HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Racing Festival 2018-2019
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RB Torch lights up Abu Dhabi
Alejandra Baeza and Messi Bel win in Tarbes
Zalina manages to hold off challenges by PVE Remington and Konfident Mi in a very tight finish
Askar wins Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup
Charlotte New wins HH Sheikha Latifa race in New Zealand
Vasilevs wins Zayed Cup in Kazan
Lightning Bolt wins Zayed Cup in The Netherlands
Hagires wins Sheikh Zayed Cup, Bevan tops in ponies’ race
ARO welcomes The HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival to Royal Windsor
Thomas dominates at Lingfield Park
Klinkenberg scores on El Zarka D.A
Mawarid wins Wathba Stallions Cup
Al Mounteze Monlau wins Zayed Cup in Stockholm
Severo shines for host country in Sao Paulo race
Macallan wins Wathba Stallions Cup in Sweeden
Smart win for Adi De Saint Lon
Al Busaidi registers superb win
Easter Man wins Grade 1 Sheikh Zayed Cup in Houston
HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival calendar for 2019 unveiled with 124 races in 90 countries
The second meeting of the new UAE season was on the Abu Dhabi turf on Friday, October 25, highlighted by the inaugural running of the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jewel Crown Prep, a rated conditions contest over the same 1600m as the AED 5 million big race itself, and won by RB Torch who was chased home by stable companion Darius Du Paon.

The pair, both trained at Al Asayl by Eric Lemartinel for His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Sultan Al Nahyan, were settled in midfield in a race contested at a very strong pace set by Es Ajeeb who remained in front until 200m from home when RB Torch, who challenged between rivals, hit the front under champion jockey Tadhg O’Shea for whom he was a first winner of the season.

Meanwhile, Jose Santiago had elected to challenge on the far rail aboard Darius Du Paon who met some traffic problems before running on strongly, but never looking likely to catch the winner.

“They went very fast which really suits this horse who I know well and have enjoyed a lot of success on,” O’Shea registering a sixth victory on the horse, said.

“When he was a 3-year-old we really thought he would go right to the top, but Eric and his team seem to have found the key to him now and he seems best when not racing too regularly.

“There is just over a month until the Jewel Crown itself which should be ideal and I am delighted to get my first winner of the season here in Abu Dhabi.”

Lemartinel added: “This is a much needed prep race because in the past there was not one and we were running in the Jewel Crown on seasonal debut which was not ideal.”

Wathba Stallions Cup for Private Owners Only

In the 1600m handicap limited to horses foaled in the UAE and in private ownership went to MH Wari, just a third runner of the new campaign for Elise Jeanne and a first winner this season for both her and jockey Antonio Fresu who was happy to take his time in the middle of the pack behind a fast early pace.

As those forcing that speed started to drop away, Fresu, who had been creeping closer in the middle stage of the race, committed for home halfway up the straight and found a willing partner, a 6-year-old shedding his maiden tag at the sixth attempt for owner and breeder Mansoor Khalifa Sultan bin Habtoor.

Jeanne said: “This is an inexperienced horse, so we are very pleased with that and it was a very good ride from Antonio who managed to avoid any trouble.

Second place was AF Athabeh ridden by Noel Garbutt, trained by Ernst Oertel and owned by 2018/2019 Top Owner Khalid Khalifa Al Nahooda.


Source: Source: Emirates Racing Authority
Victory of Spain’s Alejandra Gutierrez Baeza in the saddle on Messi Bel, on Sunday 13 October, at the Tarbes Racecourse in France, competed for the Prix Fleur d’Avril - HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship (IFAHR) for horses and mares 4-years-old and above and gathered 8 starters entrusted to apprentices of different nationalities.

Baeza was the champion of the eighth and final round of HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice (IFAHR), when she led the Belgian horse Messi Bel for Vido Arabians, under the supervision of Mlle. G. Gernay, in the prize of 20,000 Euro, which was held under the umbrella of the eleventh edition of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival.

The victory went to the 7 year old Messi Bel (Dahess X Jeanne D’Arc by Dormane) ridden by Alejandra Gutierrez Baeza with half length ahead of the 4-year-old gelding Fakir du Pouy (Dormane X Kamana by Olympe La Coste) associated with Clara Ghersi, owned by Michel Lauret and trained by O. Trogodet; and followed at 3 and half lengths by the 4-year-old Fuchia des Vialettes (Baseq Al Khalediah X Athena Des Violette by Kerbella) led by Guillaume Guedj-Gay.

So Ms. Alejandra Gutierrez Baeza won her ticket for the grand finale of November 24 in Abu Dhabi.

“This year I won for the third consecutive year in France, the Tarbes race to qualify for the final; I have been fortunate to have ridden a great horse like Messi. The horse was coming from Belgium to run this race. I was in contact with the trainer all week to know how the horse was running; I studied each of his races watching his videos again and again. I put into practice everything the trainer told me and the truth is that at the moment I demanded in the final stretch, the horse gave me everything and won as a champion. I had several things in my favor; I knew my rivals and I knew the track layout perfectly. Today I do not believe it, for me to participate in the championship and especially in the final it is a dream. Thanks to Lara Sawaya and the organization I have the opportunities that I don’t have in my country and I will always be eternally grateful”, said Baeza.

Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of H.H. Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, & Director General of Al Wathba Stallions, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), presented the awards to the winners in the presence of the officials of the Tarbes Racecourse.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival is sustained by the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority and coordinated by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with National Feed and Flour Production and Marketing Co. LLC as associate sponsors, The National Archives as the official partner and Emirates airline as the official carrier, in cooperation with Emirates Racing Authority, IFHRA, IF-AHR, Emirates Arabian Horse Society, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abu Dhabi Youth Council, General Authority for Sports and sponsored by Ayadi LLC, Global United Veterinary Services LLC, Nissan Middle East Al Massood Automobiles, Nirvana Travels and Tourism LLC, EquiCare Veterinary Services, Alawal Stud, Cavalos Equine Care & Supplies, SET Sustainable Environmental Technologies, Al Awani General Enterprises, Omeir Travels, Kabale, YAS Channel, Abu Dhabi Falconers Club, Emirates Falconers Club, Mohammed Bin Zayed Falconry and Desert Physiotherapy School, Racing Post, Paris Turf, Al Wathba Centre, the UAE’s General Women’s Union, The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies Sports Academy, Abu Dhabi International Hunting and Equestrian Exhibition 2018, Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, Anantara Eastern Mangroves Spa and Resort.

With inputs of Cidinha Franzão. Photo credit: Chantal Hourcadette.
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A large crowd was on hand to witness Zalina (Sachin / Dunwingeri Bint Zarana), under Dr Jill Colwell, lead all the way as she proved too good for the rest of the field in the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival’s Wathba Stallions Cup, over 1,600m at Nanango, Australia, on September 14. A long neck away 2nd was the stallion PVE Remington (Maximilliano / De-Sharvarl Dimonds), under Robert Faehr, who trailed the leaders for most of the course but was finishing fast. They were closely followed by Konfident MI (Konfidence MI / Mystic Fame), under Hannah English, ¾ lengths away. A long margin to fourth was Lindall La Vita (Eastwinds Holy Joe / Lindall La Voka), under Isabella Teh, and fifth was Bonnie Doon Ashquar (Simeon Sochain / Woolooka Moon Eclipse) under Riley Spring.

This was the fourth race this year for the mare Zalina, owned by Richard Collyer, trained and ridden by Dr Jill Colwell, giving the mare a record of 3 wins and a second in her first year of racing. She is proving to be one of the better horses we have racing with us. This was PVE Remington’s second run for this year with a win and a second and a career record of 8 starts, 6 wins, a second and a third.

Five horses started in the 1600-metre race after Windcharm Lea was withdrawn before acceptances.

The course was completed in 1:49.83, a new race record (2 seconds faster) for the Nanango track and 1600m distance. The Nanango Turf Club is thrilled to host the Wathba Stallions Cup on the Heritage Benchmark Handicap race meeting day with their President, Andrew Green, taking part in the presentations. AARC and the Nanango Turf Club look forward to hosting more Arabian Racing in the future.

It was another race day success for Arabian Purebreds horses racing in Australia with the Australasian Arabian Racing Club (AARC). Its president, Mr. Jeff Ablett, thanked the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival for all the support they provide to Purebred Arabian horse racing in Australia. We look forward to a continuing close association with them in the future.

Full details and a video of the race are available on our WEB site: arabianracing.com.au.

Report by Jeff Ablett, President of AARC, and Photos by Sue Crocket of Sue Crocket Photography.
Askar wins Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup

The H.H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani-owned and bred Askar won the Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Listed) at San Sebastian, Spain on Sunday 8 September 2019, scoring his third win in a row. Trained by François Rohaut, Askar was coming here off two consecutive wins at Pompadour and La Teste, France.

The 4-year-old gelding, which is by Munjiz, raced keen in the early stages up behind the leaders before jockey François-Xavier Bertras settled him back towards rear. He made up ground coming up the rail in the final turn and, once in the straight, saw off his rivals to win the listed race for four-year-old and older purebred Arabians by three quarters of a length.

The Mrs J F Bernard-trained and Fayos Martin Borja-ridden Amjiz de Piboul was second while the Antoine de Watrigant-trained and Roberto-Carlos Montenegro-ridden Aoun was third. Askar is out of Abigail, a daughter of the great matriarch Cherifa.

Source: JDG/QREC - Image by: Hippodrome San Sebastian
Charlotte New won the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival’s HH Sheikha Lateefa Bint Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony championship race held at the Hastings Racecourse in New Zealand on Saturday, August 31, 2019.

It was the first Group 1 race-day of the new racing season and the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival race for ponies saw more than 3000 fans cheering the young stars.

Run over 300 metres on the turf course, nine young riders contested this race and the big prize was that the winner would be racing in the championship final in Abu Dhabi, the UAE capital in November.

Fourteen-year-old Charlotte New on her pony Armidale Hitari finished first ahead of Jessica Lawrence on Slippery while Emma De Lautour on MacIntosh was third.

Charlotte hails from the famous Waikato District, an area famous for its horses and riders. “I am so excited and thrilled to be heading to Abu Dhabi in November to represent New Zealand in the final of the series. I am looking forward and will do my best to win there,” she said.

Legendary New Zealand jockey Noel Harris presented the trophy with Chris Watson, New Zealand’s IFHRA representative in attendance during the prize distribution.

“We thank HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE and Minister of Presidential Affairs for his generous sponsorship of the race and we also thank HH Sheikha Lateefa’s interest and the importance of her role as the young patron and ambassador for international pony racing,” Watson said.

Kazan, Tatarstan - Vasilevs was strolled to a superb win by jockey M.A Kappushev in the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival’s Euros 25,000 Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup at the Kazan Hippodrome in Tatarstan’s capital city of Kazan on Friday, August 30, 2019.

The A. Lyakhov-trained Vasilevs finished ahead of Tanely ridden by Ulubaev while in third place was Arabskaya Koroleva under A.V Ivanskoy.

The winner completed the 1500-metre race in 1:51.2 and 12 Purebred Arabian horses started in this premier race of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival.

In the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival’s HH Sheikhha Lateefa Bint Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony championship race, thirteen year old Aleksandr Chernov on Pnandka TN scored a fine win. Chernoc, who now qualifies for the November final of this first-ever Ponies series, finished ahead of 14-year-old Dina Kharisova riding Avrora. Aybulat Shaykhutdinov on Shakhirizada took third place.

In the Wathba Stallions Cup, Barboskin Cer under Shabalkin won with Slavutich under Kappushev and Vodovoret ridden by Ivanskoy finishing in that order.

His Excellency Rustam Minnikhanov, President of the Republic of Tatarstan, HE Vasil Shaikhrzayev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tatarstan, Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, General Manager of Wathba Stallions, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) and other VIP guests attended the races that was held to mark the Tatarstan National Day on August 30.

Ms Sawaya thanked His Excellency Rustam Minnikhanov, President of the Republic of Tatarstan, HE Vasil Shaikhrzayev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tatarstan for their keen interest in Arabian horse racing. “Kazan is a great venue for the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival and the leaders here share the same ideals as our UAE leadership.It was another exciting race meeting on Sunday and we now move to Denmark for another leg of the Festival’s races,” she said.


Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan
Italian Careddu on Afja'an and Hungarian Mayer on Jaahez in 'Dead Heat'

Duindigt, The Netherlands - Italian lady jockey Chaira Careddu riding Afja'an made a spectacular debut to her racing career when she was involved in a dead heat with Hungary's Cintia Mayer on Jaahez in the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship race on Sunday, August 25 at the Duindigt racecourse in The Hague in The Netherlands.

In the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) and Margaret De Ruiter, Head of Dutch Arabian Horse Racing gave away the trophies.

If it was a double delight for the two young lady jockeys, Tadhg O'Shea also made it a memorable event as he notched up a double win in the Festival's other two main races.

In the Festival's feature race- the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup- O'Shea scored on Lightning Bolt- the 7-year-old son of Munjiz - a stallion that stands at Wathba Stallions owned by HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE and Minister of Presidential Affairs.

It was celebration time again for trainer Karin van den Bos, owner Landgoed Waterland and O'Shea as Lightning Bolt, a smart winner here in 2018, once again proved his class.

Earlier O’Shea opened his account on the big racing day for Purebred Arabians here in Duindigt by winning the Wathba Stallions Cup on Mazyoonah- owned by HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai and UAE Minister of Finance and trained by James Owen.

The large number of Dutch fans also got their chance to cheer on as Jaicye Bosman from their country scored a smart win on Eldorado in the HH Sheikha Lateefa Bint Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race and qualified for the Abu Dhabi finals.

The UAE Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands Her Excellency Hessa Abdullah Al Otaiba, Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) and Margaret De Ruiter, Head of Dutch Arabian Horse Racing gave away the trophies.

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Lightning Bolt wins Zayed Cup in The Netherlands
Chaira Careddu riding Afja'an and Cinilla Mayer on Jaheez.

Jaicey Bosman on Eldorado.

Tadhg O'Shea and Mazyoonah.
The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) enjoyed a busy two days hosting the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival at Royal Windsor racecourse on Sunday 11th and Monday 12th August. The culmination of the Festival’s races in the UK, the highlight was a win for Hajres in the HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA), becoming the first Tunisian-bred winner of a Group 1 PA race in the UK. The following day Helen Böhler riding Kamikaze won the UK stage of HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHHR).

The two-day mixed meeting had begun with UK stage of HH Sheikha Lateefa bint Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race, run as part of the Charles Owen Series, which was won by Megan Bevan.

The prestigious HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA) had attracted eight runners including the 2017 winner Mith’hf Athbah and four other Group winners from the UK, Sweden and France. The mile contest was the first Group 1 race ever to be held at Royal Windsor racecourse, who have previously hosted the ARO Cup (Gr3PA) and whose top race for thoroughbreds is the Winter Hill Stakes (Group 3). The steady early pace was set by stable companions Storm Troupour and Kao Kat MHF, though entering the final furlong Storm Troupour’s run was fading and the Phil Collington trained pair of Mith’hf Athbah and Mehdaaf Athbah were in a line with Macallan, with a fast finishing Hajres coming down the centre of the course. It was Hajres and Jean-Bernard Eyquem who proved the dominant force, pulling clear of Mehdaaf Athbah and Swedish challenger Macallan, to win by three quarters of a length, with 2017 winner Mith’hf Athbah in fourth.

After the race Eyquem said: “We started well, but I did not want to be going too quickly too early. When the pace picked up, I felt I was getting there too soon, so I waited behind horses, until we got to the last furlong and then we go. I love this horse, he is good.”

Elizabeth Bernard who trains Hajres for Emadadein Althoushi from her base at La Teste in France commented: “I am so happy, this is the only horse I have for his owner, who is from Libya. Hajres was born and bred in Tunisia and he has won a Group 3PA in France, a Group 3 PA in Morocco and now a Group 1PA in England. It is a wonderful achievement.”

The ten-runner HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHHR)
The HH Sheikha Lateefa bint Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race, drew seven runners and also produced a ready winner in Motor Edd ridden by 15-year-old Megan Bevan. Bevan has been competing in UK pony races for six years and is currently lying in third place in the Charles Owen Series. She was clearly thrilled with her win saying: “Before the race I was hoping to come in the top four so we could get some points for the Charles Owen Series. I think it’s amazing to be able to go to Abu Dhabi in November to ride in the Sheikh Lateefa Pony Racing Finals, it’s a great opportunity. I never dreamed it would happen.”

Clarissa Daly, Chief Executive of the Pony Racing Authority in the UK commented: “We are delighted to welcome back the HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup to the UK and are proud that this is also the first Group 1 event that Royal Windsor racecourse has hosted. The win of the French-trained, Libyan-owned and Tunisian-bred Hajres continues to underline our commitment to international racing in the UK, which of course the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival also does so much to support around the world.

“We congratulate Helen Böhler achieving a win on her first ride on an Arabian in the HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHRA) race. The series is a wonderful opportunity for lady riders from around the world to compete against each other and share their knowledge.

‘ARO is extremely grateful for the continued support of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival and Lara Sawaya and we thank all the team at Royal Windsor racecourse for their efforts over the two days. We also thank Clarissa Daly of the UK Pony Racing Authority for enabling us to host the first pony race in association with ARO.”

Continuing their commitment to the ARO stable staff, Racing Welfare sponsored the Best Turned Out Award for both Arabian races with a cash prize £20 and a Racing Welfare gilet presented to the winning grooms, Tina Collins (Mith’haf Athbah) and Becca Thomas (Kayclaire) by Lizzie Harris.
No horse which has won in the Al Maktoum Challenge R3 – PA Group 1, has ever gone to win the Kahayla Classic in the Dubai World Cup. AF Maher did it!

"From the beginning my aim has been to breed a Winner"
Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda - 1st Place Owners
Racing Statistics Pure Arabian Season 2018/2019

"This is what Purebred Arabian do; they battle"
Ernst Oertel - 1st Place Trainers
Racing Statistics Pure Arabian Season 2018/2019

Khalid Khalifa Al Nabooda was awarded the TOP OWNER of UAE for the Racing Season 2018-2019 (Mr. Karl Oertel (R) receiving the trophy)

Mr Ernst Oertel as the TOP TRAINER.

Tadhg O’Shea as the TOP JOCKEY with the highest wins for the season

"Statistics and records are there to be broken”
Tadhg O’Shea - 1st Place Jockeys
Racing Statistics Pure Arabian Season 2018/2019
The Arabian Racing Organisation (ARO) looks forward to welcoming the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival to Royal Windsor racecourse, following declarations for the two feature races ARO hosts in the UK this season. The HH Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA) and the HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) will be run on Sunday 11th August and Monday 12th August, respectively. Sunday’s Group 1 PA race will also be preceded by the UK stage of HH Sheikha Lateefa bint Mansoor bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony Championship race, run as part of the Charles Owen Series.

A field of eight will line up for the prestigious HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr-1PA), which includes the 2017 winner Mith'haf Athbah and four other Group winners from the UK, Sweden and France. The mile contest will be the first Group 1 race ever to be held at Royal Windsor racecourse, who have previously hosted the ARO Cup (Gr3PA) and whose top race for thoroughbreds is the Winter Hill Stakes (Group 3).

The ten-runner HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) race features jockeys from Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain and the UK. Nineteen-year-old amateur jockey Antonia Peck is the UK representative. Based in Newmarket with leading Arabian trainer James Owen, she is currently heading the ARO Lady Jockeys Championship.

The HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Gr1PA) is the highlight of HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival events in the UK. These began with a stage of the Wathba Stallions Cup, run at Chelmsford City in June won by Mawarid, trained by James Owen and was a first winner for novice jockey Isaac Buncle. A second Wathba Stallions Cup was run at Lingfield Park on Saturday and produced a notable one-two for Delyth Thomas who owns and trains the winner, Callymay and the second, Kork MHF.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director said: “We are delighted to welcome back the HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup to the UK and are proud that this is also the first Group 1 event that Royal Windsor racecourse has hosted. The HH Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship (IFAHR) is a wonderful opportunity for lady riders from around the world to compete against each other and share their experiences.

‘ARO is extremely grateful for the continued support of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival and Lara Sawaya. Our meetings have always been very well received by the local racegoers at Royal Windsor and we are looking forward to watching some competitive Arabian racing on Sunday and Monday. We also thank Clarissa Daly of the UK Pony Racing Authority for enabling us to host the first pony race in association with ARO.’

Continuing their support for the stable staff, Racing Welfare will be sponsoring the Best Turned Out Award for both Arabian races with a cash prize £20 and a Racing Welfare gilet to the winning groom.

Source: ARO / Debbie Burt ©equinecreativemedia.com
It was an afternoon to remember for Delyth Thomas who dominated the Wathba Stallions Handicap at Lingfield Park, August 3, as she owned and trained the first two horses across the line in Callymay and Kork MHF. The race was run as part of the Wathba Stallions Cup series run across Europe and the UAE supporting Arabian racing at the grass-roots level.

The race attracted 13 runners and was held over 1m2f on Lingfield’s Polytrack surface. Charli Price sent Callymay into the lead from the outset and though headed, the nine-year-old mare was always prominent and rallied well to win by a length, from Racheal Kneller on Kork MHF. Conquer and Alex Chadwick was a further half-length behind in third.

Thomas was delighted with her two runners, saying: “Absolutely brilliant. I’m over the moon with the two of them, especially Kork MHF. I’ve had him for three years and we’ve had so many problems with him, but he’s run really well his last two runs. Charlie wanted to ride Kork after his good run at Newbury, but we said ‘No, Callymay suits you better’ so he was determined he would beat him!”

Price who had won on Callymay previously said: “She does try for me and the cheekpieces help her, though I thought we should try visors today as she’s not been working that well at home, but I know now it’s just her being lazy. So she’s found a new trick!”

This race is run as part of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival events in the UK, which began in June with another the Wathba Stallions Cup, run at Chelmsford City.

Genny Haynes, ARO Commercial and Finance Director said: “ARO is extremely grateful for the continued support of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival and Lara Sawaya. We congratulate Delyth Thomas on her achievement today and look forward to the forthcoming races at Royal Windsor in two weeks’ time.”

Source: Arabian Racing Organisation

Photos: Debbie Burt - Equinecreativemedia.com
Wathba Stallions Cup in The Netherlands

El Zarka D.A won the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival’s Wathba Stallions Cup 1 race held at the Duindigt racecourse in The Netherlands on Sunday, June 16, 2019.

El Zarka D.A was driven to a smart win by Cindy Klinkenberg in a small but quality field that contested the 1300-metre race for Purebred Arabian horses.

Klinkenberg and El Zarka D.A finished ahead of Suman D.A ridden by ace jockey Adrie de Vries while Miss Longchamp under Sara Vermeersch and Orage D.A under Esther Weissmeier finished third and fourth respectively.

Sunday’s was the first race in The Netherlands organised by the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival for the year 2019.


Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan
Photos: Bas Huybers

Klinkenberg scores on El Zarka D.A
Mawarid won the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival’s Wathba Stallions Cup race held at the Chelmsford City racecourse in the UK on Saturday, June 8.

It was a memorable day for 18-year-old Isaac Buncle who rode Mawarid, his first ever winner, in the Wathba Stallions over a mile at Chelmsford City in a time of 1.52.50.

Buncle has been working for trainer James Owen since February and Owen told him he could ride Mawarid in the race three weeks ago. Mawarid is a four-year-old son of No Risk Al Maury owned and bred by HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Rules of Dubai and Minister of Finance, who was almost as inexperienced as his jockey, having only his third racecourse appearance. Buncle has been riding him every day at home in preparation and that paid off in the race on Saturday.

In second place was Kayclaire ridden by Charlie Price for owner-trainer Delyth Thomas. Price started his career riding as an amateur and has recently turned professional.

In third was Sarah Innes and Nicola Buchan’s Zayin Zamurai, ridden by James Harding for trainer Adam Newey, who had teamed up to win the corresponding race last year with Vindetta.

ARO’s Genny Haynes along with other UK racing officials gave away the trophies on behalf of the Festival.


Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan
Al Mounteze Monlau wins Zayed Cup in Stockholm

Al Mounteze Monlau under Elione Chaves won the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Listed Cup while Ulrika Holmquist brought smiles to the large band of home fans at the Gardet Park in Stockholm when she won the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship on Thursday.

The two races along with HH Sheikha Lateefa Bint Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival were part of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival and were held on June 6 in Stockholm as Sweden marked its National Day.

Al Mounteze Monlau under Elione Chaves, outperformed last year’s winner Macallan in the prestigious Sheikh Zayed Cup. The six-year-old is trained by Camilla Nilsson in Markaryd. Al Mounteze Monlau got a perfect start and could relatively easily take care of the lead in the entrance to the curve. The leader was followed by pre-race favorite Macallan (N Stott) and Cleopathe (Tapia Dalbark).

The positions remained unchanged until the end of the last turn when Macallan attacked and put pressure on the leader. For a short while it looked like the favorite would score for the third straight year in the prestigious race. But nicely backed by Elione Chaves’ counter, Al Mounteze Monlau stayed ahead and salvaged victory by a head.

In the ladies race, the home crowd cheered all the way for Holmquist who ensured that HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies IFAHR Cup became a home win for female jockeys from all over Europe. Holmquist sent the Polish-born Eastway to the forefront and stayed there to win well.

The Annelie Kristina Eriksson – trained Eastway, which made its first start since November 2017, took the lead quite easily before the two stallions Toutatix (Racheal Kneller) and Jaldi Karo (Sophie Ralston). The eight-year-old then had to decide at his own pace over the 2 750 meters.

Jaldi Karo made a brave attempt to challenge the leader but Ulrika had a token saved in the reins and when she asked Eastway for the extra effort, the horse obliged to win by a short length.

If these two fine races weren’t enough the Festival had another qualifier for a final during the end of season festivities in Abu Dhabi. In the HH Sheikha Lateefa Bint Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan International Pony championship race Stina Landh was eager to defend her title. Others wanted a crack, too, and Alva Malmström just got the better of Stina Landh in an exciting finish to become the Swedish representative in Abu Dhabi 2019.

Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) along with Swedish official Mats Genberg and other VIPs took part in the prize distribution.

Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan

Alva Malmström

Ulrika Holmquist on Eastway
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Aug 25
Duindigt, The Netherlands
Aug 30
Kazan, Russia
Sep 14
Sardene, Italy
Oct 31
Bordeaux, France

March 9
Sam Houston Park, Texas
April 21
Marakesh, Morocco
June 6
Stockholm, Sweden
Aug 11
Windsor, UK

Five million Dirham (5 million AED) Finals
Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club
Brazil’s Jose Severo on Egyto LA won the HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship race in Sao Paulo on Saturday to book a place in the series final in Abu Dhabi in November.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival staged two races at the Hippodrome of Cidade Jardim in Sao Paulo on Saturday, May 25, 2019 and Severo steered Egyto LA to a smart win in the third race in 2019’s HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship series.

Lorenzo of Puerto Rico on Gunther Rach finished second while Peru’s Apprentice jockey Stephanie Hernandez on Catarina LA took third place.

In the Wathba Stallions Cup, another event supported by the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Gaea Rach, under jockey J Sousa, scored an impressive three-length win, whereas Velozter under E. Pereira finished second. It was a happy day for owner Andre Lahoz Mendonça as the first two horses belong to him. Oneida Rach under V.Sousa ran in to third place.

The Brazilian jockey Severo, who brought cheers to the home crowd, said: “Since the start I had been following closely the other horses and in the final 100 meters Egyto LA ran better than the others and I managed to win.”

Stephanie Hernandez of Peru said: “Just being able to participate in the race was important because I have two more races to complete 51 and become a professional Lady jockey.”

This was the first international race in which Apprentice jockeys from Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Ecuador and Puerto Rico attended and all participants thanked the HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival for the opportunity.

HE Ibrahim Salem Alalawi, Consul General of the UAE in Sao Paulo; Benjamin Steinbruch, President of the Jockey Club of Sao Paulo; Luciano Cury, President of the Brazilian Arabian Horse Breeders Association (ABCCA) and Almir José Ribeiro, Racing Director of ABCCA, attended the prize distribution ceremony.

HE Alalawi said: “I would like to thank HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs and Her Highness Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women’s Union, Supreme President of the Family Development Foundation (FDF) and Head of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood for their unlimited support for sport in general and equestrian events in particular all over the globe.”

“The event was very well received by the public of Sao Paulo. The support offered by the Festival will have a significant impact on the status of Arabian horses around the world. Finally, I would like to thank Ms Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR), for her support for this sport, the UAE envoy said.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival is sustained by the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority and coordinated by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with National Feed and Flour Production and Marketing Co. LLC as associate sponsors, The National Archives as the official partner and Emirates airline as the official sponsor.

Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan and Cidinha Franzão. Photos: Cidinha Franzão
Once again it was the Wathba Stallions Cup Group 3 race of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival which opened Sweden’s 2019 racing calendar for Purebred Arabian horses.

Nine went to post in the 1730-metre contest on the dirt tracks of Jagersro on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 and it was Macallan which once again proved a worthy winner.

Martin Rodrigues on Macallan ran a well-judged race to win the race in 2:02.1 with a nearly two-length margin from Jaldi Karo with Cleopathre in third place.

It was a strong field with the ‘Big three’ of Scandinavia - Jaldi Karo, Macallan and Al Mounteze Monlau - in the fray. All of them are international pattern race performers and Macallan alone has six such victories to his name. The three finished in that order in last year’s edition of Wathba Stallion Cup, but nothing stays exactly the same.

Considered a short-distance runner Macallan, under a new regime, turned the tables on Jaldi Karo having played his cards well.

At half way stage young Benjie was in the lead with Al Mounteze Monlau and Maghazi close up. Then everything changed when first Cleopathre, then Jaldi Karo and Macallan from among the back-markers made their moves.

Cleopathre and Jaldi Karo hit the front round the bend with Macallan catching up. Battle ensued and when first Cleopathre gave in and then Jaldi Karo also did so a little later. Martin Rodrigues had judged the pace well and had fuel for an almost two length victory for Stall Apperitiffe and their trainer Henrik Engblom.

Engblom is himself an industrious man, with around twenty English thoroughbreds in his care. He is also one of the most accomplished jump jockeys in the region and readily admitted tactics had won the day. He was also happy for the Festival’s support. “It is needed in both the bread and butter races and the top races. It’s inevitable that good money will attract even people from outside the Arabian horse racing fraternity,” Engblom said.

Scandinavian Arabian Racing thanked HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival for all the support over the years to Arabian horse racing in the region.

Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan with Inputs from Nils Rosenkjaer / Photos: Nils Rosenkjaer
Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup in Morocco

Marrakesh, Morocco - Adi De Saint Lon won the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup race organized by the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival at the Marrakesh race course in Morocco on Monday, April 22, 2019.

The race was one of the three organized by the Festival as part of the UAE Abu Dhabi Race Day at this historic Moroccan city which is well known for its connections with Purebred Arabian racing.

It was Aoun, a Mahabb colt owned by Yas Horse Racing Management and winner of the 2018 Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup (Listed) race here in Marrakesh which looked the one to beat in the 1900-metre race which was the feature event of the afternoon.

But the A. Kouay-trained Adi De Saint Lon under jockey Amine Moughat however was in top form winning for owner Zakaria Semlali.

In the 1900-metre HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship race it was 21-year old Danish lady jockey Victoria Larsen who reigned supreme. Larsen scored a great win on Azaz Al Boraq, trained and owned by Zembsch Schreve. After winning this race which carried a prize fund of h 160,000, Larsen has now qualified to race in the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies Sports Academy, Abu Dhabi International Hunting and Equestrian Exhibition 2017, Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, Eastern Mangroves Suites-Abu Dhabi by Jannah, Anantara Eastern Mangroves Spa and Resort.

Saif Khalifa Al Tunajji, First Secretary of the UAE Embassy in the Kingdom of Morocco along with Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, General Manager of Wathba Stallions, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFARH) and other top local and racing officials gave away the trophies.


Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan

Smart win for Adi De Saint Lon

Victoria Larsen on Azaz Al Boraq
HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice race in Bahrain

It was a proud moment for Apprentice jockey Quis Al Busaidi as he stepped out to receive the HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship (IFHRA) winner’s trophy from none other than King of Kingdom of Bahrain, His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa in Manama on Friday, March 15, 2019.

The 1400-metre race, held under the umbrella of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, had attracted nine Apprentice jockeys from around the world with a large crowd in attendance at the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing club racecourse. The race was part of the big race meeting which also included two Grade 1 races in the name of the King of Kingdom of Bahrain, His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Riding 4-year-old Al Saqlawieh 1733 trained by Yousif Al Riffa, the apprentice Al Busaidi was in great form as he won by two-and-a-half lengths from Krayaan 1706 under Sara Del Fabbro while in third place was Krushan 1710 ridden by Grace McEntee.

Al Busaidi and Al Saqlawieh took a time 1:37.09 for the 7-furlong race and winning jockey is the first to book his berth in the November finals of the HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak Apprentice World Championship (IFHRA) race series.

Apart from His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, Friday’s race meeting was also attended by His Royal Highness Prince Salman Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, King’s Representative for Charity Work and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and Honorary President of Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF), His Highness Sheikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, King’s Representative for Charity Work and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and Honorary President of Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF), His Highness Sheikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, King’s Representative for Charity Work and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and Honorary President of Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF),...
In 2018 Eastern Man finished in a dead heat with Quick Sand AA but on Saturday in the 2019 running of the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Amethyst (Grade 1) race at the Sam Houston Racing Park the 7-year-old was ridden to a superb victory by Ernesto Valdez-Jimenez.

Valdez-Jimenez and Easter Man cruised home in the 1400-metre race organized by the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival in front of a large crowd at the Sam Houston Park racecourse.

Trained by Jerenesto Torrez for owners Joseph and Betty Gillis, Eastern Man finished ahead of Up-down Sandy under Jose Garcia while last year’s joint winner Quick Sand AA under Sasha Risenhoover was third.

Eastern Man finished in a timing of 1:31.97 in the 11-horse field.

Earlier in the meeting, trainer Torrez and jockey Valdez-Jimenez scored in the Festival’s Wathba Stallions Cup, also run over 1400 metres.

Dance With Me romped home under Valdez-Jimenez with Bryan McNeil on Fortaissa and Erick McNeil on Last Call MHF finished second and third in that order. The winning time was 1:36.97.

Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, General Manager of Wathba Stallions, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) said “It has been an exciting start to the Festival’s activities in the US. Some of the best Purebred Arabians currently racing in the US were in the line-up and we congratulate the winning connections of the winners of both the Sheikh Zayed Cup and the Wathba Stallions Cup.”
HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival calendar for 2019 unveiled with 124 races in 90 countries

The calendar for the 2019 edition of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival was unveiled on Sunday with a total of 124 races scheduled in 90 countries around the globe.

Addressing a press conference at the Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club racecourse, Ms. Lara Sawaya, Executive Director of HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA) and Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IF- AHR) said, “the 11th year of the Festival initiated by His Highness Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE and Minister of Presidential Affairs will be bigger in the number of races and we thank HH Sheikh Mansoor and Her Highness Sheikhha Fatima Bint Mubarak, Chairwoman of the General Women’s Union, Supreme President of the Family Development Foundation (FDF) and Head of the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood
for making it one of the world’s top events.”

Also attending the press conference and addressing the media were Dr. Abdullah Al Raisi, Director General of the National Archives, Aref Al Awani, Secretary General of the Abu Dhabi Sports Council, Faisal Al Rahman, IFAHR President, Mubarak Al Nuaimi, Director of Global Promotions-Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority, Khalid Khalifa Nabooodah of Al Aweer Stables, Khalil Al Saffar, Deputy Director of Abu Dhabi Sports Channel, and Ali Al Mulla, chairman of Areej, Mohammed Abdullah Al Masood –Sales Manager of Al Masoud Automobiles, Saeed Bin Sulaiman, representative of Emirates Airlines and Festival’s jockey Ambassador Xavier Ziani.


**Wathba Stallion Cup Grassroots Series**
The Wathba Stallions Cup will once again focus on the grassroots level and 30 races will be held in the UAE (Abu Dhabi and Al Ain) while another 50 races will be staged outside the country with 20 of these in France alone, Ms. Sawaya stated.

The World Arabian Horse Racing Forum will be held in Romania from July 2 to 8, 2019.
Ms. Sawaya stated that the HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mubarak Stakes race in Santa Anita, California will in 2019 carry a prize fund of US$ 50,000 and will be run on the Derby day.

She explained that the Endurance races this year includes the HH Sheikh Fatima Bint Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan Cup race “Al Wathba Land” on 22 February followed by the HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan race on February 23.

**World’s Richest Race for Arabian Horses**
“The Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Jew-el Crown (Group 1), the world’s richest race for Purebred Arabians will be held on November 24 and this year obliging requests from owners and connections a prep race has been scheduled for October 25,” Ms. Sawaya said.

The Her Highness Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak International awards will also be held along with the Conference on Training for jockeys to make it another memorable year for horse racing connections.


Source: HH Sheikh Mansoor Festival / Satya Narayan - Photos: Morhaf Al Assaf
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