

- Official saddle cloth number
- 1 2 Horse
- 3 Headgear and shoes - a = alumites (af = alumites in front only); b = blinkers; c = cheek pieces; p = pacifiers; x = blinkers/pacifiers
- 4 Trainer 5
- Draw 6 Weight - showing apprentice allowance where applicable (eg 58.0-4.0)
- Jockey 7
- 8
- Sporting Post ability rating (AR) Sporting Post race rating (RR) this is ability rating adjusted for weight in this race and age of the 9
- horse; highest is best \* likely to run to rating; ? not consistent; ® roving banker; + could improve 10
- 11
- Owner, followed by in brackets the Breeder (B:) and below it colours worn by jockey (in italics) Age, colour, sex of the horse, followed by sire, dam and damsire (all in bold), followed by Date of birth, sale price (where applicable) with sale venue, dam's race record followed by her winning 12 offspring, followed by the runner's previous AR shown in five distance categories (eg 93/112/105/-/-from left to right: up to 1400m/1400-1600m/1700-1950m/2000-2350m/2400m and more), followed by [C][D] if the horse is course and/or distance winner, followed by previous highest official Merit Rating (MR) and when the horse last raced
- 13
- 14
- Last seven runs of the horse (going back to maximum of 2 years) in date-order Course, distance and going at last runs Courses: Durbanville (L), Fairview (F), Flamingo Park (Q), Greyville (D), Kenilworth (K), Scottsville (S), Turffontein (T), Vaal (V), Zimbabwe (H) For course indicators (night racing/new and old courses etc) see 29. Distance is followed by bend (b) or straight (s), and going (f=firm, g=good, s=soft, h=heavy)
- 15 Value of race (32k means R32.000, 1.5m means R1.5 million), followed by class of race
- (Graded and Listed races in bold)
  - Race class: MJP (Maiden Juvenile Plate); MP (Maiden Plate); Cnd (Conditions race with weight set according to previous performances of the runners; age and/or sex restrictions are indicated where applicable - f=fillies only, fm is fillies and mares only, a number is that age only): WFA (weight-for-age, where horses meet on level terms, with allowances for age and sex); MR (Merit Rating Handicap with weights set according to official Merit Ratings - MR96 means that a race-weight of 60kg corresponds with MR 96; MR is expressed in half kilos, and weights to be carried by all horses in the race are adjusted accordingly)
- Jockey 16
- Draw and number of runners 17
- Official Merit Rating (MR) the horse had at time of entry, not what it produced in the race 18
- 19 Weight, followed by headgear/shoes (b=blinkers, a=alumites)
- 20 Finishing position
- 21
- Lengths behind the winner (or ahead of 2nd horse if winner) Winning horse, with weight carried (or 2nd horse and weight if winner) 22
- 23 24 Actual racetime of runner (adjusted from winner's official racetime)
- Starting price odds
- 25 Sporting Post ability rating (AR) produced by the runner in that race
- Pace of the race (ok=true pace; F=false; FS= false, race decided in a sprint home; Ff=false where 26
- a front-runner was allowed to escape); gf=fast pace throughout; Race comment (see Comment explanation box elsewhere for details)
- 27
- 28 Expected approximate odds for the horse in this race
- 29 Course and surface indicators - s=sand, a=all-weather (incl polytrack), i=inner track (Turffontein, Vaal, Scottsville), o=outer track (Vaal) or o=old course (Kenilworth), n=new course (at Kenilworth) or n=night racing (at Greyville, Turffontein)
- NB Official Merit Ratings (MR) are produced by the official handicappers, who are employed by the National Horseracing Authority (NHA). MR's are mainly used to set weights in handicap races. The Sporting Post ability ratings (AR) are exclusive to Sporting Post. Producing MR and AR is as much science as art, and Sporting Post's AR's reflect differences of opinion with official MR's, often leading to betting opportunities.

## **RACE COMMENTS explained**

AD Ability Deting shills, shown on the	
AR Ability Rating, ability shown on the	ntprsvnot persevered with, something amiss
track (handicap rating)	ntstrjJockey says horse not striding out
Bsupported in the betting market	but vet. finds nothing wrong
bdlybadly	ntstr Vet. says horse not striding out
blkd baulked for a run	ntsttl the horse doesn't settle and fights
blftblinkers first time	the jockey
blwg the horse finishes blowing,	nvrinitnever in it
usually a sign of pain or fright	nvrnrrnever nearer
bmphorse was bumped	no xno extra
btmpulled the bit through mouth	opcyopen company, 2yos running against
chlgchanging legs	older horses
chkdchoked up in running	ovrrchoverreach injury
cmpnddcompounded	pace the horse sets the pace
cghcoughing, often a sign of bleeding	rspnsbreathing noise
crmpd cramped	rspdisrespiratory distress
Ddrifted markedly in the betting market	rspinfrespiratory infection
dckdducked away from whip	rtgrefused to gallop
d/hdead heat	ro the horse runs on at the finish, usually
disqdisqualified	from off the pace
dnadid not act in the going	ro wll the horse runs on well from off the pace
drrunner unfavourably drawn	rr thehorse runs from the rear position
dr outdropped out	RRRace Rating (Ability Rating adjusted
drreinjockey dropped rein	for weight carried in this race)
drwhpjockey dropped whip	sajockey felt something amiss with the
dw the horse didn't break on terms and lost	horse in running
the specified number of lengths(if any)	sdls the saddle slips, horse cannot be
epis1/2/p epistaxis, broke a bloodvessel	assisted
1 - 1st episode = 2mths suspension	slow the horse lost more than just a few
2 - 2nd episode = 2 or 6mths suspension	lengths
p - 3rd episode = permanent suspension	stl itstole a big lead and could not be caught
easdeased	shftdshifted from whip
evchevery chance	sssurgical shoes
far the horse raced far off the pace and	stdstood still in stalls at the off
was given too much to do	stmbldstumbled
fddfaded	stydstayed on
fltrdfaltered	temptemperature
gr green	tnitook no interest
gronb green on bend	tob the horse has his tongue over the bit,
hahhorse won ridden hands and heels	cannot be assisted
	trd hrdfought hard over the final 200m
hbwheld by winner	
hndy the horse races close to the pacemaker	trs the horse gives trouble at the start
hng the horse hangs	ttdtongue tied down
jst fldjust failed, ran on and a winner in	wdraced wide
a few more strides	wdobraced wide on bend
LLine horse, used for handicapping	wgawon going away
the runners in that race	whp abs whip abuse
lame/Im horse is reported lame	wnwon
(Imn/f = lame near fore)	® Roving Banker
lst jcklost jockey	* Horse is likely to run to the rating
lst irns jockey lost stirrup irons	?Not consistent
lstshlost shoe/s	1st/2ndthe horse finishes first, but is placed
Itlate	second on objection
midf/mdthe horse raced in midfield	(blank space) the horse races off the pace, making
nhsno hind shoes	no impression
ntclr the horse didn't have a trouble free run	·