

Exeter 5th July Arabian Racing Review

By Paul Simmons

The Southbrook Arabians Maiden Stakes over 7 Furlongs

Another competitive maiden and another sure fire superstar for Gill Duffield's powerful string with HH Sheikh Hamdan's **Inshaad** (Al Sakbe x Aksarka) showing the power and speed of her illustrious bloodlines to record a good battling victory under a confident ride from Phil Collington. Held up early on Inshaad came with her run two furlongs out and swept past Djalk inside the final furlong to win well by half a length. Djalk was settled midfield and took the lead inside the final two furlongs with CS Jakari and Inshaad in game pursuit, and to his credit he kept battling away inside the final furlong and is one to note for the future. CS Jakari did the best of the juveniles, and ran a game race on her racecourse debut travelling well throughout and showing a burst of speed inside the final two furlongs; and although she tired to finish third will come on for the run and was clear of the rest. *(CS Jakari is entered in the Juvenile Group 2 Jumeirah Stakes on Dubai Day).*

The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes 0-95 over 1 Mile 1 Furlong

A fantastic finish to a highly competitive handicap. Fedor Du Bournais cut out the running setting a decent pace until being swept past by Nasij, who made a bold bid for victory from the half way stage but ultimately the big guns were cruising in behind. Estival was always settled in behind and going well throughout, she kicked clear into the lead two furlongs out with Deolali, Alize Safinat and Jelvita battling in behind. As they hit the final furlong marker the winner could have been any of the four although Estival looked to be going well until veering violently to the left, before running on strongly on the stands rail. David Turner was hard at work on **Deolali** (Khairouan x Operetta) and timed his run to perfection on this game gelding and just got home by a head for Sam Davison, with Estival an unlucky second. Alize Safinat for the Royal Cavalry of Oman was finishing best of all and battled on well another head back in third, with the ever consistent Jelvita a neck back in fourth.

The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes 0-55 over 1 Mile

An inspired riding performance from Anna Wallace on David Paton's tough old gelding **Anganate Safinat** (Manganate x Astree) who was recording his third victory. Wallace had Safinat prominent throughout and took command in the final two furlongs in a game effort for victory, but Sheriek was flying inside the final furlong and they were all out to hold on at the line to win by half a length. An excellent seasonal debut from Sheriek, who was held up throughout. She made good progress in the home straight and was finishing fast and furious in the final furlong and just failed to get up on the line. The Way To Go ran her usual game race back in third; she was held up and came with her effort inside the final furlong but never looked like catching the first two.

The Ajay Construction Ltd Handicap Stakes 0-80 over 6 Furlongs

A second winner of the day for David Turner who rode a superbly judged ride on Carol Legg's brave old handicapper **Pavots Dreamboy** (Pavot Al Maury x Autumn Dream). Turner had Dreamboy sitting nicely in behind long time leader Sabden in this fast paced sprint and then went clear inside the final two furlongs showing his useful turn of foot. Popidol Kossack finished like a train down the stands rail and was gaining with every stride at the line; but Dreamboy is a hardened campaigner and stuck his neck out to win. Popidol Kossack ran a gutsy race under near top weight in second and was staying on with real determination in the final furlong. The Debator showed her speed and determination to finish a length and half back in third, she was all out in the final furlong but stayed on ahead of Chazan.

The Shaw & Fox Handicap Stakes 0-65 over 1 Mile 1 Furlong

Another great race with Gill Plumbley's talented mare **Pacific Way** (Way To Go x Bacifica) losing her maiden tag in fine style under top weight with a well timed ride from Martin Smith. They went a good pace with Raihan going for home from the five furlong marker before Operatic led the charge into the home straight. Pinkie Tuscadero led inside the final two furlongs but looked to be tiring inside the final furlong and Pacific Way burst through to win nicely by two lengths. Pinkie kept on well for second whilst Notid was plugging on for third finishing best of all ahead of a one paced Operatic.

The Penn Challenge Handicap Stakes (Anglo & PBA's only) over 1 Mile 1 Furlong

Sadly L'Escalou was a non runner and Dancing Grace was withdrawn after some unruly behaviour. That said full credit to trainer Philip Greenwood who produced **Curupanna** (Opera Ghost x Easter Panic) in excellent condition to win yet again; she made the running until Madrison headed her at half way; she then took the lead inside the final two furlongs when Madrison appeared to be tiring and she powered clear under a great ride from Sam Holdsworth to win going away by eight lengths. Madrison lost nothing in defeat and battled on well on the soft going but couldn't catch the winner in the final furlong. Oakvalley Rialto appeared to relish the soft rain soaked track and was finishing in a good style under owner/trainer/jockey Bill Hill and was well clear of a one paced Mutajjeb.

The Dutnall and Walker Maiden Stakes over 1 Mile 1 Furlong

HH Sheikh Mohammed's homebred filly Maakar continued Bill Smith's excellent run of form this season with a confident victory here; she was held up throughout in midfield under a confident Simon Walker. **Maakar** (Karmah x Mesange Al Maury) then came with her run inside the final two furlongs and was starting to pull away from the field inside the final furlong with her only real danger being Sakeena Sky Zayin, who was making good progress down the centre of the track and staying on in determined fashion. Maakar set sail for home inside the final furlong and won by four lengths at the line. Sakeena Sky Zayin ran a promising race on her debut, she was held up at the back of the field throughout and made her way through the pack inside the final three furlongs and although wandering slightly inside the final furlong she was well clear of the field. Yaqoot (Darike x Nirva De Cardonne) also made an impressive racecourse debut, held up throughout she came to challenge Maakar and Sakeena at the two furlong marker, but tired inside the final furlong and finished another five lengths back in third.

The Western Commodities Ltd Anniversary Open Race Handicap over 1 Mile 1 Furlong

Hot favourite Night Cap was withdrawn but the rest of the field made a good race of it with Son Of Sophie, Megabond and Take The Plunge battling out the finish in the torrential rain and fog that engulfed the racetrack. In the end **Son Of Sophie** (Band On The Run x Fair Enchantress) scored under a strong ride from Simon Walker for trainer/breeder Peter Hammersley, heading Megabond in the shadow of the post to score by a short head. Another good run from Megabond who looked to have the race in his grasp inside the final furlong only to be denied at the end. Take The Plunge was flying inside the final two furlongs but couldn't reach the first two and finished three lengths back in third.