

Huntingdon 1st August Review

By Paul Simmons
Photos courtesy of GJ Multimedia

The Al-Nujaifi Farm Series Maiden Stakes PA over 7 Furlongs



Ambrose cut out the running and led the field until inside the final furlong when Phil Collington, who was cruising on **Estiqraar (Bengali D'Albret x Simooma (Vadeer))** swept past showing a useful turn of foot to kick clear in the final furlong to win for owner/breeder HH Sheikh Hamdan and trainer Gill Duffield. Ambrose (Amer x KTP Mystic Flight (Wiking)) lost nothing in defeat, he rallied well inside the final furlong and was well clear of the strung out field behind. Zayin Zeus (Makzan x CS Comete (Bengali D'Albret)) put two disappointing efforts behind him with a much improved run here, handy in second throughout he ran on well inside the home straight and kept on for third ahead of Alwaan.

The Eclipse Open Race Series Handicap (Series Final) PBA, AA and TB Open Handicap over 1 Mile 2 Furlongs

A fascinating race that saw Chapter, Coffin Dodger and Son Of Sophie fight out a thrilling finish right down the wire. Chapter hit the front inside the final two furlongs but was soon challenged by Son of Sophie, superbly ridden by Rachel Kneller, and they went head to head all the way to the line, with Coffin Dodger flying down the stands rail under a determined Martin Smith. **Son Of Sophie** just got up under Kneller to win by a head for trainer and breeder Peter Hammersley from a fast finishing Coffin Dodger, with a brave Chapter a neck back in third for Jack Sherwood.



The Royal Cavalry Of Oman Novice Rider Series Handicap Stakes PA 0-70 over 7 Furlongs



Another thrilling finish with smart handicappers Benny The Dip, Ajyaal and Jamaahir all fighting out a three way finish with a barely a head separating them. Kevin Locking continued his fine run of form this season with a power packed display aboard the Morris family's **Benny The Dip (Bengali D'Albret x Duiker)**; he led from the start and was flying inside the final furlong but the Delyth Thomas trained pair Jamaahir (Makzan x Tikis Tiffany) and Ajyaal (Bengali D'Albret x Silvena) were finishing fast and furious with Jamaahir just getting his head in front and ultimately losing out to Benny The Dip on the line by a nose. Ajyaal was another head back in third and looks to be coming to hand

and is worth noting next time out.

The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes (Series Qualifier) PA 0-60 over 1 Mile 1 Furlong



An amazing training performance here from Angela Colledge and riding effort from Steve Harrison to produce the quirky **Barik (Darike x Bacifica)** to win here for owner Julie Harvey. Held up with a run from the start he was travelling well inside the final furlong and although hard ridden by Harrison inside the final furlong Barik responded gamely to pressure and got up inside the final few yards to deny Mushammer (Passem Lotois x Kawzah Tiki) by a neck. Speaking afterwards winning trainer Colledge said *"He is such an enigma, he only likes doing two things, eating and sleeping, but he's been doing endurance, which has sweetened him up a bit"*. Mushammer ran a superb race on his seasonal debut, he was held up in the pack and then

took the lead inside the final furlong and was all out the winner until Barik just edged past. Mahbishai (Mahbuba x Lola Caramba) ran his best race to date back in third for the Paton team, he was fourth inside the home straight but stayed on determinedly inside the final furlong to snatch third from Pavot Al Kyle.

**The GT Exhibitions Ltd Open Race Handicap Stakes
PBA, AA and TB Handicap 0-160 over 6 Furlongs**

An impressive performance here from **Tunder Bool** who was brilliantly ridden by Adam Brook (riding his first winner under ARO rules); he led from the start and was well clear with two furlongs to go, resisting the late challenge of Kitchen Sink. He got home to win by a length under a strong ride from Brook for owner, trainer Nick Bell. Kitchen Sink ran well in second but couldn't quite reach the winner. The 15 year old Hardtoback ran his usual solid race back in third, keeping up to his work inside the final furlong and was well clear of the rest of the field.



**The Royal Cavalry Of Oman Handicap Stakes (Series Qualifier)
PA 0-100 over 1 Mile 1 Furlong**



An in form Phil Collington won as he liked here under the impressive **Qattab De Faust (Dormane x Kaolina)**, who was making it two from two under ARO rules. He was held up early on but quickly asserted his authority in the manner of a very smart colt to gallop clear and win by a comfortable eight lengths from owner HH Sheikh Hamdan and trainer Gill Duffield. Jelvita (Njewman x Vite Amine) had no chance with the winner but having been passed on the home turn and relegated to fourth, she gamely responded to pressure and ran on well to claim second inside the final furlong ahead of a fast finishing Aberfeldy (Amer x Zeinah). The latter was a neck

back in third just ahead of a staying on Noble Athlete.

**The ARO Dinner Dance 31st October Handicap Stakes
PA 0-85 over 1 Mile 2 Furlong**

An in form Angela Colledge landed another victory here with the admirably consistent **Estival (Khairouan x Viny De Passerat)**, who was given a well judged ride by Steve Harrison. Qawaafil predictably set a decent pace from the start, but Harrison was always travelling well in behind on Estival and as they hit the final furlong he moved up on the winner and this game mare won well with over a length to spare for owners The Middle Hill Partnership. Commenting afterwards Colledge said *"I believe that was her last race, which is such a shame now she's back to her best, she's been wonderful to train and I love her to bits"*. Qawaafil (Vasilisk x Bisbille) ran another great race in second over a trip that was arguably short for her; she remains firmly on the upgrade. Ebraam (Al Sakbe x Dorswayne Du Cayrou) was prominent throughout but seemed to struggle in the closing stages although rallied hard inside the final furlong to take third from a one paced Namoos.



**The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes (Series Qualifier)
PA 0-45 over 6 Furlongs**

They went a fair clip in this sprint handicap with several in with a chance as they entered the final furlong, although in the end it was Lady Marisha, Tiki Tornado and Shouq who fought out the finish, with the latter benefiting from a superb Collington ride. Helen Bona's fine old servant and evens favourite **Lady Marisha (Nevesti x Shimmering Spektra)**, under an athletic ride from Oliver Garner, went on to win by a length from stablemate Tiki Tornado (Tornado De Syrah x Tiki Track Talk) who was finishing well and dug deep in the closing stages to hold onto second ahead of an improved effort from Sue Connally's Shouq (Makzan x Buka).

