

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STANDARDBRED

BREEDERS ASSOCIATION Inc.

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NEWSLETTER

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GOVERNMENT POSITION ON THE SALE OF THE TAB

Let's bring this right up to the front. The government has said the TAB will "probably" (ie will try to) be sold, but not in this term of government. *We will be seeking the support of all clubs* to contact their local MP about our view on what will happen to the racing industry, the harness industry in particular and the community if the government is successful. Speak to your club rep and others and make sure we get the message across before the next election. The government has shown it can change its mind, as was the case with the local government boundaries, if there is enough and strong community opposition.

WESTBRED, FILLIES AND MARES OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP



The **\$14,999 WASBA King-Lethbridge Memorial Westbred Mares Pace** will be run at Pinjarra on 20 April, with thanks to Pinjarra for their support

The Johnson Heats for M2 mares are being run in April, with the \$25,000 final on 24 April.

The **\$100,000 Sales Classics** for 2yos are also being run on 24 April.

The **\$19,999 Country Oaks**, *restricted to Westbred 3yo fillies trained more than 50k from the Perth CBD*, is scheduled for **Bunbury on Anzac Day 25 April**. The Westbred Bonus **will be paid** to all placegetters 1st to 4th. The **\$150,000 WA Oaks** will be run on 8 May, 2 weeks after the Country Oaks.

Both the 2yo fillies and colts **\$19,999 De Campo Classics** will be run at Bunbury on 10 May. Westbred fillies and colts placed first to fourth **will receive** the relevant **Westbred Bonus**.

The Heats of the Diamond are on 26 May at **Gloucester Park**. The **\$100,000 Diamond Final** will be at **Bunbury** on 5 June.

The Heats of the Pearl are on 2 June at **Pinjarra**, with the **\$100,000 Pearl Final** at **Bunbury** on **12 June**

\$14,999 Heats of the Fillies and Mares Lombardo are being held on 5, 12 and 19 June with the **\$25,000 Final** on 26 June.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN MARCH

- ♣ Our WA bred and sired **Polak** (Pacific Fella) winning his first two starts on American soil, and beating one of the best horses ever in the US in champion free for all-er Foiled Again (Aged Horse of the Year 2011, 2012, 2013 and winner of \$6.9 million);
- ♣ A great run in the Western Crown for 2yo fillies by an exciting **Sheer Rocknroll** (Rocknroll Hanover) in a last to first effort AND taking home the Westbred Bonus and first win bonus;
- ♣ A terrific double by **Smokey The Bandit** (Jet Laag) to win a heat (with a scintillating finishing burst) and the \$25,000 The Clarke Final in 1:55.9;
- ♣ When the country boy came to town he showed them how it was done – **Rusty Rockets** (Blissfull Hall), showed a good deal of class in winning at only his 5th city start in an 88 run career, after winning the Wagin Cup two starts before; and
- ♣ M2 gelding **Ti Amo Franco** (Franco Terminator) winning a 1730m M3 and better event in 1:54.7 against some very classy opposition;

BREEDER OF THE MONTH – February

It was a very difficult decision this month, so much so that we have declared it a dead heat. And that didn't cover all the worthy prospects for breeder of the month this month, an award which is only open to our members.

Congratulations to our first February **Breeder of the Month, John and Sue Awcock**, who bred the 6yo gelding **Disco Spirit (Life Sign** out of Disco Diva by **Classic Garry**). Disco Spirit ran a scintillating time at Albany to win the Community Hospice Pace over 1828m by 14.5m in 1:56.5. This is certainly the fastest time at Albany in recent years. His total stake earnings are just over \$50,000

Disco Spirit won three times in February, all at Albany, and this followed a win in December at Albany. To show his versatility, he has followed this with a win in the \$10,000 Premier Coal Collie Cup over 2700m. It was a good month for John and Sue with two wins by full brother Disco James and a win by 2yo Johnny Disco, also a descendant of the Windshield Wiper mare **Madam Butterfly**.

Congratulations to our second **Breeder of the Month** for February, **Alister Thompson**, who bred the 6 yo gelding **Bolshevic (Art Major** out of Princess Ella by **Smooth Fella**).

Bolshevic has been ultra-consistent, with his last 12 starts to the end of February resulting in 3 wins (all in February), 3 seconds, 3 thirds and 3 fourths, including a win in the Heat (at Bridgetown) and Final (at Collie) of the \$8,000 John Martin Memorial. Bolshevic has since won again at Collie. His overall stakes are \$56,746 with a best mile rate of 1:56.7

Congratulations to John, Sue and Alister.

WA BASED SIRES – February

In February the progeny of 12 WA based sires produced 35 individual winners of 40 races, one less race win than the previous month. Once again top of the list was **Northern Luck** who produced 13 winners of 14 races. Other good performances were **Rich And Spoilt** (6 winners of 7 races), **Yankee Sensation** (4 winners of 6 races) and **Allamerican Ingot** (4 winners of 4 races). The dual winners were Imali (Resurgent Dragon), The Revolution (Northern Luck), Legendary Lou (Rich and Spoilt), Tom Henry and Rich Yankee (Yankee Sensation).

In the 3yo brigade, both **Rich and Spoilt** and **Allamerican Ingot** produced 2 winners each. At 8 April, **Allamerican Ingot** and **Rich And Spoilt** were 3rd and 4th on the WA 3yo Sires list, in dollars earned, behind only Bettors Delight and Art Major.

Congratulations to the breeders and connections of the 5 WA sired pacers that won races at GP Metro Stakes meetings. Sensational Gabby and Straittotheilton are included in the Fillies and Mares section. The other winners were:

- ◆ **Out Back Joe (Northern Luck)** breeder/owner Clive Stevens, won a 2130m Pathway in 1:58.2, continuing his very consistent form;
- ◆ **Ti Amo Franco (Franco Terminator)** breeder D Jackson and E and R Annandale, impressively won an \$18,500 event over 2536m, last quarters 28.6 and 28.1; and
- ◆ Nicely bred 3yo grey gelding **The Revolution (Allamerican Ingot)** breeder Ross Torre's Royalstar Pty Ltd, won at Bunbury and followed this with a win in the \$21,000 3yo Colts and Geldings Sales Classic.

WESTBRED WINNERS – February



Westbreds won 109 (51.9%) of the 210 races run in the month of February, higher than February last year and *above our target* of 50% of race winners being Westbred. Keep asking your local club to run more Westbred races. There were 21 Westbred races run in February.

The sires (of Westbreds) that did best of the sires based outside of WA were **Village Jasper** (going great with another top month and 6 winners of 7 races), **Blissfull Hall** (4 winners of 6 races), **Life Sign** (3 winners of 6 races) and 4 race wins to **Art Major** (2 winners), **Bettors Delight** (3 winners), **Grinfromeartear** (4 winners) and **Sutter Hanover** (2 winners). In an unusual month there were 3 triple winners (**Bolshevic** (Art Major), **Disco Spirit** (Life Sign) and **Secret Dragon** (Sutter Hanover).

At Gloucester Park Metro stakes meetings 13 individual Westbreds won 13 (32.5%) of the races. This is the highest number of individual winners since October 2014 (13 winners of 17 races).

Congratulations to the breeders and connections of the 13 Westbreds that won races at the Gloucester Park Metro Stakes meetings. Three of the winners are mentioned in the WA bases Sires section and 4 in the Fillies and Mares section. The other six Westbred winners were:

- ♣ **Copagrin (Grinfromeartoear)** breeder M, S and I Howie, scooted from the barrier and won a \$19,500 M2-M4 event by 4m;
- ♣ **Jasper Freeway (Village Jasper)** breeder Geographe Treelopping Services, having won a Heat of the San Simeon last month, won Heat 2 of The Lewis by over 5m with last quarters 28.7 and 28.6;
- ♣ **The Dyfi Dabbler (Presidential Ball)** breeders J, K, C and A Hilbrands and C Norris, won a Pathway by just over 7m in a good time of 1:57.1;
- ♣ **Firebomb (Elsu)** breeder Colleen Lindsay, after winning over a similar distance the previous month won a \$17,500 M0 and better Stand over 2503m with last quarters of 28.0 and 28.6;
- ♣ Sales graduate **Addfueltofire (Artistic Fella)** breeder Laurie Kennedy won a 2130m Westbred Pathway in an excellent 1:57.3; and
- ♣ David Hercules full brother **Hugh Victor (Artesian)** breeder Steve Johnson, having his first start in 10 weeks won a Pathway over 2536m, last quarters in 28.1 and 28.6, and followed this with a win at Pinjarra in a C5-C9 event.

The win of Firebomb was very noteworthy because it was one of the first Metro Stakes Westbred only races run at Gloucester Park, and it was a Stand, and it was one of the highest turnover races on the night!

This was one of the first opportunities that Westbreds have had for a race of their own for metro stakes. We hope to see more of these in the future.!

Not included above is the win by **David Hercules**, breeder Steve Johnson who won the \$50,000 WA Heat of the Interdominion with quite a tough run over the 2536m in 1:56.7. The race was run on Saturday night 14 February with all the other Interdominion Qualifying Heats across Australia.

HOW DID THE FILLIES AND MARES GO (February)

Overall fillies and mares won 55 (26.2%) of the 210 races run in February - 35 (16.7%) of these races were open races and the remaining 20 (9.5%) races were restricted to fillies/mares. There were 6 (2 2yo and 4 3yo) age restricted races, with the remaining 14 being open to Fillies and Mares.

In percentage terms this is a good overall result, although the number of fillies and mares races run was lower than programmed. We are very keen to see all the fillies and mares opportunities fully utilised to ensure the same opportunities continue to be provided. Speakers at the recent World Trotting Conference in Sydney clearly supported opportunities being provided specifically for fillies and mares to encourage racing and ownership of fillies and mares and increased breeding.

The Westbred fillies and mares accounted for 37 wins (13 F/M races and 24 open) races, two more than the previous month and 7 more than February 2014. There were 1 race (at Northam) restricted to Westbred fillies and mares.

At Gloucester Park Friday night meetings 8 Mares won 8 metro races, including one each for NZ mares My Samantha Jane, Bettor Dreams, The Parade and the 3yo filly Nuala (**Changeover**), winner of the \$50,000 Daintys Daughter Classic.

Congratulations to the connections of all the mares who won at Gloucester Park during the month. Four of the Friday night winners were Westbred and three of these (Sensational Gabby, Indomitable, Mon Lamour) were represented in this list last month. The Westbred winners at Gloucester Park metro meetings in February were:

- ♥ **Sensational Gabby (Yankee Sensation)**, breeders Roberts, Anderson, Beven, Champion and Farrel, was driven a treat to lead and win over the 2536m journey of the \$50,000 Empress Stakes, last quarter 27.9. Her 33rd win and \$692,525;

- ♥ **Indomitable (Saab)**, breeder and part owner Rod Fletcher, brought up her 4th win from her last 5 starts when she was too good for Sensational Gabby in the \$17,500 Empress Stakes Prelude over 2130m with a third quarter of 27.5 and overall miler rate of 1:57.9;
- ♥ **Mon Lamour (Modern Art)**, owner/breeders D and D Monson, ran a solid mile rate of 1:57.8 to win a \$17,500 MO Pace over 2130m after a win in a Westbred Pathway the previous month
- ♥ **Straittotheilton (Rich And Spoilt)**, breeders Harry Capararo, L Inwood and S A Tupluk, won the \$21,000 3yo fillies Sales Classic to add to her \$100,000 Westbred Classic last year and took her stake earnings over \$100,000.

WESTBRED BONUS SCHEME

At the request of WASBA, the Western Crown Classics run on 20 March at Gloucester Park were run for \$19,999 instead of the proposed \$20,000 to bring them into eligibility for the Westbred Bonus, which applies to all 2 and 3yo races under \$20,000.

As a result, the following horses that ran in the 2 Classics received a Westbred Bonus: Sheer Rocknroll (1st), Mary Catherine (2nd), Track The Navajo (3rd) and Bethany Aitch (4th) in the fillies event, and Duschka (2nd), Soho Wolverine 3rd) and Rich Yankee (4th) in the Colts..

WASBA also arranged for the Country Council Derbies to get full Westbred Bonus Conditions (where the race stakes remain under \$20,000).

For any Westbreds placed first to fourth the Westbred Bonus will also apply to the De Campo 2yo Classics and the re-introduced Country Oaks, which will all be run for stakes of \$19,999 at Bunbury.

We would like to thank RWWA for their assistance with these initiatives, and Bunbury for agreeing to run the Country Oaks, giving **3yo Westbred fillies currently trained outside a 50k radius from the Perth CBD** a chance at some nice prizemoney.

EPONA CREDIT SCHEME

There are plenty of fillies and mares opportunities coming up so lots of time to collect Epona Credits if you haven't already reached \$5000 in credits. Fillies and mares earn Epona Credits every time they win any race in WA, up to the maximum of \$5,000 in credits.

There have been approximately \$20,000 in Epona Credits claimed to the end of February, with close to \$544,000 earned and still to be used.

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

YOUR TAB is on the line

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.

SUPPORT YOUR 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; |
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| ✓ Gala Restaurant in Applecross | ✓ Red Pepper Catering, and |
| ✓ International Animal Health Products, | ✓ RWWA's TABTouch |

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YOUR COMMITTEE

We are looking forward to our new Secretary starting next month. Stay tuned.... This is great news, especially for Jeanine.....

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.

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 **29th April 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.