

## ARABIAN RACING REVIEW

**Nottingham 20<sup>th</sup> August 11**

*Review by Paul Simmons, images courtesy of thejockey.co.uk*

### **The Curtis Medical For Surgeries Maiden Stakes**

An impressive display here from the two juvenile colts Rathowan and Al Hibaab, who pulled nicely clear of the field leaving Mesbaah two lengths in their wake; with the beautifully bred Rathowan just getting up to beat Hibaab by a nose in a thrilling finish. The field went a good clip with Santander showing early speed, before Sandababa took over 4 furlongs out but Mesbaah, Rathowan and Al Hibaab were all



cruising in behind. As they entered the final furlong Rathowan went for home under a confident ride from Steve Harrison with Al Hibaab in their slip stream; as they duelled for victory inside the final half furlong Al Hibaab seized the initiative only to lose it in the closing strides going down by a nose to HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al

Thani's colt **Rathowan (Amer x Arc De Ciel)**. Speaking afterwards winning trainer Julian Smart said "He's a nice colt and has been working well at home and did that nicely on his debut and should improve, he heads for Saint Cloud for the Juvenile Breeders Cup". Al Hibaab (Al Sakbe x Itelato De Carrere) ran a classy debut in second going down by the narrowest of margins; he looks a potential Derby horse for next year and is name to remember in 2012. Mesbaah (Al Sakbe x Qosheeyya) was well beaten back in third but battled on well to hold on ahead of Sandababa (Burning Sand x Bashaair) who was in turn clear of the field.

### **The Helen Bastiman Memorial Open Race Handicap**



A confident display here from owner/trainer/jockey Emma Owen on Adalar, she was quickly away and made all for a confident pillar to post victory. Even when Jiggalong threw down the gauntlet in the

final furlong **Adalar (Grand Lodge x Adalya)** gamely battled on under a fine ride from Owen to win by a half a length. Another good run from Jiggalong who pulled out all the stops in the final furlong for victory but couldn't reach the winner and had to settle for the runner up spot. Artreju was in the shake up in the closing stages, he chased the first two all the way to the line and lost out on second by a head, but remains in good form.



### The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes:

Miswadah predictably made the running and set off a scorching gallop, but as they approached the 3 furlong marker it was clear that Suhaim was cruising in behind. As they hit the final furlong **Suhaim (Dormane x Seceryna)** kicked clear to show a smart turn of foot and galloped readily clear under a great ride from Craig Thompson to win by two lengths for owner HH Sheikh Nasseer Mohammed Nasser Al-Hashar and trainer Beverley Deutrom (who also trained the runner up Sophia). Speaking afterwards Deutrom said *“That was a good run from Suhaim, he has been working well at home so we were hopeful he would run a big race here and Craig rode a great race. Sophia wants a little further ideally.”* Sophia (Kerbella x Solonge) was held up throughout and made smooth headway to go 4<sup>th</sup> in the straight and galloped on well in the final two furlongs but was never near the winner, she fought on well to hold onto second ahead of a staying on Ambrose (Amer x KTP Mystic Flight). The latter was impressive in the Breeders Cup in June but has failed to reproduce that form, he was under pressure inside the final two furlongs but was clear of Syrah Gris (Khoutoubia x Akara De Syrah) in 4<sup>th</sup>.



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### The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes:



The field went off at a good gallop with Wikkara gamely making a bold bid for victory from the front, with Floren settled nicely in behind. As they quickened up the pace inside the home straight David Turner quickly drove Floren into the lead with Des'Brie cruising and Roches Du Cayrou and Wikkara all battling in behind. From the final furlong Floren

went on for victory but Des'brie threw down a strong challenge and these two were all out inside the final furlong with Turner getting **Floren (Bengali D'Albret x Florys De Nautiac)** home by  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a length in the dying strides for owner/trainer Terri Smith. Back in second was a return to form for Des'brie (Vadeer x Elina Des Fabries) she ran a big race and at one stage looked like she was going to finally lose her maiden tag but although Floren was too strong, her turn looks near. Roches Du Cayrou (Newday x Kahinaoura) ran another good race back in third, and while he had not chance with the first two he was three lengths ahead of a staying on Wikkara (The Wiking x Akara De Syrah).



## The Premium Scheme and Gadebrook Stud Endurance Stakes

The inaugural running of the longest Arabian race in Europe saw amateur Alex Flannigan on HH Sheikh Hamdan's Majaales just getting the better of a battling finish with Simon Walker on Kalikeauba. The field started at a modest gallop as they had two circuits of the track to run and Kalikeauba bravely tried to make all in this marathon race. After one circuit veteran Job called time, leaving the remaining 7 horses to continue. However, as they entered the straight it was clear that Altesse Kossack, Deolali, Medraar and Ghallab were starting to struggle with the trip leaving Kalikeaba, Moshahed and Majaales to battle out the finish.



As they entered the final furlong Flannigan drove **Majaales (Chndaka x Seglaoui)** to challenge and went clear by a length and despite hanging managed to claim victory for HH Sheikh Hamdan and trainer Gill Duffield. Kalikeauba (Darike x Rilkel) lost nothing in defeat, he battled on well and was just headed in the closing stages. Moshahed (Chndaka x Nirva De

Cardonne) was always prominent throughout the race and looked to be challenging a furlong out but found nil under pressure and was found out by the mammoth trip.

## The Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club Handicap Stakes 0-50 over 6 Furlongs:



There is no stopping the Delyth Thomas string this year, and old timer Pavot Al Kyle 15 years young and in his final season racing, showed the young guns how its done with an impressive battling victory over 6/4 favourite Terminator's Dream. Raihan attempted to make all but it was Mahbishai who took the initiative from the half way stage, but as they entered the final furlong it was Terminator's Dream who went on for victory in a valiant attempt to lose his maiden tag only to be pipped to the post by Simon Walker exerting a massive effort from **Pavot Al Kyle (Pavot Al Maury x Ellaria)** who got home by half a length. Delyth Thomas stated *"He's a lovely horse and its lovely to see him doing so well in his last season racing, he's been grand servant for the yard."* Terminator's Dream (Bengali D'Albret x Dantes Dream) was desperately unlucky and this was a much more confident display from him, he clearly has plenty of speed and ability and should be winning soon. While Mahbishai (Mahbuba x Lola Caramba) enjoyed the step down in trip, and although a good 5 lengths back in third he kept to up to his work to hold off Lile D'Amour.



### The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes:

A back to form Zayin Barakaldo showed the field a clean pair of heels as he made all under an inspired ride from Martin Smith to land a decisive victory by an easy length for owner/trainer Julie Green. Smith set off at a decent gallop on **Zayin Barakaldo (Khoutoubia x Barryh (Djelfor))** and in spite of jinking at the half way stage, he always looked to be in command and when challenged by Manan in the final furlong, Barakaldo impressively quickened clear to show a decent turn of foot and pulled clear to win. Speaking after the race winning owner/trainer Julie Green commented *“He’s been going well at home and its great to have him back to form and record his first win on turf, we’re over the moon with him and Martin rode a great race from the front.”* Manan (Doran x Mangaline Du Loup) ran another strong race back in second, he tracked the winner throughout and came with a strong challenge inside the final furlong but couldn’t reach the winner, and he remains a classy prospect for the future. Maghazi (Chndaka x Nirva De Cardonne) was always in contention but couldn’t go with the increase in speed inside the final furlong and stayed on once paced for third ahead of Basela.



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### The ARO Dinner and Dance Open Race Handicap Stakes:



A first winner as an owner/trainer/jockey for former leading female jockey Anna Wallace on Kings Cavalier. **Kings Cavalier (Stormin Fever x Port of Silver)** was always in the first two and Wallace came with her run inside the final two furlong and then pulled readily clear to win going away by four lengths. Commenting after Anna said *“We thought he had a good chance today over trip and track and its great to have my first win as a trainer, he’s a great horse and the key to him is keeping him happy.”* Red Myth ran a strong race, she disputed the lead 3 furlongs out and went a strong second inside the final furlong and stayed on well. Straffan Cyclone made a bid for victory but was soon relegated last before staying on again for third and is clearly tough.

