

Arab Raceday Review Nottingham 18th August

By Paul Simmons

Race 1 – The Shaw & Fox Maiden Stakes over 1 Mile

Palapal (Bengali D'Albret x Prunelle De Ghazal) who had been running well in defeat stormed home to victory in this maiden under a fine ride from Simon Walker to continue the great run of form for the Bill Smith yard, he led from the three furlong marker and despite idling in the final furlong he won with plenty amount in hand and can go on to better things from here. Back in second was the ever consistent The Debator (Bengali D'Albret x Djeba Al Mels) who had every chance from the home turn but couldn't lay up with the winner in the final furlong, she continues to impress and her turn is near. Back in third was a disappointing Philia De Faust (Al Sakbe x Hakima De Cacerre) who doesn't look to be in love with the game and failed to show her true form, but seemed to get a second wind inside the straight but the first two had already flown by then.

Race 2 – The David Cross Memorial Handicap Stakes 0-75 over 2 Miles

Phil Collington always seems to get the best from Linda Cross's plucky mare Kizhi and they cut out the running here, and seemingly had set sail for home with a strong run inside the final furlong only for an inspired Sam Holdsworth to galvanise a power packed finish from **Karang** (Karmah x CR Angel Kate) who get up on the line to win on the line by a comfortable two lengths again for the in form Bill Smith yard. The ever gutsy Kizhi (Khairouan x Sucha) was back in second and relished this stamina sapping trip, whilst Blu By You (Khairoaun x Billou Al Maury) continues to impress and made good progress in the straight and stayed on dourly for third for owner/ trainer/ jockey Mark Wall.

Race 3 – The EuroBale Ltd Open Race over 1 Mile 6 Furlongs

Adalar (Grand Lodge x Adalya) showed the field a clean pair of heels as he cut out the running in this stayers event, he came with a strong run inside the final furlong and had to pull out all the stops as John Wilson's tough mare Princess Karla came with a wet sail down the straight, they were neck and neck to the line with Miss Saunders driving Adalar home by a short head. Princess Karla (Fayruz x Mystique Air) ran a superb race in defeat and her turn is near, whilst Rue De L'Opera (L'Estragon x Rue De Cirque) ran the race of her life back in third for owner/trainer/jockey Philip Rondel staying on determinedly for third.

Race 4 – The Jebel Ali Handicap Stakes 0-45 over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

A well deserved win for **Bonham** (Bakara x Bonnie Jet) who has been running so well in defeat this season, he was held up with a run with El Hamsa (Naseem x Myska) and Plus stalking menacingly behind, all three came with their runs inside the final furlong and it was almost a blanket finish at the line with Bonham superbly ridden by Sam Holdsworth just getting home by a short head for owner/trainer Chris Culleton with El Hamsa back in second and Plus (Djouras Tu x Sherrie Noreen) for the David Paton team was another short head back in third. El Hamsa is coming back to form whilst the penny seems to have dropped for Plus and she is a name to remember next time out.

Race 5 – The Stud Farm Fencing Handicap Stakes 0-90 over 6 Furlongs

The Gill Duffield trained **Furaat** (Djebbel x Mandoline Song) made the most of a lenient handicap mark to run away with victory her under a determined ride from Phil Collington for owner HH Sheikh Hamdan, she was held up and made steady progress before bursting clear in the final furlong to win by an easy length. Back in second was the admirably consistent Pavots Dreamboy (Pavot Al Maury x Autumn Dream) who made the running and stuck gamely to his task in the final furlong but was always held by the winner. WFA Leopard (Bengali D'Albret x Lapsana) had every chance and was running on at the end but was never nearer than third but kept on ahead of Edjalie to hold onto third.

Race 6 – The Robin Hood Stakes over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

Jelvita (Njewman x Vite Amine) made the running and soon looked in command, she was upping the pace in the final furlong but **Anayid** (Djendel x Seglaoui) was cruising in behind but Phil Collington was hard at work to get the filly up on the line winning narrowly by a short head from the tough Jelvita who was arguably unlucky not to get home. Kepassa (Akbar x Kesperla) was very disappointing back in third, he was held up but made little progress in the straight and stayed on at the finish ahead of Al Bashiq.

Race 7 – The Jebel Ali Handicap Stakes 0-60 over 6 Furlongs

The wonderfully game and tough **Jana** (Normativ x Joli) made no mistake here under a fantastic ride from Sam Holdsworth –who was scoring a treble. She was held up but produced inside the final two furlongs and came clear in the final furlong to win by an easy two lengths. Back in second was Mr Ben (Bengali D'Albret x Widget) who ran a superb race on his handicap debut, he chased the winner all the way to the line and was staying on at the finish and he looks to be on the upgrade. Pepita De Carrere (Guytou de Carrere x Assada El Baraka) continues to impress and ran on well in the final furlong to hold onto third.

Race 8 – The Kelanne Stud Open Race Handicap over 1 Mile

It was always going to take a top class horse to stop the seemingly unstoppable winning run of Fraternity, and **Night Cap** (Night Shift x Classic Design) is just that winning under a well judged ride from Champion jockey Phil Collington – also riding a treble on the day. Fraternity made the running as usual but Night Cap was settled in second and always going well, he cruised to the lead inside the final two furlong and kicked clear for an easy win under Collington for owner/trainer John Wilson and was value for more than half length as he was eased close home. Back in second was Take The Plunge (Benny The Dip x Pearly River) who ran a superb race in second under Danny Burton, she came with her challenge in the final two furlongs but was never going to pass the winner. Fraternity (Grand Lodge x Catwaba) ran well dead heating with Megabond for third under his welter burden of top weight, whilst Megabond (Danehill Dancer x Apple Peeler) ran on strongly in the closing stages and challenged well to dead heat for third.