

Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate



BRECKON
FARMS



October 2018 Newsletter

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Hi there

Welcome to another monthly newsletter for the Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate.

Day light savings time has arrived and that means we are getting closer to summer, but there are still a few twists in the tail of winter yet, as we have already experienced this week.

Still, spring is a great time of year and the blossoms have been out in abundance and the new season foals have started to arrive. We have already seen some good spring racing and it won't be long before we are in full swing and right into the classic racing – we are literally only one month away from the NZ Cup ... can you believe that?

Good reports continue to be received for your fillies, but there is still a way to go yet, so we will have to remain patient.

These positive comments are always great to get and give some confidence that we are well on our way to hopefully lots of fun and excitement, as they work through the required processes to give them their chances to make it as successful racehorses.

Once again, I am looking forward to meeting you all personally soon, especially once things start to happen at the workouts, trials, and maybe even races, later this year or early into the new year.

Here is the latest information on your horses, so I hope you enjoy the read.

The Fillies.....

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

Ballroom Beauty (Bettor's Delight / Twist And Twirl)

After breaking-in exceptionally well, Ballroom Beauty was to have a spell before returning to pre-training with Steve Boyd and then transferring to the All Stars Stable of Mark Purdon and Natalie Rasmussen on the 1st August.

Ballroom Beauty has now completed over 10 weeks training at the All Stars Stable and Mark reported on the 12th October, "She has improved a little, which is good. We'll probably go another 3-4 weeks and we'll know more then."

So, in another few weeks Mark and Natalie will have a better idea of where Ballroom Beauty is heading and if she has continued to improve. She will continue to increase her speed and work down in her times over this period, so it will be interesting to see how she progresses over this time and what the conclusion is at this point.

There is no real rush for the babies at this stage, as you will see below, the feature races don't really start until March next year.



On A Roll (Bettor's Delight / Only For You)

On A Roll also received excellent marks during her breaking-in period and she too was then also sent for a well-earned spell. She also had about 5 weeks pre-training with Steve Boyd, before transferring to the All Stars Stable on the 1st August.

On A Roll is also at the same stage as Ballroom Beauty, having now completed over 10 weeks in work at the All Stars Stable.

Mark reported on her on the 12th October, "She has stepped up a bit too, which is good. We'll also look to go another 3-4 weeks with her and we'll know what we're doing and where we're heading then."

So, within the next month, Mark and Natalie will also have a better idea of where On A Roll is at and where she will be heading. She will also continue to increase her speed and work down in her times over this period, so it will be interesting to also follow her progress and see where she ends up.

As mentioned, there is no real rush for the 2-year-old fillies at this stage, as the feature racing doesn't get underway until March next year, as shown below.



Tailored Elegance (Muscle Hill / Classic Armbro)

Tailored Elegance was broken-in, in the north by Brent Donnelly, before having a spell at Breckon Farms and then heading south, to initially be pre-trained by Steve Boyd, before transferring to the All Stars Stable, also on the 1st August.

She too has now completed 10 weeks at All Stars, with Mark reporting on the 12th October, "She is showing some promise. She still has got a way to go, but she is a nice filly. We'll do a little bit more and take her a bit further, then we'll probably give her a break. It's early days yet and we've got plenty of time, with the feature races not being until a little later."

It is great to hear that things are continuing very positively for Tailored Elegance and it will be very interesting to follow her progress over the next month and to see what the trainer's thoughts are at that time.

Once again, and probably more so with 2-year-old trotters and especially fillies, there is no real rush at this stage as the feature races for the season don't get underway until April, as is shown in the list below.

She certainly is a nice-looking filly and it's great to hear that Mark does like her, but at this stage it is likely that she will go for a spell sometime in November.



Trainer Tony Herlihy :-

Cheeky Babe (Muscle Hill / Factor The Odds)

Having been broken-in by her trainer Tony Herlihy, who was pleased with her progress, Cheeky Babe went for a decent 5-month spell.

She was of course spelling at Breckon Farms, with Breckon Farms Farm Manager, Scott Yardley reporting along the way that Cheeky Babe was doing well and enjoying her time out.

Scott reported, "She did do well and enjoyed the spring grass over her last few weeks, before she went back to Tony's on the 20th [September]."

Tony was happy with Cheeky Babe's condition when she returned and reported that she had settled in well back at his stable.

Cheeky Babe will now continue her education and as things get more serious for her, Tony will monitor her progress before making any decisions on what assignments she is given in this preparation.

It will be interesting to follow her progress and to see how she develops.

Monkee Around (Art Major - Sheza Monkee)

Monkee Around was given her early education during her breaking-in period with Brent Donnelly, in Cambridge, before having a spell back at Breckon Farms and then going to her trainer Tony Herlihy's stable to further her education.

Tony was pleased with Monkee Around's progress during her time with him, but advised as she was a little immature, he thought she would benefit from a decent 5-month spell out in the paddock.

She has now been spelling at Breckon Farms for a little over 3 months, with Breckon Farms Farm Manager, Scott Yarndley advising on the 10th October, "Monkee Around is doing good and enjoying a good break."

She is currently enjoying the fresh spring grass and I'm sure this will help her to strengthen and mature by the time she is scheduled to return to training at the beginning of December.

This should give her a good foundation to be well-prepared for the next stage in her training programme.

Trainer **Brent Mangos** :-

Dragon Tattoo (Art Major / Rozelski)

Presenting a few problems getting pacing along early in her breaking-in period, as well as wanting to kick all the time, saw Dragon Tattoo go to Brent Donnelly in Cambridge to get sorted out before returning to trainer Brent Mangos' stable to continue her education.

Dragon Tattoo was now pacing along nicely and Brent Mangos advised that she improved a lot before finishing off this preparation with an appearance at the Franklin Park Yearling Parade on the 28th July, where she paraded looking very good and doing everything right, she was judged the Best Turned Out Pacing Filly on the day.

After this success, Dragon Tattoo returned home to Breckon Farms on the 3rd August, for a 2-month spell, together with the Breckon Farms – The Perfect Ten Syndicate filly Gladamare, who is also trained by Brent.

Dragon Tattoo had the rest of August and most of September out, enjoying some good spring grass in her last few weeks, before returning to Brent's stable on the 27th September.

Breckon Farms Farm Manager, Scott Yarndley reported, "Dragon Tattoo did well during her spell, eating well and she looked good when she left the farm to return to Brent's."

Brent confirmed on the 29th September, "She arrived home on the 27th [September]. She looks good and has done well. I'll start with her on Monday."

So, Dragon Tattoo has begun her jogging to increase her fitness and after about a month she will start stronger hopped work, before moving on to increasing her speed and reducing her times.

Depending on how she progresses, Dragon Tattoo could be ready to make an appearance at the workouts around Christmas time, so it will be interesting to see how she goes.

2018/19 Season Feature Races

Here are some feature races for this season, that your pacing fillies (Ballroom Beauty, On A Roll, Monkee Around & Dragon Tattoo) may be aimed at, if they are considered up to it:-

03/03/2019 – Leonard Memorial Stakes Gr.3 \$30,000 @ Cheviot
08/03/2019 – Delightful Lady Classic Gr.2 \$80,000 @ Alexandra Park
26/04/2019 – Caduceus Club Fillies Classic Gr.1 \$100,000 @ Alexandra Park
03/05/2019 – NZ Sires Stakes Fillies Champs Gr.1 \$150,000 @ Alexandra Park
01/06/2019 – Harness Jewels 2YO Diamond Gr.1 \$150,000 @ Addington
Date TBA – Breeders Crown Heats \$10,000 @ TBA (VIC)
Date TBA – Breeders Crown Semi Finals \$20,000 @ TBA (VIC)
24/08/2019 – Breeders Crown Final Gr.1 \$300,000 @ Tabcorp Park (VIC)

And here are some feature races for this season, that your trotting fillies (Tailored Elegance & Cheeky Babe) may be aimed at, if they are considered up to it:-

20/04/2019 – NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes Gr.3 \$30,000 @ Addington
17/05/2019 – NZ Sires Stakes 2YO Trotting Champs Gr.2 \$60,000 @ Addington
01/06/2019 – Harness Jewels 2YO Ruby Gr.1 \$125,000 @ Addington
04/08/2019 – Redwood Classic Gr.1 \$50,000 @ Maryborough
24/08/2019 – Breeders Crown Final 2YO Trotting Fillies Gr.1 \$100,000 @ Tabcorp Park



2018 NZ Harness Racing Awards

The NZB Standardbred NZ Harness Racing Awards were presented at Alexandra Park in Auckland, on the 29th September and once again Breckon Farms were to feature in a star-studded night.

Of course, Lazarus repeated his Australian feat, taking out the prestigious Horse of the Year award, as well as Pacer of the Year and 5YO+ Pacer of the Year. In New Zealand, Lazarus went unbeaten in the 2017/18 season, winning four-from-four for \$495,185, including the "Holy Grail" the Group 1 NZ Trotting Cup.

After his record-breaking sale to USA interests in April, Lazarus' former owners attended Saturday night's function in his honour, to salute their champion one last time. Philip and Glenys Kennard, who selected Lazarus at the yearling sales in 2014, along with fellow owner Trevor Casey, are members of the Breckon Farms Syndicates, so it was great to see them enjoying a final hurrah to their beloved equine star, with Philip giving a very emotional final speech, followed by a glowing tribute to Lazarus by his Australasian trainer Mark Purdon.

Breckon Farms were very proud to be directly involved with nominees for seven of the categories on offer, having nominees for the 2YO Pacing Colt or Gelding of the Year (part-owners of Another Masterpiece – Bettor's Delight / Elegant Art), 3YO Pacing Filly of the Year (breeders of Elle Mac – Bettor's Delight / Goodlookinggirl), 4YO Pacing Mare of the Year (owners of Partyon – Bettor's Delight / Beach Parade, raced by the Breckon Farms – The Top Ten Syndicate), 2YO Trotting Filly of the Year (breeders and owners of Tickle Me Pink – Muscle Hill / Luby Ann, raced by the Breckon Farms – The Perfect Ten Syndicate), 3YO Trotting Filly of the Year (breeders and owners of Luby Lou – Muscle Hill / Luby Ann, raced by the Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate), Pacing Broodmare of the Year (owners of Goodlookinggirl – Christian Cullen / Twice As Good) and Breeder of the Year (Breckon Farms).

Breckon Farms related award winners on the night were Another Masterpiece (2YO Pacing Colt or Gelding of the Year), who is part-owned by the Breckon Racing Syndicate, together with Phil and Glenys Kennard, along with Jim and Ann Gibbs and Garry and Kerry Woodham; Princess Tiffany (3YO Pacing Filly of the Year) who was bred and reared at Breckon Farms for breeders Braeden and Caroline Whitelock; and Luby Lou (3YO Trotting Filly of the Year) who was bred by Breckon Farms and is raced by the Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate. Phil and Glenys Kennard also took out the Owner of the Year award, while Braeden and Caroline Whitelock were awarded the Breeder of the Year title. It was interesting to see that Tickle Me Pink (raced by the Breckon Farms – The Perfect Ten Syndicate) just missed out on winning the 2YO Trotting Filly of the Year title by only one vote, while Princess Tiffany and Luby Lou were unanimous winners, each collecting all 25 available votes in their respective categories.

The Breckon Farms sponsored 2YO Trotting Colt or Gelding of the Year award went to Enhance Your Clam, while the Breckon Farms sponsored Trotter of the Year title was taken out by Speeding Spur, who made a return to racing after suffering a serious injury, winning the Group 1 Rowe Cup and Group 1 NZ Trotting Championship during the season.

Remarkably, Mark Purdon and Natalie Rasmussen, who took out the Trainer of the Year award, together with other family and their owners were dominating winners on the night, taking out a cumulative 16 awards in total.

The premier human award for the season, the Outstanding Contribution to Harness Racing, went to husband-and-wife team Steve and Anne Phillips, who have been involved in volunteer work within the industry for over 30 years, including amateur driving, Kidz Kartz, cadets and education as well as being breeders, owners and trainers, while Sheree Tomlinson and her family were the winners of the public-elect 'Moment of the Year' for Amaretto Sun's upset win in the Dominion Handicap.

Bettor's Delight and Majestic Son repeated their Australian wins after dominant siring seasons in New Zealand too, winning the awards for Pacing and Trotting Stallions of the Year respectively.

The full list of 2018 New Zealand Harness Racing Award winners is:-

Pacers

Vincent 2YO Pacing Filly of the Year - **PRINCESS TIFFANY**

IRT New Zealand 2YO Pacing Colt or Gelding of the Year - **ANOTHER MASTERPIECE**

Alabar 3YO Pacing Filly of the Year - **SHEZ ALL ROCK**

Lone Star Alexandra Park Coming Soon 3YO Pacing Colt or Gelding of the Year - **CHASE AUCKLAND**

Dunstan Feeds 4YO Pacing Mare of the Year - **UTMOST DELIGHT**

HRNZ Marketing 4YO Pacing Entire or Gelding of the Year - **ULTIMATE MACHETE**

Canterbury Equine Clinic 5YO & Older Pacing Mare of the Year - **JO'S DREAM**

Hanley Formula 5YO & Older Pacing Entire or Gelding of the Year - **LAZARUS**

Woodlands Stud Pacer of the Year - **LAZARUS**

Trotters

Standardbreds Make Awesome Pets 2YO Trotting Filly of the Year - **CHEERFUL**

Breckon Farms 2YO Trotting Colt or Gelding of the Year - **ENHANCE YOUR CALM**

What The Hill 3YO Trotting Filly of the Year - **LUBY LOU**

Commodore Airport Hotel 3YO Trotting Colt or Gelding of the Year - **WINTERFELL**

Somerset Racing Stables & Equestrian 4YO Trotting Mare of the Year - **BONNIE HIGHLANDER**

Trackside 4YO Trotting Entire or Gelding of the Year - **HABIBI INTA**

Emblems NZ 5YO & Older Trotting Mare of the Year - **DESTINY JONES**

Lone Star Spitfire at Christchurch Airport 5YO & Older Trotting Entire or Gelding of the Year - **SPEEDING SPUR**

Breckon Farms Trotter of the Year - **SPEEDING SPUR**

Breeding

The Breeders Pacing Broodmare of the Year - **BETHANY**

The Breeders Trotting Broodmare of the Year - **TEN TO ONE**

The Breeders/FastTrack Insurance Breeder of the Year - **BRAEDEN & CAROLINE WHITELOCK**

The Auckland Trotting Club Pacing Stallion of the Year - **BETTOR'S DELIGHT**

The Breeders Trotting Stallion of the Year - **MAJESTIC SON**

Driver, Trainer & Cadet

Southern Harness Leading Junior Driver - **MATT ANDERSON**

Cruickshank Leading Junior Driver UDR - **NATHAN PURDON**

Harness Racing New Zealand Leading Driver - **BLAIR ORANGE**

Garrards Horse and Hound Leading Trainer - **MARK PURDON & NATALIE RASMUSSEN**

Airpark Canterbury Cadet of the Year - **ELLIE BARRON**

Airpark Canterbury Runner Up - Cadet of the Year - **LUKE WHITTAKER**

Special

Met Multiplier \$1.5m Milestone Owner of the Year - **PHILLIP & GLENYS KENNARD**

NZ Racing Board Outstanding Contribution to Harness Racing - **STEVE & ANNE PHILLIPS**

The Informant Best Moment of the Season - **SHEREE TOMLINSON/FORD FAMILY - AMARETTO SUN DOMINION WIN**

Overall

NZB Standardbred Horse of the Year - **LAZARUS**

Congratulations must go to all horses and connections, trainers and drivers and all other award winners for their successes in winning awards and of course especially Ken and Karen Breckon, Philip and Glenys Kennard, Trevor Casey and the Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate.

WELL DONE !!!



**Luby Lou wins the Group 1 NZ
Trotting Derby**



**Luby Lou's connections with her NZ
3YO Trotting Filly of the Year trophy**

Newsletters On the Website

Please remember, your monthly newsletters will also be 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, you will find the 'The Savvy Six Syndicate' section, then scroll to the bottom and you will find your newsletters.

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

Good luck and let's hope there are many wins to come ...

Cheers

Rob



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