

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STANDARDBRED

BREEDERS ASSOCIATION Inc.

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NEWSLETTER

Vol. – 201 February 2015

SUCCESSFUL WASBA 2015 AGM

Thank you to all the members who attended a successful 2015 AGM, which was followed by a great run by David Hercules in the WA Heat of the Interdominion. Unfortunately, David couldn't win the Inters in Sydney but there will be another opportunity in November this year in Perth, for him and other local horses.

As a result of the AGM, we are moving forward with the agreed position of pushing for a stallion book limit at national level. This is seen as being critical to the future of our breeding industry, ensuring the viability of studs and stallions, and giving breeders choices for their mares.

GLOUCESTER STANDARDBREDS YEARLING SALE

A solid result to the Sale, almost the envy of the thoroughbred sale a few days earlier with the WA Sales' climate being much less "blue sky" than other states. The overall turnover was higher than last year, with the average and clearance rate just slightly down. One lot expected to be one of the highest priced yearlings was withdrawn, and two fillies were passed in at high prices just short of their reserve.

It was good to see more trainers at the Sale, and the double Westbred Bonus for the West-sired horses was certainly a talking point.

The Parade of Yearlings was very successful this year, with plenty of spectators and two thirds of the yearlings paraded. Some photos of the parade are on the WASBA website, with the parade winners being Lot 28 Peta Congerton's colt by Rocknroll Hanover out of Dancing With Fire (sold for \$33,000), and lot 34, KTC Bloodstocks filly by Sportswriter out of Flylika Bird Lombo (sold for \$22,000). The highest priced colt was lot 73 Art Major out of Baby Blues, and the highest priced filly was Lot 80 Somebeachsomewhere out of Queen Delilah.

The vendors taking home the \$250 prize draw for parading their yearlings were Brook Park Standardbreds and Tarsao Investments. Many thanks to WASBA Committee member Pat Borg, the Standardbred Pleasure & Performance Horse Association of WA (SPPHAWA) for assisting Pat Borg with organizing the parade, judges Stephanie Smith and Suzy Jackson, compere Alan Parker and all the vendors who paraded their yearlings.

Congratulations to all the purchasers who have taken home a yearling from the Sale. Passed in lots are listed on the latest Gloucester Standardbreds results document, so contact Gloucester Standardbreds Manager Dot Parker on 0416 280 392 to see if any of the yearlings are still available, or email her on gloucesterstandardb@bigpond.com.

Recent discussions should result in next year's Sale NOT clashing with any race meeting.

WESTBRED, FILLIES AND MARES OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP



The separate \$19,999 Western Crown Classics for 2yo colts and fillies will be run on 20 March. Westbred horses placed first to fourth WILL GET THE WESTBRED BONUS.

The **\$30,000 Golden Girls Mile** will be run at Pinjarra on 6 April. The Johnson Heats for M2 mares will be run in April, with the \$25,000 final on 24 April along with the **\$100,000 Sales Classics** for 2yos. The **\$19,999 Country Oaks**, restricted to Westbred 3yo fillies, is scheduled for Bunbury on Anzac Day 25 April, 2 weeks before the WA Oaks. The Westbred Bonus will be paid to fillies placed 1st to 4th. And thanks to Pinjarra the **\$14,999 WASBA King-Lethbridge Memorial Westbred Mares Pace** will be run at Pinjarra on 20 April.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN FEBRUARY

- ♣ Tajjies Girl (Blissfull Hall) running super mile rates of 1:56.1 at Gloucester Park and 1:56.4 at Northam (in a C0-C1), and Disco Spirit (Life Sign) running 1:56.5 at Albany over the longer distance of 1828m in a C2-C4;
- ♣ Here Comes Zoe (Village Jasper) running a similar super rate of 1:55.2 at Gloucester Park;
- ♣ David Hercules (Artesian) winning the WA Heat of the Interdominion in a very tough race;
- ♣ Sensational Gabby (Yankee Sensation) winning the \$50,000 Empress Stakes.

BREEDER OF THE MONTH – January

Congratulations to our **Breeder of the Month, Rod Fletcher**, who bred the 5yo mare **Indomitable (Saab** out of Infinite Scale by **Mystical Prince**). Indomitable won 3 races in January, including a \$17,500 race for M0-M2 fillies and mares. Since then Indomitable has won two more races, including the very exciting \$17,500 KTC Bloodstock Breeding Tomorrows Champions Empress Stakes Prelude, beating the mighty Sensational Gabby.

Indomitable has currently won \$98,157 with a best mile rate an extremely good 1:54.6.

Infinite Scale, the dam of Indomitable, is also the dam of **Indomitable Saab (Saab)** 1:55.8 16 wins and \$154,491. **Saab**, the sire of both Indomitable and Indomitable Saab, was an exceptional race horse, winning 12 of his first 15 starts including the WA Derby, and winning the Golden Nugget and the WA Pacing Cup as a 4yo.

Congratulations to Rod and Indomitable.

WA BASED SIREs – January

In December the progeny of 17 WA based sires produced 38 individual winners of 41 races. A very even spread of sires, with **Northern Luck** produced 8 winners of 8 races and **Allamerican Ingot** producing 4 winners of 4 races.

In the 3yo brigade, both **Advance Attack** and **Allamerican Ingot** produced 2 winners. At 15 March, **Allamerican Ingot** and **Rich And Spoilt** were 3rd and 4th on the WA 3yo Sires list, behind only Bettors Delight and Art Major.

Congratulations to the breeders and connections of the 2 WA sired pacers that won races at GP Metro Stakes meetings. Sensational Gabby is included in the Fillies and Mares section. The other winner was:

- ◆ **Dredlock Rockstar (Northern Luck)** breeder Ross Torre's Royalstar Pty Ltd, won the \$17,500 Happy 70th Birthday Peter O'Neill Pace for M0-M2 pacers over 2130m, final quarters in 28.5 and 28.9 and mile rate of 1:57.1.

WESTBRED WINNERS – January

Westbreds won 104 (44.3%) of the 235 races run in the month of January, not quite as good as December but still better than the previous months. We are still targeting of 50% of race winners being Westbred so ask your local club to run more Westbred races. There were 13 Westbred races run in December.

The sires (of Westbreds) that did best of the sires based outside of WA were **Village Jasper** (after being top last month he had another 4 winners of 5 races), **Bettors Delight** (also 4 winners of 5 races), **Jeremes Jet** (4 winners of 5 races), and **Elsu** (again doing well, 4 winners of 4 races).

At Gloucester Park Metro stakes meetings 12 individual Westbreds won 12 (24%) of the races. This is the highest number of individual winners since October (13 winners of 17 races) and one less than January 2014. *However....*, included in the January 2015 wins is the \$250,000 Fremantle Cup, showing that we *can and do* breed Westbreds capable of competing in and winning the big races.

Congratulations to the breeders and connections of the 12 Westbreds that won races at the Gloucester Park Metro Stakes meetings. One of the winners is mentioned in the WA bases Sires section and 4 in the Fillies and Mares section. The other *seven* Westbred winners were:

- ♣ **Heez On Fire (Courage Under Fire)** breeder Total Strategy Pty Ltd, sizzled in the back straight and won an \$18,500 M1-M3 race over 2536m by over 14m;
- ♣ **Jasper Freeway (Village Jasper)** breeder Geographe Treeclipping Services, won Heat 2 of the San Simeon by nearly 9m, last half in 57.1 and mile rate of 1:56.3;
- ♣ **Blue McCool (Mcardle)** breeder Patrician Park, Westbred Pathway winner over the short journey of 1730m, last quarters in 28.4 and 28.5;
- ♣ **Firebomb (Elsu)** breeder Colleen Lindsay, won a Westbred Pathway over the longer journey of 2536m;
- ♣ **Dardy Delight (Bettors Delight)** breeder A and C Wood, also won a Westbred Pathway with last half in 57.0;
- ♣ **Walter James (Artesian))** breeder Mike Howie, won Heat 2 of the Binshaw Classic, last quarters 28.5 and 28.6;
- ♣ Last but not least **David Hercules (Artesian)** breeder Steve Johnson, won the \$250,000 Fremantle Pacing Cup and followed this with a gutsy second in the WA Pacing Cup after being forced to race wide by a horse he beat by 80m.

Jasper Freeway, Blue Mccool, Firebomb and Dardy Delight have all won over \$70,000, with Walter James not far behind. Heez On Fire has won almost \$200,000 and of course David Hercules has won over \$1.2 million in stakes. Not bad.

Also of note was **El Machine (Elsu)**, breeder Ian Davie, who won the Village Kid Sprint at Northam in 1:55.8. El Machine has won over \$180,000 in stakes.

HOW DID THE FILLIES AND MARES GO (January)

Overall fillies and mares won 58 (24.7%) of the 235 races run in January - 30 (12.8%) of these races were open races and the remaining 28 (11.9%) races were restricted to fillies/mares. There were 6 races restricted to 3yo fillies, with the remaining 22 being open to Fillies and Mares.

This is 2 less than the 60 winners in December 2014, but is one more fillies/mares race and 3 more F/M winners than the equivalent month last year.

The Westbred fillies and mares accounted for 35 wins (15 F/M races and 20 open) races, one more than the previous month and January 2014. There were 2 races restricted to Westbred fillies and mares.

At Gloucester Park Friday night meetings 8 Mares won 7 metro stakes races and 1 pathway, including Victorian mare Harper Grace who won an M0 and better Mares race. NZ mares Am Opulent and Cielito and filly Major Reality were also winners.

Four of the Friday night winners were Westbred. Congratulations to the connections of all the mares who won at Gloucester Park during the month. The Westbred winners at Gloucester Park metro meetings in January were:

- ♥ **Sensational Gabby (Yankee Sensation)**, breeders Roberts, Anderson, Beven, Champion and Farrel, scorched out of the barrier and was too hot for them in a \$22,500 FFA over 2130m;
- ♥ **Indomitable (Saab)**, breeder and part owner Rod Fletcher, brought up her 3rd consecutive win when she was too good for Sensational Gabby in a \$17,500 Fillies and Mares Pace for M0-M2 over 2130m;
- ♥ **Mon Lamour (Modern Art)**, owner/breeders D and D Monson, followed a 2nd placing with a win in a Westbred Pathway over 2130m, running home in 28.9 and 28.3; and
- ♥ **Harriet Elizabeth (Modern Art)**, owner/breeder Steve Johnson, won a \$17,500 Mares Pace over the flying 1730m, with a very fast second quarter of 28.4 setting up the race win.

WESTBRED BONUS SCHEME

At the request of WASBA, the Western Crown Classics being run on 20 March at Gloucester Park have had \$1 dropped from their stakes to bring them into eligibility for the Westbred Bonus, which applies to all 2 and 3yo races under \$20,000.

WASBA has also been able to arrange for the Country Council Derbies to get full Westbred Bonus Conditions (where the race stakes remain under \$20,000). The Westbred Bonus also applies to the Country Oaks, which will be run for stakes of \$19,999 plus Westbred Bonus.

The Country Derby, with stakes of \$25,000, does not include the Westbred Bonus.

EPONA CREDIT SCHEME

There is approximately \$523,000 remaining in the Epona Credit Scheme, with \$17,292 having being claimed on 13 mares to the end of January 2015. 363 mares are yet to make any claim.

Of course, fillies and mares earn Epona Credits every time they win any race in WA, up to a maximum of \$5,000 in credits. You receive the full value of these credits, not the 80% received for some other State schemes.

If you have any questions about the Epona Scheme, contact Alan Parker at RWWA on 9445 5207.

YOUR TAB – make sure you keep it...

An interesting article from Tom Percy has been attached to your newsletter. He is another well credentialed person giving an honest opinion on this issue.

It is clear that the current government intends to try to sell the TAB, but not before the next election as it might cost them some votes. Not a surprise.

You can stop this from happening by ensuring your elected member does not support the legislation necessary to make this happen. Speak to your local current and prospective representatives, and keep this in mind when you vote at the next election.

Remember, ***the TAB did not contribute to the government debt and the racing industry should not be penalised for the situation that the government finds itself in.***

To keep you informed about what is at stake, the Gunston Report has been loaded to the WASBA website www.wasba.com.au on the *Links* page. If you would like us to mail you a copy of the Executive Summary, please let us know.

WASBA SPONSORS

Your sponsors provide valuable funds throughout the year which helps us to provide stakemoney and breeding bonuses to you. Contact these sponsors to discuss their services or ask your stockist to order their products. In addition to the valuable support provided by the Stud Farms **Alabar Bloodstock, Allwood Stud Farm, Empire Stallions, Hollywood Park, Pepper Tree Farm, Yirribee Pacing Stud** and **Woodlands Stud** in the form of discounts and stallion services, our other sponsors are listed below. For website information and contact details, go to the Breeding News Page of the WASBA website www.wasba.com.au :

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| ✓ Budget Stockfeeds in Oakford; | ✓ Larkhill Vets in Port Kennedy |
| ✓ Fresh Express in Canning Vale; | ✓ Milne Feeds in Welshpool; |
| ✓ Gloucester Standardbreds; | ✓ Vision Produce in Canning Vale. |
| ✓ Gala Restaurant in Applecross | ✓ Red Pepper Catering, and |
| ✓ International Animal Health Products, | ✓ RWWA's TABTouch |

YOUR COMMITTEE

WASBA is looking for a permanent Secretary. A very small honorarium is paid for the position. If you have good administrative and computer skills and are enthusiastic to take on the role, contact WASBA President Jeanine Diederich for more details.

WASBA welcomes our new Committee member Peter McAllister, a small breeder who has been breeding our standardbreds for a number of years. Peter has a public sector management background.

From time to time there are vacancies on the WASBA Committee. If you consider you have a genuine interest in promoting breeding and harness racing in WA, and you have relevant experience and the time to contribute to a Committee position involving meetings and undertaking various projects, please forward a brief profile by email or post to the WASBA Secretary for consideration in the event of a vacancy. All appointments to the Committee are in accordance with the WASBA Constitution.

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|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|
| President | Jeanine Diederich | M: 0407 383 256 | Committee | Pat Borg | M: 0433 331 087 |
| Vice President | Howard King | M: 0418 207 079 | Committee | Ian Davie | M: 0412 625 540 |
| Treasurer | Howard King | M: 0418 207 079 | Committee | Joe Schaper | M: 0409 101 540 |
| Secretary | | M: 0447 053 040 info@wasba.com.au | Committee | Michael Holtham | M: 0421 331 586 |
| Committee | Graham Compson | M 0405 155 114 | Committee | Peter McAllister | M 0419 464 842 |

Don't forget to check out the website from time to time for news, breeding information, links to various items of interest and contact information. If you didn't already know, the WASBA website is:

www.wasba.com.au

Our **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** will be Wednesday **25th March 2015**. If you would like to raise any issues for discussion or comment regarding any aspect of breeding, please contact us by:

- Sending an email to info@wasba.com.au .
- Write to WASBA at PO Box 1270 Booragoon WA 6954.
- Contact any Committee member.