



BRECKON
FARMS

Breckon Farms - Super Seven Syndicate



February 2017 Newsletter

Rob Carr - Syndicate Liaison

P O Box 202101, Southgate, Takanini, Auckland 2246

Tel. (09) 291-9034 Mobile (021) 227-6444

Fax (09) 291-9035 Email rob.carr@xtra.co.nz

Hi there

Having won impressively first-up after her spell, High Gait has continued to put in her usual very honest performances and has had two seconds and a third in her next three starts, as she continues to make the transition into the higher grades. She will now contest the Breed For Speed Series, starting next in an \$8,000 Heat next Thursday, the 23rd February at Bendigo and hopefully qualify for the Group 1 \$50,000 Final to be staged on the 11th March at Melton. High Gait may also look to have a race in between these two events, as a lead-up to the Final, but this will be finalised by Nicole after she has run in her Heat on the 23rd February. I will keep you informed, but in the meantime **GOOD LUCK and GO HIGH GAIT !!!**

Double Shot completed her extended spell of a little over 10 weeks out and returned to training on the 1st February, looking good and ready to go. Of course it is early days yet, as she will do the usual 6 weeks jogging and 6 weeks hopped work before she should be ready to attend the trials in early May.

In the meantime it seems we are once again in for some further exciting racing coming up with High Gait, so I'm sure you are all looking forward to this.

Here is the latest information on your two mares:-

Trainer Nicole Molander :-

High Gait (Muscles Yankee – Regal Volo) - **(REGAL)**

After winning first-up from her spell, on the 9th January, at Melton, High Gait was to race next on the 21st January, at Ballarat.

This was in the Group 2 \$30,000 E B Cochran Trotters Cup, for TM0 or better trotters, over 2200m, from a Mobile Start, with a Random Barrier Draw.

High Gait drew Barrier No. 1, in a 12-horse field that contains some quality opposition, one of whom was Prince Fearless (drawn alongside her at No.2 and owned by Syndicate Members Glenys & Philip Kennard and Ken & Karen Breckon under the Breckon Racing Syndicate banner, along with Neil Pilcher and John Magness). High Gait was once again to be driven by Chris Alford.

High Gait was sent out the second favourite for this race and showed some speed out of the gate to hold the lead. Heading around the first bend, the favourite On Thunder Road pressed on from 3-wide to take up the lead and so High Gait was to enjoy a nice run in the trail throughout.

High Gait battled on well in the home straight, finishing a courageous 2nd placing, but was no match for the favourite On Thunder Road, who went on for a good win in Track Record time.

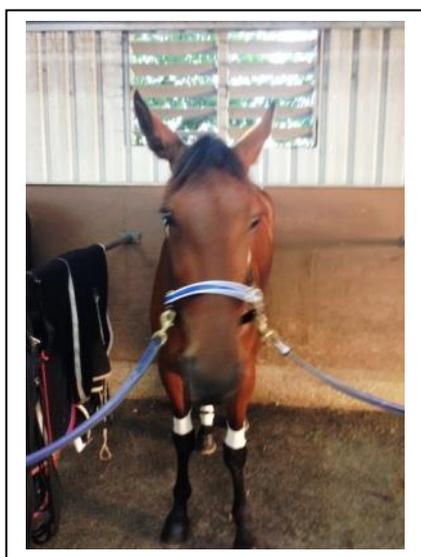
The winning time was 2:41.5 (MR 1:58.2), with the closing sectionals completed in 57.4 and 28.2 and High Gait went down by just 3.8m.

Unfortunately, Prince Fearless galloped as he was drawn out 3-wide to make his run just inside the final lap and finished well back in 11th placing.

Interestingly, the Stewards Comments stated, "gate speed, led, surrendered lead early, behind leader at bell, quer driving tactics", for what it is worth.

Nicole reported the following day, "I was extremely proud of High Gait last night at Ballarat, her first time against the best trotters and she did not disappoint running a game second in track record time. It has been decided that we will miss the Dullard Cup next week, so her next start will be the Group 1 Gt Southern Star on Saturday the 4th February at Melton. This will bring together the top 12 trotters from Australia and New Zealand and without looking into the record books, I would say that Regal [High Gait] would be the first 4yo Mare to contest this prestigious race."

Here are two photos of High Gait at Ballarat on the 21st January sent across by Syndicate Member Glenys Kennard ...



Many thanks for these Glenys, they are most appreciated.

So High Gait was nominated for the big one, the Group 1 \$300,000 Pryde's Easifeed Great Southern Star, to be staged on the 4th February, at Tabcorp Park Melton, but when the fields were released she was unfortunately to be made the 1st Emergency for this race, which meant that she was to need a scratching before she could re-enter the field. This was not to happen and so High Gait was to take her place in the Group 3 \$20,000 Nestle Professional Vulcan Trotters Free For All, for TM0 or Better Trotters, over 1720m from a Mobile Start.

High Gait drew Barrier No.2 and was to be driven by Chris Alford once again.

Nicole reported on the 1st February, "High Gait is very well and I have been extremely happy with her work since her last race. I was extremely unhappy that she did not make the field for the Gt Southern Star and to top the day off, if she happened to make the field, drew barrier 7 last night at the barrier draw function. Anyway we must carry on and she will line up in the 7th race at Melton the FFA trot. She has barrier 2 and should go her usual honest race with number 1 Glenferrie Burn looking the hardest to beat, but she always gives 110% no matter what race she is in. (Just a note the rule is if she does gain a start in the Gt Southern Star High Gait will have to start in that race.)"

High Gait was again sent out the second favourite for the race, behind Glenferrie Burn, who Nicole had said would be the hardest to beat and made her usual good beginning to hold the lead after challenges first from Conon Bridge and then Illawong Helios. With a lap-to-go El Paco moved up 3-wide to sit parked outside High Gait and as they ran down the back the final time she appeared to be trotting along nicely.

As they rounded the home turn, El Paco moved forward to put some pressure on and be within a head of High Gait, but High Gait held the lead as they entered the home straight and Chris went to work.

High Gait once again battled on strongly in the run home, but El Paco wore her down and Glenferrie Burn came off her back and up the passing lane to shut her out of 2nd placing, with High Gait finishing in 3rd placing, only 1.9m from the winner.

The winner was El Paco in the good time of 2:05.3 (MR 1:57.3) and good closing sectionals of 57.2 and 27.7.

Nicole reported, "In regards to High Gait's performance last Saturday night, I was happy with her as it is a huge step to go from age group racing to Free For All company and this generally takes a season to adjust. She always tries hard and gives her best."

High Gait was then to race again on the 10th February, once again at Tabcorp Park Melton.

This was in the \$16,000 GBL Property Trot, for TM0-TM1 Trotters, with a Preferential Barrier Draw, over 2240m from a Mobile Start. She drew well once again at Barrier No.2 in an 11-horse field and was to be driven by Greg Sugars on this occasion, as Chris Alford was serving a suspension.

Nicole advised, "High Gait is racing this Friday at Melton and should go well from Gate 2. We have engaged Greg Sugars as Chris Alford is currently suspended."

Also the "Form Analysis" on the Australian Harness Racing Website stated, "HIGH GAIT (2) is a quality mare that should enjoy a great trip and is racing in strong form. Hard to beat.", so things were looking pretty positive.

High Gait was sent out a \$2.10 favourite for this race and got out well from her handy barrier to take an early trail behind the second favourite Red Hot Tooth who had speared out quickly from No.4 to take the lead. High Gait enjoyed a good run in the trail throughout, despite some mid-race pressure from Maorisfavouritesun for the lead, as Red Hot Tooth retained the front.

As they rounded the final turn, Red Hot Tooth tried to slip away and this left room for High Gait to pull out in the home straight and mount her challenge. She ran home strongly and was closing fast on the leader, but couldn't quite get up before the line and finished a gallant 2nd placing, only going down by a head.

Red Hot Tooth's winning time was 2:45.6 (MR 1:59.0), with the closing sectionals completed in 57.5 and 28.5.

Nicole reported last night, the 13th February, "High Gait went another great race again!!! She didn't quite get there, but was a good effort. High Gait will now contest the Breed For Speed for trotting Mares with her heat being at Bendigo Thursday the 23rd February, which will be her next start with the \$50K Group 1 Final being on Saturday 11th March. If she qualifies as I anticipate on the 23rd we may look at racing her before the final, but will finalise this after the heat is run on the 23rd."

So High Gait is set to race next, on Thursday the 23rd February, at Bendigo, where she will contest an \$8,000 Heat of the Need For Speed Series, over 1609m, to hopefully qualify for the Group 1 \$50,000 Final of the Series to be staged at Melton, on Saturday the 11th March.

Details of High Gait's upcoming racing will be confirmed after details have been finalised and fields released, but until then ...

GOOD LUCK and GO HIGH GAIT !!!

Trainer Nicole Molander :-

Double Shot (Bettor's Delight – Twice As Good) - **(RHONDA)**

Double Shot was sent for a spell after racing disappointingly on the 20th November and was to spend 4-6 weeks in the spelling paddock.

This was to mean that she was due back into training at the beginning of January, but as she was seemingly enjoying her time out and relaxing well, it was decided that Double Shot would gain a lot of benefit from having her spell extended.

So, she was to have a little over 10 weeks out and returned to training on the 1st February.

Nicole reported on her return, "Double Shot has commenced training today the 1st February and looks in magnificent order, she definitely needed a well earned break, so here's hoping for a good season from Rhonda."

So, it certainly sounds as if her extended spell has done Double Shot the world of good and we can now look forward to an exciting season's racing with her.

She should be ready to return to the races sometime around the beginning of May.



Newsletters On the Website

Please remember, your monthly newsletters are also displayed on the Breckon Farms Website, so you can access them whenever you wish, especially if you can't find them amongst your emails.

The Breckon Farms website address is:- www.breckonfarms.co.nz

Under the 'Syndicates' menu, click on 'Super Seven Syndicate', then scroll down to find your newsletters.

You may also enjoy reading some of the other sections contained within the website.

So good luck and many more wins to come ...

Cheers

Rob



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Rob Carr – Super Seven Syndicate Liaison - Tel: (09) 291-9034 or Mobile: (021) 227-6444
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