



BRECKON
FARMS

Breckon Farms - Super Seven Syndicate



March 2017 Newsletter

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Hi there

As planned, High Gait was to contest the Breed For Speed Series and raced in a heat of this series on the 23rd February, at Bendigo. Unfortunately, she was to put in probably the worst performance of her career, finishing in an unheard of 5th placing, the furthest back she had ever finished in all her 30 race starts to that point. First thoughts were to retire High Gait, but as she had managed to make the Final of the Brrred For Speed Series, she was to take her place in this field, on the 11th March at Melton. High Gait went an improved race, not getting all favours in the running, she finished in 4th placing and pleased both her trainer and driver. So it has now been decided that High Gait will continue with her racing career, as it is considered she is very capable of winning more races yet. She is likely to race again in the next week or two, so once the details for her race are available, I will confirm these to you. In the meantime **GOOD LUCK and GO HIGH GAIT !!!**

Double Shot completed an extended 10 week spell and returned to training on the 1st February. She is making good progress and has now started her hopped work and will begin to reduce her times, looking set to make her return to the races early in May.

In the meantime, let's hope that High Gait can continue her stellar career with further exciting racing, as I'm sure she is capable of doing and provide us all with many more thrills.

Here is the latest information on your two mares:-

Trainer Nicole Molander :-

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

After racing last at Tabcorp Park Melton, on the 10th February, where she finished a gallant 2nd placing, going down by only a head to Red Hot Tooth, High Gait was set to race next, on the 23rd February, at Bendigo.

This was to be in the \$8,000 Lyn McPherson Memorial Breed For Speed Gold Series (1st Heat), for T4 or Better Trotting Mares, over 1609m from a Mobile Start. High Gait drew Barrier No. 3 (coming into No.2 with a scratching) and was to be driven by Chris Alford.

There were a couple of form runners in this field, so it was hoped that High Gait would go her usual good race and qualify for the Final of this series.

The "Form Analysis" on the Australian Harness Racing Website states, "HIGH GAIT (3) is quality trotter that's racing well and is sure to threaten again."

High Gait was sent out third favourite for this race and once again showed her customary gate speed to get out well and take the early lead. Chris was able to hold her back to the field as they went through a moderate 29.1 second first quarter and with a lap-to-go the favourite Heavenly Sister arrived to the chair to sit outside High Gait.

Chris was still able to dictate terms out in front, until going down the back the final time Heavenly Sister moved up closer and applied a little pressure. They completed a much quicker quarter down the back in 28.5 seconds and rounding the final turn Heavenly Sister drew up to High Gait to put it to her.

High Gait initially showed her usual fight, but soon into the run home, she began to battle and weakened towards the finish to come home in 5th placing, the worst finishing position of her entire career.

The winner was Heavenly Sister, in a time of 1:56.5, with the last 800m in 57.2 and the last 400m in 28.7. High Gait was however only 5.4m from the winner, in a very close go for 4th placing.

Nicole Molander reported after the race, "High Gait was very disappointing at Bendigo, getting an easy lead, before finishing in 5th place. She just didn't show her usual fight when headed, and these thoughts were shared by Chris [Alford] who said that she always gives 110%, but was quite happy for the others to go past once she was looked at in front. After speaking to Ken [Breckon] first thoughts were to retire High Gait as maybe her very busy 2yo and 3yo season has caught up with her, but seeing she has apparently made the final on Sat 11th March we will press on for this and it would be a fitting end to a great career to end with another Group 1 race."

So, High Gait was then to race next on the 11th March, at Melton, in the Group 1 \$50,000 Lyn McPherson Memorial Breed For Speed Gold Series Final, for T4 or Better Trotting Mares, over 1720m from a Mobile Start. High Gait drew well at Barrier No.3 once again and was also once again to be driven by Chris Alford.

Nicole reported on the 7th March, "High Gait has come up with a good barrier of 3 for her final and I was very pleased with her work today, so let's hope she can do herself proud in what is a very competitive race. She always tries hard and I'm sure she will give her best."

High Gait was sent out third favourite for this race and under the urgings of Chris made a good beginning and was able to hold second position in the early rush, as the rank outsider Nica MacDonan sped to the lead. Soon after Chris was able to ease down to the markers and secure the trail and High Gait remained there until heading inside the final lap, when the second favourite Red Hot Tooth pressed on to take up the lead and this posted High Gait 3-back on the markers.

Into the back the final time and the favourite Heavenly Sister slid around 3-wide to take up the parked position with High Gait remaining tucked away back on the inner and with about 500m to run Chris was able to get out into the running line, as Nica MacDonan began to give ground quickly in front of her.

They ran down the back in 28.7 which made it hard for High Gait to make up any ground and although she battled on well in the home straight she was unable to close on the front runners and finished in 4th placing, 11.3m from the winner.

The winner was Red Hot Tooth, in a very fast time of 2:03.1 (MR 1:55.2), with the closing sectionals completed in impressive times of 56.9 and 28.2 respectively.

Nicole on the 14th March, "In regards to High Gait I was very pleased with her effort Saturday night in a fast run race without having much luck and running home strongly in a fast last quarter. Chris was happy with High Gait and felt she was back to her usual self. In consultation with Ken we will press on and at this stage I will confirm in the next few days but she will either race at Melton next Saturday in a TMO 1720m race, or at Menangle next week in a Group 3 2300m Stand \$30k race."

Ken Breckon also reported, "High Gait was jumping out of her skin after the race and she was full of beans. She might have had a virus or something before, as she seems to be back to her best. There are opportunities for her going forward from here and she will even probably drop back in her handicapping rating, so she should be competitive in her races and she can race for \$15,000 races mainly and there may even be opportunities to compete still in Group 1 races and then there's always the Breeders Crown as well."

So once details of High Gait's upcoming racing are known, these will be confirmed to you by usual email, but until then ...

GOOD LUCK and GO HIGH GAIT !!!

Trainer Nicole Molander :-

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

Double Shot completed an extended 10-week spell, seemingly doing very well during her time out, before returning to training on the 1st February.

She looked in "magnificent order" and her extra time out had certainly done Double Shot the world of good.

Hopefully we can look forward to some exciting racing for the remainder of the season.

Nicole advised on the 14th March, "Double Shot as mentioned earlier commenced work on the 1st February and is looking well and training well. She will be on target to race early in May."

So Double Shot will work down in her times now in her hopped work in training and should be ready to return to the races sometime around the beginning of May, which will be great to see.



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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