



NEWSLETTER

Vol – 265 June 2020

2021 APG WA Yearling Sale Nominations Closing..

You only have until 30 June to get your yearling sale nominations in to APG to get the benefits of the revised commission structure and loyalty program introduced for 2021. You can still nominate after that but nomination fees increase accordingly and their wont be the additional benefits.

The new APG commission structure for 2021 is attractive, being 10% +GST, but capped at \$3,300 regardless of reserve price. The new Loyalty Rewards Program - vendors that nominate by 30 June will receive one free entry fee for every five yearlings that they nominate for the sales (enter five, get the sixth entry free) - is also a great benefit for early nominators. The Loyalty Rewards can be accrued across a number of Sale seasons.

So enter before 30 June to get the greatest benefit. Late fees (as well as ineligibility for the Loyalty Rewards Program) will apply to **all** entries received after the 30 June deadline. You can read the Sales Information Pack [here](#).

If you need help with your entries, visit APG's website www.apgold.com.au to get all the relevant information, or please ask APG on (03) 5275 1999.

The online catalogues for the APG Annual National Mixed Sale, with online bidding opening on Wednesday 22 July and closing on Sunday 26 July, will be available soon from www.apgold.com.au.

2019/20 FEATURE RACE CHANGES IN 2020/21

No Inter Dominion – how did that happen?!. What a disappointment and a poor reflection on the innovativeness of our industry. However, we do expect, that as a result of what has clearly been an inability to appropriately manage what should be the premier race in the Southern Hemisphere, changes are afoot.

For that and other reasons (including the extension of the 2019/20 racing season to 31 December 2020) there has been a major revision of some WA feature races, with proposed dates for the Fremantle Cup and WA Pacing Cup in November/December, the 4YO Classic (Pinjarra), 4YO Championship and 4YO Classic in January and the Golden Nugget in February. This does mean that your 4YO will not have a chance to qualify for the feature cups, with all 4yo stepping stones to the Cups now run after the two major races.

However, you may want to reconsider your race programming for your current 3yo, who will continue to receive the 3yo handicap discount through to 31 December 2020.

The reasons for the age extension were certainly valid for Eastern States and New Zealand events, with most current 2yos and 3yos unable to run in their feature races due to the changes made necessary by regional and lockdown restrictions as a result of COVID-19. Unfortunately, WA has had to follow suit even though we have been able to run all our normal features in our normal timeframes, credit to RWWA for taking a more strategic approach.

2YO, 3YO, MARES and WESTBRED OPPORTUNITIES

2yo	the \$80,000 Westbred Classics on 26 th June the 2YO Fillies \$30,000 Gold Bracelet is on 3 July the \$100,000 Golden Slipper is on 10 July
3yo	the \$30,000 3YO Fillies Daintys Daughter Classic is at Pinjarra on 13 July
Mares	the \$24,000 Group 3 Lombardo Fillies and Mares is on 26 June (HWOE < \$40,000) The \$30,000 WASBA 4YO & 5YO Mares is on 14 August (Mares who have not won a Group race)
Westbred	the Kerry Clarke 4YO and 5YO Westbred Final is on 31 July watch for (now) \$8,000 RWWA Westbred 4yo and over races, including those for mares



RETURN TO FULL STAKES AND BONUSES 1 AUGUST

The RWWA Board have met and have confirmed that prizemoney and bonuses will be returned to 100%, effective from 1 August 2020. That is fantastic news for everyone involved in racing. We certainly appreciate RWWA's efforts as a business and as individuals over the last few months to keep things running. Woohoo!

Changes to Qualifying Times

We are pleased to advise that industry concerns regarding qualifying times have been acknowledged with some revisions to the times in operation from late last year. We certainly appreciate this action, which assists the racing fraternity and their horses. The affected mile rates for pacers are:

Group A tracks (Gloucester Park, Pinjarra and Bunbury):

2YO Stand at Group A tracks	- 2:08
2YO Mobile at Group A tracks	- 2:05
3YO+ Stand at Group A tracks	- 2:06
3YO+ Mobile at Group A tracks	- 2:04

Group B tracks (Albany, Bridgetown, Byford, Central Wheatbelt, Narrogin, Wagin, Wanneroo, Northam):

3YO+ Stand at Group B tracks	- 2:07
3YO+ Mobile at Group B tracks	- 2:05

For the full details please refer to the new Racing Policies publication on the RWWA website, or use this link

<https://www.rwwa.com.au/harness-hub/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/06/RACING-POLICIES-AND-GENERAL-RACING-INFORMATION-JUN-2020-v1.0.pdf>

Quite a bit of action on the stallion front...

Here are some more of the new comers or second season sires, and those relocating.

HES WATCHING USA AT TIPPERARY EQUINE IN NSW

Hes Watching USA (American Ideal USA) 1:46.8 US\$1,129,215 will stand his first season in Australia and his 4th season in the southern hemisphere (his oldest foals are 3yo) with a change of scenery to Tipperary Equine in NSW. Tipperary had the unfortunate loss of **Alta Christiano** earlier this year due to colic, just as his stud career was taking off. They have obtained Hes Watching as the replacement sire at a great stud fee for breeders.



Hes Watching was super fast. He won 8 from 8 as a 2yo and not just any 8 races, with 5 track records and two world records thrown in. He was at the time the fastest ever 2yo on a half mile and five-eighths mile track and was named the US 2YO Pacing Colt of the Year. At three he won the Meadowlands Pace in a world record equalling (with Somebeachsomewhere USA) 1:46.8 and was the youngest winner and fastest ever 3yo to win the Meadowlands. The final qtr of the race was run in 26.1, with Hes Watching giving the leader 2 lengths start and winning by 3 lengths.

Hes Watching is a 15H son of champion racehorse and sire American Ideal USA, the sire of 14 millionaires. Hes Watching carries strains of world champion mare **Leah Almahurst USA (Abercrombie USA)** p,3,1:52.3 US\$1,053,201 and world champion **Three Diamonds USA (Albatross USA)** p3,1:53.1 \$735,759 on both sides of his pedigree. Leah Almahurst is the dam of Western Ideal USA, one of the most dominant stallion producers in modern history. Three Diamonds, the 2YO and 3YO Pacing Filly of the Year, is the dam of champion race horse and sire **Life Sign USA** p3,1:50.3 US\$1,912,454. She is also the granddam of American Ideal.

In the northern hemisphere Hes Watching stood in Ontario, Canada, with his oldest crop now 3yo but having had little or no racing opportunities due to Covid-19 shutdowns. His 2yos in the 2019 season included **Examiner Hanover** 1:52.2 US\$120,726, **Tattoo Artist** 1:52.0 US\$182,672 and **Kat** 1:54:0 US \$78,249. In Australasia he has produced the 100% winners **Born To Be Watched** 1:54.6 and **Private Eye** 1:54.6, as well as Group 2 winner **Blockjorg** 1:55.5, and in New Zealand Watch Me Now 1:53.3 and Star Watch 1:57.9.

Hes Watching will stand for \$2,500 (incl. GST), pay on positive test. See <https://www.tipperaryequine.com/> or call Luke McIntosh at Tipperary Equine 0438 619 000 or email Luke@tipperaryequine.com.

LATHER UP USA TO STAND IN VICTORIA

In a coup for Australian breeders, equal world record holder **Lather Up USA (Im Gorgeous USA)** 1:46 US\$1,735,623 will stand his first season at stud this coming season at Northern Rivers Equine in Victoria.

Lather Up was a 4yo when he set his 1:46.0 world record, equalling the record of 5yo Always Be Miki USA.



At two, Lather Up set the track record for a two-year-colt pacer winning in 1:52.2 on a half mile track.. At three, he won a heat of The Little Brown Jug in 1:49.3 on the half mile Delaware Circuit and won the \$1 million North American Cup elimination and Final in 1:48.1. At four, he set a world record 1:46 for a mile and a world record of 1:59.2 for a mile and one-eighth (1:46.3) at The Meadowlands, in the process breaking two world records and becoming the fastest 4yo in history and the equal fastest horse in pacing history. In the beaten division was McWicked USA, the horse that beat Lazarus. McWicked's trainer Casie Coleman is quoted as saying "*I think Lather Up is a complete freak and I am scared of him I never went to the gate thinking I couldn't beat Lazarus; I always thought I could beat Lazarus. And with Lather Up I realize that I need a lot of things to go my way and a lot of things to not go his way in order to beat him.*"

Lather Up has the blood of two of New Zealand's greatest sires in Bettors Delight USA and In The Pocket USA. Like Always B Miki (Always A Virgin USA), Lather up is by an underrated but still very successful racehorse in his own right. **I'm Gorgeous USA (Bettor's Delight)** 1:50.0 US\$633,733 raced his 2yo and 3yo season against the best of the breed in all the top races and was among the top colts of his year, winning a heat in 1:50.4 and finishing second to 'Horse Of The Year' Rock N Roll Heaven in the Little Brown Jug final.

Pocket Comb USA (In The Pocket USA) 1:56.2f US\$ 30,977, the dam of Lather Up, has produced 7 individual foals with earnings greater than US\$250,000 including two in under 1:50 and 5 in under 1:52. She is a full sister to the popular and hard hitting Crew Cut Zach 1:51.2 US\$1,006,055

Lather Up will stand for \$6,600 (incl GST) for chilled semen in Australia. He will be one of two stallions (the other being world champion American Ideal USA) standing on behalf of Woodlands Stud at Northern Rivers Equine. You can contact Kath McIntosh at Northern Rivers Equine 0427 497 429 or orders@nrequine.com.au for more information or to make a booking. Or visit www.nrequine.com.au.

CHRISTIAN CULLEN'S SON FRANCO NELSON TO QLD

IF YOU MISSED OUT on Alta Christiano, there is a new Christian Cullen son available this year from Burwood Stud in Queensland. **Franco Nelson (Christian Cullen)** NZ 1:50.3 23 wins \$872,493, is a former top class juvenile and multiple Group 1 winning pacer and the 3rd fastest race timed of Christian Cullen's progeny (excluding US performances) behind Christen Me 1:49.1 and Allblack Stride 1:49.8.

At 2 Franco Nelson won the Group 2 NZ Welcome Stakes and was 3rd in the Group 1 Breeders Crown Final. As a 3yo his 5 wins included the Group 1 NZ Sires Stakes Championship, and he was 3rd in the Group 1 NZ Great Northern Derby. At 4 he brilliantly won the Group 1 NZ Harness Jewels in 1:53.1 as well as wins in other Group events. In 2016 he won the Group 3 NZ Brighton Cup, defeating some of the greats including Christen Me, Have Faith In Me, the mighty Lazarus, Tiger Tara and Smolda. The following month he again beat Smolda and Tiger Tara in the Group 2 NZ Kaikoura Cup, before competing in the 2016 Inter Dominion Final in Perth, flying home in the straight from last at the 400m to run 5th to Smolda after being severely checked in running.

Franco Nelson raced sound throughout his career from age two to nine. Apart from a bout of pneumonia which effectively took him out of racing for a year, Franco Nelson would probably have made the millionaires club. He raced at top level most of his career winning Group 1s in both countries, along with placings in the 2014 NZ Cup by a nose to Adore Me, and 3rd to Christen Me and Adore Me in the Group 1 NZ FFA. His last race was in July 2019 and he served a handful of mares in the 2019/20 season for owner Shane Tritton.



The maternal family of Franco Nelson has carried success through generations. Winning dam **Notafella Franco (Falcon Seelster USA)** is one of 9 winners from her dam New Review (Neros B B USA out of No Regrets) who was a full sister to NZ 2YO Filly of Year Nevermore 1:56.1. No Regrets is responsible for horses of the class of champion NZ racemare Spanish Armada 1:52.1 \$787,470 and full sister Bettor Be Supreme, Chancellor Cullen 1:52.8 \$411,821, 2012 Group 1 3YO Breeders Crown winner Cheer The Lady, Glenferrie Hood 1:52.0 \$406,822 Natural Woman (Badlands Hanover) 1:52 US\$570,886 and numerous others. The dam of No Regrets is a half sister to Colwyn Bay, dam of arguably the best pacer ever, **Cardigan Bay**.

Franco Nelson's service fee is set at just \$1,650 including GST. You can find out more from Burwood Stud. Contact Noel or Christine Denning by email admin@burwoodstud.net.au or mobile 0428 718 533.

POSTER BOY TO STAND IN VICTORIA IN 2020

A casualty of the COVID-19 restrictions but a great opportunity for breeders, with one of Australia's best young pacers in **Poster Boy (Somebeachsomewhere USA)** 1.49.1 \$803,310 to stand for the 2020/21 season.

Poster Boy may return to the racetrack next season, but with limited racing opportunities for a horse of his calibre, and no Inter Dominion, the decision was made to stand him at stud rather than send him for a spell.

Poster Boy ran sixth on debut at Menangle then won his next 7 starts before running 2nd in the semi final and final of the Group 1 2YO Breeders Crown (the final was won by a horse we are very familiar with, in King Of Swing). He won 8 of his 11 3yo starts, including two Group 1s. Returning as a 4yo, he won 3 in a row including the \$200,000 Group 1 Chariots of Fire, setting his lifetime mark, before running 3rd a fortnight later in the Miracle Mile behind Spankem and Thefixer in 1:47.7. Another win, followed by a severe bout of pneumonia that kept him out of racing for a year, before a return to racing in April 2020 for 3 consecutive wins. Overall, Poster Boy had 22 wins, including 5 Group 1 wins, and 7 places from his 30 lifetime starts.

Poster Boy's owner breeders Anne and Bill Anderson purchased his dam **Aston Villa USA (Artsplace USA)** as a yearling before bringing her to Australia for a brief racing career of 4 wins from 9 starts. Her first 5 foals are all winners, including Poster Boy, **Yankee Rockstar (Rocknroll Hanover)** 1:52.2 \$329,048 and **Born To Rocknroll (Rocknroll Hanover)** 1:52.5 \$300,684, and she was named the 2019 Winona Australian Broodmare of the Year. **Villa Storm USA (Storm Damage USA)** 1:53.1 \$328,817, the dam of Aston Villa, is a half sister to **Cam's Secretary USA (Cam Fella USA)** 1:52.3 US\$427,296, **Art's Secret USA (Artsplace USA)** 1:51.2 \$795,888 and to the dam of **Secrets Nephew USA (Camluck USA)** 1:48.4 US\$1,091,736.



Poster Boy will stand for \$4,950 (incl. GST) alongside half brother Yankee Rockstar, new sire Soho Tribeca, second season sire Mel Mara as well as Woodlands Stud stallions Lather Up and American Ideal. Contact Kath McIntosh at Northern Rivers Equine 0427 497 429 or orders@nrequine.com.au for more information or to make a booking. Or visit www.nrequine.com.au .

MEL MARA STANDING HIS 2ND SEASON IN VICTORIA

Mel Mara USA (Lis Mara USA) 1:47 (\$1,028,397) will again be available to breeders from Northern Rivers Equine in Victoria.



Mel Mara set his lifetime mark at The Meadowlands with two of the fastest horses in history, Always B Miki and McWicked, as the placegetters. He ran his last quarter in 25.4. In his 26 wins he beat some of the fastest and best horses in pacing of this era, including millionaires Foiled Again 1:48, Sweel Lou 1:47, Warrawee Needy 1:46.4, State Treasurer 1:47, Thinking Out Loud 1:47.2, J K Endofanera 1:48.2, Bolt The Duer 1:47.4, A Rocknroll Dance, etc. He had a close rivalry with Always B Miki in a number of hard fought contests.

In his 3rd lifetime start as a 2yo, he won by 18 lengths and ran his last quarter in 25 seconds flat. As a 3yo he ran 1:49.4 in the Bluegrass Stakes, defeating Sweet Lou and running a 26.1 last quarter.

Overall he ran 6 sub 25.5 second qtrs, one of only two pacers to do so. He defeated some of the best horses now standing at stud, set a record of 1:47.2 on a 5/8ths track and 1:50.1 on a half mile track. His career was interrupted as a 5yo by a broken coffin bone which kept him out of racing for a considerable time. His lifetime mark was set as a 7yo after recovering from that injury, while his fastest quarter was run as a 2yo.

Mel Mara is the fastest and richest son of former champion pacer **Lis Mara USA** 1:47.3 US\$2,122,376 who was the fastest and richest son of speed champion **Cambest USA (Cam Fella USA)** 1:46.1, who set his world record in 1993. Lis Mara's dam **M L Revrac USA (Matts Scooter USA)** is the dam of three in 1:55 and her granddam **Peachbottom USA** 1:55.3 \$348,609 is a full sister to world champion racehorse and sire **No Nukes**. This is the same family as another champion sire in **Rock N Roll Heaven (USA)** 1:47.6 US\$2,748,818, who also stems from a full sister to No Nukes.

The 16H Mel Mara will stand again for the very competitive price of \$2,500 (including GST). Contact Kath McIntosh at Northern Rivers Equine 0427 497 429 or orders@nrequine.com.au for more information or to make a booking. Or visit www.nrequine.com.au.

With such a busy stallion roster, John Coffey, one of Australia's leading authorities on standardbred breeding, has joined the staff of Northern Rivers Equine as a bloodstock consultant to assist breeders with their decisions. John can be contacted on 0418 500 211.

STALLION SERVICE RAFFLE JUST ABOUT HERE

We will again be offering top stallions for the stallion service raffle. Unfortunately we can't reduce the ticket price, which will remain at \$100, but there will still be only 200 tickets.

We have always taken the approach that breeders and others prepared to buy at least one ticket, regardless of how many tickets are sold, should be rewarded by the raffle being drawn on the designated date. Rest assured the same will apply this year, whether we have sold 50 tickets or 200 tickets. Make sure you put your hand up and buy a ticket – if you have already booked for the relevant stallion, for the price of a ticket you can perhaps win the service for free. And if you win and get a “nice offer” to sell your prize, you are free to do so. You can even give the prize away to a friend (they would have to be a really good friend!)

So stay tuned, with the Stallion Tender to run immediately after the raffle, and some very exciting stallions included.

ANOTHER TOP WASBA BREEDERS STAKES

The 2020 WASBA Breeders Stakes was another great opportunity for the best mares racing in WA to add some prestige to their credentials.

A good drive by Shannon Suvalko on the Mike Reed trained favourite **Arma Indie (Well Said)** set the race up for victory, with Shannon going straight to the front ahead of Delightfulreaction from barrier 1. The pace was solid from the barrier with Just Rockon Bye testing Arma Indie early, but dropping back to take the sit behind Typhoon Tiff who had been taken forward to the breeze by Colin Brown. He too conceded the breeze when Chris Lewis on Gotta Go Gabbana went to the breeze after a lap, with the pace steadyng. First to move 3 wide was Dracarys from the rear, but her run had finished by the 400m with Shannon stepping up the pace to a 28.5 3rd qtr , with most of the field now caught between runners. In the run home nothing was doing better than Arma Indie who won by 4.7m from Delightfulreaction in 1:57.6, last qtr an unbeatable 27.7.



★

Although she has been in WA for only a few months, Arma Indie has some “Xceptional” close relatives from WA, with the half sister to the dam of Arma Indie being the dam of multiple Group 1 winner and Golden Slipper winner **Arma Xpress (Artiscape)** 1:56.5 \$279,890 and half sister **Arma Xceptional (Live Or Die)** 1:57.9 the granddam of 3yo filly **Fifty Five Reborn (Renaissance Man)** winner of both the 2yo and 3yo leg of the Westsired Classic for Fillies. The dam of top colt **Excel Stride (Aces N Sevens)** 1:50.3 \$769,464 is also a half sister to Arma Courage.

Congratulations Mike, Shannon and the Giuemellis.



RECENT MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- ♣ Nice win by **Always An Angel (Art Major)** in the \$200,000 Diamond Classic;
- ♣ TAB outlets are now open, and owners are back on course - that's something to celebrate!;
- ♣ Another deserving winner of the WASBA sponsored Group 3 Harry Capararo Westbred 4YO and 5YO Mares Pace, with the Howlett family's **Dancing With Mach (Mach Three)** a good winner as favourite, and don't the punters like these races!
- ♣ Good to see long term owner Peter Ensel with a win in the Group 3 Laurie Kennedy Race For Roses;
- ♣ **Bettor Be Oscar (Bettors Delight)** looking the goods for another very productive season;
- ♣ Just outstanding, the **Follow The Stars** 2yo filly **Black Jack Baby** to win, just easing into a 26.9 qtr.
- ♣ Great win by **Blue Chip Adda (Heston Blue Chip)**, another of the Country Oaks success stories.
- ♣ Cott Beach's little brother **Longreach Bay (Renaissance Man)** keeping up the family reputation with some big wins.

BREEDER OF THE MONTH – MAY 2020

The Breeder of the Month award goes to a different WA bred horse each month. Previous (horse) winners are not eligible for later WA Breeder of the Month awards. You must be a WASBA member to win a Breeder of the Month Award. All other breeding awards are open to all WA breeders.

It was a close contest between two first time winning 5yo's but in the end it's **congratulations** to our **Breeder of the Month** for **May 2020**, **Denise Trobe** and Adrian Staltari who bred and raced first time winner **Time To Feelgood (Mr Feelgood)** out of Hindu Sitara by **Safely Kept**. Time To Feelgood won at Pinjarra in May at his second race start, going to the front from barrier 4 and leading all the way in 1:57.1. At his only other start three years previously, he ran 3rd in a Heat of the 2017 Pearl Classic but suffered a serious injury before the final and did not run. A great training effort by Brian Ferguson to get the win first up after 3 years.

Hindu Sitara (Safely Kept) 1:58.4 the dam of Time To Feelgood, won \$97,607 in her career. A 2002 Yearling Sale purchase, she won 5 races at 2 years including the (now Group 1) Gloucester Standardbred 2YO Sales Classic and also won a Heat of the 2YO Pearl Classic against the boys. She went on to win a further 4 races including second in the Oaks before a stable accident finished her racing career. Her first foal was a highly talented colt **Premium Black (Blissfull Hall)** who won once and was placed twice from his only 3 starts before his untimely death at 3. Her next foal **Deluxe Edition (Jet Laag)** 1:56.5 11 wins \$129,095 was a metropolitan winner and was placed 23 times. Deluxe Edition won the inaugural WASBA Bob Humphries Memorial in 2013.

Deluxe Edition comes from the family of Mosan Derby, brought to WA by Chris Hodgson of Kellett Lodge Stud in the 60s, who produced multiple group winners including Golden Nugget winner **Sinn Fein** 1:57.9 \$247,359, Sires Produce and Triple Crown winner **Race Ruler**, Champagne Classic winner **Arch Rival (Sultros Rainbow)** 1:59.9 \$129,396 and **Fox Oshaughnessy (Fake Left)** 1:53.0 \$222,234. This is also the family of top filly and multiple Group 1 winner **Dodolicious (Bettors Delight)** 1:55.5 18 wins \$501,041.

Congratulations to **Time To Feelgood** and very patient and deserving owner breeders Denise and Adrian.



WA BASED Sires – MAY 2020

In May there were 20 Westsired winners of 22 races, representing 10 different sires. Leading the way was **Advance Attack** with 6 winners of 7 races, followed by **Follow The Stars** with 6 individual winners of 6 races

There were 2 multiple winners in the month, with **Tellmetoattack** (Advance Attack) and **Pamy June** (Lombo Mandingo) both winners of two races.

Unfortunately the owners couldn't be on hand to witness the wins but they would have been very happy with the results!

One 2yo – **Regal Aura** (P Forty Seven) - and 3yo filly **Sweetdream Trunkey** (Advance Attack) - won their First win Bonuses and their Double Westsired win Bonuses which would normally give them \$9,100 each plus their winning stakes.

Three year old gelding **Bealawyer** (Western Edition) and 6yo **Sams My Boy** (Heartland Hanover) had their first career wins in May in 3yo and over events, and 5yo mare (and dual winner) **Pamy June** won her first ever race in a 4yo and over Mares Pace. The Westbred Bonus payments to Westsired horses continued the big improvement from last year with \$90,000 actually paid in Win and Place Bonuses and First win Bonuses in May 2020, compared to \$44,000 in May last year. That's nearly a 250% increase on last year when you take into account the 20% stakes and bonus reduction. Good to see the much higher bonus payments to WA sired horses which demonstrates that the sires are producing competitive horses.

There were 2 Westsired Metro Stakes winners in May including 1 filly (included under the Fillies and Mares section). The remaining Westsired winner was:

- ▲ **Saleahs Comand (Capricorn Commander)**, breeder J Sands and C Manns, won a \$14,400 Pace by a half head in 1:56.9, last half 57.8 last month, then flew out from 9 over the sprint journey of 1730m to be race leader, 28.3 1st qtr, a 28.5 3rd qtr, skipped away running for home and went on to win the \$14,400 Pace by 1.8m in 1:55.7, last qtr 28.7.

Congratulations to all the Westsired earners this month.

WESTBRED WINNERS – MAY 2020

There were 200 races run in May 2020 (7 less than last year), with Westbred winners totalling 105 (52.5%) compared to 110 (53.1%) for the same month last year. This is a slight dip on April 2020 in percentage terms(53.1%) but it is still a good result when compared to our target of 50-55% Westbred winners on a monthly basis.

There were 19 Westbred races run in May 2020, 6 less than April 2020 but a very similar number to May 2019.

There were 7 races (6 Westbred) restricted to horses at least 4yo, all for \$8,000 (instead of \$10,000 due to the stakes reduction). Another 3 \$8,000 races were run, including two for 2yos and Bunbury's Dash For Cash.

The progeny of 47 sires were winners of 105 races won by Westbreds in May, including 37 sires standing outside WA. Leading the list was **Bettors Delight** with 7 winners of 13 races, and snapping at his heels again was **Alta Christiano** with 6 winners of 8 races. **Auckland Reactor** (5 of 5) and **American Ideal** (4 of 5) were next best.

There were 10 multiple Westbred winners (including 2 Westsired) – **Alta Cinderella** and **Suing You** (Alta Christiano), **Always A Dreamer** (Always A Virgin), **Minor Catastrophe** (American Ideal), **Chumani**, **Faire La Fete**, **Gardys Legacy** and for the second month **Manifestly Excesiv** (Bettors Delight) all won a double. The two triple winners for the month were **Blockjorg** (Hes Watching) and **Poisedtopounce** (Bettors Delight), who followed on from his 2 wins last month,

There were 21 first time winners (including 5 Westsired progeny) in May (two more than May last year and up 3 from April 2020) taking home their First win Bonuses for their owners and breeders. First time winners included 2yos **Disco Demon** (Art Major), **Carabao** and dual winner **Minor Catastrophe** (American Ideal) and **Squinta** (Bettors Delight), 3yos **Auckland Jet** and **Rosa De Oro** (Auckland Reactor), dual winner **Alta Cinderella** (Alta Christiano), **Pivotal** (Badlands Hanover) and **Magic Matteo** (Rock N Roll Heaven). All these horses also received Westbred Bonuses. Winning their first race in 3yo and over events were 3yos **Tux And Tails** (A Rocknroll Dance) and **Sunny Mach** (Sunshine Beach). Other first time winners were 4yos **Allwood Mach (Mach Three)** and **Gazzella Fella (Artistic Fella)** and 5yos **Time To Feelgood** (Mr Feelgood), **Outrider** (Shadow Play) and **Sweet Sassy Molassy** (Jet Laag).

There was a total of 20 maiden races including 9 for 3yo and over (2 of these for fillies and mares), 5 for 3yos and 6 for 2yos.

There was 1 race for maiden 2yo fillies. Overall there were 17 2yo races run in May (16 in May 2019) including 7 for fillies. Three of the 2yo races were restricted to Westbreds and 10 of the 17 races were won by WA bred.

There was 1 race for maiden 3yo fillies. All up there were 24 3yo races (3 more than May 2019). and 11 of these were for fillies. Eight of the 3yo races were restricted to Westbreds, and Westbreds won 19 of the 24 3yo races.

All up 3yos won 67 races (63 and 45 in the previous 2 months) - a third of the total races run in the month. Forty three of these wins were in 3yo and over events. Westbred 3yos won 41 races, with 22 wins in 3YO+ events.

Again we need to say that the balance is not right. We would prefer to see the 3yos running in their own age group and being provided with the right opportunities to do so. It is apparent that the 3yos are certainly capable of winning in the 3yo and over category; with two-thirds of the wins coming in this category, which is disproportionate to the number of starters in the relative age groups. We are not sure if this is brought about by "better pickings" in the 3yo and over category, or not the right races in the 3yo category. We would be interested in your view, especially if you are not finding the right races for your horses regardless of age.

The Westbred Bonus payments (excluding First win Bonuses) were the equivalent of just over \$154,000 (adjusted for pre 20% reduction), a similar result to April 2020 and about \$35,000 more than May 2019.

Of the wins by Westbreds, 36 were in \$4500 equivalent races, 40 were in \$7500 equivalent races. There were 16 metropolitan stake wins including the Group 1 WA Oaks and two Group 2 \$50,000 races. The remaining 13 wins were in races equivalent to \$8,500 to \$10,500

At Gloucester Park, there were 50 races run at prime meetings. There were 16 Westbred winners of 16 races at the prime meetings, including 2 wins by 2 Westsired progeny (including 1 filly), and 4 other winners included in

the fillies/mares section. Congratulations to the breeders and connections of the Westbreds who were successful at our feature race meetings in May.

The 10 other WA born horses (not including Westsired and fillies/mares) including one dual winner, were:

- ◆ **Baylan Jett (Courage Under Fire)** breeders Skye Bond and Robbie Tomlinson, won a midweek late April. Started in 3, settled 3 back the running line before somehow getting 3 back the rails, got off the rails in the back then back to the rails behind the leader, chased down the leader in the straight to win a \$14,400 Pace by 4.2m in an excellent 1:55.8. Brilliant drive Aiden De Campo;
- ◆ **Bee Seventeen (Mr Aviator)** breeder Nicholas Taylor, going great for his new connections with \$55,000 this season, started in 1, sat on the leader, off the rails coming to the home turn after a 28.5 3rd qtr and motored home to win the \$16,000 Pace by 3.3m in a lifetime best 1:56.3 over the 2536m, last qtr 28.7;
- ◆ **Bettor Be Oscar (Bettors Delight)** breeder Mike Howie, having a great season so far and two consecutive wins in April, then started in 6 over the 2536m journey, in front after half a lap, stepped up the pace to a 27.8 3rd qtr, had too many guns and went on to win the \$16,000 Pace by a comfortable 4m, mile rate 1:58.2 and last qtr 29.2;
- ◆ **Destined To Rule (Shadow Play)** breeder Steve Johnson, always pops up from time to time. Settled 3rd last in the moving line, ran on strongly from the 400m, 3 wide and 3rd coming into the straight and ran home the best to win the \$14,400 Pace by 1.8m in 1:58.4, last half 57.8;
- ◆ **Gangbuster (Jeremes Jet)** breeder Debra Lewis, has been picking up money consistently and started as favourite from 1, retained the lead in a leisurely lead time and had plenty left in the tank to win a \$14,400 Pace easily by 7.3m in 2:00.3, last half 58.5;
- ◆ **Gardys Legacy (Bettors Delight)** breeders R Grantham and T Schmedje, very promising type, started a super short favourite from 1, straight to the front from the barrier with no pressure and a very sedate lead and first half, a 28 flat 3rd quarter, turned first for home, easing down to win the \$50,000 3YO Colts and Geldings Pearl Classic by 4m in 1:58.2, last qtr 28.4 to take his stakes for the season to over \$70,000;
- ◆ **Marquisard (Mach Three)** owner breeder Patrick Gilroy, won his second race for the season and ran a lifetime best 1:56.7 after starting in 3, won the lead in a solid contest, a 28.5 3rd qtr and sailed away to win the \$14,400 Pace by 7m, last qtr 28.3; 
- ◆ **Mighty Ronaldo (Alta Cristiano)** breeder Trevor Lindsay, a yearling sale purchase and a very promising 2yo, won the 2YO Colts and Geldings Western Crown at his previous start then started from 1, straight into the leaders role unchallenged, a bit of pressure in the back straight in a 28.1 3rd qtr, comfortably to the line under a good hold to win the \$14,400 2YO Pace by 4.1m in 1:58.7, last qtr 28 flat;
- ◆ **Our Perkins (Rocknroll Hanover)** breeder Steve Johnson, stepped out from 2 and straight to the lead, several changes in the breeze while running even time, clear at the 400m and a few flutters but easy in the end to win the \$14,400 Pace by 3.3m in a solid 1:56.7, last half 58 flat: and
- ◆ **Overjoyed (American Ideal)**, breeders Ray, Robbie and I Williams, trained and driven by Robbie, at his 4th lifetime start went straight to the lead from 3 after the favourite galloped in 2, kept a solid pace throughout, got headed at the 400m but fought back and headed for home first, going on to win the 2YO Pace by a half head in a good show of driving, mile rate 1:56.9 and all the speed on early in the race.

Stakemoney earned by Westbreds finishing in the first 6 places in all races in May 2020 was \$912,880 (compared to \$1,050,324 in May last year) which is effectively an increase of 9% allowing for the current 20% stakes reduction.

Total stakes paid to Westbreds was \$970,332 out of a total \$1,874,215 (advertised stakes of \$1,904,400), or 51.8% of stakes (48.4% in May 2019), making it an improvement on last year, even with the Oaks being won in both years by a Westbred filly.

Lining up all the comparisons, Westbreds provided 64.5% of individual starters for 62.9% of race starts, 52.5%, of race winners and 51.8% of race stakes. The results reflect a slight drop in the number of race starts and race wins for WA bred horses. However, the improved stakes figures are encouraging but can be improved on, particularly in the older age group.

HOW DID THE FILLIES AND MARES GO (May 2020)

Fillies and mares won 60 (30.0%) of the 200 races run in May 2020. It is the best result since the high April/May 2019 figures but the current two month period is still about 1.7% lower for the equivalent period. Of the wins by fillies and mares, 33 (16.5%) were in races restricted to fillies and mares and 27 (13.5%) were open races.

There were 7 wins by 2yo fillies but only 3 fillies in total – New Zealand fillies Always An Angel won 3 races and Unconditional won two races. Westbred filly **Minor Catastrophe (American Ideal)** also won 2 races, both with Westbred Bonuses.

There were 27 wins by 3yo fillies, very similar to last month. Eighteen of these wins were Westbred fillies, including 12 in 3yo races and except for the WA Oaks and 3YO Diamond Classic, Westbred winners of the remaining 10 3yo races earned Westbred Bonus money

Of the non Westbred 3yo filly winners, 8 wins were in 3yo+ races, with only one 3yo race win.

The four 3yo fillies (**Sweetdream Trunkey, Rosa De Oro, Alta Cinderella and Pivotal**) that had their first race win did so in a 3yo race, meaning they earned the first win Bonuses as well as Westbred Bonuses. Westsired filly **Sweetdream Trunkey (Advance Attack)** won the Double Westbred Bonus for her breeder owners. Congratulations!



There were 11 wins by 4yo mares, 8 by 5yo mares (including two first time winners **Pamy June** and **Sweet Sassy molassy**), 4 by 6yo mares and 3 wins by mares 7yo and over. More needs to be done to attract and keep mares over 5 in the racing system.

\$4,500 equivalent races accounted for 13 wins, while 27 wins were in \$7,500 equivalent races. There were also 16 wins in metropolitan level stakes races – an excellent result – which included the Group 1 WA Oaks, the Group 1 Diamond Classic, the Group 2 3YO Fillies Diamond Classic, the Group 2 WASBA Breeders Stakes, the Group 3 Race For Roses and the Group 3 Pure Steel. What a bumper month for feature wins by fillies and mares.! The remaining 4 were in \$10,000 equivalent races, with 3 of the wins in 4YO+ races, showing how necessary these races are.

In an almost identical result to last month, Westbred fillies and mares won 35 (58.3%) of the 60 races won by fillies and mares, and 58.8% of their stakes.

Stakemoney earned by fillies and mares finishing in the first 6 places in May 2020 was \$698,997, a whopping \$260,000 up on the low April figure. If not for the stakes reduction it would have been about \$30,000 up on the May 2019 figure.

Total stakes paid to fillies and mares was \$738,165 with Westbred fillies and mares earning \$433,760 (58.8%).

The percentage of overall stakes paid to fillies and mares in May 2020 was 39.4%, which is by far the highest figure since May 2019 (38.3%), helped along by the number of feature race wins.

For May 2020, fillies and mares comprised 33.7% of individual starters and 32.0% of race starts. While the starters is 2.8% higher, the race starts is lower in percentage terms. For fillies and mares only, Westbred fillies and mares provided 74.9% of individual starters and 72.5% of race starts, slightly down on last month. When compared to the stakes earned (58.8%) there is a way to go to get the dollars earned closer to the percentage of starters. Westbred 2yo and 3yo fillies made up 76.3% of fillies in that age range.

At Gloucester Park prime meetings, 14 mares won 16 (40.0%) of the 40 races in May 2020, the first month since the new handicapping system was introduced that results have been above target. We could do with more results like this to reach our target on an annual basis.

A top month for the girls. Winners included 5yo trotting mare **Princess Mila (Majestic Son)** won a \$14,400 Open Trot for the second month in a row, 4yo NZ mare **Balcatherine (American Ideal)** repeated her efforts last month in winning a \$14,400 Open race, then went on to win the Group 3 Pure Steel; 4yo **Dracarys NZ (Bettors Delight)** also won a \$14,400 Open Pace and **Arma Indie (Well Said)** won the Group 2 WASBA Breeders Stakes; NZ 5yo mare **Semiramide (Mach Three)** won a \$14,400 Open Pace and the Group 3 Laurie Kennedy Race For Roses; NZ 5yo Queen Shenandoah (**Somebeachsomewhere**) won a \$16,000 Fillies and Mares; 7yo NZ mares **Just Rockon Bye (Christian Cullen)** won a \$16,000 Open Pace and **Talkerup (Changeover)** won a

\$17,600 Open Pace. Tops was the win by NZ 2yo filly **Always An Angel (Art Major)** in the \$100,000 2YO Fillies Diamond Classic.

Congratulations to the connections of all the fillies and mares winning in May 2020. The WA bred winners of metropolitan stakes' races were:

- ♥ **Advance Your Dream (Advance Attack)** breeders Mal and Tanya Hancock and Tracey Massimini, Westsired filly with two places from her previous 3 starts then started favourite from 4, straight to the front, steady as they go before a flat tack 27.9 3rd qtr and no one making up ground, down to the line an easy winner of a \$14,400 3YO Fillies Pace by 6.9m, last qtr 27.8;
- ♥ **Blockjorg (Hes Watching)**, breeder owner Clarina Racing Syndicate, 3yo filly started inside the backline and settled on the back of the short priced favourite who started in 1, a solid pace throughout, got off the leaders back coming off the back and had too many guns, going on to win the \$50,000 3YO Fillies Diamond Classic by 1.5m in 1:56.5, last half 57.4;
- ♥ **Delightfulreaction (Auckland Reactor)**, breeder Mike Howie, a midweek win and 2 seconds from her previous 3 starts (including 2nd in the Group 2 WASBA Breeders Stakes) started favourite from 3, settled one out one back then two back, made a fast forward move with 600m to go to be 3rd at the 400m, led into the straight and won the \$14,400 Fillies and Mares Pace by 1.3m in 1:58.5, last qtrs 28.9 and 28.4;
- ♥ **Gotta Go Gabbana (Gotta Go Collect)**, owner breeders Colin and Annie Belton, took her stakes to \$260,000 with a solid win after leading in a class field, then being headed coming off the back before fighting back and winning the \$17,600 Fillies and Mares FFA by a half head, last qtrs. 28.3 and 28.9; and
- ♥ **Sports Package (Sportswriter)**, owner breeder Terry Ferguson, WASBA Country Oaks winner at her previous start then started in 1, surrendered the lead to the favourite after a lap, solid pace throughout and a 28.4 3rd qtr, got clear in the straight to power home and win the battle for the WA Oaks by a half neck, last qtr 28.9 and equaling the race record of 1:56.9.



Sports Package is the second Country Oaks runner to win the WA Oaks, but is the first to win the WASBA Country Oaks WA-Oaks double.

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All our sponsors, including those who assisted us on our Breeders Stakes Night are shown below. For website information and more contact details, go to the Breeding News Page of our website www.wasba.com.au :

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Don't forget to check out the facebook page and website from time to time for news, breeding information, links to various items of interest and contact information. The WASBA website is www.wasba.com.au

And Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WesternAustralianStandardbredBreedersAssociation>

The **WASBA AGM** was held at Gloucester Park on Friday 8 February. The **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** has been scheduled for **29 July 2020**, with this likely to proceed as a teleconference under the current social distancing requirements.

Meetings are scheduled monthly on the last Wednesday of each month, except over the Christmas New Year period. If you would like to raise any issues or comment on any aspect of breeding, please contact a Committee member or:

- Send an email to info@wasba.com.au.
- Write to WASBA at PO Box 3237 EAST PERTH WA 6892.
- OR you can PM us on facebook or use Messenger to get in touch.

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