excellent, and the travel conditions are very good.”

Fabre has commitments at home and cannot accompany the horse on this trip, but he intends to bring the horse back to Europe after the race so that his future racing destinations may be determined.

“He will likely run again in the UAE.”

The trainer enjoys racing his stable throughout the region and added that he was leaving his options open for a possible further runner in the GCC and other races.

“I will have a close look at the cards to see if I have another option as I would love to have more runners in Bahrain.”



Magny Cours (USA) (Andre Fabre) DUBAI WORLD CUP// Credit Dubai Racing Club & Mathea Kelley



Magny Cours//APRH

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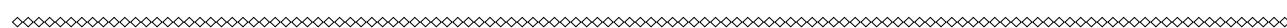
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King David//Hesteguiden.com



King David in Bahrain: The Trials and Tribulations of a Horse in Form

With all eyes upon the approaching Bahrain International Trophy, Ten Furlongs spoke with Derby winning trainer Niels Petersen about the journey of King David: his approaches to training horses in Scandinavia and hopes for future success in the Middle East.

“King David is a big boy and he’s a strong colt,” said Petersen. He further said that of the three years that he has worked with the son of Elusive City, the first of which was spent “getting to know the horse. I said to the owner, (Mme Karin Salling) I would like to bring him to Dubai to get to know him better,” and further, “to get to the bottom of him.”

Despite initial doubts, Petersen acknowledges that “it is of course in the most difficult batch of the 1600s and 1800s.” Consequently, he admits, “We’re trying to do in two months what you normally do in four”: it is “hard to make them peak, and it’s difficult to prepare to race abroad.”

Petersen locates a critical problem in preparing his horses in Norway and Denmark, due to the lack of a year-long training regime and the necessary facilities.

“In Scandinavia, you more or less stop training the horses at the end of the window.” If there are no facilities, then you have to train them right back up again. It’s better to train them the whole time. Petersen’s method applies to none other than King David: “We keep him on the roll, as we have done all season, and he’s been outstanding.”

The reason King David disappointed last year in Dubai, Petersen admits, is because



Niels Petersen//Trainer Magazine

“we didn’t have him well enough.” It’s as simple as that. In addition to the problem of “a dirty throat down there with sickness among many horses,”

Petersen is full of confidence in King David after bringing him back to Scandinavia to rest. In all four races, King David has won them all. “He is enjoying his game when you give him time. We worked with him last week, and it’s probably the best I’ve ever seen of him. He is obviously in the deep end, but it’s fun to train.”

The Journey To Bahrain

“He is a nine-furlong horse, and after what people told me about the place (Bahrain), it’s a good fit for him. Let’s see how good he is,” said Petersen expressing delight with King

David’s current form and condition,” said Peterson expressing delight with King David’s current form and condition.

“We travelled to Dubai with him, and he came down very well and happy.” So he seems to be a very good traveller. King David will travel to Luxembourg and then to Bahrain, according to Petersen, and everything will “swing around quite quickly to the race.”

The race itself, he says, “of course, will be tough with some good horses.” He accepts King David’s initial position prior to the race: “in the bottom part, but I find him good enough to go.” I think the surface will suit him and the profile of the track. He is a smart horse, and he runs a little off the pace.

Petersen will be looking forward to checking out the track himself. He has entered a few other horses in the Bahrain series and in Dubai. Those he has entered he describes as “different kinds of horses, well handicapped.” Among these are “a string of lovely two- and three-year-old horses I would love to bring down.”

Previous winners of the BIT include the 2021 champion, Lord Glitters from France, whose re-racing rate was 115 and who, out of 13, achieved the winning time of 2 minutes, 1.91 seconds going good. In 2020, Simsir from Ireland, with a pre-race



Square De Luynes//Elina BjörklundSvensk Galopp and Dubai Racing Club

rate of 105, achieved first place out of 14 at a winning time of 2 min, 0.29 sec.

Beyond Bahrain To Dubai

King David remains in Petersen’s considerations for Dubai, but due to “quarantine rules” and being outside the EU for more than 90 days, it will force the King into quarantine for a month. Petersen plans to return King David back to Scandinavia after Bahrain but omits that he’ll “maybe go back out again, together with another horse—perhaps two or three—from the Danish stables,” with the additional potential of “five or six horses from Norway.”

From the colder climates of Scandinavia to the warmer Middle East conditions of Dubai, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia, there are extra challenges in training preparations and the travel itself. “Some horses are not suited for all the travelling and flying, but of course it’s individual.”

Transitioning into a warmer climate is, in Petersen’s estimation, “often more difficult than coming into a colder climate.” This can make it “sometimes harder to cope with the likes of Dubai.” Nonetheless, he remains confident, saying, “Travel- and

weather-wise, I’m not too worried because it’s a matter of looking after the horses.”

Petersen does, however, locate a more general issue. “I think in Scandinavia we are probably a little too soft, not perhaps in a negative way.” The season here is so long that we have a lot of time off, but the horse doesn’t need half a year off. The benefit of travelling with the horses is that you can bring them away for the winter and keep training them at a certain level.

Petersen believes that by working all year, “it’s easier over a long time spectrum to adjust your horse into certain races to peak form.”

“I live in Norway, but I’m all Danish.” Born on a racecourse just outside of Copenhagen, Petersen’s introduction to the sport came from his parents’ influence. Petersen’s father had shares in a few horses. We always went racing on Saturday. It was great; we enjoyed it. As his elder sister became an apprentice, Petersen recalls fondly, “I was always around the stable,” and “when I got a bit older, I started leading up horses to races, whilst I rode a little also.”

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After high school graduation and entry into college, Petersen underwent military service, serving his time in the Cavalry Guards for a year. Upon discharge, he humorously admitted, "It was hard to go back to school after earning money." So, he travelled to Germany in the 1990s, where he would watch the trainers every morning. Observing them, he admits he began to think, "If it doesn't take much more to be a trainer, I could be a good one."

"This was my cocky little attitude at the time," he admits. But After a few years in Germany, upon returning to Scandinavia, Petersen suffered a horse-riding accident. Unable to ride for 5 months, while recovering, he encountered a few Danish trainers who asked him whether he could take their horses to ride in Germany. As a German speaker, he was able to accompany the horses to these races while gradually reintroducing them to jump riding.

Around this time, Petersen began working with a Norwegian trainer, who would ride and train horses at the owner's stables. However, what transpired after the trainer departed left Petersen with an opportunity. They asked me if I would like to train them. And that's how it began 25 years ago, with three or four horses.

To this day, he runs a "big operation," with approximately 50 to 55 horses in Denmark and 15 to 20 in Norway. At such a scale, he admits, it is "a considerable thing for Scandinavia." Surprisingly, Petersen remains a little startled by his successes.

"We are fortunate to win as much as we do," he says, listing just some of his achievements: "12 years running with the champion in Norway," he says, adding that he recently won a double championship in Denmark. His horses have previously been crowned "Swedish champions several times." He is especially pleased to have met his "satellite yard" for two years in a row.

Still, Petersen insists, "It's been fortunate."

There Will Be More To Come.

When asked to name his most memorable accomplishments, he says it's "difficult to place them like that." For Petersen, it can often be "the story behind the horses" that makes it important to him. It is hard to pick one.

But as for the future, Petersen would love to win the Dubai World Cup, but admits that currently "we probably don't have the horses for it." In light of the world's classic races, he is candid: "We're probably not in that league, but we can dream."

As a self-proclaimed adventurer, he is realistically aiming for "a big race in

the Middle East," such as the Bahrain International Trophy or the Saudi Cup, or "something in that international handicap to put you on the map internationally."

As for now, Petersen remains grounded but optimistic. "Every winner is a good winner."

The upcoming race in Bahrain may determine whether Petersen's dreams of international success outside of Scandinavia can be achieved sooner than expected, and much of this attention will be looking to see how King David can continue his successful form abroad and overcome his previous disappointments in the Middle East.



Niels Petersen trained King David gallops in Bahrain//Credit: Bahrain Turf Club



Square De Luynes Winner Stockholm Cup 2021//Elina Björklund//Svensk Galopp

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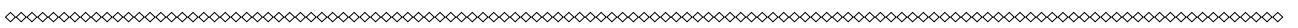
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Bhupat Seemar//Racing post



Group One Winning Trainer Bhupat Seemar Is A Name Synonymous With UAE Horse Racing

Training out of Zabeel Racing Stables, he is one of the leading trainers in the United Arab Emirates and he spoke with Ten Furlongs on his career to date and what was to come.

He took the reins at the stable last year and has not looked back and does not intend to as he looks to take the Zabeel name into the future.

Born and educated in Delhi with parents from Rajasthan he grew up around farms that were owned by the family.

“I grew up with horses as my parents had them on the farm and I knew how to ride but didn’t know how to get into it professionally,” Seemar said.

“My uncle Satish did it professionally, so I followed suit.

“I did my bachelor’s degree in business and graduated with honours, but a desk job wasn’t for me, so I knew that I wanted to be out and around horses.”

His training career started after leaving for the United States where he spent 18 months in Kentucky working for Taylor Made farms before working for trainer Chris Speckert for 6 months and Bob Baffert in California for 5 years.

His career has seen him prepare 385 starters as his record closes in on fifty winners which include a Group One and a Listed Race achievement.

The Group one major win was by Switzerland in the Dubai Golden Sheehan earlier this year which saw him turn the clock back as an eight-year putting in an empathetic win hitting the lead with 200 meters left fending off competition from the Japanese invader Red Le Zele.

“It’s such a fantastic result. We have always really liked the horse. Tadhg (O’Shea, the winning jockey) and I spoke in the morning and made a plan. I knew there would be plenty of pace in the race, so we wanted to pick up the pieces,” Seemar told the media following the win.



2022 Kentucky Derby Contender Summer is Tomorrow With Bhupat Seemar and Tadhg O’Shea//Credit: Dubai Racing Club

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Another career highlight came earlier this year when he trained Summer is Tomorrow in the Kentucky Derby, a training milestone Seemar is extremely proud of.

“It was a surreal experience! First of all, to get selected to go to Kentucky Derby is incredible.

“Since I was a child, I watched every Kentucky Derby, and I was present there for many of them even when I worked for Bob (Baffert) or even as a spectator.

“There are around 35,000 horses born in America every year and only 20 get to go into the starting gates in the Kentucky Derby - so you know, it’s like going to the Olympics.”

Having raced his entire career in Dubai with six races at Meydan and one at Jebel Ali he broke his maiden in his third race as a two-year-old.

He would go on to earn his bid as a late Triple Crown entry after putting in a strong effort to lead all the way at 25-1 in the UAE Derby, only to be beaten by Crown Pride.

After his run at the Kentucky Derby, Seemar understands what needs to be done going forward for the stable to contest what is



Bhupat Seemar and Tadhg O'Shea with the connections accepting the trophy after Switzerland wins the Gr.1 Dubai Golden Shaheen Trophy at the 26th Dubai World Cup on March 26, 2022//Credit: Dubai Racing Club

regarded as the greatest two minutes in sports at Churchill Downs.

“Obviously, it is never easy. Everything has to go right. And the biggest thing is to travel from Dubai to America and run against horses that are residents there and there is

always going to be a lot against you, but you know, adversaries make you stronger.

“It was always a dream just to get selected and now we know what to do, what kind of horse we need to take, and we’re going to try our best to win that race someday.”



Zabeel Stables' Bhupat Seemar with Secret Ambition//Credit: Bhupat Seemar

When asked about the effect travel had on the colt as well as other horses the trainer understood the miles covered already by the three-year-old sired by Summer Front out of Always Tomorrow.

“He was born in America and then went to Ireland where he was broken and ridden. From there he went to the United Kingdom where he was sold and then came to Dubai – so he had plenty of air miles on him early on. It’s never easy to travel a horse that far as even human beings can be knocked out by different time zones and travel - so we always make sure we have very good vets on hand to travel with him.”

“He did set the record for the fastest quarter mile ever in the 148-year history of the Kentucky Derby and maybe the second or third fastest half-mile ever but those are not the records we wanted to set. I would have liked it if he had the fastest last four furlongs rather than the

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first four. It is extremely hard for him to relax behind horses so when the Japanese horse and him hooked up early in the race, unfortunately, they burned themselves out.”

“But you know, this is how this horse racing is and this is what happens.

Seemar was confident that the stable would see some more runners come out in the coming weeks.

“**Bendoog** is a ginormous horse - what he did last year was incredible for his size. The horse only broke his maiden two months previously to running in the UAE Derby – a phenomenal performance.”

Bendoog will be running in the mile conditions race on the 1st of December

“It gives the top three-year-olds in the country a chance to meet and race before they go and meet older horses - we don’t have racing in the summer here so these three-year-olds don’t get a chance to run against their age and gender much.

“That makes this race a very clever one as you could probably meet the Guineas winner versus a lot of improving three-year-olds.”

The plans for His Group One winner Switzerland are still in the making, but Seemar says that “after talking to connections, we might run him in January”

“We’re going to just try and keep the same formula as last year”

Seemar says that the Zabeel Racing team hopes to build to 135 horses this season offering options for training and racing opportunities for himself.

“I would think we would probably have fifty percent new horses and the other half older horses.”

The notable attendant at sales said that he was at most sales across the globe and even though it was an intense task but hopefully it was worth it in the end.

“I think I did six countries in five weeks – we have some great owners who really give us great support.

“We were able to buy some really nice horses - lots of them are diamonds in the rough because they haven’t run but there is a lot of potential.”

He said at each sale no matter which corner of the world it was when scoping out lots he looked for the same qualities in a prospective purchase.

“Usually it’s the four P’s - Pedigree, Performance, Physical and Price.”

“Everybody hopes to win the Guineas or the Derby so we mainly look at a horse that are bred to run on the dirt.”

He also said that plans to send runners to Bahrain or Qatar were uncertain but with a couple of runs in races such as the Listed race on National Day Cup and the Listed Emirates Championship under their belt, we will have a better idea of which horses to point at races in the GCC countries.

“We will judge from there and make a call. They have moved the Emirates Championship, the listed race at 2200metres to December as well – we will run horses there and then decide from there.”

Alongside his training opportunities and pursuit of further success he also commented on the introduction of NFT’s

launched by the Dubai Racing Club earlier this year.

“The Dubai police brought out one of the first police NFT’s and now in horse racing, we have the first horse NFT’s in the world.”

“I think it’s a great idea – I would definitely like to look further into it.

“You know Dubai is always forward-thinking and ahead of everyone, so I really think it is great.”

With a career that has taken the next step seeing him take over the string at Zabeel Stables Seemar now looks to the future and with confidence aims to contest and ultimately win the biggest domestic and international races.

“Well, I am biased because I call Dubai home now – so it would be great to win the Dubai World Cup.

With Bhupat Seemar at the helm, the Zabeel Racing name will continue to grow and be noticed on the global stage with greater success along the way.

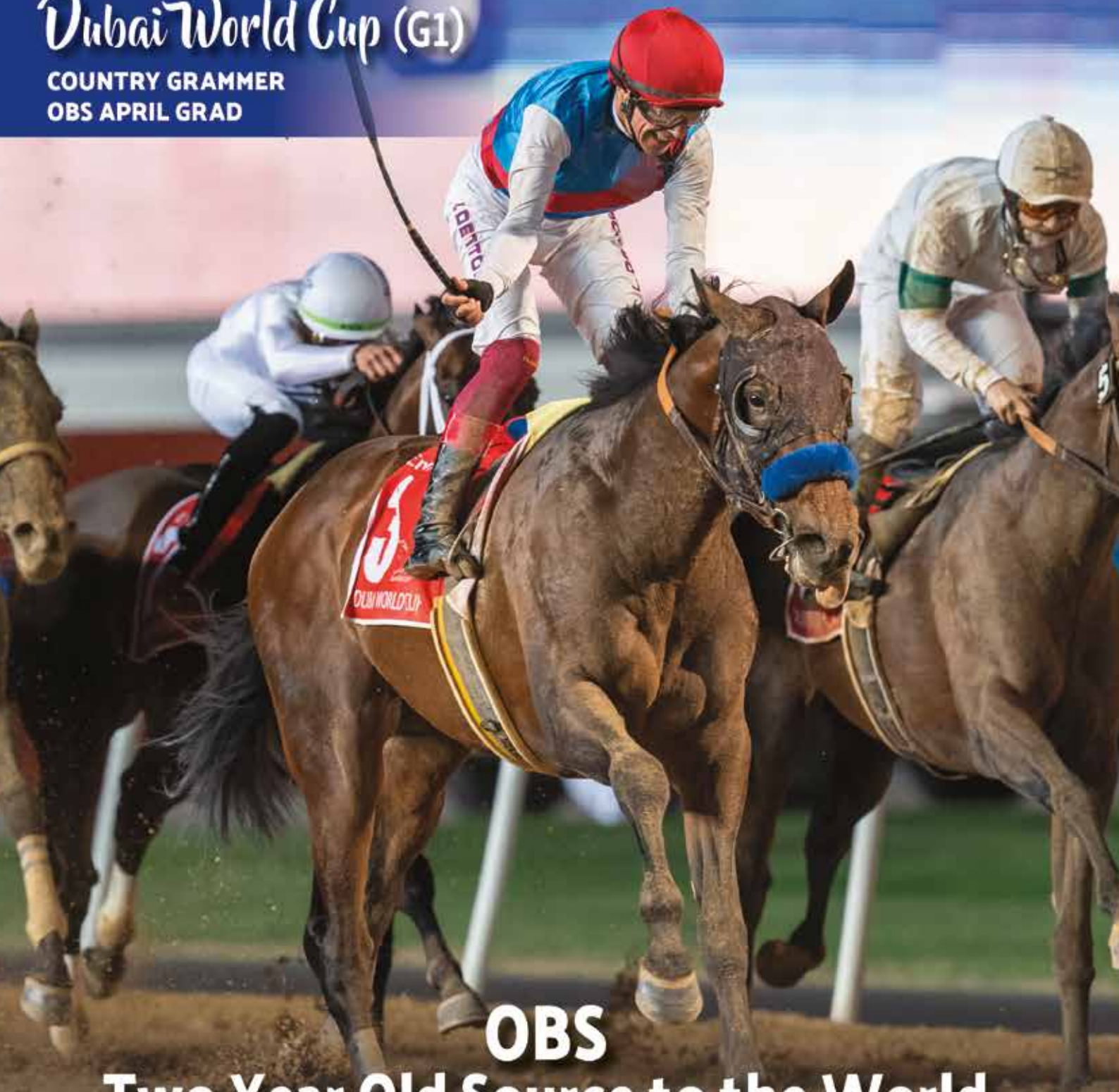
“Dubai World Cup, Kentucky Derby, Saudi Cup or Breeders Cup - if we can get close to some of those races that’d be absolutely phenomenal!”



Bhupat Seemar and Family with American Pharoah//Credit: Bhupat Seemar

Dubai World Cup (G1)

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From Last To First Alflaila Showed, He Is A Colt On The Rise

Sitting last for most of the race, Jim Crowley rode him out storming home in the Strensall Stakes at York.

The pace quickens and the home stretch is in sight, got the split to find the lead in a highly skilled ride taking the win.

Five wins, three seconds from 12 starts - the most significant win to date coming in August crossing the line and getting the money in the \$85,065 Group 3 Sky Bet And Symphony Group Strensall Stakes defeating Finest Sound.

This run was made even greater as he lined up with a penalty and against older horses on this occasion but with the ever-green and coolheaded Crowley on board got the job done.

Impressive and with Owen Burrows in the seat as his trainer he will continue to show his ability with consistent performances.

With a run in the Bahrain International Trophy coming up Ten Furlongs spoke

with Burrows about Alflaila's future as well as his career.

The expectation and belief in the three-year-old are high as he commented.

"He's out of a pretty fast Shadwell mare, but there is a little bit more stamina when you get further down," Burrows said.

"He won over six furlongs the first time up as a two-year-old, but he is pretty versatile ground-wise. He is ready for his run in Bahrain.

"That extra furlong will suit him with his race style, so there are plenty of positives to take that the Bahrain trophy should suit him."

The £600,000 Group Three Bahrain International Trophy has attracted a total of 43 entries from nine different nations

with Britain having the highest number of entries (16) followed by Ireland (6), France (5), UAE (7), Bahrain (3), Germany (3), Norway (1), Turkey (1), and Sweden (1).

A key race that with its foundation began a new chapter in the history of horse racing in Bahrain, demonstrating the country's determination to establish itself as a premier horse racing destination while serving as an opportunity to attract the attention of the global media and market Bahrain internationally.

Alflaila guaranteed his place in Bahrain's headline race by winning the Strensall Stakes in August and will leave the United Kingdom this week arriving in Bahrain on the 10th of November.

"He will travel by horsebox on the Eurostar through to Luxembourg and stay a night there on the way over."



Owen Burrows

He will line up for the race eight days later.

His two prep races in the Darley and Strensall were guided by different tactics, as Burrows said this was not the initial plan.

“It wasn’t by design that we were a bit further back at Newmarket than planned,” Burrows said.

“Unfortunately, he has got this little bit of a habit where he just breaks a bit slow – as he did when racing in York.

“As he showed at York when back off the leaders, it suited him as he tends to run on a little too keen.

“It certainly was not the plan to give them four or five lengths start at Newmarket but fortunately there was no panic from

Jim (jockey Jim Crowley) as he knows the horse well.

“He just lets him find his rhythm and make his ground up gradually.”

Alflaila will then return to the United Kingdom following his start in Bahrain where Burrows will then assess how he looks and where he will be targeted next for the track.



Owen Burrows At The Gallops



Alflaila//Racing Post

“I’m quite conscious that he’s been on the go for a while and probably needs a rest,” Burrows added.

“Depending on what is in Bahrain, the Jebel Hatta on Super Saturday is a possibility.

“He will probably need to improve a few pounds as he is rated 115 now.”

He holds the young colt highly and said he currently has no other horses coming out to Dubai or Saudi.

“Hukum got injured but is improving and Minzaal has retired.”

Burrows was born into racing and rode for seven seasons as a conditional jockey with forty winners from 500-plus rides. After his stint as a jockey, he went on to become an assistant trainer for Sean Woods in Newmarket for seven months before joining Sir Michael Stoute as an assistant for twelve seasons.

This experience allowed him to learn from one of the best to ever train and saw Sir Michael have three Derby winners, an Arc De Triomphe winner, Breeders Cup winners and many other Group One winners during his time there.

It was there he met Sheikh Hamdan and when advised that the late Sheikh was looking for a private trainer – Burrows took on the opportunity.

With his training career starting in 2016 his first win would come fourteen days after his first starter jumped.

Shadwell Racing has had some of the brightest stars of the turf don the blue and white since 1980 and the partnership Burrows has with Shadwell is one that he is proud of.

Having been a notable attendant at the recent sales the Shadwell Stable picked up some new additions – a prospect of great interest to the trainer.

Ending a near two-year sales ring hiatus last month when the operation’s long-serving racing manager Angus Gold purchased a Siyouni filly out of Lah Ti Dar offered by Watership Down Stud during the opening stages of Book 1 at Tattersalls.

“Obviously they bought a lovely couple of fillies with beautiful pedigrees at book one - whether I’ll be fortunate enough to train one of them, I don’t know yet,” Burrows commented.

“They also bought another seven or eight at Book Two. There is a mixture of pedigrees named Mehmas, Showcasing, and Land Force - so they are interesting additions and all being well one or two of them will hopefully come to us in the next month or so.”

With the Shadwell Racing name now in the hands of Sheika Hissa, Burrows spoke passionately and optimistically about the future of the stable and whether it



Alflaila//York Racecourse

changed the style that Shadwell's legacy would progress.

"It was well documented last year that there was a big reduction in numbers."

Reports in the media covering the reductions grew following the confirmation earlier - this year that the focus would shift to quality and competition over quantity along with several high-profile and very successful trainers being cut from the Shadwell list, following a decision by Sheikha Hissa, the late owner's daughter, to slim down the operation.

This came with the announcement that Shadwell planned to sell a substantial number of horses also from their ranks.

"Sheikha Hissa was in Dubai for Super Saturday and was in France the other weekend - she takes huge enjoyment out

of it and shares the same passion that Sheikh Hamdan did which is brilliant and wonderful to see.

"We are dealing with a slightly reduced number now, but it is encouraging what we saw in sales, a couple of weeks ago and I believe that there are going to be fifty-plus two-year-olds going into training this year.

"The signs are very encouraging and from a trainer's point of view that's brilliant and exactly what we want to see."

Burrows has won a number of races internationally and with a record of 174 wins and 439 placings from 914 trained starters - he reflected on the career highlights so far.

"The Epsom Coronation Cup was a huge winner - and I didn't realise at the time that Shadwell had never won that race.

"It has eluded Sheikh Hamdan so that was a huge result.

"Minzaal winning at Haydock was another great achievement and there was a lot of satisfaction from taking Hukum over in March at Super Saturday.

"I know, it was only a Group two, but it was the first horse to run from the UK since Sheikh Hamdan had passed away - so I took a lot of satisfaction from that race.

"I'd love to go back out to Dubai on World Cup night and win those big group ones, for Sheikh Hamdan's family, and I'm sure most of them would be there. That would be an honour and achievement for myself and my team, if we were able to do that." Sheikh Hamdan was introduced to thoroughbred flat racing while a student in

the United Kingdom and it was then his passion grew establishing his first racing stable there in 1981.

Over the years he invested heavily in both racing and breeding and acquired major operations in England, Ireland and the United States, owning eight stud farms worldwide containing over 200 regally bred mares and many top stallions.

Burrows holds great admiration for the late Sheikh and all that he did in the sport through his passion and love for horse racing.

“Sheikh Hamdan had bred Baaeed right back from the Height of Fashion line and amazingly, he left him for Sheikha Hissa as a gift.

“It is very, very hard to find that kind of group one horse - so when you find one

like him, whom you know has won six group ones - it is an amazing and huge satisfaction.”

With the majority of large iconic races now established in the Middle East Burrows sees it as a hub for horse racing as more owners and trainers are coming out to the region.

In recent years, the horse racing industry growing impressively through the region and is now home to some of the finest racecourses and richest prizes in the sport.

The most noteworthy is the Dubai World Cup, taking place at the end of March with a \$12 million dollar purse making this the world’s richest horse race.

“Bahrain is very big now, isn’t it. Obviously what Bahrain, Qatar, and Saudi are doing

and setting up races now which trainers all around the world are taking note of.”

Bahrain has made great contributions to horse racing in the recent past, but it is Dubai that now has the most credit due for the bulk of the region’s contribution to the sport of kings.

Horse racing in Dubai has become the best in the world, with purses, amenities, glamour, and attractions that draw the best trainers, jockeys and equine athletes from all corners of the globe.

“If they have got a horse, they think is suitable – the prize money is wonderful, and the tracks are great now as well.

“It is the world stage for racing now.”

All photos provided by Kingwood House Stables Limited



Trainer Owen Burrows With His Family



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Andrew Balding



Royal Trainer Andrew Balding On His Middle East Ambitions

Legacy: Something memorable received from an ancestor or predecessor from the past.

In sports, like in life, a family's name might become so intertwined with that of its members that it will be permanently associated with those members.

The name Balding is a pure example of this, the connection and success this family has established in the sport of kings is respected and reputable.

With a grandfather like Gerald Matthews Balding, a polo player and racehorse trainer, an uncle like Toby Balding, one of the few to win the 'big three' British jump races (the Grand National, Cheltenham Gold Cup, and Champion Hurdle), and a father like Ian Balding, an iconic trainer himself, Andrew Balding understands this field better than most.

"My father has been my greatest inspiration - he has been everything from the beginning," Andrew Balding stated. His father began training in 1964 and at the age of twenty-six, made Kingsclere his home from which he built his reputation internationally as a successful trainer. In his fifty years as a trainer, he produced several champions, including Mill Reef,

often considered to be the best racehorse of the 20th century.

The son of Never Bend partnered with jockey Geoff Lewis and had one of the most memorable campaigns of any three-year-old while delivering Balding champion trainer honours in the process.

Taking out the Epsom Derby, Eclipse Stakes, King George VI, Queen Elizabeth Stakes and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe all in one year (1971) the great horse's statue stands proudly at the heart of the Balding's training establishment at Kingsclere, Hampshire, in the yard that bears his name.

Other horses included Lochsong, Mrs Penny, Glint of Gold, Diamond Shoal, Gold and Ivory, Selkirk, Forest Flower, Dashing Blade, Robellino, Silver Fling, King of Clubs, Lochangel, Top Cees, Crystal Spirit, and Tagula.

The senior Balding's CV boasts wins including two-time Grosser Preis von Baden (1982 and 1985), 1986 Imperial Cup with Insular, owned by the Queen

Mother, 1989 the French Prix de l'Abbaye de Longcamp, 1989 and 1990 National Stakes – amongst a long glittering list.

On retiring in 2002, he would hand the reins of his Park House stables' licence at Kingsclere, Hampshire, to his son.

Balding's owners have and currently include racing royalty such as HRH Queen Elizabeth, and Qatar's Prince Fahad Al-Thani and distinguished newcomers such as the late Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha, of the King Power duty-free empire.

The 2000 Guineas-winning trainer has raced horses in just about every global jurisdiction and has won seven Group One races in Canada, Dubai and Hong Kong including the Epsom Oaks in 2003 with Casual Look.

He has returned to the Middle East and has been racing his horses in Bahrain, Saudi and UAE showing what his stable is capable of while also continuing to pay tribute to his European style training, the Kingsclere heritage and honouring his father.



Park House Stables, Kingsclere



Andrew at the Gallop

On his return to the region, he spoke with Ten Furlongs regarding his prospects on track coming out of the stable ahead of the Dubai World Cup and other race opportunities.

“My training style is very traditional European. We do not do fast intensive training. Our style of training is similar to what they do at Warren Hill (Gallops) at Newmarket. I tend to have later developing, more middle-distance horses,” Balding added.

Racing, like many other fields, was affected by the pandemic, as Balding notes.

“We had plenty of challenges over the course of the time since the lockdown was imposed in the UK. Thankfully, our staff has remained healthy and safe over that period.

“It has had an impact on our lives although racing has been allowed to continue, we had to undergo several COVID compliance measures to enable this.

“The one advantage we had is that current technology has made it possible for us to get footage of the horses across to our clients, thanks to Zoom and FaceTime.”

The trainer said he was a supporter of racing throughout the region and was

excited about the future of the sports profile there.

“Since its inception, the (Dubai) World Cup night has been a wonderful event and a major boost to racing year.”

Held in March each year and with prize money of US \$30.5, the 2000m Group One has been run since 1996 at Meydan Racecourse and is regarded as the world’s richest horse race and a coup for the region in its promotion of racing’s profile to the globe.

“In the early part of my career, during the Nad Al Sheba days, we had a horse called Phoenix Reach that won the Gr.1 Dubai Sheema Classic, which was very exciting. We haven’t had many runners on World Cup night since then, but we did have a horse called Side Glance who was fourth in two consecutive Dubai World Cup’s when it was run on Tapeta (2010 and 2011).”

Phoenix Reach would go on to win prize money in the UAE as well as the United Kingdom and Singapore with its last race run in September 2006.

He also made mentioned what the Saudi Cup meant for the sport.

“The travel is most convenient and at this time of the year, the climate is good and

fair to all the competitors. By all accounts, they have done a tremendous job in Saudi with their turf as Meydan always is - we are always happy to be running our best horses in those conditions. So the Saudi Cup race meeting has been hugely positive for the horseracing community around the world.”

His career has seen him train 7725 starters winning 1143 races and placing a further 3221 times, the current season has been successful with Balding prepping 340 runners for a record of 46-44-45.

In training horses and winning races across the , he ensures that the stable is competitive at sales no matter where they are being held.

“I attend all the European Sale but Tattersalls (Book 1 and 2) and the Goffs Orby Sale, are mainly where our yearlings come from.”

His stable currently boasts some very handy runners led by two-year-old Frankel-Suelita colt Chaldean who won a Group One Darley Dewhurst Stakes is a horse that Balding will say he is really excited about.

It marked Balding’s first triumph in this race and gives Balding and this horse legitimate aspirations in the Classic.

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Like a step back in time to when another Group 1-winning juvenile under the expert hand of Balding in Kameko won the 2000 Guineas two years ago.

Balding will tell you that he has high hopes and even higher belief in Chaldean and the path ahead is endless for this son of Frankel.

There have only ever been three horses that have completed the Dewhurst-Guineas double since 2010 in Frankel, Dawn Approach and Churchill while this Balding-trained colt wants to become the fourth and further mark his own place in history.

Stablemate Alcohol Free has now won four Group Ones and is another that Balding is excited about.

The daughter of No Nay Never was a top prospect in the eyes of the trainer from the moment he saw her at the sales, as he told the media.

“You do not know quite what you are going to get sent, but you get an opportunity to have a whisper in David Bowe’s ear and say, look I really like the No Nay Never filly. And thankfully I did, and she ended up coming my way. She was actually one of the later yearlings, but as soon as she came in, it took about two pieces of work, and she was ready to run.”

Following the introduction to the Newbury course, she made her debut running a close second to Happy Romance in the Group Three Dick Poole Fillies before backing up and winning the Gr.1 Cheveley Park Stakes.

The filly got a taste for success and after this first Group One win came three more with the Coronation Stakes and Sussex Stakes as a three-year-old.

She also took out the July Cup after opening as a 14-1 chance and with little to no support in a field of horses that had beat her at Ascot before showing she could match it with the best of them.

Another 4YO filly putting in great performances for the stable is the Irish Fascinating Rock-La Chapelle

progeny Something Enticing who with a nice ride went on to take out a Listed Class 1 at Doncaster a few days ago in great signs for the coming year.

There are also three entries in the Irish Guineas also are being prepared in The Foxes, Chaldean, and Frequent Flyer in hopes of another Group One to the Balding legacy.

Balding had also hope to race Masaleka in the upcoming Bahrain International Trophy with eyes to taking Group Three, a race he has participated in several times in the past.

Balding has sent a horse to each of the two previous runnings of the Bahrain International Trophy in Pivoine in 2019 and Bangkok in 2020 and is positive about what further races added to the calendar mean for the sport and the region.

“Our experiences with sending horses to Bahrain has been exemplary. The fantastic facilities for the horses and stable staff, coupled with brilliant hospitality means we would love to be returning there this winter for either the Bahrain International Trophy or the Turf Series.”

The race is seen as where champions meet, and Deputy Chairman of the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club His Highness Shaikh Faisal bin Rashid bin Isa Alkhalifa has spoken on the importance of this event.

“My own personal goal is to develop the industry of thoroughbred horse racing in the Kingdom of Bahrain and if we are able to facilitate our Bahraini trainers and jockeys’ relationships with European connections that will be one of my key goals met. We always look forward to welcoming owners and trainers to experience horse racing in Bahrain and everything that the Kingdom of Bahrain has to offer.”

The Bahrain Turf Club announced even more reasons for the entries to become even more competitive with a 20 percent boost to prize money for the Trophy race’s purse.

A brand new £550,000 international turf series was introduced to the Bahrain race programme during winter which Balding is a supporter of.

“All these races happening in the Middle East are fantastic for us.”

All Photos provided by Andrew Balding



Trainer Andrew Balding with his Family



See Hector wins the 2022 Premio Parioli//equos.it

See Hector: Contending with Company in Bahrain

With the Bahrain International Trophy approaching on Friday, November 18th, a total of 43 entries across nine countries will compete for this season's Group Three Trophy, worth a considerable £600,000 in prize money.

The following countries with entries- Britain (16), UAE (7) Ireland (6), France (5), Germany (3), Bahrain (3), Sweden (1) and Turkey (1)- will race for this prizemoney distributed: £360,000 for the winning horse, with the runner up gaining £120,000: 3rd place will receive £60,000, whilst 4th and 5th will earn £36,000 and £24,000 respectively.

Out of all these, German trainer Henk Grewe hopes to race his stable star, the 3YO son of Counterattack - See Hector.

Ten Furlongs spoke to Henk Grewe about his selection of contenders for upcoming the tournament in Bahrain, and plans for the remainder of the GCC racing season.

Travelling To Bahrain

At the time of the interview, Grewe was unsure of the travel details, saying, "Nothing at the moment is completely planned. But I think next week we will make a plan for travel and everything."

He stated that "this is the first time See Hector will be travelling by aeroplane over such a long distance." When probed about any impact this journey might place on the horse, Grewe infers stoic confidence. "Every horse is different. But he is a very iron horse, so I assume it's no problem for him".

His decision to take See Hector to Bahrain reflects both pragmatism and strategy. He explains further.



Henk Grewe//Turf Times

"The biggest fact... you only have to start next week, and as we start this year, I think it is very important that you have a fresh horse."

Grewe gives no hint of his immediate plans after Bahrain, for the rest of the GCC season, "I think this (See Hector) will be the only one, but it depends on how we make it in Bahrain. And then we can plan and handle the other things." He

is, however, heavily implying his intentions to bring (See Hector).

"back to Germany and take a break for the next season."

Although Grewe had hoped for second entry with the 2011 Derby Champion, Sisfahan, the horse's participation was unconfirmed. He anticipates a revival of the similar form that witnessed his 'great



See Hector Portrait//Turf Times//Stephanie Gruttmann

horse' ride to victory in the Deutches Derby in Hamburg last year.

As For See Hector

This 3YO, Grewe said, is his "first horse under a committee". He has since run six races on flat turf, achieving his first-place and third-place finishes with reported total winnings of (according to Racing Post) £53,782 and £83,178.

Grewe began to work with See Hector after partnering with a long-term owner at his stables. The team comprises his breeder Gestut Karlshof and racing manager Holger Faust, for Cometica AG, alongside Grewe, who remain hopeful that See Hector can extend upon his recent success in Italy.

Riding High In April

In April (2022) with pre-race odds at 174/10, See Hector enjoyed a successful weekend at The Premio Parioli race in Capannelle.

Il Grande Gatsby seemed to be jostling neck and neck with The Fire Of the Sun when at the final 150-yard stretch, See Hector swiftly outrode them both, sustaining his lead until over the line. A brilliant dramatic climax was pulled off by See Hector and his rider- Alberto Sanna- after they pushed midfield at the inner, with a prominent approach to claim first place on the 1,600-meter track.

Grewe identifies no need for drastic changes following his victory in Italy. "He can run a longer distance than I expected. I think he's a Miler. But I think that 2000 is perfect for him.". Even so, Grewe remains grounded, "(however) I think he can be better than he showed."

The Winning Trainer

Born in Germany, Grewe's initial connection to the sport came from his parents,

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who were racehorse owners. After a formative upbringing surrounded by racehorses, Grewe decided at first to pursue a career as a jockey. “But”, remarking, “being too heavy, I decided to become a trainer”.

His first notorious achievement came in 2015, after training 3YO Let’s Dance to victory at the Austrian Derby. Since then, Grewe has been developing his team Rennstall Grewe at his training stables in Cologne, where he keeps a reported ‘100 boxes at his base’ in Weidenpescher Park.

Achieving back-to-back accolades as Champion Trainer 2019- with a remarkable 62 wins at home and 29 wins abroad;

followed up in 2020, with 55 home wins and 15 abroad.

Despite prior years of “pressure”, he revealed to Trainer Magazine in September 2021- after being crowned TopSpec Trainer of the Quarter.

“Winning the Derby was Great was really special...Everyone was expecting me to win it for the last three years, and now that I have won it, that pressure is gone; it makes everything easier’.

These victories, however, came after a period of tragic disappointment. Isfahani, the Diana Prize runner-up, and the Group 3 winners aged 2, with so much promise, passed away.

Grewe told Trainer Magazine how upon receiving the news, he was “absolutely shocked”, reflecting at the time, “She never had the chance to show her true colours, and I am still convinced that she was the best horse that I have ever trained.”

Despite his tragic loss, further accolades were awarded to Grewe in 2021, as he added his name to ‘the roll of honour’ leading Sisfahan to the Deutsches Derby, and Flamingo Girl to Group 3 victory at the Premio Elena E Sergio Cumani.

As Grewe prepares to saddle See Hector in the Bahrain International Trophy, many questions remain unanswered.



See Hector//JDG



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Queen Elizabeth II//Credit: BBC News



HRH Queen Elizabeth II: The Lifelong Pursuit of Racing Excellence

Quite possibly the most recognisable racehorse owner in the world, The Queen has had runners in many countries and has won some of the most prestigious races in the Northern Hemisphere. Her racing colours were recognisable the world over, purple with scarlet sleeves, gold braid and a black velvet cap with a gold fringe inherited from her father who had inherited them from his grandfather.

The Queen had gained her interest in racing from her father who was himself the owner of a number of British Classic winners including Big Game, Scuttle, Hypericum and Sun Chariot, the latter a female triple crown winner. He had taken the young princess to see the horses at the racing stables and it was there that she fell in love with the magnificent equine beasts. The story is famously told that when she was at the stables with her father that day, she watched them gallop

and then spent time with them afterwards and after patting and stroking the horses, she enjoyed the experience so much that she refused to wash her hands for the rest of the day.

Royal Ascot

It would be very difficult to believe that anyone with a connection to horse racing in all four corners of the world, would not have heard of Royal Ascot, the quality

of the racing and the tradition that goes along with the festival which has been run since 1768. With the innovation of superior equine travel on aeroplanes, the world has become a smaller place and the prestigious Royal Ascot meeting in June is now much more accessible to horses from around the Globe. In recent years we have seen superstars from Australia, Japan, Hong Kong and the USA turn up for races, some going home with the prize. At Royal Ascot it is not just about winning



Queen Elizabeth II with the filly Estimate, who won Royal Ascot's most prestigious contest, the Group 1 Ascot Gold Cup, in 2013. The jockey was Ryan Moore, left. Steve Parsons/Press Association, via Associated Press//Credit: <https://www.nytimes.com/>

the races that is important, it is also about taking part in the occasion, dressing in your finery, and taking in all the history and pageantry that is involved throughout the week. To get an introduction to The Queen through your involvement in racing was a huge part of the event and often influenced worldwide connections to enter their horses there. There are five days of high-class top-quality action with nineteen Group Races including eight Group 1 races. The highlight of the week is the 2m 4f Gold Cup on Ladies Day and in 2013, Estimate The Queen's mare surged to Gold Cup glory at the Royal meeting. The estimate was a daughter

of the German bred Monsun, himself a Group 1 winning stayer. Estimate won five of her thirteen races, three of them at Ascot and won the Queen's Vase at the Royal meeting as a three-year-old. She had run in her prep race in the Sagaro Stakes at Ascot winning comfortably. On the big day, she did not disappoint, sent off the 7/2 favourite by punters, the finish of the race was close, the French-trained Top Trip challenged first followed by the Willie Mullins-trained gelding Simenon, but try as hard as they could, the mare kept on finding more under an inspired Ryan Moore ride to prevail by a neck. The Queen and her trusted racing manager

John Warren were filmed laughing away excitedly in the Royal box like enthusiastic children as the mare crossed the line, and television pictures were relayed all around the world of the two of them in a show of affection that showed off her human side. Estimate's only subsequent win was the following year in the Doncaster Cup and soon after she was retired as a broodmare.

Over the years she had many Royal Ascot winners, but those days stand out by far, to see the smile on her face brought pleasure to millions of people.

The Classics

The Queen very nearly won The Derby in her Coronation year, her horse Aureole running second to Pinza and it proved to be the only classic to elude her in her lifetime. Carlton House also went close in 2011 but he lost out in a blanket finish to the French colt Pour Moi when looking like winning half a furlong from home. Most of Her Majesty's horses were home-bred and that included her star filly Dunfermline who won The Oaks and St Leger in 1977, the Silver Jubilee year. Ridden by Willie Carson and trained by Major Dick Hern, the daughter of Royal Palace had already won The Oaks comfortably enough when it was decided to up her in trip and target St Leger over two furlongs further. Her performance in St Leger stands out for many as arguably her best-ever performance as she inflicted the only defeat on the great Irish-trained colt Alleged, the two pulling clear of the field. In a prolonged battle up the Doncaster straight, Dunfermline under Willie Carson and Alleged under Lester Piggott went head for the head with the former proving the stronger winning by a length and a half as her stamina came into play. Connections, with The Queen's input, had put plenty of thought into the race and opted to run a pacemaker Gregarious to ensure a fast race to suit their star filly and he did, and as Alleged cruised past him, Dunfermline was on his tail and outstayed him to the line. One of the great English Classic races.

Aureole was a successful British racehorse, owned by The Queen and bred by her father King George VI. He ran fourteen times winning on eleven occasions,



Every photo of the Royal Ascot 2019 – Royal Ascot Pictures (Credit: Harper's Bazaar)

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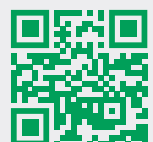
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finishing second in both the Derby and King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes. As a four-year-old he excelled, winning at Epsom and Royal Ascot before going on to be a successful stallion, siring a Derby winner an Arc winner and two St Leger winners.

The Queen had a total of six classic winners, from four horses. Carrozza in 1957 was her first success when landing The Oaks and in addition to Dunfermline, she won the 2,000 Guineas with Pall Mall and Height Of Fashion won in France and the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket.

The Queen, who was fluent in French was particularly excited in 1974 when her filly Highclere won the French Oaks at Chantilly. Having won the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket earlier in the year, there was a worry about her staying the twelve-furlong trip of The Oaks, so they decided to opt for a different route. Ridden by Joe Mercer and trained by Major Dick Hern, the Queen was in attendance as their plan to deliberately miss the Epsom Oaks was rewarded with a comfortable victory. The Queen had received a tremendous welcome from the French public pre-racing, being driven along the course in an open-top car to acknowledge them, and she was roundly cheered when collecting the trophy. Highclere was retired after eight races, but became a very important broodmare for future generations, being the Dam of Height of Fashion who herself went on to produce Epsom Derby winner Nashwan and multiple Group winning horses Nayef and Unfuwain.

Pall Mall had become the Queen's first winner of the 2,000 Guineas in 1958 as an unfancied 20/1 outsider. Trained by Cecil Boyd-Rochfort in Newmarket the colt had won the classic trial at Thirsk en-route and on the day of the race, he proved too strong for the rest staying on strongly from the dip to prevail by a length and a half. Her Majesty was unfortunately not present due to illness but listened to the race at The Palace.

Australian Racing

Known mostly for her UK runners, she has also raced horses in Australia before and was an avid follower of the racing

scene there and had many a chat with Bart Cummings and Gai Waterhouse, who had taken charge of Carlton House when he moved to her from Sir Michael Stoute. Her connection with Australian racing goes back many years and Carlton House was a notable runner there for her. She had great bloodlines to staying horses and believed that one day she could breed and own a Melbourne Cup winner which was always a dream of hers, but unfortunately, she never had one good enough to send over. In recent times she had a horse named Chalk Stream, with Chris Waller. Chalk Stream finished third in a Group 3 on his first start down under and as a stayer in Australia he has a good future ahead of him.

Active Breeding Programme

The Queen often said that it was the breeding side of horse racing that she enjoyed most, from the planning, the foaling and then the training to eventually seeing all the hard work come to fruition when the horse made it to the racetrack, no matter what ability they eventually showed. Many of her horses can trace their breeding lines back through horses that she had previously bred and who had been successful for her on the track.

The Queen employed a number of top trainers over the years, Major Dick Hern probably the most successful with the most well known in recent seasons being Sir Michael Stoute, John Gosden, Roger Charlton, Michael Bell, Richard Hannon,

Clive Cox, Andrew Balding and Richard Hughes, the latter also rode her a Royal Ascot winner on Free Agent. They all say similar things about Her Majesty, but what stands out in what they relate is how gracious she was, how willing to help others out she was and also her encyclopaedic knowledge of racing, it was no good greeting her on the gallops if you did not know everything about the horse or horses that you were there to see because she did! She also had a few National Hunt runners with Nicky Henderson and Charlie Longsdon being the main trainers. Henderson had trained her as a Cheltenham Festival runner in Barbers Shop.

Lord Huntingdon trained for the Queen for twenty years and had taken over at West Ilsley from Major Dick Hern, big shoes to fill! He was responsible for her first Grade 1 winner in the USA when Unknown Quantity won the Arlington Handicap in 1989. He was also responsible for winning the Royal Hunt Cup with Colour Sergeant in 1992 and three years later he produced Phantom Gold in peak condition to land the Ribblesdale Stakes.

Her racing manager John Warren was quoted as saying that the Queen's ability to get pleasure out of any horse was remarkable and in a way that kind of sums up her love of the animal and the sport. Her final winner was with the filly Love Affairs at Goodwood, just two days before she died.



Queen Elizabeth II: 10 lesser-known facts about Britain's longest-serving monarch (Credit: GQ India)

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Bahrain: Explored

Located in the Persian Gulf, Bahrain, a central location of the ancient Dilmun civilization from the 3rd millennium BC, has a storied past. The country is home to the Gulf's pearling past, Boasting its own Formula 1 Grand Prix, a growing art and foodie scene, and a wealth of activities enjoyed on the azure waters surrounding this collection of islands.

Manama

Designated as the capital of Arab culture in 2012, Manama blends its traditions with the contemporary, sparkly skyline. The capital of Bahrain is the trading center and financial hub in the Persian Gulf. Its skyline includes two sets of twin towers, the World Trade Center and the Financial Harbor towers, and other business and residential high-rise constructions. The Bab-Al-Bahrain market and the Al-Fateh Mosque in marble provide a glimpse into the traditional Bahrain.

Riffa

Although the main attraction in Riffa is the Bahrain Turf Club, Riffa has several historic jewels, preserved through the centuries including the 19th century Riffa Fort, built in clay, the Riffa Bazaar and the Bukuwara Street Market as well as the Riffa Clock Tower.

Muharraq

The old capital of Bahrain until 1932, Muharraq is an island city around which the Amwaj artificial islets were recently built. Several districts display traditional architecture, the oldest among them the Fareej Al Bin Ali district.

Bani Jamra

Located in the northwestern part of Bahrain, the village of Bani Jamra used to be a flourishing weavers' community and even today a few people continue the tradition.

Madinat Hamad

Also called Hamad Town, this multicultural city, carrying the name of the current king, Hamad ibn Isa Al Khalifah displays beautiful houses and schools in typical architecture. Also visit the Kanoo Mosque in the northern part of town.

A'ali

Sitting in the northern part of the main island, A'ali is famous for its burial mounds dating back from ancient times, spread throughout the central part of the city. A'ali is also dotted with pottery boutiques in which you

can admire the renowned handicrafts the locals create.

Al Jasra

Located on the western coast Al Jasra is most notable for its traditional handicraft center which has a garden in the middle for unwinding and relaxation.

Madinat Isa

Southwest of Manama, the town's Persian market, with more than 450 shops, is a unique place to visit. You can find all sorts of local food produce, like dates and other fruit, carpets and other handicrafts.

Al Budaiya

Since Al Budaiya is a coastal town, many of the residents take part in activities like pearl diving and fishing, although in much smaller numbers than they did at the beginning of the 20th century.

Hawar Island

A 45-minute boat ride from the southern city of Al Dur will take you to Hawar Island, southeast of the mainland and close to Qatar. The island has been transformed into a resort retreat, with hotels and water-sports equipment for those wanting to venture in the warm seas of the Persian Gulf.

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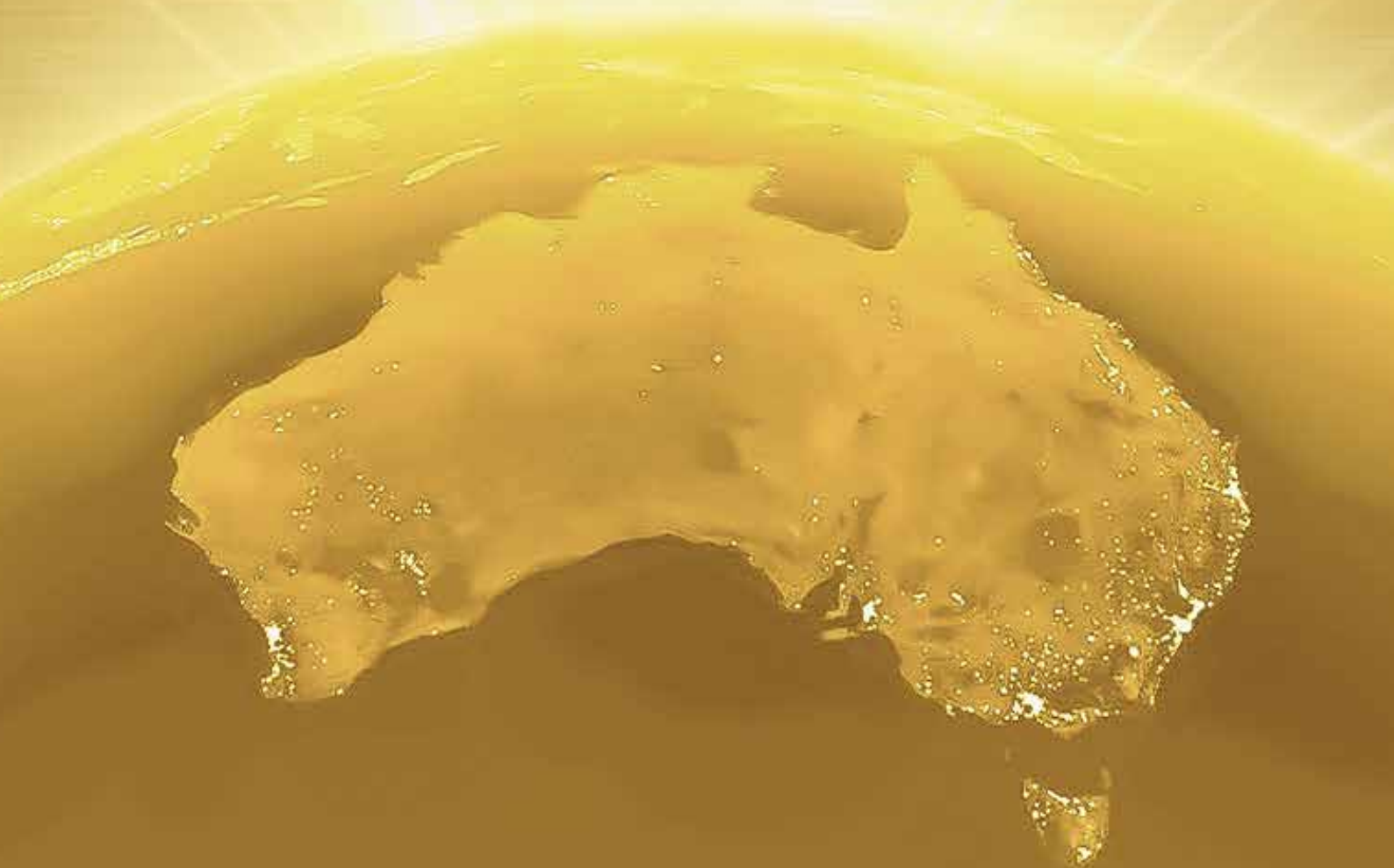
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