The General Idea

The R4 million 2018 CTS Premier Yearling Sale chart topper General Franco, who won so smartly on debut in April, will make his reappearance in a 1200m Juvenile Plate at Kenilworth on Saturday. In the absence of Richard Fourie, Greg Cheyne will ride the exciting Frankel colt who races in the silks of the late Jack Mitchell. The form of his facile first win was confirmed at Durbanville on Sunday when runner-up Three Two Charlie shed his maiden in style.



RingA Ding Ding

Flamingo Park's horse identifier was wide awake again when averting a potential ringer scandal. On 3 May trainer C J Lensley admitted that he contravened Rule 72.1.45 in that he presented a horse to race when this horse was not the carded horse - in this case Arctic Party. He was fined R10 000. It would surely help the public and the image of the game if the full background was given – in other words, was there intent or was it a genuine mistake? The fine is also questionable – being of the same quantum as that imposed on a jockey recently for swearing and improper behaviour!

SWAPPING

The Fairview Stipes and Starter have come in for stick after Friday's barrier gate swap. But it happens in first world jurisdictions too. There was a fair bit of confusion at Toowoomba on Saturday night, after the winner of race six carried the wrong saddlecloth number. A swapped saddle cloth saw winner Royal Warfare (4) carry the 5 cloth. Upon investigation it was established that the carded 4 and 5 horse were presented and subsequently raced in the incorrect saddlecloths but correctly weighed out. An examination of the Stewards patrol footage also confirmed that both horses started from their correct barriers.

Gimme Four

Varsfontein Stud's form sire Gimmethegreenlight has enjoyed a magnificent season in 2018-2019 and the son of More Than Ready's good form continued over the past weekend, when he was represented by four individual juvenile winners.

WINX HONOUR

The Australian Turf Club have announced a new grandstand set to be built at Randwick will be named in honour of superstar mare Winx. The Winx Stand, which will be situated on Royal Randwick's Leger Lawn, will cater for approximately 5000 spectators on major race days. It will also be used by the Australian Turf Club yearround for non-race day events such as conferences, trade shows, exhibitions and university activities. The ATC is aiming to have the Winx Stand open to the public for the running of The Everest in 2020.

Tankard Topper

The Hemel 'n Aarde Stud based Equus Champion Jay Peg's son Peggson won the 57th running of the Castle Tankard at Borrowdale this weekend. Peggson, whose trainer Bridget Stidolph was winning the Tankard for a second year in a row, got out well and went out to make all the running. Bred by the Hemel 'n Aarde Stud, Peggson - who had won the Ipi Tombe Stakes two starts back - was produced by the Tara's Halls mare Pistol Dawn.



Lots & Lots

The annual Magic Millions National Sale, which starts on the Gold Coast next week, has become an institution in the Southern Hemisphere. The Weanling book leads the way from 22-24 May inclusive, boasting 725 lots by a record 119 sires - 22 of them represented by their first crops. Then there's a three day break ahead of four days (28-31 May) of filly and broodmare sales that comprise 1070 catalogued lots. The Yearling catalogue (5-7 June) is a treasure trove of 553 youngsters by 126 stallions of which 20 are freshman yearling sires. Nearly all are eligible for the \$11 million Magic Millions Race Series. The marathon sale closes on 7 June when tried horses will go through the ring.

Save The Sale Vate

Klawervlei Stud will be holding both its traditional Farm Sale and a Klawervlei Farm Sale of Mares, Weanlings & Foals with the 2019 Klawervlei Farm Sale set to take place on 15 June and the Mares, Weanlings & Foals Sale due to commence the following day. Both catalogues can be viewed at www.klawervlei.co.za