

## ARABIAN RACING REVIEW

Stratford September 24<sup>th</sup> 2011

Review by Paul Simmons,  
Images courtesy of [thejockey.co.uk](http://thejockey.co.uk)

### The Friends of Arabian Racing Remembrance Maiden Stakes

An exciting finish to the last maiden of the season with Zaaqya, Hotfoot, Nasemah and Murjan all fighting it out. Oliver cut out a decent pace at the head of the field with Shadiya, Hotfoot and Zaaqya all prominent, but as they headed inside the final two furlongs it was Hotfoot who shot into the lead, with Zaaqya and Murjan both breathing down her neck, however in the final furlong it was the 3 yr old filly **Zaaqya (Al Sakbe x Sophie Du Loup (Manganate))**, making her racecourse debut, under a superb ride from Phil Collington, who showed a smart turn of foot to win by two lengths for owner/breeder HH Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum and trainer Gill Duffield. Hotfoot (Burning Sand x Direct Route (Way To Go)) ran a storming race back in second, she showed plenty of speed and potential in throwing down a challenge to the winner but had to settle for second. While Nasameh (Kaolino x Maheba de Piboul), also making her debut and earning her place in history by being Kaolino's first ever runner on the race track, finished like a train inside the final two furlongs and snatched third off one-paced favourite Murjan (Monsieur Al Maury x Volna); she is one to follow next season.



### The Season Finale at Warwick Racecourse Open Race Handicap.

An impressive pillar to post victory here for David Turner on Sue Herrod & Kevin Down's How Realee. A typically power packed ride from Turner who started as he meant to go on setting a scorching pace with Mandy's Maestro chasing all the way in his slipstream. As they entered the final furlong, in spite of hanging and with Mandy's Maestro all out to peel him back, **How Realee (Kotashaan x Lucky Diverse)** found that extra gear to kick clear for a two and a half length victory. Speaking afterwards delighted owner/trainer Sue Herrod said "*He's been running so well all season and I knew he could win, but we were quietly confident today and David rode a great race.*" Mandy's Maestro ran a solid race back in second, he was always chasing the winner and had every chance in the final furlong but couldn't get there. Back in third was an eye catching run from owner/trainer/jockey Simon Heaney's Valentine Blue who was always going well and although he had no extra kept on for third ahead of a fast finishing Fulvio.



### **The Athbah Stud Handicap Stakes (Series Qualifier)**

One of the most popular wins of the day was undoubtedly Senor Doublecheck who has



been knocking on the door all season with some excellent placed efforts, including when third to Syrah Gris on Dubai Day. He was given a superb ride by Rob Woollard who stalked the field throughout before launching his run inside the final furlong to win impressively going away by 5 lengths. The field started off at a decent gallop with Amyzing Zayin leading and stablemate Wikkara chasing on her outside. As they entered the final 3 furlongs Wikkara went into the head with Senor Doublecheck cruising menacingly in behind. Wikkara kicked into a clear lead in the home straight, but Woollard was confident on Senor Doublecheck (Bengali D'Albret x Mais (Mamluk)) and powered clear inside the final furlong for the BXPS Partnership

and trainer David Paton. Speaking afterwards Paton commented "He's been so consistent all season and deserved to win. We thought this was his ideal trip and it was a great ride from Rob." Back in second was a return to form for last year's Champion Arab, Wikkara (The Wiking x Akara De Syrah), who made his endurance debut at Barbury Castle in August. He travelled well throughout and dug deep inside the final furlong but had no chance with the winner. Flashcat (Concord x Edjalie (Bengali D'Albret)) was the unlucky runner of the race. He got a disastrous start and was always chasing the field, but to his credit kept on and was powering down the home straight although still 5 lengths adrift at the line.

### **The Royal Cavalry Of Oman Handicap Stakes**

A brilliant finish to this handicap as the Bill Smith trained and Athbah Stud owned pair, Louran and Kalikeauba, fought a battle royal to the line. Kalikeauba (Darike x Rilkel) cut out the early running under a typically dynamic ride from Simon Walker, but as they entered the final 2 furlongs young gun Tom Garner moved Louran (Doran x Mangaline Du Loup) into a challenging position, and the two went head to head for a dead heat victory at the wire. Majaales (Chndaka x Seglaoui) was always travelling well in behind and although he chased the first two he was always one paced and had to settle for third.



### **The Qatar Racing And Equestrian Club Handicap Stakes (Premium Series)**

A thrilling climax to the QREC Premium Race Series with 3 top class sprinters all fighting out a nail biting finish! The field set off at a furious pace with the Adam Newey



trained pair, Pinkie Tuscadero and Syrah Gris, setting a scorching gallop from the start. Sandababa, Miswadah, Raihan and Cosmic Girl were all in behind. Unfortunately, 5/4 Favourite Qeethaara got an awful start and as a result gave the field a good 6 lengths. As they turned into the home straight it was still Pinkie Tuscadero who held the initiative

from Syrah Gris, but Champion Jockey Simon Walker was cruising up on Sandababa. Entering the final furlong these 3 grey Arabians went head to head for victory, but it was the impressive young colt Sandababa (Burning Sand x Bashaaair (Wiking), under an excellent ride from Walker, who just got home by half a length for owner/breeder Jane Haddock. Pinkie Tuscadero (Izentespeshal x Altyv) lost nothing in defeat; this mare is tough as teak and gave the race her all, battling on gamely in the closing strides. Syrah Gris (Khoutoubia x Akara De Syrah) ran a much better race than at Wolverhampton. The blinkers seemed to have sharpened him up and he had every chance 1 furlong out. Qeethaara also ran an incredible race to finish fourth having lost so much ground at the start; she is one to watch next season.

### **The Royal Cavalry of Oman Handicap Stakes**

Another popular winner here as Carol Legg's talented handicapper Terminators Dream finally lost his maiden tag after notching up three seconds in his last few runs, given a fine ride by David Turner he stayed every yard of this trip and looks progressive. Lile D'Amour gamely tried to make all under Scott Bradbury and at one point seemed to have given the field the slip, but Terminators Dream, Notid and Mahbishai were all chasing in behind. As they entered the final furlong Lile D'Amour had to concede her lead and **Terminators Dream (Bengali D'Albret x Dantes Dream (Dantist))** went to the front and nearly threw the race away by jinking inside the final half furlong but Turner managed to galvanise him straight and he won by a length for owner/breeder Eric Legg.



Speaking afterwards winning trainer Carol Legg said *"He's such a smashing horse and it's great to see him finally get everything together and get his head in front, great ride from David"*. Notid (Tidjani x Sherrie Noreen) travelled well but was always chasing the leaders, inside the final furlong he stayed on dourly to take second. Lile D'Amour (Merlin Al Maury x Daad) was only a neck back in third, she made all and was unlucky not to get home but is running well this term.

### **The Penn Challenge Open Race Handicap Stakes (Series Qualifier)**

A shock win here for 12/1 shot Jay Ell The Trier (Talkin Man x Killoughey), given a great ride from Tom Garner who set off like a scolded cat, he made all and although headed at the half way stage by Just Serenade, he soon battled back into the lead and powered clear for a comfortable victory for owner/trainer Mrs E Kulbicki. This ride gave Tom a double on the day at his final meeting as a jockey for Arab racing (Tom is turning conditional this winter). Back in second was a return to form for owner/trainer/breeder Jenny Peyton's phenomenal Anglo mare Dancing Grace (Dancing Spree x Hardtoboss), she was settled in mid field but came with a strong late run in the home straight and took second inside the final furlong but could not reach the winner. Kitchen Sink (Bold Fact x Voodoo Rocket) ran a good race in third, always prominent he was chasing hard inside the home straight and took third in the final furlong from a one paced Red Myth.





### The Byerley Turk Handicap Stakes

A fast and furious finish to this stayer's handicap with Floren, Neige Al Maury, Altesse Kossack and Verdora all taking each other on inside the final furlong for a nail biting finish. Floren gamely tried to make all with David Turner going for a treble, as they



entered the home straight he still had the initiative, but Altesse Kossack was travelling well in behind and she hit the front a furlong out with Neige Al Maury and Verdora all throwing down a strong challenge. As they entered the final furlong it looked as if Steve Harrison was going to take victory on Altesse Kossack, but Phil Collington managed to galvanise a monumental effort from HH Sheikh Hamdan's smart mare **Neige Al Maury (Dormane x Nectarine Al Maury)** and she got home by a nose; giving Gill Duffield a second winner of the day. Altesse Kossack (Marwan x Azedine A) was desperately unlucky to go

down by the narrowest of margins, she remains a classy prospect. Verdora (Dormane x Vert Galante) ran well back in third but couldn't quite go with the first two, she in turn was a length clear of Floren (Bengali D'Albret x Florys De Nautiac).