

tt TURF TALK

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The David Allan Column

The biggest Sale of its type in the world — On Now ... *and the most withdrawals*



Some consignments at the Horses in Training Sale are still ridden in the pre-parade as evening closes in.

THE UK and Irish Yearling Sales season has ended except for a couple of smaller events. Several thousand have gone through the ring. The next intensive series of sales running one into the other will be the Foal and Mare/Filly Sales at Goffs and Tattersalls, mid-November/early December.

Sandwiched in between (a doorstop of a huge sandwich), starting today when you read this, is Tattersalls Horses in Training Sale, the largest such sale in the world attended by something like 35 nationalities or their UK representatives on their behalf.

1,515 Lots are catalogued to sell Monday to Thursday. Richard Hannon offers 77; Ballydoyle 31; Juddmonte drawn from various trainers 39; Mark Johnston and William Haggas each about 45; and Shadwell 60 amongst 180 individual consigners.

Selling starts every day at 0930 with inspections carrying on continuously with much rushing back to the ring. On the first day there are 412 lots which might take 14-16 hours to sell.

But they won't. 120 of Monday's are already withdrawn. There will be more. Thus only 10 or 11 hours per day of selling – not unusual. Withdrawals on other days are building.

Why? Let's first look at the impact.

The research in this catalogue is more arduous than most – watching replays of dozens of races, interpreting all the form and suitability for various surfaces in various countries, grading and provi-

sionally budgeting - before getting to inspecting (walking and trotting) on the sale ground and updating the analysis before crucial vettings.

As readers of this column will know, you only go into the ring when you need to be there. Owners at home and abroad rarely attend, so busy are their professionals, but if they do it is for a visit during the hectic week.

So why so many withdrawals? How can all that work be put at a 30% risk of waste? Why must we watch the Withdrawals List on-line day by day, hour by hour? A support staff helps!

In UK and Ireland, *yearlings* are entered in July for the September/October Sales. May/June will have been seen visits to studs by sales company executives, all bloodstock experts consulting and competing.

Thereafter, not before, you choose your sale and often your day without paying anything until a deduction from sales proceeds. Thereafter there is nothing to stand in the way of the great majority appearing at the designated sale.

With *Horses in Training*, entries are made in early August, earlier in relation to a sale starting on 24th October, because the cataloguing is so complex: arranged by consigner, placing on days and times largely determined by their longevity at Tatts.

Within a consignment there are separations. A big outfit offering (say) 60 horses can sell 3x20 consecutive lots through the ring having dozens of staff, but many need them broken down into smaller groups. Grading comes into it across each group and the whole sale. It is a monumental task.

The turf season continues full on until after the sale.

Many entries are made "in case of need". Owners and managers may take up the option or decide to keep based on performances. Tattersalls, therefore, can plan selling days and movements for 30% withdrawals or more.

In the actual market place, perhaps the most interesting equation at stronger levels is where three distinct buyer categories compete for the same horse: for going jumping where there is no shortage of sporting money, for going to Australia for their Cup races or for the Dubai Carnival.

Not long ago 11 of the first 14 home in the Melbourne Cup were bred in UK or Ireland. Broadly, they want a UK 3 year old that stays a mile and a quarter and is rated in the 90s or better with improvement in him.

The same horse if a robust sort will attract six figures for going hurdling, less for lower ratings. The perfect demonstration of this dual-purpose interest was the more highly rated Purple Moon topping the sale.

Bought for 440,000 guineas initially to go hurdling, he won then returned to the flat winning the historic Ebor at York, ran 2nd in the Melbourne Cup and ran well around the world.

Prices start at 800 guineas (R15,000 now, 19,000 not long ago). The top is the top but the overall median is around 12,000 guineas (R220k). For that price last year, JET SETTING was bought from the Hannon consignment. She then beat the superb MINDING in the Irish Guineas and sold soon afterwards at Goffs London for £1,300,000 or around R8 million now, closer to 10 million then.



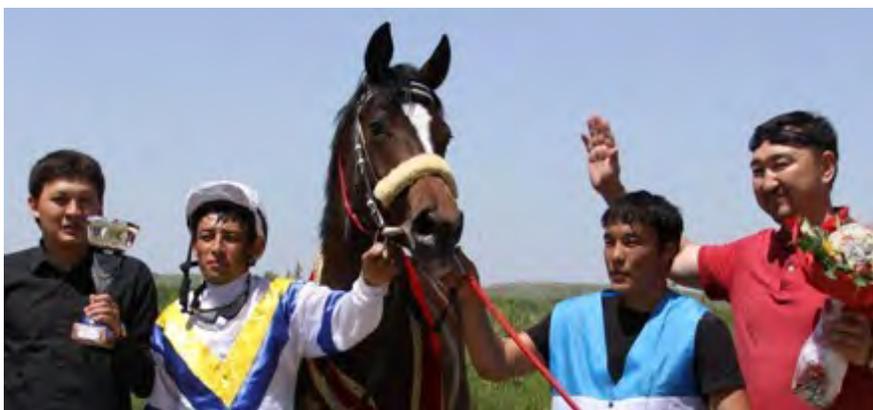
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Allan Bloodlines has bought here over the years for Ireland, Japan, Dubai, Czech Republic, Russia and for long-term Kazakh clients who race in Germany and Czech as well as at home where "we" hold every track record. This year, for Russia, Kazakhstan and perhaps for Sri Lanka.

Our few buys here for South Africa have won but South African buyers for Horses in Training are largely in their shell. However....this is the place to buy something to try to win the Met – and we can avoid the Aussie and jumping competition! - tt.



Kazakh Champion with Allan Bloodlines origin.

Frankel - 18 individual two-year-old winners, 13 on debut

CONNECTIONS of the latest Frankel newcomer to make a winning debut admit they can look forward to some "nice entries" next season after Mirage Dancer flew home at Doncaster last Friday afternoon.

Sent off the 7-4 favourite, victory looked unlikely for Sir Michael Stoute's youngster with two furlongs to run as Ryan Moore was hard at work. But he really picked up close home, showing a fine turn of foot to beat Tafaakhor by half a length.

In winning the second division of the 188Bet British Stallion Studs EBF Maiden Stakes, Mirage Dancer became the 13th newcomer from Frankel's first crop to win first time out and was an 18th individual scorer for the superstar. – *Sporting Life*.



Mirage Dancer wins.

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Teetan wins HK Gr2 by clever design

FORMER SA-based jockey Karis Teetan rode a top race to win the Gr2 Oriental Watch 55th Anniversary Sha Tin Trophy on Sunday on Designs On Rome for trainer John Moore.

Off a fast pace, Teetan decided to take the race by the scruff of the neck, unleashing Designs On Rome from the rear. They skirted the field and grabbed a share of the lead 550m out.

“I was drawn one and I didn’t want to get blocked in on the rail so waited for them to go, pulled him out and let him find his feet at the back. He’s a clever horse – once I pulled him out and showed him the daylight, I took the decision to let him go. He won his race around the 700 metres,” Teetan said.

“He doesn’t know how to get beat!” Moore commented. “He knows where the line is, and, anything that comes at him, he just knuckles down. It shows how good a horse he is, with that lightning move by Karis when the pace was slackened, that made the difference between winning and losing.”

Justin Snaith in devastating form

IN-form trainer Justin Snaith sent out five winners at Kenilworth on Saturday– including an exacta in the R150 000 Listed Woolavington Handicap.

Ovidio powered home in the 2400m feature under Aldo Domeyer, to register his second consecutive success in this race.

Snaith has saddled 63 winners in less than three months of the new season and holds a R2-million lead over Sean Tarry on the National Log. –tt



Karis Teetan, winning on Designs On Rome (2).

O’Brien considers options for Found

AIDAN O’Brien’s Arc heroine Found is under consideration for a tilt at the Breeders’ Cup Classic.

The filly by Galileo scored the second of her three Group 1 victories in the Breeders’ Cup Turf last year but connections have raised the possibility of a mouth-watering clash with California Chrome in the Classic.

Speaking at Leopardstown on Sunday, O’Brien said: “We’ve decided to put Found in the Breeders’ Cup Classic and she will be entered for the race in the morning. Whether or not she runs in the Classic hasn’t been decided.

“She’s also in the Breeders’ Cup Turf, which she won last year, and we’ll wait a bit longer before deciding which race she will go for and what other horses we’ll be taking to Santa Anita.” - *Racing Post.*



Found, winning the Arc.

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Raiders stake claim for Betting World Algoa Cup

It's often regarded as the 'Friendly City' but come 30 October the Port Elizabeth-based trainers will be looking to get one over the raiders in this year's renewal of the Betting World Algoa Cup.

The Grade Three event, one of the gems in the Eastern Cape racing calendar, promises to be another fantastic day out for the family and has attracted a number of entries from trainers around the country.

Final declarations take place on Monday morning with the final field of 19 to be revealed later in the day and the local trainers will have their tails up to try and negate any of the firepower that the visitors might bring to town for the R350,000 event.

"We wait with baited breath. It's good for racing that so many raiders have been nominated for our Algoa Cup weekend," said Tara Laing. The hometown conditioner has two charges nominated with ReadyToGoRightNow and Orchestrated representing her yard.

"They're coming to try steal the cookie from the Cookie Monster but in saying that we have had so many great horses win the Algoa Cup in the past. Everyone wants to win it and it's a case of may the best horse win on the day," said Laing.

As far as the raiders are concerned there looks set to be interest from both Cape Town and Johannesburg with a number of trainers nominating horses for this event.

Six horses stand their ground at this stage as representatives from Gauteng, five of those from the yard of reigning champion trainer Sean Tarry and Pentelikon from the Mike Azzie stable.

There are 11 horses among the 32 nominees from Cape Town with all of the Justin Snaith, Candice Bass-Robinson, Brett Crawford, Joey Ramsden and Vaughn Marshall stables looking to raid.

There will be entertainment on offer for the whole family with a dedicated children's activity zone along with pony rides. There will be a performance by Psyko Souljamz, a hip-hop and modern dance group while Niqui Cloete-Barass will provide musical entertainment. There will also be lucky draws throughout the afternoon.

For R125 per person, racegoers can make use of



Sean Tarry, raiding party.

the facility being set up in Georgie's Corner with a glass of wine or craft beer and a cheese platter and Computaform included in the ticket price. The rustic area will be situated near the parade ring and offers a chance to be close to the action.

There is also a hospitality package for those wanting to enjoy the afternoon from the comfort of the HB Christian Room at R300 per head with a delicious buffet, racecard, gifts and an entry into the venue's lucky draw competitions included in the price.

For hospitality bookings call 041 372 1859.

The 2000m Betting World Algoa Cup caps off a busy weekend of racing action at Fairview with the Racing Association Stakes run on the Friday as part of a drive to raise funds for the Eastern Cape Horse Care Unit.

—tt

Imported Al Fahad delivers, features next

AL Fahad (AUS), stepped up from his Maiden to a MR90 over 1450m for three-year-olds and delivered the goods for Mike de Kock and Sheikh Hamdan on Saturday at Turffontein, winning easily.

De Kock has earmarked the Cape Derby for this son of Redoute's Choice, the Cape Guineas is also a possibility, and his Gauteng prep is likely to be the Gr3 Graham Beck Stakes on Charity Mile Day.

"Al Fahad beat what looked like a quality field. He has always showed us his ability in work. He gives a lot at home and there is plenty to like about him," De Kock commented. - tt.

