



**BRECKON**  
FARMS

## Super Seven Syndicate



September 2014 Newsletter

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Hi there

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to you as a member of our Super Seven Syndicate. It's great to have you aboard and I hope your membership will be enjoyable and rewarding for you.



The Super Seven Syndicate is the second such syndicate established by Ken Breckon of Breckon Farms, following in the footsteps of the already highly successful The Good Sports Syndicate, Breckon Farms inaugural syndicate established last year. They lease 8 fillies and so far 7 have already qualified and four have raced, for three winners and a placegetter, including Linda Lovegrace, the winner of 5 races and \$145,272 in stakes, including the Group 1 Caduceus Club Classic.

We are now well underway to hopefully lots of fun and excitement with your syndicate fillies, so I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Rob Carr and Ken Breckon has asked me to carry out the trainer/member liaison for your syndicate.

As some of you will know, I have gained lots of experience in this area through my role as Auckland Trotting Club Syndication Manager for the past 14 years and my appointment for your Syndicate liaison is an honour that I have accepted with lots of passion and commitment.

I have been involvement in the Harness Racing Industry for over 35 years now through ownership, working and breeding of horses, and more recently an intensive administrative involvement. Over the years I have also held positions with the NZ Standardbred Breeders Association, North Island Ownership Co-ordinator for Harness Racing New Zealand and North Island Representative for Nevele R Stud.

I currently hold the position of ATC Syndication Manager and Vice President of the North Island Standardbred Breeders Association (which also involves my managing the inaugural syndicate formed by this Association) and am currently breeding from three mares, preparing and consigning the resultant progeny to the Yearling Sales each year (together with my horse-breeding partner Don Kirkbride).

The biggest buzz I have had to date in Harness Racing is breeding and managing the race career (as he was raced by the ATC 2006 Syndicate) of the champion horse Changeover, who of course won the 2008 NZ Cup in World Record time, and also to see what thrills he provided to all those associated with him. He won 29 races and a massive \$2,426,765 in stakes, the highest ever by an entire in New Zealand. His accolades of NZ 3-Year-Old of the Year and NZ 5YO & Older Pacer of the Year, as well as being inducted into the NZ Trotting Hall Of Fame, along with his 6 Group 1 wins, all provided very proud moments for me personally. Changeover was then sold for a very substantial sum in excess of \$2,000,000 to Nevele R Stud, where he stood his first season in 2010/11, serving a full book of mares and he has made a very good start to his sire career, with his first crop of 2-year-olds last season resulting in 17 winners and him being New Zealand's leading first season sire. They say there are even bigger and better things expected of his progeny as 3-year-olds.

Another proud and exciting moment was with another horse Don and I had bred, Miss Moonlite, when I was fortunate enough to be present at Melton in Victoria for her win in the Group 1 Australasian Breeders Crown 4YO Mares Final, in August 2012. This was the first time a mother (Dancingonmoonlight) and daughter have won Breeders Crowns.

To those members who I know already, I look forward to meeting you personally again soon and to other members who I have not yet met, I look forward to meeting and getting to know you too.



This brings me to one of the main points of this Newsletter ... information on your horses.

## **The Fillies.....**

Trainer **Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen** :-

**High Gait** (Muscles Yankee – Regal Volo) A daughter of Regal Volo (2:05.8, 5 wins, \$31,190) and a full-sister to (OUR) TWENTYTEN (2:00.6, 8 wins, \$181,419, including the Group 1 2014 3YO Trot Breeders Crown Final) and a half-sister to Alannah Hall (2:07.6, 1 win, \$4,851, a winner as a 2-year-old).

High Gait, or Regal as she is known around the stable, was broken-in by Mark Smolenski who reported that he was very pleased with the way that she had handled this process. She was then sent for a brief spell before returning to Mark and Natalie's stable for some further education. Mark Purdon has reported, "She felt a nice filly. I'd be surprised if she didn't make it as a 2-year-old". After this stint in which she certainly impressed, Regal was sent for another break and is due to return to training next Monday, the 15 September, where if she progresses as she has to date, it is likely she will be looking to trial around December/January.

**Spin To Win** (Mach Three – Giveitawhirlgirl) A daughter of Giveitawhirlgirl (5 placings, \$4,259) who in turn is a daughter of IMPISH (1:54.9, 6 wins, \$45,032), Spin To Win is a half-sister to TWIST AND TWIRL (1:55.9, 7 wins, \$297,753), FEELS LIKE MAGIC (1:56.1, 5 wins, \$43,896) and BETTOR GIVE IT (1:57.4, 15 wins, \$138,061).

Spin To Win, or Whirl as she is known, was also broken-in by Mark Smolenski. She also received a positive report, before going for her spell. She then returned to Mark and Natalie's barn for some further education, once again pleasing the stable, before also being sent for another break. Whirl has now completed 6-weeks out in the spelling paddock and returned to training last Monday, the 8 September. Mark Purdon has reported, "I'm quite pleased with her on her last prep, but this prep will tell". So it will be interesting to see how Whirl progresses this time in and whether she will make it as a 2-year-old.

### **Trainer Tony Herlihy :-**

**Champagne Taste** (Art Major – Affairs Are Bettor) The second foal from lightly raced mare Affairs Are Bettor, who is a half-sister to HIGH SOCIETY GAL (1:57.7, 4 wins, \$18,734), CHACHINGCHACHING (1:56.6, 3 wins, \$52,601) and Stateofthenation (2:08.8, 1 win, \$4,897).

Champagne Taste was also broken-in by Mark Smolenski, down south and although she did buck and kick a bit, she did settle and did things reasonably well, before going for her spell. She was then sent north to Tony's stable and although she did once again buck a little, she was not dirty with it and has mainly got out of this behaviour. Taste, as she is now known, has now been sent for a decent 3 or 4 month spell, as Tony reports, "She is quite a big filly and may not necessarily be a 2-year-old, as she is growing and up in the rear end. We'll probably leave her out until the New Year". So, although Taste may take a little more time, it will be interesting to see how she returns from her lengthy spell and hopefully she would have grown and developed ready to carry on.

### **Trainer Cran Dalgety :-**

**Double Shot** (Bettor's Delight – Twice As Good) A daughter of TWICE AS GOOD (1:56.5, 5 wins, \$33,355) and a half-sister to MARK DENNIS (1:54.2, 21 wins, \$142,412), ST BARTS (1:57, 15 wins, \$162,506), WAITFORNOONE (1:55.7, 11 wins, \$201,804), FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE (1:56.1, 7 wins, \$151,657), TWICE AS HOT (1:59.6, 5 wins, \$54,735), TRELISE (1:58.7, 4 wins, \$19,231), Big Is Good (2:00.3, 2 wins, \$9,202) and Goodlookinggirl (2:03.5, 1 win, \$5,277).

Double Shot, or Rhonda as she is known around the stable, was broken-in by Cran, who said, "There was a little bit of bitch there. She has a bit of spirit, but that is a good thing in a filly. I was quite happy with her". Rhonda then had a break out in the spelling paddock and returned 2-weeks ago to Cran's stable. She does still need to develop a little, but Cran thinks that she should get close to the trials this campaign, which if it eventuates, will be probably in January. Let's hope that Rhonda can make good progress this time in work.

## **Trainer Barry Purdon :-**

**Rockon Bye** (Christian Cullen – OK Rock) A daughter of OK ROCK (1:56.1, 9 wins, \$168,529, including the Group 1 NSW Oaks) and a half-sister to BIG DOG (1:58.7, 12 wins, \$206,682), MOHUA (1:57.3, 18 wins, \$75,016) and BURNING CASH (1:53, 5 wins, \$39,915).

Rockon Bye was broken-in by accomplished horseman Todd Macfarlane, who reported that during her first preparation she was quite a handful and “She was really a bit of a bitch. She would get on the shaft [of the cart] and try and kick you, so we put her out for 3-months and hoped she would forget all about it. When she came back in, she had a completely different attitude. She began to pace along nicely, but could still do a few things wrong, but she improved all the time. The faster she went the better she was and before we put her out again she paced a half [800m] in 62, which is pretty good”. Rockon Bye went for her spell on the 18 August and will return to training, this time with Barry Purdon, on the 1 October, so it will be interesting to see how she goes and behaves herself.

## **Trainer Geoff Small :-**

**Goodlookingbabe** (Mach Three – Goodlookinggirl) The second foal from Goodlookinggirl (2:03.5, 1 win, \$5,277) who is a daughter of TWICE AS GOOD (1:56.5, 5 wins, \$33,355) and a half-sister to MARK DENNIS (1:54.2, 21 wins, \$142,412), ST BARTS (1:57, 15 wins, \$162,506), WAITFORNOONE (1:55.7, 11 wins, \$201,804), FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE (1:56.1, 7 wins, \$151,657), TWICE AS HOT (1:59.6, 5 wins, \$54,735), TRELISE (1:58.7, 4 wins, \$19,231) and Big Is Good (2:00.3, 2 wins, \$9,202).

Goodlookingbabe was broken-in by respected horseman Brent Donnelly who reported that she did everything right and was fine in her first preparation. She then went for a good 4-month spell and returned to Brent’s for her second preparation in May. After about 8-weeks back in, Brent ran her along a little, as he likes to get a feel for them and reported, “She ran a half [800m] in 68 [seconds] and a quarter [400m] in 32 [seconds], which is more than acceptable on my track. She put her head out and tried, which is good. She is a nice clean gaited pacer and her attitude was good, especially for a Mach Three. I was happy with her”. Goodlookingbabe then went for a spell on the 25 July and is set to return to trainer Geoff Small’s barn, at the beginning of October. It will also be interesting to see how she progresses with a little more serious work.

## **Trainer John & Joshua Dickie :-**

**Factor The Odds** (Pegasus Spur – Fear Factor) A daughter of Fear Factor (2:04.3, 4 wins, \$59,191, including the Group 2 2YO Sires Stakes Trotters Championship and Group 2 NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes) who is a half-sister to Prince Fearless (2:00.2, 1 win, \$57,956, including the Listed 2YO NZ Yearling Sales Open Final and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the

Group 1 2YO Harness Jewels Ruby) and Not About The Money (2:03.7, 2 wins, \$12,014, including the 2YO Sires Stakes Prelude).

Factor The Odds was broken-in by experienced horseman Ross Paynter and he was pleased with her attitude and the way she broke-in. She then went for a 6-week spell at Breckon Farms, before having her first preparation with John and Josh Dickie. They were very pleased with her during the 6 or 7 weeks she was in work, with John saying, "She trotted real nice and was well-mannered. She was real nice. She did lighten up last time in and was a little bit weak, so we gave her 8-weeks out". Factor The Odds returned to John and Josh's barn this week (on the 11 September) and returned in "very good order". John said, "We'll find out this time, if she's strengthened enough to go on and be a 2-year-old". So let's hope that she has and we can look forward to seeing her at the trials and maybe even the races as a 2-year-old.

We are very excited with this venture of Breckon Farms into syndication and feel sure that the line-up of such a group of nicely bred fillies will give us all a means to enjoy the thrills of our great sport of Harness Racing.

I will certainly do my best to keep you all informed with happenings regarding your fillies and I sincerely hope that your involvement in this Syndicate will bring you many hours of fun and entertainment.

Cheers

**Rob**



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