

Sunday 9 June 2019

EPSOM LOOMS FOR QLD GUINEAS WINNER KOLDING



Kolding wins the Group Two Queensland Guineas (1600m) (Grant Peters)

The Epsom Handicap will be the spring carnival goal for Queensland Guineas winner **Kolding (NZ)** (Ocean Park).

Trainer Chris Waller wasted no time naming the Epsom as Kolding's spring carnival target after he extended his winning sequence to four straight wins in the Guineas.

Kolding, the \$2.80 favourite, provided jockey James McDonald

with the third leg of a winning treble when he overhauled Baccarat Baby (Casino Prince) to win by a half length with Pohutukawa (Medaglia D'Oro) an unlucky third a long neck away.

Waller believes Kolding is an ideal type for the Epsom.

"I think he's the right horse to go through to the spring. An Epsom type of horse in my opinion," Waller said.

"He's owned in the same interests as

Rangirangdoo (NZ) (Pentire) who won that race and this race looks a good launching pad."

Waller said a gelding operation has worked wonders for Kolding.

"It's been the making of this horse. He's four from four since he's been gelded," Waller said.

"Gelding them changes their attitude markedly. They forget about

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EPSOM LOOMS FOR QLD GUINEAS WINNER KOLDING

(Continued from page 1)

what's going on in terms of fillies and they concentrate on their racing.

"They actually become nicer horses too. They start enjoying life and it's certainly been the turning point for him.

"Prior to being gelded he had the ability but didn't want to be a racehorse."

McDonald said Kolding relaxed perfectly during the race and was confident he would overhaul his rivals in the straight.

"He's a horse that's really found his race craft, I was able to just sit on quietly on him throughout the run. He didn't spend a penny and that showed in the finish," McDonald said.

"When I asked him for an effort over that last couple of hundred he kept responding, he's in winning form and knew where the line was."

Pohutukawa returned with another hard luck story after being severely checked near the 250m before storming home to finish third.

-AAP

Race	BRC Queensland Guineas Gr.2 1600m
Winner	Kolding (NZ) 2015
Owners	Mr N Morgan
Trainer	Chris Waller (Gold Coast)
Breeding	by Ocean Park out of Magic Star (AUS) by Danzero (AUS)
Breeder	W Pegg
Sales	2017 National Yearling Sale - Premier V: Wentwood Grange \$170000 P: Mulcaster B/stock



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CHOUXTING THE MOB IMPRESSES AT FLEMINGTON

Chouxting The Mob (NZ) (Jimmy Choux) has completed a winning hat-trick at Flemington with his trainer now looking to the first Tuesday in November.

Trainer Simon Morrish said the Lavazza Long Black, a support staying race at Flemington on Melbourne Cup day, was the logical option for Chouxting The Mob after his win in Saturday's TAB/ATA Celebrates Women Trainers Handicap.

Ridden by Beau Mertens, Chouxting The Mob scored a widening 2-1/2 length win from the \$2.50 favourite Last Week (Tamayuz) with Observational (Galileo) a short-neck away third.

Chouxting The Mob was lining up for the 11th start of his campaign after having almost two years off the scene because of a cracked bone in a hind leg.

He now races with three screws in the leg and Morrish is mindful of how far he can push into winter with spring races approaching.

Saturday's win was his fourth in his past five starts and follows victories at Sandown and Cranbourne.

"He's gone through his grades well and is probably deserving of a better race," Morrish said.

"I don't know how good he is but he's a real stayer.

"I think the style of racing suits

him. He does nothing for the first 2000 metres and dashes home over the last 500 metres.

"You'd like to think the Lavazza Long Black would suit, or that other race (the Melbourne Cup), but we'll see how far we press on."

Lindsay Park co-trainer Ben Hayes said 2017 Caulfield Cup winner Boom Time (Flying Spur) had been retired after finishing last on Saturday, beaten more than 18 lengths.

-AAP

Race	VRC ATA Celebrates Women Trainers H. 2500m
Winner	Chouxting the Mob (NZ) 2013
Owners	Mr RD Wood, Ms SG Kalinowsky, Mr M Kalinowsky, Mr BM Kent, Mr BW Kalinowsky, Mr TR Whyte, Mr GF Amaranti, Mrs DS Amaranti, Mr JR Walker, Mr JR Lindsay, Mr GJ Berrell, Mr NK Peebles, Mr RJ Berven, Mr MJ Grace, Mr PF Jones, Mr W English, Mr MS Robertson, Miss MA Hull, Mr AP Wilson
Trainer	Simon Morrish (Ballarat)
Breeding	by Jimmy Choux out of Bidthemobgooday (AUS) by Reset (AUS)
Breeder	Chouxmaani Investments Ltd



Chouxting The Mob completes a hat-trick at Flemington (Quentin Lang)





SIMPLY OPTIMISTIC UP TO SYDNEY CHALLENGE

New Zealand trainers are noted for bringing stayers across the Tasman with success but their sprinters don't rate as highly.

So Brendon Hawtin knew he was taking a gamble with **Simply Optimistic** (Encosta de Lago) who has lived up to his part of the bargain with victory at Randwick.

A \$10 chance in the Tab.com.au Handicap (1200m), Simply Optimistic beat the favourite Southern Lad (Ocean Park) by three-quarters of a length.

Hawtin is familiar with Sydney racing having lived in the city for many years when his father Keith was foreman for Graeme Rogerson at Randwick.

The father and son are the owners of Simply Optimistic.

"We thought we would bring him here or to Melbourne," Hawtin said.

"This horse is qualified for the BOBS bonuses, so it made sense to bring him here.

"We thought we'd test the waters and he has done it well."

His jockey Josh Parr was impressed with the win.

"He's a lovely horse," he said.

"There's loads of improvement to come, both fitness-wise and mentally.

"He's a nice one."

Simply Optimistic capped a big 10 minutes for Hawtin who won the last race at Te Rapa with Money Trail (NZ) (Per Incanto).



Simply Optimistic upsets the Australian sprinters (Bradley Photography)

-AAP

Race	ATC Tabcorp Handicap 1200m
Winner	Simply Optimistic (AUS) 2014
Owners	Mr KW Hawtin & Mr BW Hawtin
Trainer	Brendan Hawtin (Te Awamutu)
Breeding	by Encosta de Lago (AUS) out of Iron Rose (NZ) by Zabeel (NZ)
Breeder	Mr G Harvey
Sales	2016 Ready to Run Sale V: Regal Farm \$230,000 P: Stuart Hale & Co

NEWS IN BRIEF

Star of the Seas atones for missing Stradbroke start

The Chris Waller-trained **Star Of The Seas (NZ)** (Ocean Park) failed to make the field for the Stradbroke and stayed at home in Sydney with a winning result in the Racing to Win Handicap (1600m).

The four-year-old gelding has been a model of consistency having record four wins and four placings from eight starts this preparation and never running out of the money in his 13 career starts.

"He's had a fantastic preparation," Waller's racing manager Charlie Duckworth said.

"He was balloted out of the Stradbroke so he came here instead.

"He's just a beautiful horse and jumps and travels and just wants to please."

Star Of The Seas gave his jockey Jay Ford a double for the Waller stable after his earlier win on two-year-old Catwalk.

Star of the Seas who was bred by Trelawney Stud, was sold off the back of a trial win in New Zealand when prepared by Clayton Chipperfield through bloodstock agent Phil Cataldo to Sydney based Tony Muollo



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SULTAN OF SWING BACK IN WINNING RHYTHM



Jonathan Riddell has Sultan Of Swing humming as he storms to victory at Te Rapa (Race Images – Peter Rubery)

Class galloper **Sultan of Swing (NZ)** (Bachelor Duke) returned to winning form with a vengeance when he dealt to his open-class rivals over 1600m at Te Rapa.

The Shaune Ritchie-trained six-year-old indicated he was nearing his peak after a sound effort for second at Ellerslie a fortnight ago and franked that form with his ninth career victory on Saturday.

After enjoying a cosy run against the rail in midfield throughout, rider

Jonathan Riddell had Sultan Of Swing handily placed to make his challenge one-off the fence at the 300m. The pair burst to the lead shortly after and maintained a solid gallop to the line to defeat race favourite Aligns With Me (NZ) (Align), who stormed home out wide to snatch second from He's Cavalier (NZ) (Castledale).

Ritchie thought his charge was ready to return to the winner's enclosure although he was hesitant to label him a winner prior to the race

due to the tricky track conditions and despite being opened as the \$3.80 favourite by TAB bookmakers.

"I actually potted him on the radio this morning, as I thought \$3.80 was too short when they opened up but obviously the bookmakers knew better than us," he said.

"I was a little concerned about the track conditions but this is the second time he has come to Te Rapa and handled a slow track.

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SULTAN OF SWING BACK IN WINNING RHYTHM

(Continued from page 7)

“Obviously he likes it here with that sand base.”

Ritchie had always felt a winning turn was not far away as luck had deserted the Bachelor Duke gelding in his most recent starts.

“He has been racing pretty well all season,” he said.

“He’s had big weights and wide runs and obviously the quality of horses he was racing against in the summer was right up there.

“There’s usually a nice horse coming through that can top him off, like last start, especially when they claim and you are giving them 9kgs.

“He’s a good genuine horse and a great horse for his owners.”

Bred and raced by Dominic Li under his IDL Racing banner, Sultan Of Swing has won nine of his 34 starts, including the Gr.3 J Swap Contractors Sprint (1200m) and over \$269,000 in prizemoney.

Race	Waikato RC Book Your Christmas at Te Rapa H. 1600m
Winner	Sultan of Swing (NZ) 2012
Owners	IDL Racing Ltd
Trainer	Shaune Ritchie (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Bachelor Duke (USA) out of Queen Cha Cha by High Chaparral (IRE)
Breeder	IDL Racing Ltd

– NZ Racing Desk





DR WATSON UPSETS THE SPRINTERS AT TRENTHAM

Consistent middle-distance performer **Dr Watson (NZ)** (Handsome Ransom) sprang a major surprise when he upset the open-class sprinters over 1200m on a testing Heavy11 surface at Trentham on Saturday.

Placed at his last two starts over staying trips, including a runner-up finish in the Foxton Cup (2040m) at Wanganui last weekend, most punters never gave the Sylvia Kay-trained seven-year-old a winning chance over the short-course distance.

Quality racemare New York Minute (NZ) (Iffraaj), successful in the corresponding event for the past two years, was sent out a hot favourite (\$1.80) with fellow northern raider Comeback (NZ) (Makfi), bidding for his fifth straight victory, expected to be the main challenger.

That scenario looked likely to play out as the pair duelled in front for most of the way before Comeback took over early in the run home. Just as Comeback looked to have the measure of his rivals fledgling apprentice Bridie Ansell urged Dr Watson between runners to collar Comeback and score her first success at just her third raceday ride.

Kay sported a wide grin as she waited for her charge to return to the Trentham birdcage, delighted she could play a major role in providing Ansell with her first winning ride.

"It's the greatest thrill ever," Kay said.

"She's (Ansell) such a good girl, she turns up every morning, will hop on anything and I'm just so pleased she has got a win."

Despite being seen mainly as a stayer, Kay was confident of a good showing despite the sharp drop back in distance for Saturday's contest.

"He has won over 1200m a while ago," she said.

"On that track he will just grind away and he is very fit.

"He doesn't need much (work) really and he just loves his racing.

"He likes his little routines and he really likes Wellington.

"He always tries so we might have to have a go at the Parliamentary next so that will be a bit of a step up."

Ansell was also trying to keep her excitement in check as she accepted congratulations for her winning effort.

"It's very special and I can't believe it just happened," she said.

"He was so brave as I didn't think for one second he wasn't going to go between those horses. He's just so good."

Dr Watson will now tackle the Parliamentary Handicap (2200m) that will be run as the feature flat race on Wellington Steeplechase day at Trentham on July 13.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	WRC Platinum Homes Taranaki H. 1200m
Winner	Dr Watson (NZ) 2011
Owners	Mrs SL Kay, BT, JE & RL Maetzig & Est late PJ Kay
Trainer	Sylvia Kay (Levin)
Breeding	by Handsome Ransom (AUS) out of Dame Ngaio by Deputy Governor (USA)
Breeder	P J & Mrs S L Kay



Bridie Ansell sports a wide grin as she guides Dr Watson home at Trentham (Photo: Race Images)





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Sunday 9 June 2019

BAKER FORSMAN FILLY MAKES WINNING DEBUT AT TE RAPA

Impeccably bred youngster **Birdsong (NZ)** (Snitzel) made a winning debut for the Murray Baker and Andrew Forsman stable when she led all the way over 1200m in the opening event at Te Rapa.

The Snitzel two-year-old had looked promising in her two trial runs before Saturday's contest and with the application of blinkers was primed for a serious first-up effort.

Rider Matt Cameron made good use of an inside barrier to kick the filly into a forward position as she disputed the pace with the Team Rogerson-prepared Roc Cha (NZ) (El Roca). With the field struggling in the blustery conditions on offer, Birdsong maintained a powerful gallop in the home straight to score by over two lengths from Roc Cha with Harlech making up good ground to take third.

Co-trainer Andrew Forsman was pleased with the effort by his charge who was a \$400,000 purchase for owners, Sunlight Thoroughbreds, from the Pencarrow Stud draft during the

Book 1 session at the National Yearling Sale last year.

"It was always the key, whoever got up on pace and she was the one who drew the best," Forsman said.

"She has really improved since the trials and we have put the blinkers on and she has really sharpened up.

"She is a beautiful filly, well bred, and she is only going to get better with time."

Cameron was delighted with the filly's effort after employing the front-running tactics that saw the pair avoid the sand kickback that has been an issue at Te Rapa in recent months.

"That was the key (leading) as there is a lot of sand coming back as the other jocks are covered in it," he said.

"It's good to get these two-year-olds out and in the clear. It might not be the way to ride her but you get away with it first-up."

Bred by Sir Peter Vela's Pencarrow Thoroughbreds, Birdsong

is the first foal of the Group Three winning Galileo mare Scintillula who was a runner-up at Group One level while also placing fourth in both the Gr.1 Yorkshire Oaks (2385m) and Gr.1 Irish Oaks (2414m).

– NZ Racing Desk



Race	Waikato RC Skycity Hamilton 2YO H. 1200m
Winner	Birdsong (NZ) 2016
Owners	Sunlight Thoroughbreds
Trainer	Murray Baker & Andrew Forsman (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Snitzel (AUS) out of Scintillula (IRE) by Galileo (IRE)
Breeder	Pencarrow Thoroughbreds Ltd
Sales	2018 National Yearling Sale - Book 1 V: Pencarrow Stud \$400000 P: Sunlight T/breds

Birdsong strides clear for an emphatic debut victory (Trish Dunell)





NO SHAM THERE AS MEXICAN SON COMES UP ROSES

Sacred Sham (NZ) (O'Reilly) became the second product of former top Singapore mare Mexican Rose (NZ) (Volksraad) to score a win at his dam's old hunting ground on Friday night.

Laurie Laxon's multiple Group-winning mare was first represented by daughter Mexican Gal (Encosta de Lago) at Kranji in 2014. Though the daughter of Encosta de Lago was not quite a chip off the old block, she did perform creditably for the same connections – Jupiter Stable and trained by Laxon – with four wins and four placings from only 16 starts.

Whether Sacred Sham can scale to the same heights or soar even higher remains to be seen, but that first Singapore win in the \$70,000 Class 3 Division 2 race (1200m) at his third local start was indicative of some ability.

It was to trainer Mark Walker and Raffles Racing Stable's owner Dato Yap Kim San, first and foremost, a relief he had carved out a first notch on his scoresheet.

A former three-time winner (1000m to 1100m) for Caulfield trainer Danny O'Brien, Sacred Sham didn't get off to the most auspicious starts at his new home. He bled before his first race and was put on the sidelines for a while.

The ability was thankfully uncompromised as evidenced by his first two runs in Class 3 company in the last two months – a debut fourth in April and a fast-finishing second last month when ridden by senior jockey Benny Woodworth on both occasions.

Ridden this time by Walker's apprentice jockey Riduan Abu Bakar, Sacred Sham somehow found himself at the head of affairs.

The swoopers did make their presence felt halfway up the straight, but they had their work cut out when Sacred Sham's four-kilo-claiming apprentice jockey allowed him to let rip.

Sacred Sham kept attacking the line to score by three parts of a length from Yabadabadoo (NZ) (Makfi) with Despacito (NZ) (Falkirk) third another half-length away. The winning time was 1min 10.34secs for the 1200m on the Polytrack.

Walker said it was not by design that Sacred Sham landed at the top of the queue, but with nobody seemingly keen to take up the role, it played into their hands in the end.

"I thought there would be more speed to the race, but he



Sacred Sham outsprints his rivals to open his account in Singapore (Singapore Turf Club)

ended up getting a soft lead," said the current leading trainer.

"I just told Nik (Riduan) to settle him where he is comfortable, but he led and just kept going. The four-kilo claim probably helped him, too.

"He's a horse who had a few issues when he came to us. He bled before his first start and we've got to manage him carefully.

"Well done to Dato Yap and his racing manager Bruce Sherwin."

A stakes winner of over A\$125,000 back in Australia, Sacred Sham has seen his local bank swell past the S\$55,000 mark for the Raffles Racing Stable with that first Kranji success.

-STC

Race	Singapore TC Class 3 H. 1100m
Winner	Sacred Sham (NZ) 2013
Owners	Raffles Racing Stable
Trainer	Mark Walker (Kranji)
Breeding	by O'Reilly out of Mexican Rose by Volksraad (GB)
Breeder	D C Ellis & Nearco Stud Ltd
Sales	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale V: Curraghmore Stud \$160000 P: O'Brien T/breds/ Raffles Racing

