

Wednesday 24 June 2020

sportingpost *Sprint*

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Candiese Lenferna

GOLD

HOLLYWOODBETS GR1 GOLD CHALLENGE

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Candiese Lanferna



Do It Again wins the 2019 Gold Challenge

WEEKEND FEATURES

A Wild Weekend

All of South Africa's star horses are in action on a jam-packed weekend that incorporates a record setting twenty feature races across the width and breadth of the country.

With betting pools already under pressure, and no news yet on whether the absolutely vital bricks-and-mortar gambling outlets will commence trading soon, some may regard the current lockdown-poisoned programme as a touch towards overkill.

And besides further stretching the gambling rand, there is a very real danger too that some of the boom could be lost in the bottleneck that now sees our independent operators

playing some serious catch-up.

But it is what it is and time waits for no man – the season clicks over on 1 August - and we have already lost the Gold Cup, celebrating a sensational centenary in 2020, to the new term.

Barring the retired-to-stud One World and the absent Barahin, all of our horses rated 130 or above are in action over this coming big weekend.

That includes Do It Again (135) and the 134 MR-rated pair of Rainbow Bridge and Vardy, who will face up in the Hollywoodbets Gr1 Gold Challenge at Hollywoodbets Greyville on Sunday, while 24 hours earlier, stablemates Soqrat (133) and Hawwaam (131) slog it out in the **World Sports Betting Gr1 Champions Challenge** on the Champions Day programme at Turffontein.

Hollywoodbets have been in the news in KZN racing and it's another milestone for the leading SA bookmakers when they add their famous branding for the first time to a Gr1 event – that being the SA Champions Season's premier weight-for-age mile, the Gold Challenge.

The Hollywoodbets Gr1 Gold Challenge is one of a trio of Gr1 contests on the Sunday card, the other being the 3yo clashes, the **Daily News 2000** and the **Woolavington 2000**.

Last year's Gold Challenge trifecta of Do It Again, Cirillo and Sun Met runner-up Rainbow Bridge renew rivalry, and the titanic trio take on the 2020 L'Ormarins Queen's Plate champion Vardy and his stable companion Twist Of Fate.

The Woolavington 2000 hosts a fascinating clash between two unbeaten runners – SA Triple Tiara queen Summer Pudding and Johan Janse van Vuuren's Acacia Handicap winner Lady Of Steel.

A 20 Feature Weekend!



Summer Pudding

Winning Form-sponsored Warren Kennedy is back aboard the Paul Peter-trained Summer Pudding, while the returning from injury Bernard Fayd'Herbe will ride Lady Of Steel. Both fillies will have their first start at Hollywoodbets Greyville and are drawn alongside each other.

Trainer Mike de Kock has a power hand in a number of the Graded races to be run at Turffontein on Saturday.

Hawwaam and Soqrat dominate the field for the **World Sports Betting Gr1 Champions Challenge** over 2000m with the former looking tough to beat following his easy victory in the Grade 1 HF Oppenheimer Horse Chestnut Stakes earlier this month

Hawwaam dominated this race last year and he will be a popular banker in all exotics.

Down at Kenilworth on the Robert Bloomberg-sponsored raceday on Saturday, all eyes will be on Piet Steyn's unbeaten Potala Palace colt Katak who takes on ten rivals in the **Gr3 Abe Bloomberg Legal Eagle Stakes**.

Steyn is reportedly concerned about the potential sticky under-foot conditions with plenty of wet weather forecast in the Cape in the next few days.

It will be good to welcome Grant van Niekerk back to his home turf after things went pear-shaped for the young rider in Hong Kong. We wish him well.

The weekend gets under way at Fairview on Friday with two Listed features.

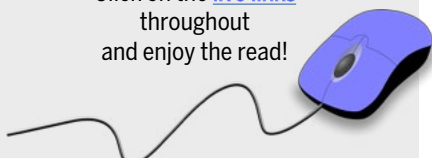
Follow all the action on www.sportingpost.co.za

- cover pic *Rainbow Bridge*

Just A Click Away!

The Sporting Post Sprint is interactive.

Click on the [live links](#) throughout and enjoy the read!



SUGGESTIONS?

Please email editor@sportingpost.co.za

LADY'S SLIPPER STAKES (L)

- Fairview Friday

EAST CAPE BREEDERS STAKES (L)

- Fairview Friday

CORDOCELLI OLYMPIC DUEL STAKES (L)

- Kenilworth Saturday

CASEY BLOOMBERG

LADIES MILE (L)

- Kenilworth Saturday

WINTER SOLSTICE STORMSVLEI STAKES (L)

- Kenilworth Saturday

ABE BLOOMBERG LEGAL

EAGLE STAKES (Gr3)

- Kenilworth Saturday

POSPACK S A FILLIES

NURSERY (Gr2)

- Turffontein Saturday

WORLD SPORTS BETTING

S A NURSERY (Gr2)

- Turffontein Saturday

HSH PRINCESS CHARLENE

EMPRESS CLUB STAKES (Gr1)

- Turffontein Saturday

COMPUTAFORM SPRINT (Gr1)

- Turffontein Saturday

WORLD SPORTS BETTING

PREMIER'S CHAMPIONS

CHALLENGE (Gr1)

- Turffontein Saturday

WORLD SPORTS BETTING

CAMELLIA STAKES (Gr2)

- Turffontein Saturday

BIDVEST GOLD BOWL (Gr3)

- Turffontein Saturday

DURBAN DASH brought to you by

BACKCHAT (Non Black-Type)

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday

DEVON AIR STAKES (L) by DAILY NEWS

MILKFUND

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday

GATECRASHER STAKES (L) brought to you by

BOLLYWORLD

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday

TIBOUCHINA STAKES (Gr2)

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday

Hollywoodbets GOLD

CHALLENGE (Gr1)

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday

WOOLAVINGTON 2000 (Gr1)

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday

DAILY NEWS 2000 (Gr1)

- Hollywoodbets Greyville Sunday



STALLION ROSTER 2020

- FEES REDUCED TO HELP FELLOW BREEDERS -

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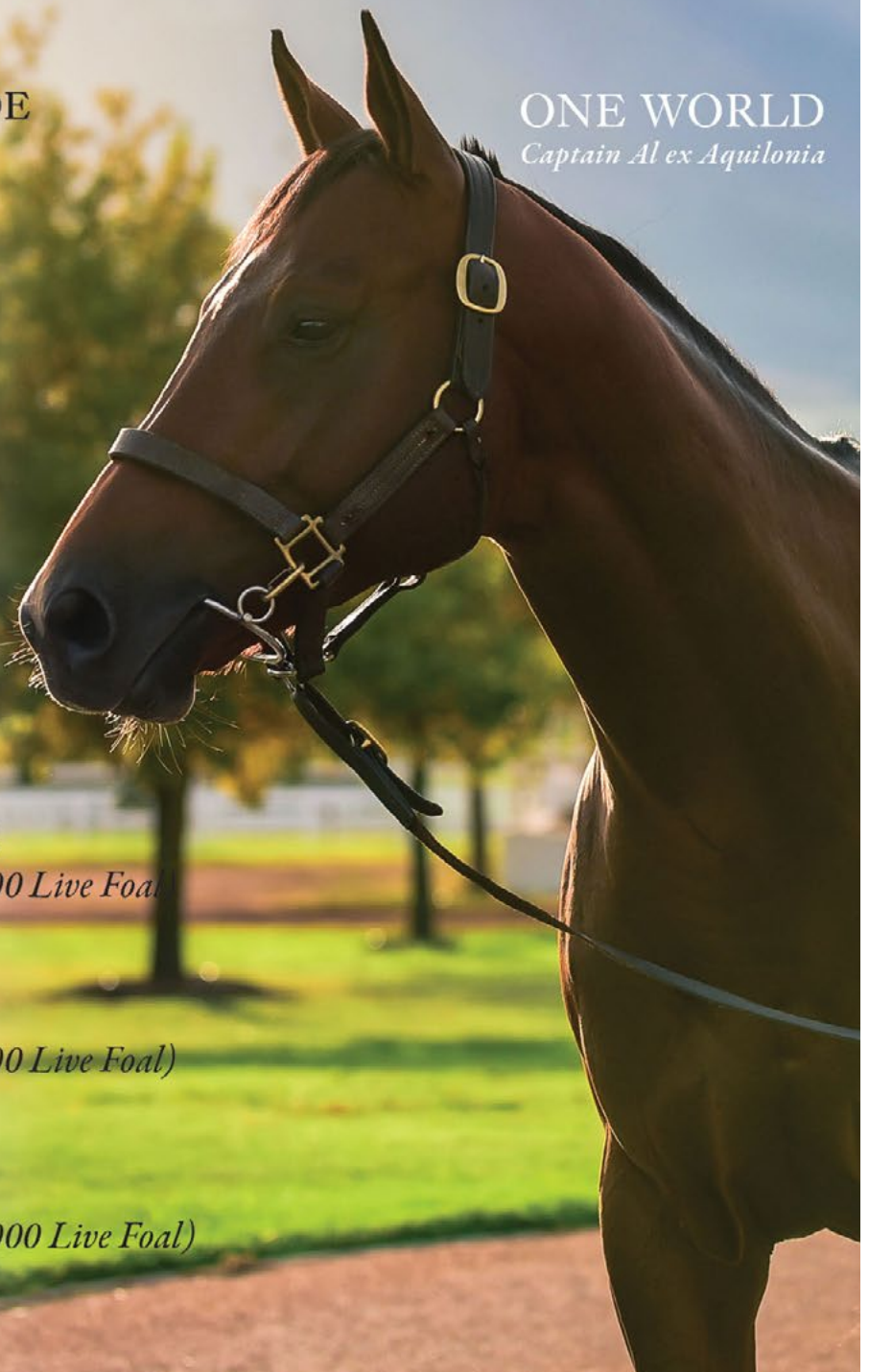
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ONE WORLD new

Fee R20 000 (R5,000 + R15,000 Live Foal)

WHAT A WINTER

Fee R60 000 (R10,000 + R50,000 Live Foal)



Belgarion
(Anton Marcus)
is led in by Team
Snaith



Candiese Lenferna

JULY PLAN Comes Together

Saturday's impressive Gr2 WSB 1900 winner Belgarion received the thumbs up from jockey Anton Marcus after his impressive victory and is likely to carry 53kgs in the forthcoming Vodacom Durban July.

Marcus exclaimed that Belgarion is 'way, way below the radar' and was clearly full of credit for Justin Snaith's lightly raced son of Dynasty who has had the July in his sights for most of this season.

Belgarion is likely to carry 53kgs in the big race on 25 July, assuming a revised merit rating of 119, after Saturday's Greyville 1900, and assuming that his hat-trick bidding stablemate Do It Again will be in under the 60kg top weight.

Despite technically 1kg under sufferance under true handicap conditions, the clearly upwardly mobile and scopy Belgarion's perfectly planned programme brings him into the big race looking really nicely set for a big effort.

The biggest headache may lie with the jockeys, with both Anton Marcus and Richard Fourie going to have to slim down to make the weight.

#VDJ2020

A promotional banner for the 'Butterflies' event theme. It features a woman with long dark hair wearing blue butterfly-shaped eye masks, with her hands near her face. To her left is the head of a brown horse. The background is a light blue gradient with a butterfly graphic. The word 'Butterflies' is written in a large, elegant cursive font. Below it, 'EVENT THEME 2020' is written in a smaller, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there are logos for Gold Circle, Vodacom, and Durban July, along with the text 'AFRICA'S GREATEST HORSERACING EVENT! SATURDAY 25 JULY 2020 HOLLYWOODBETS GREYVILLE RACECOURSE'.

CLICK HERE
to read all
the reviews

The interesting reality is that Marcus and Fourie have won a July each on title-holder Do It Again – so the Snaith brains trust Zoom platform is likely to be an active one in the next few weeks before final acceptance on 13 July as the top team bounce the decisions and strategy around.

See the projected weights – kindly compiled by Jay August:

Log	Horse	Age	Sex	MR	Trainer	WFA	Kgs	Max	Min	KGs	Suffer
1	DO IT AGAIN	5	G	135	Justin Snaith	0	60.0	60.0	53	60.0	0.0
2	VARDY	4	G	134	Adam Marcus	0	59.5	60.0	53	59.5	0.0
3	RAINBOW BRIDGE	5	G	134	Eric Sands	0	59.5	60.0	53	59.5	0.0
4	HAWWAAM	4	C	131	Mike de Kock	0	58.0	60.0	53	58.0	0.0
5	SOQRAT	4	C	133	Mike de Kock	0	59.0	60.0	53	59.0	0.0
6	GOT THE GREENLIGHT	3	C	116	Joe Soma	2	48.5	57.0	53	53.0	-4.5
7	GOLDEN DUCAT	3	G	110	Eric Sands	2	45.5	57.0	53	53.0	-7.5
8	TWIST OF FATE	4	C	129	Adam Marcus	0	57.0	60.0	53	57.0	0.0
9	BUNKER HUNT	4	G	124	Justin Snaith	0	54.5	60.0	53	54.5	0.0
10	BELGARION	4	G	119	Justin Snaith	0	52.0	60.0	53	53.0	-1.0
11	SHANGO	3	C	118	Sean Tarry	2	49.5	57.0	53	53.0	-3.5
12	CHIJMES	4	G	120	Gary Alexander	0	52.5	60.0	53	53.0	-0.5
13	SNAPSCAN	4	F	118	Glen Kotzen	0	51.5	59.0	52	52.0	-0.5
14	PADRE PIO	3	G	110	Dennis Bosch	2	45.5	57.0	53	53.0	-7.5
15	SACHDEV	3	G	108	Justin Snaith	2	44.5	57.0	53	53.0	-8.5
16	TIERRA DEL FUEGO	4	C	124	Sean Tarry	0	54.5	60.0	53	54.5	0.0
17	SILVANO'S PRIDE	4	F	115	Justin Snaith	0	50.0	59.0	52	52.0	-2.0
18	EYES WIDE OPEN	5	G	116	Glen Kotzen	0	50.5	60.0	53	53.0	-2.5
19	CAMPHORATUS	5	M	111	R A Hill/S R Hill	0	48.0	59.0	52	52.0	-4.0
20	MIYABI GOLD	5	M	115	Justin Snaith	0	50.0	59.0	52	52.0	-2.0
NEXT 5 IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER											
	DIVINE ODYSSEY	5	G	114	J A Janse van Vuuren	0	49.5	60.0	53	53.0	-3.5
	HERO'S HONOUR	5	G	117	Gary Alexander	0	51.0	60.0	53	53.0	-2.0
	MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	5	G	114	Justin Snaith	0	49.5	60.0	53	53.0	-3.5
	ROY HAD ENOUGH	5	H	115	Frank Robinson	0	50.0	60.0	53	53.0	-3.0
	ROY'S RIVIERA	5	M	111	Frank Robinson	0	48.0	59.0	52	52.0	-4.0

THE VDJ TIMELINE

- First Declarations – close 11h00 Monday, 6 July
- Final Supp. Entries – close 11h00 Tuesday, 7 July
- Weights Published – Tuesday, 7 July
- Final Declarations – Close 11h00 Monday, 13 July
- Final Field and Draw – 14 July
- Final Field: Subject to NHRA approval, twenty horses will be carded for this event (18 Horses + 2 Reserves)
- The Reserves to be scratched by 08h15 on Friday 24 July.
- Elimination will be at the sole and unfettered discretion of Gold Circle.

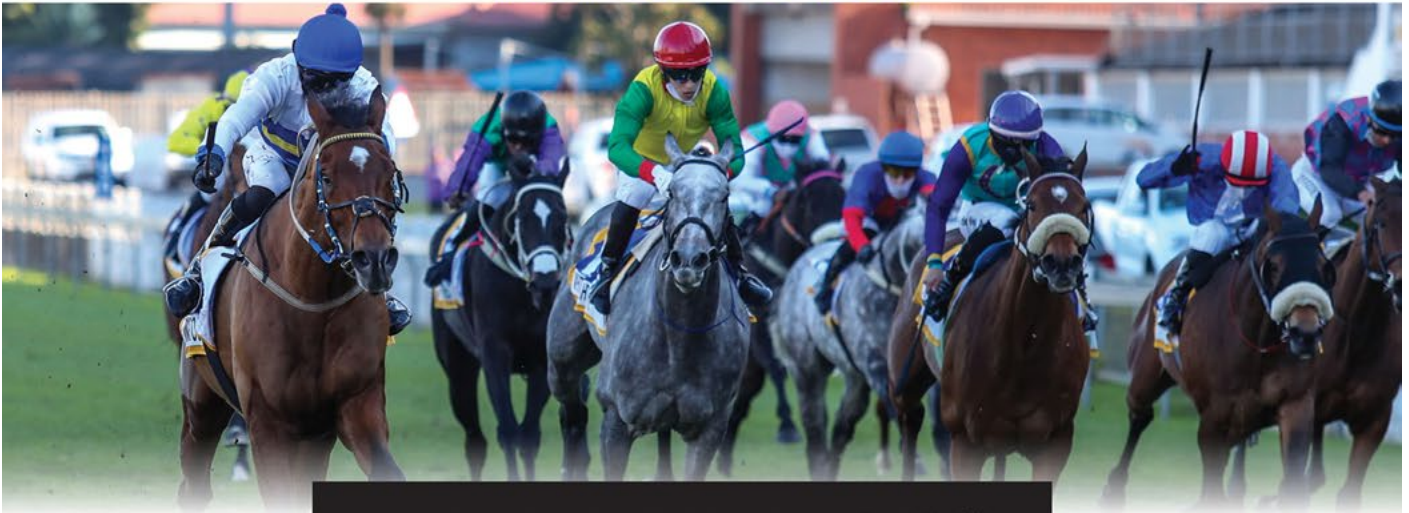
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Winner LONSDALE STIRRUP CUP (Grade 3) 2400m



Candiese Lenferna

MARCHING TOGETHER - R80 000 NYS 2017 Graduate (*Pathfork - Souen (IRE) by Montjeu*)

Owner: Messrs E Budlender, B Bracher, M Bracher, P Rencken, Dr R Katzwinkel,
Team G Racing (Nom : Mr G H van Zyl)
& Purple Kingdom Syndicate (Nom : Mr U Nagadoo)

Trainer: Gavin Van Zyl

Breeders: Jagessar Limited

Earned: R675,150

CHAMPIONING CHAMPIONS





Pathfork's progressive Marchingontoegether

Candiese Lenferna

THEY'RE MARCHINGONTOGETHER

Dynasty's smart Durban July prospect Belgarion and Gold Vase hopeful Marchingontoegether completed a Hollywood-bets Greyville feature double for Ridgemont Highlands stallions on Saturday when they won the Gr2 WSB 1900 and the Gr3 Lonsdale Stirrup Cup, respectively.

The sons of late champion Dynasty and Ridgemont Highlands' Sandown Stud based sire Pathfork, rounded off another good weekend for the Ridgemont sires with July day just under five weeks away.

The Sandown Stud based Irish champion, Pathfork is enjoying an excellent season and his son Marchingontoegether won the slowly run Gr3 Lonsdale Stirrup Cup in devastating fashion.

Third in last season's Gr1 SA Derby, Marchingontoegether, the four-year-old simply blew his rivals away when romping to a facile 3,50 length win

Under jockey Warren Kennedy, the Gavin Van Zyl trained gelding tracked the early speed, before hitting the front 200m from home and went away to win as he liked.

Bred by Jagessar Limited, Marchingontoegether picked up his first graded win.

Marchingontoegether, who looks a

likely contender for the 3000m Gr3 Gold Vase on July day, has now won five times for earnings of R665 150.

He joins the likes of Jet Start, Mighty High and the record breaking sprinter Mr Flood as graded stakes winners for Pathfork this season.

The news comes on the back of the exploits of Ridgemont Highlands' five-time Gr1 winning sire Canford Cliffs, whose highly anticipated first SA crop are yearlings in 2021, maintained his impressive global stakes performance when his son Cima Emergency won the Gr3 Premio Parioli Shadwell over a mile on the turf at Cappannelle Racecourse in Rome a week ago.

[READ MORE](#)

JULY HOPE WEARS A CAP

The Gr2 World Sports Betting 1900 winner Belgarion has had his rating raised from 113 to 119 after his fluent success on the Hollywood-bets Greyville turf track on Saturday 20 June.



Candiese Lenferna

The Handicappers were of the view that fourth placed Crown Towers was the best line horse to use, and as such his rating remains unchanged on 109.

In fact, in rating the race this way Belgarion runs to a mark of 122, but the specific conditions of the World Sports Betting 1900 do not permit a greater than six-point increase to the winner's rating, and as such the Handicappers had no choice but to cap Belgarion at 119.

The race conditions also allow no increase to the ratings of placed horses and accordingly runner-up Tristful remains on 109 despite achieving a mark of 112.

There were drops for several horses.

Third placed Camphoratus is down from 111 to 110, Pack Leader had already dropped to 111 from 114 subsequent to the publication of weights for this event and remains on 111, Eyes Wide Open was trimmed from 116 to 115, Return Flight drops from 108 to 106, Herodotus is down from 110 to 109, and Majestic Mozart remains on 105, having been

dropped from 107 after the weights for this race were published.

GR3 LONSDALE STIRRUP CUP

Marchingontoegether has had his rating raised from 104 to 110 after he ran away with the Gr3 Lonsdale Stirrup Cup (Handicap) over 2400m at Greyville on Saturday.

Third placed Silver Rose was considered to be the most suitable line horse and accordingly he remains unchanged on 101.

Runner-up White Lightning, who was 10 pounds (or 5 kgs) under sufferance at the weights, accordingly goes up from 86 to 96 - but would once more carry bottom weight of 52 kgs if the race were to be run again.

Fifth placed Paybackthemoney, who was 13 pounds (or 6.5 kgs) under sufferance, gets a small increase from 83 to 85, there were drops for several horses.

Dark Moon Rising drops from 106 to 103, Flichity By Farr was trimmed from 104 to 103, Lord Silverio is down from 95 to 93, and lastly Seattle Force is down to 104 from 107.

LISTED EAST COAST CUP

Miyabi Gold remains unchanged on a rating of 115 after her easy win in the Listed East Coast Cup over 2000m at Greyville on Saturday.

So well weighted was Miyabi Gold in this conditions event that despite her ease of victory she runs fully eight pounds below her rating and only runs to a mark of 107. Third placed Coral Bay and fifth placed Je Ne Sais Quoi were both used as line horses and therefore remain unchanged on ratings of 90 and 82 respectively.

Here, too, the specific conditions of the race do not allow for an increase in the ratings of placed horses and so runner-up Perfect Air remains on 91 despite running to 93.

Three horses received a drop in rating: Ella's World is down from 93 to 91, Stelvio drops from 91 to 89, and Dark Moon Down was cut from 82 to 81.

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— Trainer Yvette Bremner



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Fun, fun, fun, plenty of racing and the guarantee that no matter where your horse finishes, you are having fun. That's the broad philosophy of the International Racing Club, with a hoofprint in all of South Africa, Australia, the United Kingdom and the USA.

The International Racing Club caters for the racing and travel enthusiast.

"If you own 5% of a horse with us in South Africa and happen to be in the UK on business then you are most welcome to visit our trainers here as if you are an owner in that yard," explains spokesman Joao da Mata, who says that the hospitality and friendship aspect makes racing fun.

"Going racing in a foreign country and meeting and networking can be daunting. But all our members are 'gold status' and you have fun wherever we may have our horses," he adds.

The IRC membership has various options. "Our preferred option is a 2 year

in advance all-inclusive payment. But we do accept the purchase of a share and then monthly expenses being paid. We are flexible and try and add the affordability angle to involve more people," he says, adding that racing fun should not only be for the wealthy.

The IRC run their membership contracts on 2 year basis.

"It works pretty much like the UK syndication business. Purchase a horse as a yearling and evaluate your options as a 3 year old. For example, a horse that costs us R100k we will syndicate



for R300k on a 2 year all-in package. So for R30k you get 10% and no bills for 2 years. And if we are lucky – and we have been - you get stakes too."

The aspect of who gets to grab the brag with silks is also casual.

"Even if you own 5% of our horse, and if running it in your first time colours is important to you, then we have no issue with that. You will see many IRC horses not running in our colours. We believe in inclusion and making every single owner feel like they own it all."

Joao knows that racing is a tough sport.

"In every race there is normally only one winner – joining the IRC turns it into two winners every time because no matter where our horse runs we have fun!"

*Interested in chatting about the IRC?
Contact Joao on email at:
senorsanta@googlemail.com*

Making The Right Deductions!



South Africa's leading bookmakers Hollywoodbets have responded to a suggestion from a Sporting Post reader and formally adjusted their deductions policy when dealing with reserve runners.

Hilton Witz wrote in the [Sporting Post Mailbag](#) that in this new age of capacity fields and multiple reserve runners, a danger could be lurking for punters in the shape of those very reserve runners.

Witz brought to the attention of his fellow punters the dangers of wagering on the early betting on South African racing once the final acceptances have been done – normally 4 to 5 days in advance of any local meeting.

He hoped that there could be 'some type of rule change in the best interests of both punters and bookmakers' with regards to the early betting.

In a swift move, Hollywoodbets noted

Witz' concerns and have effectively revised their deduction table, as it applies to horses that are scratched from a race and replaced by another runner.

Normally when a horse at odds of 16/1 or less is scratched from a race, then bets on the winning horse are reduced by a certain percentage – depending on the scratched horse's price.

With the prevalence of 'reserve runners' in the pressured post racing lockdown environment at the moment, the scratched horse can now be replaced by another. If the 'new' horse comes into the race at odds of 16/1 or less, then Hollywoodbets will apply the revised deduction table.

While Hollywoodbets have said that they did make subjective adjustments where necessary in the past, they have now formalized it and in the process become the first SA bookmakers to do so.

"It is so much fairer to the betting public – those players who have had a bet on the race before the original runner was scratched"

– Hollywoodbets' Dermot O'Connell.



Candice Lenferna



The Ringer

ALWAYS ON THE KATAK!

Just when Nic Jonsson looked a shoe-in for South African racing newsmaker of the year late last week, Kenilworth Racing Chairman Robert Bloomberg tendered his bombshell resignation on Friday from what is one of the historically most prestigious seats in the sport of kings' auditorium of power.

In the process, Bloomberg threw the 2019/20 season industry news-making race wide open in what has surely been the toughest and roughest season in living memory.

For those that have been on the moon this past week, Nic Jonsson is the man who took KZN racing operator Gold Circle on in the courts in order to 'sanitize' the unlocking of ringfenced funds from the sale of Clairwood

Racecourse. In a now well documented sequel, Hollywoodbets came to the aid of racing in the province with a R40 million unsecured loan after members failed to approve the release of the funds.

Talking to the Sporting Post Sprint from his luxurious Clifton home this week, Bloomberg, who has enjoyed the privilege of owning an SA Horse Of The Year – Winter Solstice, who he

described as his best – and a Vodacom Durban July winner in the gallant handicapper Dunford, said he was looking forward to catching his breath after spending a large part of his life these past twelve years dedicated to the Western Cape racing from the boardroom.

The legal man, aka 'The Ringer', who has raced horses since 1985, was a founding director of Kenilworth Racing with Vidrik Thurling in September 2011, after the duo had played an integral part in the demerger from KZN.

His resignation, sparked, by what appears to be tantamount to board-

room bullying and abuse by those designated to make the calls, has clearly left a bitter after-taste.

“My statement, which I appreciate the Sporting Post publishing, needed people to understand why I was standing down, ultimately on my terms, and what precipitated this debacle. I have it on impeccable authority that the Task Team representatives wanted me around for a longer, but once they stooped to the level of offering a loan subject to my departure, I was never going to stick around. There are ways to do things and acting with such disrespect and in such an underhand manner disgusted me. I feel very sad for WC racing but unbelievably relieved for myself. As somebody exceedingly close to me said so aptly “you have no idea the favour they have done you – you would never have been able to extricate yourself.” I have put my heart and soul into WC and SA racing in general, and for the first time in over thirty years I will finally not be serving in some or other capacity on a racing committee or board, so I will be able to actually start enjoying the game again in a relaxed unpressurised atmosphere.”

Read the Robert Bloomberg resignation statement -
[CLICK HERE](#)

For now, the 60 year old Attorney is watching the forboding stormy weather outlook ahead of his sponsored raceday at Kenilworth on Saturday, when he honours the proud memory of his late grandfather, Abe Bloomberg, with the running of the Gr3 Abe Bloomberg Legal Eagle Stakes.

‘Mr Racing’, Abe Bloomberg was chairman of the now defunct Cape Turf Club, under which Milnerton and Durbanville racecourses were operated, for some 30 years.

On Saturday, in what could be quite an ironic mid-winter raceday, all of the races on the card have been dedicated to special horses and people in the former KR Chairman’s life. And the forecast storm clouds could form a dramatic

backdrop to a Friday announcement that surprised many.

Bloomberg is pleased with the quality of the main feature field considering that many of the better 3yo’s are in KZN currently, and says that, whilst he has a runner, whom he describes as having been a “massive disappointment” in recent times, in Cane Lime ‘n Soda, trained by his good friend Vaughan Marshall, he is excited about the prospects of Piet Steyn’s unbeaten Potala Palace colt, Katak.

“Piet Steyn is a stalwart of the local training ranks and a brilliant horseman. The Katak tale of a R20k purchase, is just a great feelgood story at a time when we need chapters of them! A horse that nobody really wanted, found by a trainer with an eagle eye, and owned by him in partnership with two staunch Cape racing supporters in Marsh Shirliff and Bryn Ressel, who have always supported “Kleinman.”

All of the race names are of very special significance to me. I’m honoured to have been afforded the opportunity and greatly appreciate all the other sponsors that have similarly contributed during our winter season in these financially trying times

Other races on the card include the Casey Bloomberg Ladies Mile, acknowledging the apple of his eye, his 16 year old daughter, as well as a tribute to his other Gr1 winners, champion sprinter Cordocelli (2 x Cape Flying Championship), African Lion (Champions Cup), Quick Wit (old Germiston November Handicap) and Grisham (Borrowdale Castle Tankard), as well as multiple group winner, Joshua’s Princess.



Chase Liebenberg



‘Averse To Racing Politics’

After a tumultuous week of outspoken challenges against the Special Resolutions brought by the Gold Circle Board before their Members, the 4 motions failed narrowly to receive the 75% required, achieving support of between 70-72% for each vote.

Business rescue was a looming threat for the Operator and would have been the likely course of action had it not been for the generosity of Hollywoodbets to offer an unsecured loan of R40m to Gold Circle.

“It would have been a tragedy for all the stakeholders if racing had to stop when the company went into business rescue, said Michel Nairac,

CEO of Gold Circle. He continued: “I am relieved that the stakeholders who depend on racing can continue to benefit from it. I am grateful to Hollywoodbets that racing will continue uninterrupted until the next Special General Meeting can be convened”.

Speaking on behalf of the Hollywood Sportsbook Group, Basil Thomas said: “It is no secret how difficult things have been for stakeholders in the horse racing industry over the past few months. Severe hardship and real anxiety has been experienced by participants, that extend way beyond Gold Circle Racing Club. Grooms, Trainers, Jockeys, Breeders, Owners, Tote Agents, Suppliers...the list is endless.

“So much good work has been done to

get horses back on the track. In short, it would have been a disaster if racing had once again been interrupted for an extended period. The KZN Winter/Champions Season is the flagship of the national racing calendar. For it to not be completed would be the unnecessary raising of the white flag.

“Hollywoodbets is averse to ‘racing politics’. We are not picking a side and we have no desire to be caught in the middle. We have one agenda – that is to apply our resources – financial and human, to supporting Gold Circle in its quest to return to profitability. The natural consequence of that objective, if successful, will be a stronger and sustainable future for KZN Racing. The events of the past week could well have resulted in unintended or unanticipated consequences. We are pleased that such consequences have been averted.”



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Find a winning name for this beautiful filly



**She is by Riverton-bred EQUUS CHAMPION CAPTAIN OF ALL
out of Fiesta Queen (SAF) (Parade Leader)**

Fiesta Queen is the dam of graded stakes winners Cousin Liz and Gimme One Night

- *The prize includes a complimentary bottle of wine or grape juice, wood for the braai, drinking water, hand sanitisers, toiletries, DSTV with the full bouquet of channels in the family room, & unlimited WiFi.*
- *Guests staying during the foaling season (August to mid-November) may be lucky enough to get a call to witness a foaling – an amazing experience!*
- *Entries to info@rivertonstud.co.za / SP Sprint Competition in the subject line / Your name and the name entry for the foal in the message body*
- *Competition closes **Thursday 9 July 2020** - name subject to NHRA approval*
- *Judges decision is final – and only one entry per email address please*

Further info available on www.rivertonstud.co.za



Riverton's **GAME OF THE NAME**

Naming racehorses can be fun and even rewarding. Duncan & Natasha Barry of the magnificent nursery of champions, Riverton Stud, are giving Sporting Post Sprint readers an opportunity to find the best name for one of their future stars.

The successful name will win the author a memorable weekend away at Barry House, a charming 4 star exclusive self-catering large historic manor near Robertson in the Western Cape, 2 hours from Cape Town.

Voted as 'one of the 3 best farm stays in South Africa' by Country Life Magazine in May 2014, you could put the thinking cap on and find a winning name – and step into a gracious era and celebrate time away with up to 12 family or friends sharing 6 bedrooms & 5 bathrooms.

This outstanding break from the hustle and bustle of everyday life is ideally located amongst the best award winning wine estates along the Breede River and 6km from Robertson's restaurants.

"Naming horses can become engrossing, fascinating and great fun," says Riverton supremo Duncan Barry, who added that they often opted to leave the naming to the new owner - but felt it would be fun to put the public to the test.

Duncan was referring to the stunning Captain Of All filly out of Fiesta Queen.

"She's a really well-bred and smashing filly. She needs a strong name. But I'm not saying anymore. The great aspect of this competition is that the answer is not known yet – not even to the organisers! And we are looking for an inspired 'light-bulb' moment by your readers. It's a lovely prize and we are proud to offer it," he told the Sporting Post Sprint.

The home today of a leading South African nursery of top racehorses, Riverton farm was purchased by the Barry's in 1918.

The family are descendants of the Honourable Joseph Barry

and his nephews who traded by ship and established stores, churches, schools and banks across the Cape hinterland in the 1880s.

By the late 1830's they had significantly opened up trade opportunities for Overberg farmers as the overland route was a hazardous, long and expensive journey that discouraged trade with Cape Town.

As breeders of Equus Champion Sprinter, Captain of All, the highest merit rated horse in South Africa and the joint second Best Sprinter in the World in the 2015 Longines World Best Racehorses Rankings, Riverton have been proudly following the fortunes of one of their favourite sons at stud.

Captain Of All won the 2019 Champion First Season Sire (Leading Freshman Sire) Award.

Riverton Stud has celebrated a host of Gr1 winners over the decades and as recently as last Saturday, the Riverton product Al Mariachi, Gr1 placed and winner of the KZN Million and Gr3 Umkomazi Stakes, during his career on African soil, won the opening feature of the Mauritius season.

The Gr3 Noble Salute Cup saw Al Mariachi register his third win in Mauritius. In doing so, he earned Simon Jones' yard their first Group race win.



See the advertisement to find out how to enter the Riverton competition!

Bank payment holidays. Lockdown. Social distancing. Like the rest of the world, these were foreign terms to Winning-Form sponsored jockey Robert Khathi before 2020 came along and turned his, and all of our worlds, upside down and inside out.

A 2020 SURVIVOR

Robert Khathi

Say 2020 has been good to you, and you will get a skew look from most. How could anybody have foreseen a year that has changed the way we live – and the way we think?

But the Umlazi-born Robert Khathi says he half felt it in his then ‘broken’ bones that things were going pear-shaped after fracturing his left arm when unseated from a full of beans Twice As Sleek at Kenilworth on New Year’s Eve.

“I thought, hang on! I knew I was happy with the way 2019 had ended. I arrived at the final racemeeting of the year upbeat. I am in my prime and enjoying great support. Things were looking up. I was riding winners. We were only wearing masks to fancy dress parties in those days. The family had just enjoyed a fabulous Christmas. Life was good. Then, I fell off. If I knew then that was only the start...”

Robert was booked off until end of March. That inconveniently overlapped with the racing lockdown.

It turned into a desperately trying time for the young Blou-berg-based father of four.

His wife Simone doesn’t work as she is a domesticated private ‘Uber driver’ to school and ballet and soccer lessons for the Khathi quartet – aged from 10 years old to 9 months.

“We weren’t alone. Thousands of South Africans didn’t know what tomorrow would bring – some didn’t know where their next meal was coming from. It’s a stark blow in the emotional solar plexus, when, as a Dad, a Husband and a professional sportsman, you start doubting everything about yourself. Failure is a word that kept flashing in front of my eyes.”

The normally full of chirps rider with the colgate smile described in a personal note on Facebook how he had endured days and nights of ‘stressing and crying alone in corners and became miserable’.

He had been off for six months as his left arm bone took time to heal properly



Chase Liebenberg

Robert Khathi



“ I love this job. I wouldn't trade this life for anything ”

and lockdown ripped his finely honed professional life calendar off the wall of his neatly appointed home.

“My Doctor thought I might have to have another operation. But I never gave up hope that I would ride again.”

Then things turned around on Youth Day, 16 June.

Robert broke the ice and won at Kenilworth for trainer Mike Robinson on the smart colt, Sudden Star. It was his first winner of a long year.

“Sudden Star shone a light on 2020 and life and hope surged through my veins again. It was like I imagine it would be winning the Met and the July on the same day. I wanted to jump for joy. I was so thankful to my family for standing

by me and giving me the courage not to give up. And to my Doctor and my Physio for their expertise and encouragement. Also to Michael and Luella Robinson and their loyal owners for the opportunity,” he says emotionally.

And then at a wet Kenilworth on Sunday, Robert followed up on dual July winner Do It Again's half-brother Tarantino, for Suzette Viljoen and Justin Snaith.

“It was very wet on Sunday. But the jocks committed to sacrificing space and a wide berth for safety. We got through the day. All of the guys are both hungry and humbled after the past few months. If the lockdown has

had a positive spin-off, it's that we are all humbled and blessed to be back earning a living,” he adds sombrely.

Robert says that he is proud to be working as a member of the champion team in Cape Town.

“Justin (Snaith) is a great competitor and one of the best trainers I have ever worked for. As for Richard Fourie – what a wonderful human being and a colleague.

I'd go to war with the man! He has never been greedy or inconsiderate. In most stables the top jockey gets the big rides. That's the way it works and Richard does – but he will also stand back and give me a chance. Like in Tarantino's case. I ran second on him at his second start. So I got the chance and it worked out.”

It's been a progressive nineteen years for Robert, who along with his brother Sandile, joined the 2001 intake at the world renowned jockey training centre alongside the likes of Randall Simons, Chase Maujean, Sihle Cele, Lance Pagel, Sean Veale, Beth Martin and the sadly late Chris Puller and Sylvester Mtshali.

Chris Puller was a special friend to Robert and was a future brother-in-law of Richard Fourie, his present day Snaith team-mate. “A beautiful family,” he adds emotionally.

Robert rode his first winner for the late Cyril Naidoo at Clairwood on 22 December 2002 aboard Teeny Bopper.

A polished rider, the busy Dad is one of the most hardworking men around and his international experience – gained in Kenya where he won three of the 'majors', in Bahrain, and in the pressure cooker of Mauritius for the Shirish Nang stable, for whom he won a Gr2 on a horse called Hillbrow – has rounded his skill set.



AUSSIE RULES

Zac Purton extended his lead in the Hong Kong jockeys' premiership to four wins thanks to a double at Sha Tin on Sunday. The Australian has 132 on the board to Joao Moreira's 128 after the latter's single win.



GOOD NEWS

Singapore Racing has been given the go-ahead to resume behind closed doors on 11 July. It's been 80 days since Sweet Angeline signed off as the last Singapore winner on 3 April – when they were already racing before an empty grandstand. SA jockeys JP van der Merwe and Ryan Munger were back riding work last Saturday.

PICK OF THE WEEK

Retired trainer Ivan 'Picks' Pickering celebrated his 85th birthday at his Wentworth Village, Blouberg home on Monday. According to one of the partygoers, Ivan has never lost his humour or love for life and people. He also has many funny racing stories which he loves to share with anyone who will listen. We shall be interviewing him for a profile interview soon – and he still has a few ideas on how to save the game.



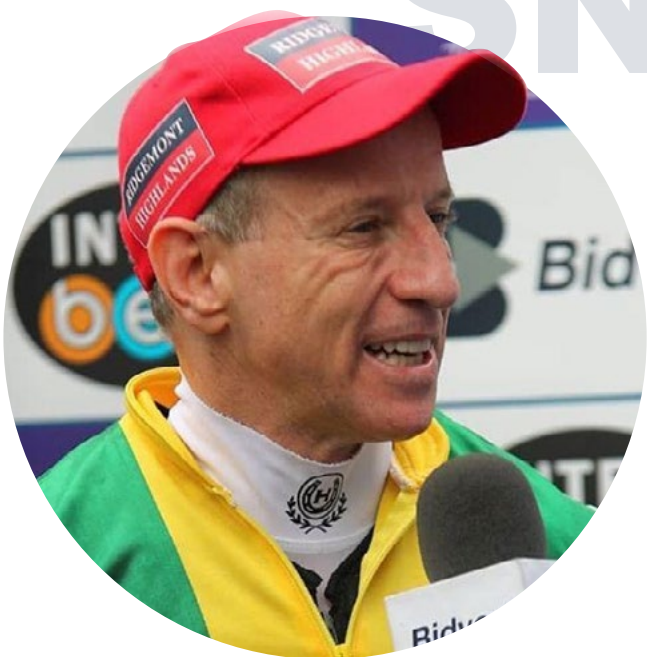
PEOPLE POWER

The French government has announced that all sports stadia, including racecourses, will be reopened to the paying public from 11 July, with a limit of 5000 people in the initial stages. The Gr1 Prix Jean Prat on July 12 will be the first major French race to take place in front of any sort of crowd since the sport was halted back in March.

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SNIPPETS



MACHO MAN

Ridgemont-Highlands jockey Anton Marcus is the epitome of cordiality and good manners in his post-race interviews. After Belgarion's terrific win in the WSB 1900 at Hollywood-bets Greyville on Saturday, he suggested: 'It helps when you have got a bit of machinery between your legs...'. He was, of course, referring to the son of Dynasty, who is well on target for a major Vodacom Durban July bid.

WARRIOR DOUBLE

Maine Chance Farms' Silvano sire Vercingetorix has made a blistering start to his stud career and he recorded another smart double at Turffontein on Monday. His promising 3yo daughter Seehaam got off the mark at the second time of asking. Trained by Sean Tarry, the Al Adaayit bred and owned filly is out of the Gr2 Charity Mile winner Alderry. She is thus a three-parts sister to Gr1 SA Derby winner Al Sahem and Gr1 Gauteng Summer Cup third Al Mutwakel. Alec Laird trained Creation also won on Monday – giving Vercingetoprix a double. The gelding has a Querari half-brother (# 83) on offer at this year's National Sale.

JOLLY GOOD



A three-time winner from four starts in Australia, Canford Cliffs smart son Jolly Sailor will do his future racing in Hong Kong. Offers for Jolly Sailor came after the Henry Dwyer-trained gelding scored last start at Flemington early in June, which followed another all-the-way win at Sandown last month. Dwyer said he was disappointed to lose a horse of Jolly Sailor's potential, but is hopeful of getting the yearling and weanling siblings of the gelding to train. Jolly Sailor is out of the Elvstroem mare Rechichi-a direct descendant of the influential mare Noble Lassie. His five time Gr1 winning Ridgemont Highlands sire Canford Cliffs will be represented by his first South African yearlings in 2021.



BACK ON TRACK CHALLENGE

TRAINER LEADERBOARD

POS	TRAINER	POINTS	RUNS	WINS	PLACES (3)
1.	G S Kotzen	385	38	7	8
2.	D R Drier	291	30	2	8
3.	M D Miller	279	37	2	10
4.	G H Van Zyl	252	36	3	4
5.	B Crawford	224	22	6	1

JOCKEY LEADERBOARD

POS	JOCKEYS	POINTS	RIDES	WINS	PLACES (3)
1.	Keagan De Melo	463	55	5	11
2.	Anton Marcus	462	44	14	10
3.	Donovan Dillon	443	51	5	11
4.	Warren Kennedy	402	58	6	11
5.	Sean Veale	401	46	4	12

HORSE LEADERBOARD

POS	HORSE	TRAINER	POINTS	RUNS	WINS	PLACES (3)
1.	Perfect Air	D R Drier	38	2	1	1
2.	Hardwired	M D Miller	29	3	1	1
3.	Miyabi Gold	S J Snaith	28	1	1	0
3.	Eden Roc	S G Tarry	28	1	1	0
3.	Mississippi Burning	A N Marcus	28	1	1	0

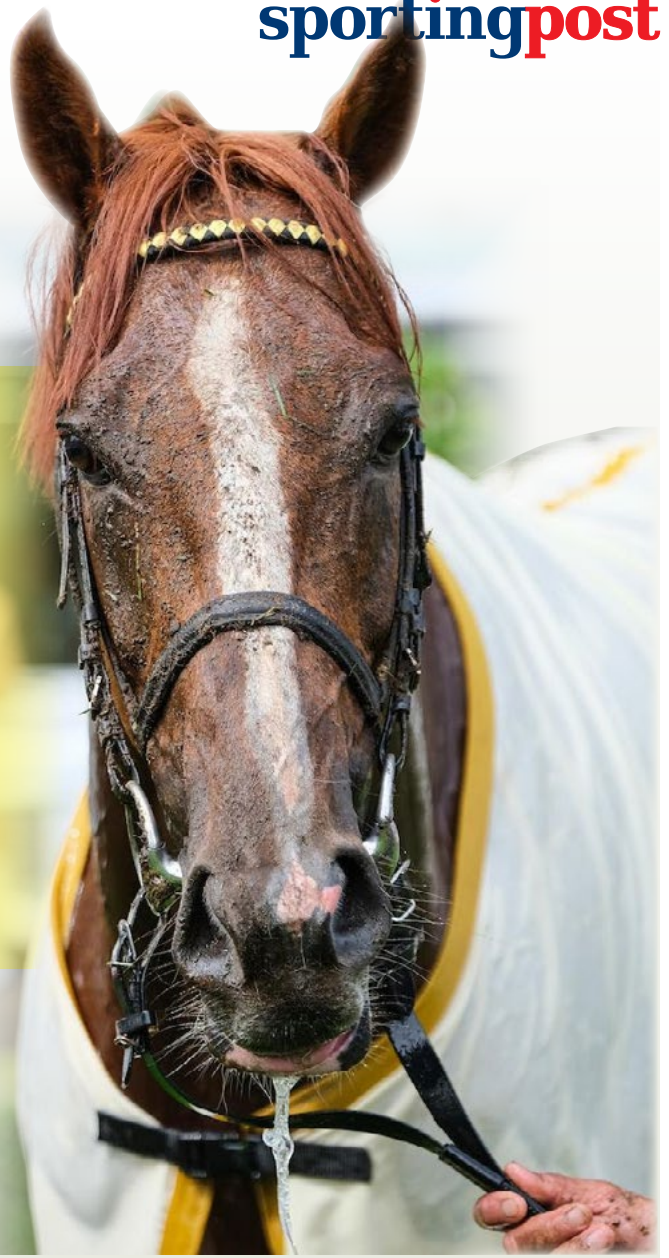
GROOM LEADERBOARD

POS	GROOM	TRAINER	POINTS	RUNS	WINS	PLACES (3)
1.	Yamkela Zafunele	G S Kotzen	59	5	1	2
2.	Samwell Mbungendlu	D Kannemeyer	48	5	0	3
3.	Classy Moshe	J J van Vuuren	46	5	2	1
4.	Unathi Mvakwendlu	D S Bosch	40	6	1	0
5.	Samkelo Yulo	M D Miller	38	5	1	1

APPRENTICE LEADERBOARD

POS	JOCKEYS	POINTS	RIDES	WINS	PLACES (3)
1.	Jason Gates (0.0)	229	33	1	5
2.	Jabu Jacobs (2.5)	206	29	2	5
3.	Khanya Sakayi (1.5)	198	28	4	2
4.	Thabiso Gumede (4.0)	178	30	3	4
5.	Mfanelo Hlanganani Zuma (4.0)	19	4	0	0

VIEW THE FULL LEADERBOARDS BY CLICKING ON THE CATEGORY



IT WAS ROYALLY UNIQUE!

Coming to a glorious end last Saturday, Royal Ascot 2020 took place under unprecedented conditions, with the Covid-19 epidemic meaning the five-day spectacular was held behind closed doors for the first time in its history.

Government guidelines meant that the limited attendees had to abide by the two-metre social distancing rule and wear face masks, but the five-day spectacular went ahead without incident and with the usual outstanding action on the track.

The Royal Meeting got underway on Tuesday, when the stars on show included Circus Maximus, recording a second a Royal Ascot Gr1 victory in the Queen Anne Stakes, and speedster Battaash making it third time lucky in the Gr1 King's Stand Stakes.

On Wednesday, Lord North was the headline act with a devastating victory in the Gr1 Prince of Wales's Stakes for trainer John Gosden and jockey James Doyle.

This may have been the first Royal Ascot that The Queen has been forced to miss in her 68-year

reign but there was still very much a Royal presence on Wednesday as Her Majesty's homebred juvenile Tactical justified 7/2 favouritism in the Listed Windsor Castle Stakes.

Few would disagree that the most memorable performance of the week was the great Stradivarius in the Gr1 Gold Cup on Thursday. Bjorn Nielsen's homebred, trained by John Gosden and ridden by Frankie Dettori, was taking the staying showpiece for the third year in succession and recorded his most impressive victory yet, scoring by 10 lengths. Stradivarius joins Sagaro (1975, 1976 and 1977) as a triple Gold Cup

victor, just one win behind the mighty Yeats (2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009).

Trainer Clive Cox and jockey Adam Kirby had enjoyed Gr1 sprint success in the past with the likes of Profitable and Lethal Force. The duo were on the mark again on Friday when Golden Horde, a son of Lethal Force, was the impressive winner of the Gr1 Commonwealth Cup. Cox and Kirby also re-

corded a memorable success on day five when 150/1 chance Nando Parrado caused the biggest shock of the modern era at Royal Ascot in the Gr2 Coventry Stakes.

“ The first Royal Ascot that the Queen has been forced to miss in her 68-year reign ”

The bumper eight-race card on Saturday included a Gr1 triple-header of the St James's Palace Stakes, Coronation



Stakes and Diamond Jubilee Stakes.

Mr Ascot himself, Frankie Dettori, took the Coronation Stakes on the Niarchos Family's Alpine Star, trained by Jessica Harrington, who emulated the success of her half-sister Alpha Centauri in the same race two years' ago. Dettori also landed the St James's Palace Stakes on the lightly-raced Palace Pier, who was another winner for John Gosden. Dettori's Coronation Stakes success means he has now won every Gr1 race staged at Royal Ascot at least once.

It was actually a treble on Dettori on day five as he also landed the Gr2 Queen Mary Stakes on Campanelle.

Campanelle was the 11th winner at Royal Ascot for US-based trainer Wesley Ward, proving that the Covid-19 restrictions were no bar to international success. Fellow US-based trainer Graham Motion also had reason to be proud as his filly Sharing stayed on well to take second in the Coronation Stakes.

In contrast, Kevin Stott enjoyed his first ever Ascot winner when Hello Youmzain landed the Diamond Jubilee Stakes. For good measure, Stott doubled up in the next race, the Wokingham Heritage Handicap, on Hey Jonesy. Both horses were trained by Kevin Ryan.

Frankie Dettori ended the week as Leading Jockey with six wins, just edging out Ascot-born Jim Crowley on count-back of placed horses. It was the seventh time Dettori has topped the standings.

John Gosden took the honours for Leading Trainer with six wins. It was the second time the Newmarket-based maestro has topped the standings at Royal Ascot (he was also leading trainer in 2012).

An award for leading owner at Royal Ascot was introduced in 2017. After wins for Coolmore partnerships in the first three years, 2020 saw Hamdan Al Maktoum on top with six winners - all ridden to victory by his retained jockey Jim Crowley.



Stradivarius victory was the highlight



Nervous days in March, when he was suspected to be showing coronavirus symptoms, are behind 32 year old Hong Kong-based jockey Keith Yeung, who celebrated a milestone at Sha Tin on Sunday.

The rider, champion apprentice in 2009/10, nailed his first career Group race win to take his season's tally to seven wins. That prompted buoyant scenes, with trainer Caspar Fownes lifting Yeung off his feet in bear-hugging celebration.

"I'm very happy, mostly for Keith, he needed this winner," Fownes said. "I'm glad that I stuck with him and gave him the chance to do that.

"I'm sure he's needed that win to pick up his morale and just get in a good

place. Hopefully he'll get some opportunities going into the new season because he doesn't do much wrong; he rides pretty good and he rides 113(lb). All in all it's a great result for Keith."

Dances With Dragon demolished his rivals in the Gr3 Premier Plate Handicap run over 1800m.

Yeung, who had posted only one win in the previous seven months, was most pleased with the support of Fownes and Dances With Dragon's owners the Wong family.

"The fact that it's a Group 3 is not that meaningful to me, in the sense that it's just a win, but what makes it meaningful for me is that Caspar and the owners gave me the ride. The horse had a chance and for them to support a jockey who has had only one win in more than six months, some would say that is crazy. But they handed me a good horse like him and they had faith in me – that really touches me," Yeung said.

Dances With Dragon has now won four of six starts since switching to the Fownes stable early this year. The six-year-old, winner of the G1 Levin Classic in New Zealand in 2017, has climbed from a rating of 83 to today's mark of 104 since joining Fownes.

Yeung was aboard for a sixth-place finish last time out but this time he settled the Savabeel gelding fifth behind the pace-setting More Than This (120lb), swept wide into the straight and powered home from the 400m point to open a wide margin on his seven rivals.

Yeung stole a peek over his shoulder as the bay passed the post four and three quarter lengths clear of runner-up Helene Leadingstar (113lb) – stablemate Southern Legend (133lb) faded to fifth.

"He's won well but he was carrying no weight on his back," Fownes said. "He's got a good spot and just sprinted away from them. It doesn't matter what he does now, he's proven that he's up to that level. He's done his job as far as I'm concerned – his first win was in Class 3 and now he's got a Group 3 at his fourth win for me so I'm very happy."

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Champagne Style!



Joy of the moment! Caspar Fownes and Keith Yeung forget the rules for a moment

Hong Kong racing continued at Happy Valley today – get it all on [Hollywoodbets.net](https://www.hollywoodbets.net)

HKJC

A Sweet Itch Alright!

Team Valor galloper Oleksandra came out of her Gr1 victory in the Jaipur Stakes at Belmont Park last Saturday in good shape, except for a nick on a lower front limb as a result of runner-up Kanthaka bearing into her at the break.



The winner is out of Varsfontein-bred Alexandra Rose, a high class daughter of Caesour, who won four of only eight races including the Gr2 Golden Slipper Stakes. Alexandra Rose also only lost the Gr1 Cape Fillies Guineas in a head-bob decision to the then-unbeaten Bad Girl Runs.

Exported to Dubai, and then to North America, Alexandra Rose went on to win the 2008 Gr3 Monrovia Handicap.

Alexandra Rose is out of the prolific Darshaan daughter Alexandra Bi—the dam of 8 winners, including the stakes winners Alexandra Rose, Pavlovich, Alexandra Palace and Alexa.

Neil Drysdale has decided to leave Oleksandra at Belmont Park instead of returning her to Southern California. She

“ *That will be her last race for Team Valor. She will be offered for sale after the BC at an auction in Kentucky with an as-yet undetermined agent* ”

— Barry Irwin

will point for the Gr3 Troy Stakes going 5 1/2 furlongs on grass for a \$200,000 purse on the Travers Stakes undercard on August 8.

She may have one more race before

contesting the Breeders' Cup Sprint at Keeneland.

William Nader of the Hong Kong Racing Club tendered an invitation to the mare for ‘the world's richest turf sprint on December 13’ so it is possible the mare's new owner could race her there or in Dubai over the winter before sending her off to the breeding shed.

Oleksandra became the first Australian-bred to win a Gr1 in North America since the Pattern Race scheme went into being in 1974. Her 101 Beyer Speed Figure was bettered on Saturday's Belmont Stakes card only by runaway Gr1 Acorn Stakes winner Gamine.

The winner's dam Alexandra Rose was originally purchased by Cape-based trainer Glen Kotzen for R25 000.

“She had a sweet itch with no mane or tail and had patches of hair missing over her back. Glen could see through this as a magnificent specimen and purchased her for his patron Juan Van Heerden. After winning the Gr1 Golden Slipper in Durban, Team Valor came in as a partner. On visiting Arrowfield Stud in Australia a couple of years ago Glen noticed her in the paddock standing with none other than Makybe Diva. We have been blessed to purchase some fantastic bargain champions. Well done to Varsfontein Stud and Barry Irwin,” said a proud Kathi Kotzen.

LONGINES

chase

South African & International Racing photography courtesy of

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f i t

First Group Win For JONES



Riverton-bred Al Mariachi wins the Gr3 Noble Salute Cup on Saturday

The 2017 KZN Yearling Sale winner Al Mariachi caused a major upset when winning Saturday's Champ de Mars feature, the Gr3 Noble Salute Cup.

The son of Green Desert stallion Great Britain registered his third win on the island, and provided the Simon Jones yard with their first Group race win.

Grabbing the lead from the jump, the speedy gelding, formerly trained in Philippi by Brett Crawford, stayed on well under Vijay-Anand Bundhoo.

A R70 000 KZN Yearling Sale graduate, the Riverton Stud bred flyer is out of the maiden, Senorita Al (Captain Al).

Fifteen entries were received for this coming Saturday's feature and first classic of the season, **The Gr2 Duchess Of York Cup**, which will be contested over 1400m.

The Gujadhur yard has the largest number of entries in this race in Africa Rising, Made To Conquer and Ehsaan.

An interesting entry is SA Gr1 winner Undercover Agent, who with Fools Gold, represents the Riicky Maingard stable.

Note that there will be no false rail at the Champ de Mars on Saturday.

The shipment of 24 horses that were expected from SA on Friday, has been delayed to 7 July.

The list, with trainer indicated, is:

Merven: Bollinger, Kingsman, Ladder Man, Fundraiser, Sea Air / Daby: Hardfallingrain, Sea Dance
 Gujadhur: Wave / Hurchund: What A Kid, Brooklyn's Choice / Nagadoo: Eagles Vision, Zeno
 Rousset: Captain Flynt, Captain Garrett, Blackburn Roc, Ron's Joy, Crazy Charlie
 Sewdyal: The Dazzler / Jones: Alameery, Nimitz / J.M. Henry: Clouded Hill
 Narang: Capkuta, Lasair / Maingard: Travelin Man



SILVANO FILLY TOPS ONLINE SALE

INAUGURAL SALE IS ANOTHER ONLINE EXPERIENCE FOR BUYERS

A Silvano filly (seen above) out of Jet Master multiple Gr1 winner Thunder Dance was the topseller at R680 000 when the inaugural Klawervlei Online Farm Sale ended on Sunday evening.

The well-related filly fell to a bid by David Abery.

HERE IS THE LIST OF PRICES

The sale statistical analysis has not yet been published.

LONSDALE WINNER'S DAM

INJECTS STAMINA

Ireland's champion juvenile of 2010 and a half-brother to 2019 Preakness winner War Of Will, the underrated Pathfork, a son of Distorted Humor, is having a fine time of it, the smart Lonsdale victor being his fifth individual stakes winner of the season.



Marchingontoegether, who first caught the eye when third in last season's Gr1 SA Derby, is somewhat of an anomaly amongst Pathfork's offspring, the majority of which take after their speedy and precocious sire, prime amongst which this season's Graded stakes duo of Mr Flood and Mighty High.

The saga of Mr Flood is well known. The gelding had reeled off three smart wins prior to undergoing knee surgery. Off the track for 417 days, he made his return to racing in the Gr3 Lebelo Sprint and after being headed close home, rallied strongly to open his stakes account by the best part of a length.

Blessed with a high cruising speed and an indomitable will to win, the Houdalakis-trained blitz made it five wins on the bounce when landing the Gr3 Tommy Hotspur. His bid for six wins in a row ended on March 14 when he had to bow to paternal half-sister Mighty High in the Gr2 Senor Santa Handicap.

Pathfork's sole Gr1 winner to date, Mighty High had claimed the scalp of subsequent champion Celtic Sea in the Allan Robertson Championship as a juvenile. A chipped fetlock almost ended her racing career, but her Senor Santa victory proved she is as good as ever.

To call Pathfork a one-dimensional speed sire would be an injustice. His daughter Jet Start has won up to 2000m and on the same day Mr Flood won the Lebelo, she opened her stakes account in the Gr3 London News Stakes over 1800m.

Three-year-old son Fools Gold, who was bred to sprint, being out of a Goldmark mare, had earlier joined the stakes ranks with a dominant, front-running display in the Listed Model

Man Mile (formerly the KZN Guineas Trial), thrashing his field by four lengths.

Marchingontoegether's dam Souen has to take credit for her son's stamina. By Montjeu out of a Darshaan mare, that cross screams stamina, a trait she had already passed on to her Judpot son Three Balloons, a fine stayer who won up to 2500m and placed in such marathon events as the Gr3 Summer Stayers Handicap, the Gr3 Chairman's Cup and Kenilworth Cup.

Montjeu, a son of Sadler's Wells, won the Irish and French Derby, the Arc and the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes. A first-class classic stallion, he has also excelled as the broodmare sire of English classic winners Anapurna (Oaks) and Legatissimo (1000 Guineas) and closer to home, of this season's Gr1 Majorca Stakes Clouds Unfold, a daughter of champion sprinter What A Winter.

Darshaan, the sire of grandam Apsara, needs no introduction.

A champion stayer on the track, the Aga Khan-bred became a powerhouse stallion, whose affinity with Sadler's Wells is well known. Apsara, who has a juvenile colt by Frankel, counts three stakes winners amongst her five winners, the Gr2 Beresford Stakes winner Curtain Call (Sadler's Wells), Gr2-placed Launched (Galileo) and the French stakes winner Nature Spirits (Beat Hollow).

Apsara's dam, the very smart French Gr3 winner and Gr1 Prix La Foret third Whakilyric (Miswaki), produced French Derby hero and successful sire Hernando and Gr1 Prix Lupin winner Johann Quatz and is also ancestress of 2018 German Oaks victress Well Timed and Gr1 Hong Kong Cup winner Akeed Mofeed.

FORT ON THE MOVE

Having stood at Klipdrif Stud where Elusive Fort has thrived in good hands, it is appropriate now to see the son of Fort Wood move across Robertson to Black Swan Stud, the property of his Syndicate Principal, successful breeder Peter de Beyer.



The farm is adjacent to Ridgemoor-Highlands and is managed by Walter Cowe (063 662 1250 - GPS coordinates below), for many years Sir Philip Oppenheimer's and his successor son's Stud Manager in Newmarket before Walter and his wife Fran realised their long-held ambition to immigrate to South Africa about six years ago.

Walter was the 'go to' teacher of yearling prep at the prestigious National Stud courses and has continued that practice at Black Swan where the whole team are welcoming Elusive Fort to his newly constructed stallion box with open arms.

For Elusive Fort, the icing on the cake has been provided by two of his young sons, the 3 year old Out Of Your League who won the Gr1 SA Derby so bravely, and the 2 year old colt Kommetdieding who impressed all in his victory in the Klawervlei Farm Sale Race. Both of these look to have very bright futures indeed.

72% of Elusive Fort's winners are at 1600m or less, leaving plenty for the classic distances. His remarkable genes - Sadler's Wells, Fort Wood (including Fall Aspen) and the amazing "E" family including Empress Club, Epoque and the rest - make Elusive Fort one of those rare stallions who brings quality speed and quality stamina.

Having had three Full Books and several nearly full in the past few years, he will have an increasing number of representatives in coming seasons.

For 2020 he will stand for a fee of R10,000 + vat Live Foal with the "Pay When YouSell" option of R12,500 + vat. An AllanStallions Scale of fees will give even lower options for multiple bookings.

In halving his fees, they are in part offering a major concession to the circumstances facing all breeders and in part encouraging quality mares at a modest fee to come to this remarkable stallion.

All enquiries to Syndicate Managers David Allan and Symantha van Niekerk:

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Landline 021 828 9288

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MGAS Online

MGAS Bloodstock's online auction platform is up and running and the catalogue for their inaugural online horses-in-training sale, hosted by MGAS & CRT to be held 1/7/2020 - 3/7/2020, is available on www.mgas.co.za

There are 46 lots catalogued, including 3 mares in foal to the exciting stallion Potala Palace.

Queries: Gabi Soma 076 724 0585 / Grant Knowles 082 882 9774

STATS

NHRA LOG LEADERS

updated 23.06.2020

TRAINERS

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place %	Win Stake	Total Stakes
Mr S G Tarry	814	107	13.1	98	77	278	453	55.7	8,427,375	13,073,863
Mr M F de Kock	478	71	14.9	73	54	135	262	54.8	6,198,225	9,823,575
Mr P A Peter	635	101	15.9	56	75	193	324	51	7,206,575	9,658,025
Mr S J Snaith	846	105	12.4	104	90	172	366	43.3	5,737,750	9,385,050
Mr A C Greeff	776	145	18.7	103	94	246	443	57.1	5,751,650	8,325,363

HORSES

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place %	Win Stake	Total Stakes
One World	5	3	60	2	0	0	2	40	1,919,375	2,289,375
Zillzaal	3	2	66.7	0	0	1	1	33.3	1,265,625	1,275,625
Vardy	4	2	50	0	1	1	2	50	1,156,250	1,203,750
Summer Pudding	5	5	100	0	0	0	0	0	1,151,000	1,151,000
Queen Supreme (IRE)	8	4	50	1	1	1	3	37.5	887,875	1,105,325

JOCKEYS

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place %	Win Stake	Total Stakes
Mr W B Kennedy	1085	196	18.1	131	140	265	536	49.4	12,868,650	17,715,475
Mr G M Cheyne	668	143	21.4	90	77	165	332	49.7	6,329,763	10,171,850
Mr K de Melo	629	91	14.5	75	81	123	279	44.4	5,091,625	7,985,813
Mr A Marcus	322	89	27.6	59	43	55	157	48.8	5,427,850	8,153,688
Mr R D Fourie	472	87	18.4	72	62	103	237	50.2	4,650,500	8,378,375

SIRES

Name	Rnrs	Runs	AEPR	Winrs	Wins	Winrs/ Rnrs %	Places	B.T. Winrs	B.T. Wins	Total Stakes
Silvano	173	800	68,566	71	102	41	363	10	14	11,861,988
Captain Al	127	608	85,491	57	87	44.9	301	6	10	10,857,325
Gimmethegreenlight	177	788	51,687	58	84	32.8	380	7	7	9,148,638
What A Winter	160	757	53,709	61	86	38.1	363	5	6	8,593,363
Oratorio	125	675	62,665	59	91	47.2	337	3	4	7,833,075

See all the detailed standings – [click here](#)

ONE FINAL SHOT AT GOAL!

There's one last chance to make money in the Bundesliga this week as we enter the final round of fixtures in the 2019/20 campaign. Like gameweek 33, all of the matches are played on Saturday at 15h30 (SAST)

Chad Nagel writes that Bayern Munich have claimed an unprecedented eighth successive Bundesliga title with Borussia Dortmund and RB Leipzig joining them in the UEFA Champions League, but the race for the other European qualification berths goes down to the wire.

SATURDAY 27 JUNE

Monchengladbach 7/20

Draw 9/2

**Hertha Berlin 13/2
(15:30)**

The task is simple for Monchengladbach. Win their home game against Hertha Berlin and they'll secure a top-four finish ahead of Bayer Leverkusen. In fact, a point should be enough thanks to their superior goal difference. The Foals should get the job done. They've scored three goals in both of their last two matches where they beat Wolfsburg and Paderborn. Back them on the (-1) Handicap at 7/10.

Werder Bremen 13/20

Draw 33/10

**Cologne 36/10
(15:30)**

Werder Bremen must win their home game against Cologne to even have a chance of making it into the play-off against the team that finishes third in Bundesliga 2. But their form at the Weserstadion doesn't bode well as they're winless in their last 14 home games, suffering 11 defeats. However, they might fancy their chances against a Cologne side winless in nine matches. If I were to have a punt on this game, I'd take Under 2.5 Goals at 16/10.

Borussia Dortmund 15/20

Draw 32/10

**Hoffenheim 3/1
(15:30)**

Borussia Dortmund will finish the season as runners up regardless of the outcome of this match, although the BVB will look to end off on a winning note. They were beaten 2-0 by Mainz in their last game at Signal Iduna Park but bounced back strongly with an impressive 2-0 victory at RB Leipzig. Hoffenheim, who have qualified for the Europa League, are riding a two-match winning streak and will look to cause an upset. I'll be backing Dortmund to Win & Both Teams to Score at 31/20.

Eintracht Frankfurt 4/10

Draw 17/4

**Paderborn 57/10
(15:30)**

Eintracht Frankfurt will be strongly fancied to beat already-relegated Paderborn on their turf, but Paderborn will want to bow out of the league in style. Interestingly, one of Paderborn's four wins this season came against Frankfurt – a 2-1 victory at the Benteler-Arena in December. Frankfurt have lost three of their last five home games and I'm backing the visitors on the Win/Draw Double Chance at 37/20.



Bayer Leverkusen 1/4
Draw 52/10
Mainz 17/2
(15:30)

Bayer Leverkusen must beat Mainz and hope Hertha Berlin do them a favour at Monchengladbach to secure a top-four finish. Champions League football is the ultimate goal for Peter Bosz's side, especially if they want to keep hold of their German star Kai Havertz. Leverkusen haven't been convincing at home lately and they'll need to be at their best to beat Mainz. The Carnival club are riding a two-match winning streak. They beat Werder Bremen 3-1 at home last weekend and before that won 2-0 at Dortmund, they'll be hoping to cause another upset. I'm going with Both Teams to Score (Yes) at 7/10.

Freiburg 17/20
Draw 29/10
Schalke 28/10
(15:30)

Freiburg's Europa League hopes were ended by Bayern Munich last weekend in a 3-1 defeat and the Breisgau Brazil-

ians will want to take their frustrations out on Schalke. The Royal Blues are winless in their last 15 games in the Bundesliga, suffering nine defeats. Freiburg have won back-to-back home games against Monchengladbach and Hertha Berlin and I fancy them to win this tie.

Wolfsburg 28/10
Draw 32/10
Bayern Munich 8/10
(15:30)

There's an extremely generous 8/10 price on a Bayern Munich victory this weekend. The Bavarians, who wrapped up an eighth successive Bundesliga title and their 30th German championship overall, are unbeaten in 19 league games, winning 18 times. Bayern have beaten Wolfsburg in each of their last four meetings and should make it five in a row.

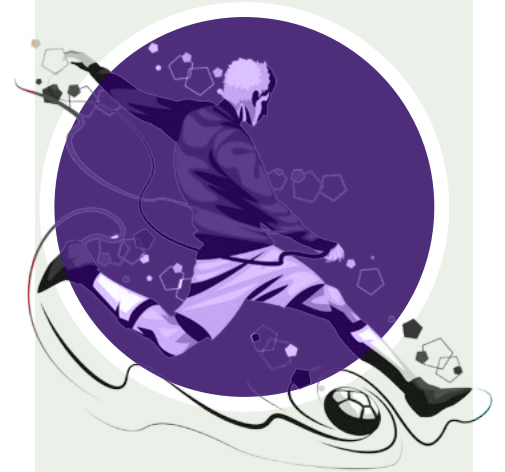
Union Berlin 28/10
Draw 26/10
Fortuna Dusseldorf 19/20
(15:30)

Union Berlin will be looking to bounce back from their heavy 4-0 loss at Hoffenheim, but Fortuna Dusseldorf will be even more desperate to win and secure a relegation playoff spot. Neither team give me confidence. I'm backing the draw at 26/10 after all Dusseldorf have been the draw specialists this season.

Augsburg 6/1
Draw 17/4
RB Leipzig 4/10
(15:30)

After losing 2-0 at home to Dortmund last weekend, RB Leipzig will look to end the season on a winning note, and they should do just that against 15th-placed Augsburg who have gone six home games without a win. Timo Werner should be fired up for his final game in Leipzig colours before heading to Chelsea next month. Back the away win at 4/10.

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