

Salisbury 6th September Review

By Paul Simmons

Photos Courtesy of GJ Multimedia

1st race – The Alqurum Beach Maiden Stakes

PA Maiden over 7 furlongs

Once again the powerhouse that is the Gill Duffield stable released another potential superstar with the talented 3 yr old colt **Hattef** (Djendel x Volna) taking this competitive maiden in fine style under promising young jockey Jack Sherwood, who beat his better fancied stablemates with ease. The field went a fair clip in the early stages before Ambrose led inside the final half mile, with A'Naser, Juhood, Taakamul and Jaady all handy and Hattef held up in midfield. As they hit the final two furlongs the race started to take shape with Hattef under an excellent ride from Sherwood powering into the lead and kicking clear for an impressive three length victory for Gill Duffield and HH Sheikh Hamdan. Ambrose (Amer x KTP Mystic Flight) was again a solid second but he is starting to look frustrating, although to his credit he was kept up to his work by Simon Walker to hold off Martin Smith on the winner's stablemate Taakamul (Djebbel x Valina Des Fabries) who was running on strongly in the closing stages for third ahead of a hard pressed A'Naser.



2nd race – The Alawadi Beach Handicap Stakes

PA Handicap 0-75 over 6 furlongs

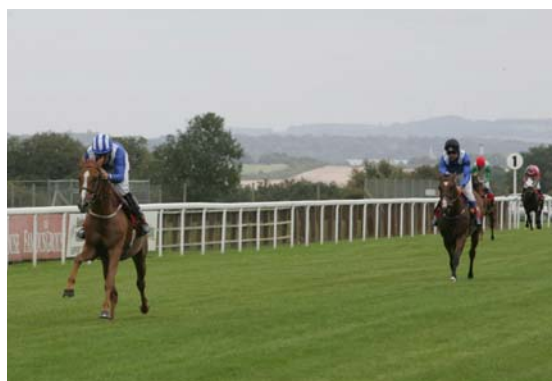
A fantastic training performance here from David Paton to bring about such an improvement in both ability and attitude from Even Keener, a beautifully bred mare purchased last year at the Ascot Sales by Caroline Stockham, who runs in the famed BXPS colours. This mare won in amazing fashion, making the rest of the field look very ordinary. They went a decent pace throughout with Sakeena Sky Zayin leading the field until the two furlong marker with Even Keener, Andaleeb and Al Mamoon all held up in behind. As they hit the final two furlongs **Even Keener** (Bengali D'Albret x Kenithra) swept into the lead under an energetic ride from Anna Wallace to go well clear of the field to win by an easy twelve lengths in spite of jinking across the track, and this mare looks to have a big future. Back in second was Sakeena Sky Zayin (Karmah x Sweet Simplicity) who was caught flat footed inside the final two furlongs but under a powerful ride from Kevin Locking galloped on strongly inside the final furlong to re-take second. Andaleeb (Newday x Gagarka) ran a solid race for the Royal Cavalry of Oman in third, he was one paced inside the final furlong but kept on well to hold off Al Mammon.



3rd race – The Albustan Beach Handicap Stakes

PA Open Handicap over 1 mile 6 furlongs

Al Mannsoub (Akbar x Morgane de Piboul) made short work of disposing of a decent field of Stayers to win as he liked by a comfortable twelve lengths under Phil Collington, giving trainer Gill Duffield and owner HH Sheikh Hamdan their second winner of the day. CS Al Wahed typically led the field into the closing stages before Taabeer took over the running inside the final three furlongs, however, Collington was cruising under Al Mannsoub and kicked clear from the two furlong marker to win in impressive style. Taabeer (Vasilisk x Bisbille) stayed on strongly to hold onto second for yet another consistent performance. The Royal Cavalry of Oman's Quorman Des Violettes (Dormane x Khandela Des Violette) didn't seem to travel with his usual ease, but ran on well in the final furlongs to take third and was comfortably clear of CS Al Wahed and Malik D'Or.



4th race – The ARO Breeders' Cup

PA, UK bred 3, 4 and 5 yrs only over 1 mile

A fantastic performance here as **Tidarbret** (Bengali D'Albret x Iktidar), owned by the Middleton Stud and bred by long time Arab race breeders and supporters Mr & Mrs James Kippen, became the first horse in over 10 yrs to win the Breeders Cup who wasn't owned and bred by HH Sheikh Hamdan. It was also an impressive training performance by Dennis Batteate to produce the horse to win this race and in doing so lose his maiden tag. Flash Cat set the pace from the start with the rest of the field held up behind, but as they approached the final three furlongs Steve Harrison took Tidarbret into the lead and went for home with a hard pressed Estiqraar chasing him

and Adraaj (Bengali D'Albret x Aicha Tourettes) seemingly struggling to go the pace. As they entered the final furlong Tidarbret powered clear under a confident and assured ride from Harrison. Adraaj stayed on strongly in the closing stages for HH Sheikh Hamdan to take second by just under three lengths and in turn went clear of stablemate Estiqraar (Bengali D'Albret x Simooma) in third. Adraaj was never going to reach the winner but put up another fine performance, whilst Estiqraar struggled to run on in the final furlong but was well clear of the rest.



**5th race – The Ras Alhad Beach Handicap Stakes
PA Handicap 0-100 over 1 mile**



The field went a fair pace from the start with Muhal showing the lead in the early stages, before the pace increased inside the final three furlongs where Angel Picamer came with a wet sail to saunter into the lead with Riko, Noble Athlete and Wathiq all hard ridden in behind. As they entered the final furlong **Angel Picamer** (Amer x Picea HT) asserted her authority under a great ride from Simon Walker to go a couple of lengths clear from 5-2 joint favourite Riko, winning well for owner, breeder Zelda Angel and trainer Bill Smith. Riko (Dormane x Cary De Carrere) wasn't disgraced back in second, he rallied hard inside the final furlong but never looked like passing the winner. Noble Athlete (Dorwan Du Cayrou x Noble Dame) galloped on resolutely through beaten horses to

claim third from a hard pressed Wathiq.

**6th race – The ARO Open Race Handicap Stakes
TB, AAs & PB over 6 furlongs**

A popular win here as the ever energetic and colourful owner, trainer Mark Cooper rode a superb race to claim victory on last season's multiple winner **Megabond**. They set off fast and furious with Just Serenade, Minne Hill, Balerno and Golden Peacock all showing early speed, and Megabond handily racing down the stands side along with Avery. As they entered the final two furlongs Avery galloped into the lead with Megabond and Balerno hard ridden in behind. As they got inside the final furlong Avery was all out the winner until Cooper drove his mount into the lead in the closing stages to win by a neck. Avery lost nothing in defeat, losing his lead inside the final half furlong he fought back and almost got up on the line. Balerno continues to improve and whilst no match for the first two he kept on ahead of the staying on Just Crystal.



**7th race – The Jebel Ali Racing Club Handicap Stakes (Series Qualifier)
PA Handicap 0-55 over 6 furlongs**

Unshooda (Makzan x Shunah) returned to the winner's enclosure for the second time in her career here after a fine win under Simon Walker for owner, trainer Delyth Thomas. They set off at a decent pace and as the momentum increased inside the final two furlongs Unshooda shot into the lead and went readily clear of the field with only Star Valentina and Raihan throwing down any real challenge. Inside the final furlong Unshooda kicked clear to win by a comfortable three lengths. Back in second was a superb effort from Star Valentina (Div x Pronika), she came with her run inside the final two furlongs and ran on well to take second inside the final furlong ahead of Raihan (Passem up another solid effort in quicken with the first two in

Lotois x G Sustika), who put third but wasn't able to the closing stages.

