

Huntingdon Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August

1<sup>st</sup> race – The [www.aroracing.co.uk](http://www.aroracing.co.uk) Maiden Stakes over 1 Mile:

An extremely impressive victory here from Lesley Hartley's homebred gelding **El Adjban (Makzan x Shunah by Shomran)** who out galloped his rivals in excellent fashion. He showed an fine turn of foot, similar to that which his dam Shunah was famed for in her racing days. El Adjban (which means the bees knees in Arabic) was always prominent under a confident Martin Smith, behind pace setter Jaady. As they entered the home straight Jaady was headed by the Royal Cavalry of Oman's Hajes. El Adjban was set to work inside the final furlong and gamely responded to Smith's pressure, galloping readily clear of Hajes to win by a length for owner/breeder Lesley Hartley and trainer Gill Duffield. Speaking afterwards Lesley said "*He's very special as he is the last foal of his dam and I have always thought the world of him, I am very proud to see him win on only his second start.*"

Hajes (Vertigo x Al Muhabah) ran another great race in second, he rallied hard inside the final furlong but could not get near to the winner. He is a smart performer and should be winning soon. The eye catcher of the race though was Loran (Doran x Mangaline Du Loup), a strapping daughter of the American Dormane son Doran, she looked out paced early on but ran on strongly inside the final two furlongs to take 3<sup>rd</sup> from a one paced Jaady.

2<sup>nd</sup> race – The Athbah Stud 0-45 Handicap Stakes over 6 Furlongs:

Another owner/breeder victory here as Eric Legg's enigmatic mare Golden Dream finally repaid the faith of her persistent trainer Carol Legg (Eric's daughter) by recording her first victory after 17 attempts. This speedy grey mare won in fine style under an energetic ride from talented young jockey Ollie Garner.

The field went a fair pace over this sprint trip with Millenium Leap leading them along the back and into the home straight; Golden Dream and Lady Marisha were also both prominent. As they entered the final furlong it was Millenium Leap under owner/trainer/jockey Mark Cooper and Golden Dream who battled it out for victory. Ollie Garner (in spite of losing his right stirrup) drove 10/1 shot **Golden Dream (Khairoaun x Autumn Dream)** to victory by two lengths. Speaking afterwards her delighted trainer Carol Legg said "*I have persisted with her because I knew she had ability and could win as long as the conditions were right, she has loads of speed at home and I am glad she has now won and proved me right after all these years. She is the progeny of Autumn Dream out foundation mare and they have all now won.*" Millenium Leap (Khairoaun x Balla Star) ran another solid race back in second, she cut out a decent clip and went all out inside the final furlong but couldn't get past the winner. Mahbishai (Mahbuba x Lola Caramba) finished with a good run down the straight and ran on strongly for third and is one to be watched when upped in trip at this grade.

3<sup>rd</sup> race – The ARO Dinner Dance OPEN (TB & AA) Handicap 0-160 over 2 Miles:

An impressive victory here for the **Mattoni (Presidium x Mrs Magic)** recording his first win after 22 attempts for owner/trainer Chris Culleton. He made all under a

confident ride from Scott Bradbury and galloped easily clear inside the final furlong to pull four lengths clear at the line. Speaking afterwards winning owner Chris said *“He’s a lovely horse and I am pleased he’s won as he likes his racing, he’s just a hack at home and was show jumping last weekend. It’s great to get a win out of him.”* Litigious ran a blinder back in second for Helen Bona, she was held up but came on with a strong run inside the final furlong to take second. Close by was a tiring Straffan Cyclone the 1/2fav, who ran in third. He made a bold bid but was one paced in the final furlong and lost second right near the post.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> race – The Kelanne Stud 0-55 Handicap Stakes 1 Mile 1 Furlongs:**

An emphatic victory here for the Zayin Arabian Stud owned and bred mare, Sakeena Sky Zayin, who scored a pillar to post victory under an inspired ride from David Turner. In doing so, she finally lost her maiden tag after 17 runs. Turner jumped Sakeena Sky Zayin off behind but quickly moved into the lead along the back straight before quickening clear four furlongs out. As they headed into the home straight 5/4 fav Senor Dublcheck threw down his gauntlet and challenged Sakeena but she maintained her lead inside the final furlong and despite Senor Dublcheck rallying hard, **Sakeena Sky Zayin (Karmah x Sweet Simplicity)** won by half a length for the Zayin Arabian Stud. Speaking afterwards winning trainer Beverley Deutrom said *“She’s a tough mare and has plenty of ability, and we’ve had a few problems with her this year, but I felt she would run a big race today in this grade as she has been working well at home, and I am pleased to secure a win for her owner who hasn’t had a winner racing for 11 years!”*

Senor Dublcheck (Bengali D’Albret x Mais) ran a superb race in second, he travelled well throughout and galloped on strongly inside the final two furlongs but the winner would not be denied victory on this occasion, he is progressing nicely and is one to note next time out in this grade. Whilst Bonham (Bakara x Bonnie Jet) flew inside the final furlong down the stand’s rail and was gaining with every stride in the final furlong, finishing only a length and half back in third ahead of Hayleys Comet.

#### **5<sup>th</sup> race – The GT Exhibitions 0-80 Handicap Stakes over 1 Mile:**

David Turner continued his purple run with another victory here on the Royal Cavalry of Oman’s smart maiden winner **Al Hasem (Simoun Ben Zid x Rakha)** who made all under an enthusiastic ride. He out galloped the field and stayed on well inside the final furlong to hold on for victory by a length and a half for in form trainer Salim Al Hakmani. In second was No Frylls (Dormane x Fryga), who appears to be back in form. Even though she was outpaced along the back straight, she ran on strongly under pressure inside the final furlong and chased the winner all the way to the line going down by a length and a half. Whilst WFA Leopard (Bengali D’Albret x Lapsana) at the grand old age of 12 proved he is no back number, he powered down the centre of the track and finished like a train half a length back in third.

#### **6<sup>th</sup> race – The Kelanne Stud 0-95 Handicap Stakes over 6 Furlongs:**

HH Sheikh Hamdan’s imposing homebred mare, Haneen, cut out the pace for this competitive sprint event with the rest of the field bunched in behind. They quickened up along the back straight and as they turned for the final two furlongs Mutafani and Ashwaaq lay down their challenges. As they hit the final furlong it was an in form David Turner yet again on the Royal Cavalry Of Oman’s **Mutafani (Amer x Cheikha)** who blasted into the lead. Mutafani held on well to win by three quarters of

a length at the post, giving Turner a treble for the day and trainer, Salim Al Hakmani, his fourth victory of the season.

Back in second was another strong run from Haneen (Prince D'Orient x Maheba De Piboul) who tried to gamely make all and went down fighting, she is classy filly and should be winning soon. Whilst back in third stablemate Juhood (Al Sakbe x Tamani) ran on strongly in the closing stages to snatch third from Ashwaaq.

#### **7<sup>th</sup> race – The Athbah Stud 0-65 Handicap Stakes over 1 Mile 4 Furlongs:**

Another excellent performer from the powerful Duffield stable as Phil Collington rode a confident race on **Majaales (Chndaka x Seglaoui)**. He was always prominent and galloped into a strong lead five furlongs out to out stay his rivals in dour fashion inside the final furlong, winning impressively by three lengths for HH Sheikh Hamdan and trainer Gill Duffield, who scored a double that day.

Back in second was a career best for the colt Balzan (Makzan x Balquees). He travelled well and stayed on strongly inside the final two furlongs chasing the winner all the way to the line, although he never looked like reaching Majaales who was well clear of the field. Five lengths back was Katwalk (Makzan x CS Shamal) who came in third running a race full of promise, she was held up and came with a good run inside the final two furlongs staying on well ahead of a one paced Final Fling.

#### **8<sup>th</sup> race – The Racing for Change OPEN Handicap (TB & AA) over 6 Furlongs:**

An excellent performance here from **Mandy's Maestro (Brahms x Belle Masque)** who was always at the front of this large field. He quickened to lead inside the final furlong before going for the finish post, with Fulvio and Spirit Rising both flying in his slip stream. As they approached the final furlong Mandy's Maestro held the advantage whilst Fulvio and Spirit Rising were both being hard ridden in behind, here Mandy's Maestro made use of his light weight to score his first racing victory fore the Ender family.

Fulvio ran an eye catching race back in second and looked like he might just reach the winner but failed by three quarters of a length. Spirit Rising ran a great race on his ARO debut under top weight of 11 st 4 lb and should be noted next time out.