

YOUR HEAD, NOT YOUR HEART. NATIONAL RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING PROGRAMME: TOLL-FREE COUNSELLING LINE 0800 006 008

Durban's Hollywoodbets Greyville Racecourse is a clockwise venue with a 2800m turf course that envelopes another synthetic strip. It imitates a triangular configuration of Great Britain's Ascot Racecourse, with a 430m homestretch. The course is deceptive as there is a significant climb before the final bend.

From the 1600m mark to the 1200m mark there is a gradual drop of three metres. From the 900m mark to the 400m mark on the final turn there is a gradual climb of 4 metres.

There is also a four-degree fall/camber from outer to inner on the turn. The rest of the track has a one-degree fall/camber.

The sweeping final bend with it's camber allows wide runners to slingshot themselves into the thick of the fray.

All races from the 1600m mark to the 1000m mark start on the bend.

In races over 1600m and 1400m, draws 1-6 are optimum. Horses drawn wider can often be caught out wide.

In sprints 1200m to 1000m wide draws are less significant as runners can be aimed at the apex of the turn.

Races from 2400m to 1800m start on the back straight and runners can generally sort themselves out before hitting the turn before the 1600m mark.

The 3200m Gold Cup starts at the 400m mark in the home stretch. Runners have 450m to travel before the first turn and hitting a poly surface for approximately 200m. There is also a road crossing at the 2500m mark.

Last year the well-fancied Nebraas was given a top ride by now Hong Kong-based Lyle Hewitson for Sean Tarry. Nebraas is back to defend his crown and is the current ante-post favourite ahead of Gr1 SA Derby winner Aragosta trained by Mike de Kock and another Tarry-trained stayer, Blackthorn.

S'Manga Khumalo, ranked joint 30th in world rankings, has deserted last year's Gr1 Champions Cup winner Jet Dark to partner the De Kock-trained Al Muthana.

The long-range weather forecast is for a cool partly cloudy day but no rain predicted in the week leading up to the day. Expected high is 23 degrees with a low of 13 degrees. Track going should be Good.





Strydom explains the vagaries of riding at Greyville

Piere Strydom is one of the best jockeys South Africa has produced. He has been champion jockey five times and has ridden all over the world, including Hong Kong.

He is well-versed in riding at Greyville, having won the Durban July four times as well as the Gold Cup and is just seven shy of riding 5500 winners

Strydom gives his advice to punters who want to bet on the Gold Cup race meeting at Hollywoodbets Greyville racecourse.

"The draw is important over most distances because the track turns continuously, and every race is run around the bend.

"Maybe one can get away with it in races over 2000m and further but over 1800m and 1600m you jump on the bend and the track keeps turning. It particularly becomes an issue if you are caught wide.

"Races over 1200m also start on the bend and if you have even a moderately wide draw, you have

to try and overcome that hurdle as you jump, while you have horses on your inside that are travelling with you, making it difficult to get a position near the inside rail.

"There is a bit of dip approaching the turn and then an uphill as you come into the straight. As a result, it can work in your favour if you have a lead, and nobody tackles you early.

"Basically, it's beneficial to ride a horse who can be placed handily off a good draw. Even if your horse does not jump that well from an inside draw, as long as you don't fall too far back you are at an advantage."

The Gold Cup is run over 3200m and Strydom feels the draw does not play a big role, but the track has other pitfalls. "The 3200m race starts at the top of the straight in front of the grandstand so you have quite a lot of time to overcome the draw.

"Even if you are drawn wide but you are riding a horse who likes to race handily, the field don't work that hard to get a position. Some are doubtful stayers, so they don't want to go too fast too early."

The problem for the riders begins when they hit the first bend and come into the back straight.

"You start that first bend on the turf, then it changes to the pull-up area on the Polytrack after which you go over the road. Then there is

a sharp bend into the back straight so it's a bit of a 'hurdle' course during that stage.

"After that they tend to settle down and if you find yourself in a good position you are well placed for a good run.

"But because some guys ease up at that point, other jockeys use the back stretch to try and improve their runners' positions and attempt to loop the field and then ease back, which can cause a problem.

"The other concern is when turning for home the front runners fall back and others come around you, so there can be a bit of scrimmaging."

As far as riding over 1000m on the Polytrack is concerned. Strydom feels that while a low-numbered draw is still an advantage, a wide draw is not as significant as it is on the turf. "That's because the track seems a little better if you race off the rail so it's easier to overcome a wide draw."

Piere Strydom

Top 10 Jockeys as of 27 July 2022

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place%	Win Stake	Total Stake
Mr W B Kennedy	1600	261	16,3	241	211	301	753	47,1	15 605 063	23 931 575
Mr R D Fourie	1093	195	17,8	172	152	229	553	50,6	16 356 863	22 315 825
Mr K de Melo	1170	191	16,3	170	137	262	569	48,6	12 126 450	18 951 775
Mr S Khumalo	1150	170	14,8	139	128	241	508	44,2	14 458 138	20 661 900
Mr M A Yeni	1404	160	11,4	180	167	290	637	45,4	10 448 063	17 528 463
Mr G J Lerena	693	123	17,7	103	96	146	345	49,8	8 964 250	13 750 375
Mr G M Cheyne	765	111	14,5	102	102	171	375	49	5 387 500	8 305 863
Mr C Zackey	1087	110	10,1	107	117	242	466	42,9	5 916 613	10 152 013
Mr A Domeyer	421	97	23	67	53	104	224	53,2	5 919 763	8 634 213
Mr L Mxothwa	812	89	11	104	101	166	371	45,7	4 675 000	7 975 400

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Top 10 Trainers as of 27 July 2022

Name	Runs	Wins	Win%	2nd	3rd	Other	Places	Place%	Win Stake	Total Stake
Mr P A Peter	1207	219	18,1	164	131	247	542	44,9	15 680 188	22 443 563
Mr S J Snaith	1242	160	12,9	155	161	259	575	46,3	12 034 025	19 853 900
Mr M F de Kock	500	87	17,4	65	56	102	223	44,6	11 404 938	15 521 375
Mr S G Tarry	855	105	12,3	86	90	173	349	40,8	9 738 500	14 226 938
Mr G D Smith	1215	133	10,9	123	117	207	447	36,8	5 936 250	9 250 675
Mrs C L Bass-Robins	on 701	110	15,7	80	68	165	313	44,7	5 626 775	8 878 363
Mr A C Greeff	928	111	12	102	103	189	394	42,5	5 250 563	8 080 450
Mr B J Crawford	540	87	16,1	91	70	96	257	47,6	5 006 200	7 731 425
Mr G S Kotzen	638	72	11,3	71	74	117	262	41,1	4 676 563	7 240 188
Mrs A B Fortune	542	66	12,2	53	74	119	246	45,4	4 212 000	6 728 000



JULIET TANGO	3b F	M G Azzie/A A Azzie		55
2 LOOK FOR HOUNDS	4ch G	Vaughan Marshall	S Veale	59
3 BOWIE	4ch G	Sean Tarry	R A Venniker	56
4 INDLAMU	4b C	Sean Tarry	R Fourie	56.5
5 SAVANNAH STORM	5b G	Phillip Vermeulen	R Munger	53.5
6 REUNION	4b G	Paul Peter	W Kennedy	59.5
7 CAT DADDY	6b G	Glen Kotzen		59.5
8 GENTLEMAN'S WAGER	7b G	Peter Muscutt	T Godden	60
9 DONALD MCDONALD	5ch G	Gavin van Zyl	JP v'd Merwe	57.5
10 WILLOW EXPRESS	4gr G	Sean Tarry	K Matsunyane	58.5
3 SILVANO'S TIMER	4b G	Dean Kannemeyer	K de Melo	56
12 PRICELESS RULER	6b G	Dennis Drier	C Zackey	56
RESERVE RUNNERS ———				
13 ARCTIC DRIFT	5b G	Candice Bass-Robinsor	n Reserve 1	54
14 BACK TO BLACK	4b G	Roy Magner	Reserve 2	53
15 BUSH TRACKER	3b G	Glen Kotzen	Reserve 3	53

The first race is an open handicap on the poly track where there should be very little between two fancied runners **GENTLEMAN'S** WAGER and SILVANO'S TIMER with little more than a head between them when last they met. However, Silvano's Timer won first up on the poly and given his earlier issues this surface could be more to his liking and he can turn the tables. The two meet on the same weight terms. **LOOK FOR HOUNDS** won a cracking good race when making his KZN seasonal debut beating Silver Operator. He switches to the poly and travels an extra furlong but should be right there from a good draw. **REUNION** made sudden improvement when fitted with pacifiers for the first time and did find some long-shot market support when taking to the poly for the first time, finishing a length adrift of Gentleman's Wager and Silvano's Timer. There is likely to be a strong pace from the jump with Reunion a front runner along with **SAVANNAH STORM** who will be the first runner in KZN for trainer Phillip Vermeulen. There is a possibility of these two going too fast too early which will play into the hands of Gentleman's Wager and Silvano's Timer who should be running at them late. **DONALD MACDONALD** goes very well on the poly and along with WILLOW EXPRESS can be included in bigger perms.

AND REFERENCE ODDS

5 GENTLEMAN'S WAGER, **6** INDLAMU, **7** LOOK FOR HOUNDS, SILVANO'S TIMER, **9** WILLOW EXPRESS, **11** REUNION, PRICELESS RULER, **13.5** CAT DADDY, DONALD MCDONALD, **15** & upwards others.

PAST WINNER'S



Selection



1 (8) GENTLEMAN'S WAGER 2 (11) SILVANO'S TIMER

3 (2) LOOK FOR HOUNDS 4 (6) REUNION 5 (5) SAVANNAH STORM

2021	CAT DADDY	5G	Glen Kotzen	M Yeni
2020	GURU'S PRIDE	4 <i>G</i>	Gavin van Zyl	W Kennedy
2019	PILOU	5G	Sean Tarry	G Lerena
2018	ROY HAD ENOUGH (AUS)	<i>3C</i>	Frank Robinson	W Kennedy
2017	MAXIMIZER	<i>3C</i>	Paul Peter	K de Melo



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1	TOTALLY ROCKS	2b	F	Dennis Drier	S Veale	60
2	ANTIGUA NIGHT	2b	F	Sean Tarry	R Fourie	60
3	ONLY HEARTS	2b	F	Michael Miller	S Moodley	60
4	ODE TO THE OCEAN	2b	F	Paul Peter W	Kennedy	60
5	GIMME A SHOT	2b	F	M G Azzie/A A Azzie	S Khumalo	60
6	GOBSMACKED	2b	F	A Janse van Vuuren	K de Melo	60
7	CLEAN LIVING	2b	F	Corne Spies	C Zackey	60
8	GOLDEN HOSTESS	2b	F	Candice Bass-Robinson	A Domeyer	60
9	TAYOOBA	2b	F	Mike de Kock	R Danielson	60
10	RIDE ON	2b	F	Gareth van Zyl	JP v'd Merwe	60
]]	MIGHTY GODDESS	2b	F	Billy Ruiters	N Qaule	60
12	BEVIES DELIGHT	2b	F	Peter Muscutt	G van Niekerk	60

GOBSMACKED (6) looks to be one of the better bets on the card. Johan Janse van Vuuren's filly has won both starts in a common canter and looks well above the average. She started at cramped odds at her second start and made short work of the Mike de Kock-trained **TAYOOBA** who franked that form in no uncertain manner when romping home by three lengths. The opposition is a little stronger and GOBSMACKED could face her biggest threat in the form of **TOTALLY ROCKS** from the Dennis Drier yard. She took time to shed her maiden but since being fitted with a tongue-tie she is unbeaten and romped to a comfortable win at Hollywoodbets Scottsville. She has a plum draw and should make a race of it. Sean Tarry's runners can never be discounted on feature days and **ANTIGUA NIGHT** strikes as a possible upset chance. She was far from disgraced in a Grade 2 feature when trying the turn for the first time and that experience should hold her in good stead. **BEVIES DELIGHT** came in for mighty betting support last run, backed in from 66-1 to 12-1 and was not far back. She is still a maiden but may be worth including in exotics as she has a top rider aboard.



REFERENCE ODDS

2,65 GOBSMACKED, **6** TOTALLY ROCKS, **8** RIDE ON, **9** BEVIES DELIGHT, **11** ANTIGUA NIGHT, GOLDEN HOSTESS, **13.5** TAYOOBA, **15** & upwards others.



PAST WINNER'S

Selection



1 (6) GOBSMACKED 2 (1) TOTALLY ROCKS

3 (2) ANTIGUA NIGHT 4 (9) TAYOOBA 5 (12) BEVIES DEIGHT

2021	MARYAH	2F	Lezeanne Forbes S Veale		
2020	ECSTATIC GREEN	3F	Sean Tarry	L Hewitson	
2019	MONTREAL MIST	2F	Sean Tarry	G Lerena	
2018	TEMPLE GRAFIN	2F	Glen Kotzen	R Fourie	
2017	PRINCESS PEACH	2F	Glen Kotzen	R Fourie	



1	WITHOUT EQUAL	2b	G	Sean Tarry	R Fourie	60
2	SUN BLUSHED	2ch	\subset	Michael Roberts	R A Venniker	60
3	RIDGERUNNER	2b	\subset	J A Janse van Vuuren	K de Melo	60
4	FORMAGEAR	2b	G	Peter Muscutt	C Zackey	60
5	MERCANTOUR	2ch	G	Stuart Pettigrew	K Matsunyane	60
6	OCEAN TIME	2ch	\subset	Peter Muscutt	M Yeni	60
7	MAGIC TATTOO	2ch	\subset	Sean Tarry	C Habib	60
8	CAPTAIN BOMBSHELL	2b	G	Peter Muscutt	G Lerena	60
9	SWING UPON A STAR	2b	\subset	Paul Peter	W Kennedy	60
10	CAPTAIN CASEY	2b	\subset	Tony Rivalland	S Veale	60
11	OUESTION MASTER	2b	G	WDF Badenhorst/BC Kenned	/ I Gates	60

Tough race. **MERCANTOR** comes with solid Highveld credentials and is by far the most accomplished runner in the field. His only recent defeat came when trying 1400m for the first time but has won three of his last four. Of concern is that his last defeat came when trying the turn for the first time which could be of concern. In opposition again today is RIDGERUNNER who pushed **MERCANTOR** all the way to the line at there last meeting and was well supported in the market. He looks more than useful and can turn the tables. **FORMAGEAR** won well over course and distance on debut and was far from disgraced from a wide draw in the Grade 2 Golden Horseshoe last time out. He has a much better draw here and does appear to have further scope for improvement. CAPTAIN **BOMBSHELL** stayed on well when contesting a Gr1 as a maiden. The form of the balance is difficult to decipher as none look to be outstanding prospects. **MAGIC TATTOO** found it tough going from a wide draw on the poly track last time out. He won well enough prior to that to suggest a money chance.



REFERENCE ODDS

2,8 MERCANTOUR, **5** RIDGERUNNER, **6** FORMAGEAR, **8** CAPTAIN BOMBSHELL, **11** WITHOUT EQUAL, **13.5** MAGIC TATTOO, SWING UPON A STAR, **15** & upwards others.



PAST WINNER'S

Selection



1 (5) MERCANTOR 2 (3) RIDGERUNNER 3 (4) FORMAGEAR

(8) CAPTAIN BOMBSHELL 5 (7) MAGIC TATTOO

2021	DYCE	2C	Lucky Houdalakis	C Zackey
2020	ERIK THE RED	<i>3C</i>	Justin Snaith	R Fourie
2019	AFRICAN WARRIOR	2G	Dean Kannemeyer	K de Melo
2018	CHIMICHURI RUN	2C	Sean Tarry	S Khumalo
2017	AL MARIACHI	2C	Brett Crawford	C Orffer

GOLD



1	CANADIAN SUMMER	2b F	=	Darryl Moore	J Gates	60
2	HOLD MY HAND	2b F		Glen Kotzen	G van Niekerk	60
3	TIME FO ORCHIDS	2b F	=	Sean Tarry	K de Melo	60
4	BUTTERFLY BEAUTY	2ch F	=	Justin Snaith	G Lerena	60
5	BLESS MY STARS	2b F	=	Paul Peter	W Kennedy	60
6	MISS DAISY	2ch F	=	Billy Ruiters	M Khan	60
7	LITTLEMARYSUNSHINE	2b F	=	Mike de Kock	S Khumalo	60
8	NONE OTHER	2ch F	=	Lucky Houdalakis	C Zackey	60
9	MISS COOL	2b F	=	Paul Peter	R A Venniker	60
10	ORARARI GOLD	2b F	=	Corrie Lensley	M Yeni	60
]]	ROCK THE FOX	2b F	=	Sean Tarry	C Habib	60
12	WOODLAND RETREAT	2b F	=	Michael Miller	S Moodley	60
13	KILL SHOT	2b F	=	Fanie Bronkhorst	R Munger	60
16	PRINCESS OZMA	2b F	=	Wendy Whitehead	Aldo Domeyer	60
14	AMEENA	2b F	=	Glen Kotzen	Scratched	60
15	READY TO FLY	2b F	=	Mike de Kock	Scratched	60
17	GIRL OF TREGUNTER	2b F	=	Peter Muscutt	Scratched	60

Many in with chances. WOODLAND RETREAT started at long odds in the Gr2 Golden Slipper but was making late progress behind the winner Ameena who has been scratched. Against her is a tricky draw. Also on the wrong end of the draw is **ROCK THE** FOX. Sean Tarry's filly had shown early promise when twice runner-up over five furlongs but was a revelation when sent a mile last time out, cantering home by five. She does have more to do here. CANADIAN SUMMER was run out of it late over 1300m last time out and the stretch to 1600m should suit. She also has the best of the draw to enhance her chances. Tarry holds a strong hand with **TIME FOR ORCHIDS** who came from a long way back when third behind Ameena and Woodland Retreat in the G2 Golden Slipper. She had the worst of the draw that day and has a much better gate here. She is definitely a must inclusion in all exotic bets. Of the balance, HOLD MY HAND and BLESS MY **STARS**, both easy maiden winners, make some appeal in a wide open race.



REFERENCE ODDS

4,5 BLESS MY STARS, 5 TIME FO ORCHIDS, 6 CANADIAN SUMMER, 6,5 HOLD MY HAND, 8 NONE OTHER, 13,5 LITTLEMARYSUNSHINE, ORARARI GOLD, 15 & upwards others.



PAST WINNER'S

Selection



1 (1) CANADIAN SUMMER 2 (11) ROCK THE FOX

3 (12) WOODLAND RETREAT 4 (3) TIME FOR ORCHIDS

2021	RAIN IN HOLLAND	2F	Sean Tarry	L Hewitson
2020	ANYTHING GOES	3F	Stuart Pettigrew	D De Gouveia
2019	GABOR	2F	Gavin van Zyl	W Kennedy
2018	RETURN FLIGHT	2F	Sean Tarry	A Marcus
2017	LADY IN BLACK	2F	Dennis Drier	S Veale



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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	QUANTUM THEORY ROYAL VICTORY RIVER QUERARESS PROPHET LAGUNA VERDE SUPERIOR FORCE NOW I GOT YOU MOVER AND SHAKER COUSIN CASEY GOLDEN PROSPECT BILLY BOWLEGS GRINKOV COUNTDOWN ACORN	2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2b 2		Fabian Habib Glen Kotzen	M Yeni S Khumalo W Kennedy R Fourie C Zackey S Moodley A Domeyer K de Melo G van Niekerk C Habib S Veale G Lerena L Mxothwa K A Brewer	60 60 57.5 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60
15	ESERVE RUNNERS EYJAFJALLAJOKULL RAFFLES WICCAN WARRIOR	2gr 2b 2b	G C C	David Nieuwenhuizen Roy Magner Gareth van Zyl	Reserve 1 Reserve 2 Reserve 3	60 60 60

COUSIN CASEY has been a revelation since being tried over ground and is unbeaten in his last three culminating in a smashing victory in the Grade 2 Golden Horseshoe run on Durban July day. It was a performance out of the top draw considering that he had to contend with a wide gate. Jockey Grant van Niekerk, aimed him wide off the final bend and COUSIN CASEY picked off his rivals with ease. He has drawn another wide gate which is not in his favour but given the ease of his last win the draw and the extra furlong are well within his compass. Runner-up that day, ROYAL VICTORY started at long odds and also arrived on the scene late although the winning margin of 0.90 was a little flattering. He shed his maiden over the course and distance at second time of asking so there are no stamina doubts. Journeyman rider Robert Khathi has given way to S'Manga Khumalo. Muzi Yeni is six winners short of riding 2000 and has an enviable record in feature events. He will have had the choice of a number of mounts but has stuck with **QUANTUM THEORY** who shed his maiden in feature company and followed up with an even more impressive performance. The trip will hold no fears and he has a plum draw. **SUPERIOR FORCE** has never finished out of the money and has been runner-up to **COUSIN CASEY** on two occasions. You ignore him at your peril. There should not be much between **QUANTUM THEORY** and **LAGUNA VERDE** but the former has the better draw which could make the difference.

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REFERENCE ODDS

4,5 COUSIN CASEY, **5,5** QUANTUM THEORY, **7** ROYAL VICTORY, LAGUNA VERDE, **8** PROPHET, **11** GOLDEN PROSPECT, **13,5** NOW I GOT YOU, GRINKOV, **17** & upwards others.



PAST WINNER'S

Selection



1 (9) COUSIN CASEY 2 (2) ROYAL VICTORY 3 (1) QUANTUM THEORY 4 (6) SUPERIOR FORCE 5 (5) LAGUNA VERDE

2021	GOOD TRAVELLER	2G	Glen Kotzen	G van Niekerk
2020	SENTBYDESTINY	3F	Candice Dawson	D De Gouveia
2019	GOT THE GREENLIGHT	2C	Joe Soma	A Marcus
2018	SOQRAT (AUS)	2C	Mike de Kock	R Simons
2017	EYES WIDE OPEN	2C	Glen Kotzen	R Fourie



1	VAL D'ORCIA	3b	G	Paul Peter	K de Melo	59.5
2	BIG BURN	3b	F	Paul Peter	W Kennedy	57
3	CAPTAIN'S RANSOM	4b	F	Justin Snaith	R Fourie	57.5
4	SMORGASBORD	3b	G	Paul Peter	C Habib	59.5
5	ALESIAN CHIEF	3ch	C	Corrie Lensley	M Yeni	59.5
6	CHIMICHURI RUN	6ch	Н	Sean Tarry	K Matsunyane	60
7	GOOD TRAVELLER	3ch	G	Glen Kotzen	G van Niekerk	59.5
8	MASTER ARCHIE	3gr	C	Paul Peter	G Lerena	59.5
9	ZARINA	4b	F	Candice Bass-Robinson	A Domeyer	57.5
10	WILLIAM ROBERTSON	3b	G	Corne Spies	S Khumalo	59.5
11	SUPREME QUEST	3b	F	Corne Spies	M V'Rensburg	57
12	BATTLE FORCE	4b	G	Peter Muscutt	C Zackey	60
13	BOHICA	5b	G	M G Azzie/A A Azzie	JP v'd Merwe	60
14	GALLIC PRINCESS	5b	М	Candice Dawson	L Mxothwa	57.5
RE	SERVE RUNNERS ———					
	ULTRA MAGNUS	6b	G	Peter Muscutt	Reserve 1	60
	EDEN ROC	5b	Н		Reserve 2	60
17	KAYLA'S CHAMP	5b	M	Fanie Bronkhorst	Reserve 3	57.5

There is more at stake than just the winner's cheque and Gr1 black type behind the winner's name. The Gr1 Mercury Sprint could be the defining race of the season in the voting for Equus Champion Sprinter. Star filly CAPTAIN'S RANSOM won the Gr2 KRA Fillies Guineas at Greyville last season but it may be telling that two of her only three defeats have come on this right-handed track. There is no doubting her ability as she showed a blinding turn of foot when winning the Grade 1 SA Fillies Sprint over 1200m down the Scottsville straight but that acceleration was missing in the 1600m Garden Province. She may well prove to be a better sprinter than miler and victory here could see her in through the back door for Equus honours with the Gr1 SA Fillies Sprint already in her pocket.

MASTER ARCHIE has Equus claims after winning the Gr1 Computaform Sprint where **BIG BURN** finished runner-up and was just over a length back to **CAPTAIN'S RANSOM** in the SA Fillies Sprint. **MASTER ARCHIE** had no answers to WILLIAM ROBERTSON when last they met and Corne Spies's runner franked that form before a disappointing effort from a wide draw in the Gr2 Post Merchants.

A win for the **ALESIAN CHIEF** could see Corrie Lensley walk off with the Equus trophy. **ALESIAN CHIEF** is a bull of a horse and by all accounts a handful on the home gallops. He enjoyed the extra furlong when winning the Grade 1 Golden Horse Sprint. If he handles the turn, ALESIAN CHIEF could well prove to be the horse to beat.

REFERENCE ODDS

3,25 CAPTAIN'S RANSOM, 4,5 MASTER ARCHIE, 6 ALESIAN CHIEF, 8 WILLIAM ROBERTSON, 13,5 BIG BURN, 15 & upwards others.



PAST WINNER'S

Selection



1 (5) ALESIAN CHIEF 2 (3) CAPTAIN'S RANSOM

3 (10) WILLIAM ROBERTSON 4 (8) MASTER ARCHIE 5 (2) BIG BURN

2021 PEARL OF ASIA	4 <i>G</i>	R A Hill/S R Hill	S Moodley
2020 VANHALEN	5G	Corne Spies	C Zackey
2019 KASIMIR	4 <i>G</i>	Justin Snaith	R Fourie
2018 WILL PAYS	6G	M G Azzie/A A Azzie	C Zackey
2017 BULL VALLEY	4 <i>G</i>	Sean Tarry	K Zechner

TOLD



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54 54 54

(Open) 3200m - Turf

RACE PREVIEW

The compressed weights in the handicap works in favour of the top weights with all those runners carrying 54kg under sufferance. **NEBRAAS** was voted stayer of the year after winning this race and although he has to carry 7kg more than he shouldered last year, he is still very well in. His recent form has been outstanding, winning the Highveld's top staying race, the Gold Bowl beating **BLACK THORN** and then following up with another comfortable victory in a Pinnacle Stakes race over 2400m. **BLACK THORN** is unbeaten in two starts since finishing behind **NEBRAAS** in the Gold Bowl and kept finding all the way to the line to win the 3000m Gold Vase at Hollywoodbets Greyville. Keagan de Melo was given the green light to ride **BLACK THORN** ahead of stable charge **REX UNION**. Mike de Kock saddles Grade 1 SA Derby winner ARAGOSTA. The Derby was his first venture over the trip and he stayed on strongly to claim victory. Although he goes the two miles for the first time he gives the impression that he will stay the distance comfortably. One is never quite sure which **IMPERIAL RUBY** will pitch up on the day but he showed signs of life when third behind **BLACK THORN** and **REX UNION** last start and will be in good order. Frank Robinson has earmarked this race for his charge **DECORATED** from a long way back and he won well enough last time out to suggest that Robinson will not be far off the mark. **OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE** has shown dismal form this season but did finish third in this race last year. Fitted with a tongue-tie for the first time last time out, he showed major improvement. He stays the trip well and could be the surprise package.

REFERENCE ODDS

3,5 NEBRAAS, **4,5** ARAGOSTA, **5** BLACK THORN, **8** SHANGANI, **15** SHANGO, **17** & upwards others.





Selection



1 (4) NEBRASS 2 (7) ARAGOSTA 3 (5) BLACK THORN

4 (11) DECORATED 5 (13) OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE

2021 NEBRAAS	4 <i>G</i>	Sean Tarry	L Hewitson
2020 PATHS OF VICTORY	5G	Gareth van Zyl	S Khumalo
2019 DYNASTY'S BLOSSOM	4F	Joey Ramsden	N Juglall
2018 IT'S MY TURN	5G	Dean Kannemeyer	A Marcus
2017 HERMOSO MUNDO	4 <i>G</i>	Weiho Marwing	W Marwing



1	RUSSIAN ROCK	4gr	G	Dean Kannemeyer	K de Melo	60
2	ASTRIX	5ch	G	Paul Peter	JP v'd Merwe	60
3	CROWN TOWERS	6b	G	Justin Snaith	C Habib	60
4	KOMMETDIEDING	4b	\subset	HWJ Crawford/M Rix	G Lerena	60
5	JET DARK	4b	\subset	Justin Snaith	R Fourie	60
6	AL MUTHANA	4b	G	Mike de Kock	S Khumalo	60
7	MK'S PRIDE	4ch	\subset	Paul Peter	M Yeni	60
8	LINEBACKER	4b	G	Vaughan Marshall	G van Niekerk	60
9	FIREALLEY	4ch	G	Candice Bass-Robinson	A Domeyer	60



REFERENCE ODDS

2,4 JET DARK, **3,8** KOMMETDIEDING, **6,5** LINEBACKER, **7** AL MUTHANA (AUS), **11** RUSSIAN ROCK, MK'S PRIDE, **17** & upwards others.

Selection



1 (5) JET DARK 2 (4) KOMMETDIEDING

TOLD

3 (8) LINEBACKER 4 (6) AL MUTHANA 5 (7) MK'S PRIDE

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PAST WINNER'S

RACE PREVIEW

S'Manga Khumalo's decision to ride **SPARKLING WATER** in preference to **JET DARK** in the Grade 1 Hollywoodbets Durban Juy did not go down well with Justin Snaith as the talented rider had partnered Jet Dark to two Grade 1 success for the stable, including the Grade 1 Champions Cup. In an ironic twist, Khumalo's has been replaced on Jet Dark by Richard Fourie in the Champions Cup with Mike de Kock booking Khumalo for Grade 1 Hollywoodbets Gold Challenge winner **AL MUTHANA** in a race where JET DARK finished third.

Fourie was aboard **AL MUTHANA** that afternoon and will be bidding for his eighth Grade 1 success of the season on **JET DARK**. Snaith is on record as saying that **JET DARK** takes time to warm up after a lay-off and needs at least two starts to get his engine firing on all cylinders.

As was the case last year, Snaith has included the natural front-runner **CROWN TOWERS** as pacemaker and in a small field of 12 Jet Dark should have it all his own way.

There is little to choose between perennial rivals **LINEBACKER** and **KOMMETDIEDING**, although the latter is in front on current form and results. Vaughan Marshal had **LINEBACKER** primed for the July after finishing a close-up second to **AL MUTHANA** in the Grade 1 Gold Challenge but the gelding did not get the best of passages and finished down-field.

Taking horses from Cape Town to the rarefied air of the Highveld is not easily done as Cape-based horses seldom produce their best. This was seemingly the case with Grade 1 Cape Met winner **KOMMETDIEDING** who put in two below par performances. That opinion was seemingly born out with **KOMMETDIEDING** four lengths back in fifth in the July. But back at sea level with that run under his girth, he could well strip a serious threat to **JET DARK** who he meets on the same weight terms as the July and the Cape Met where he beat **JET DARK**.

LINEBACKER on the other hand is 1.5kg worse off but did finish ahead of Jet Dark in the Gold Challenge at level weights.

Gold Challenge winner **AL MUTHANA** is 2kg worse off with **JET DARK** on their July performance but like **LINEBACKER**, finished ahead of **JET DARK** in the Gold Challenge at level weights.

2021	JET DARK	<i>3C</i>	Justin Snaith	S Khumalo
2020	GOLDEN DUCAT	4 <i>G</i>	Eric Sands	D Dillon
2019	RAINBOW BRIDGE	4G	Eric Sands	R Fourie
2018	CAPTAIN AMERICA	7G	Brett Crawford	C Orffer
2017	SAIL SOUTH	6G	Brett Crawford	R Fourie



1	LYRICAL DANCE	4ch	F	Duncan Howells	T Gumede	58.5
2	MONASHADA	3b	F	Kumaran Naidoo	M Mjoka	57
3	VICTORIA PAIGE	5b	М	Sean Tarry	K Matsunyane	58.5
4	ELECTRIC SURGE	5b	М	Robbie Hill	A Arries	58.5
5	KEEP ON DANCING	5b	М	Wendy Whitehead	G Lerena	60
6	PINK TOURMALINE	4b	F	Brett Crawford	L Mxothwa	60
7	SILVER MARIA	5b	М	Dean Kannemeyer	K de Melo	58.5
8	FOLLOW THE STAR	5ch	М	Glen Kotzen	R Fourie	58.5
9	KAILENE	3b	F	Glen Kotzen	R A Venniker	57
10	MARINA	4ch	F	Candice Bass-Robinson	A Domeyer	58.5
]]	PRINCESS ANASTASIA	4b	F	Gareth van Zyl	C Habib	58.5
12	SPRINKLES	3ch	F	Paul Peter	W Kennedy	57
13	SCENTED MISTRESS	4b	F	Vaughan Marshall	S Khumalo	58.5

The Brett Crawford-trained **PINK TOURMALINE** is a giant of a filly and she ran out a smart winner of the Grade 3 T&B Oaks beating the smart three-year-old Light Of The Moon. Prior to that she was a close-up third to star filly Rain In Holland. She is well in at these weights and should be right there. **MARINA** was deemed by many a little unlucky not to make the July field and ran a cracker from the widest draw in the Brentford FC Garden Province Stakes. She steps up to what will be a more suitable trip and is weighted to win. **MONASHADA** (2) has steady form and ran a cracker in the Grl Woolavington 2000 where she only tired late. The stable believes that she only has the two above mentioned fillies to beat. LYRICAL **DANCE** is way better than her last two. The stable rider is back on board and she rates a money chance at long odds. SILVER MARIA should battle at the weights but is never far back. She stays the trip well and has a money chance. **SPRINKLES** was unlucky to be born in the same year as Rain In Holland but is smart. She was finishing well in first time blinkers over course and distance last time out and can finally be rewarded for a consistent season. SCENTED **MISTRESS** and course specialist **KAILENE** are others to consider.

REFERENCE ODDS

2 MARINA, **7** SPRINKLES, **8** PINK TOURMALINE, **13,5** KEEP ON DANCING, FOLLOW THE STAR, **15** SILVER MARIA, **17** & upwards others.



TOLD

PAST WINNER'S

Selection



1 (10) MARINA 2 (6) PINK TOURMALINE

3 (2) MONASHADA 4 (1) LYRICAL DANCE 5 (7) SILVER MARIA

2021	SHE'S A KEEPER	4F	Gareth van Zyl	S Khumalo
2020	RUNNING BRAVE	4F	Paul Matchett	M Yeni
2019	RUNNING BRAVE	3F	Paul Matchett	M Yeni
2018	MIYABI GOLD	3F	Justin Snaith	M Khan
2017	FORT EMBER	4F	Paul Peter	G Lerena



1	ALL OF ME	6b	М	Corne Spies	M V'Rensburg	53
2	PRAY FOR RAIN	4b	G	Dennis Drier	A Mgudlwa	59.5
3	AFTER THE RAIN	4gr	\subset	Gareth van Zyl	K de Melo	55
4	MOUNT PLEASANT	4b	\subset	Duncan Howells	T Gumede	58
5	ISIVUNGUVUNGU	3b	G	Peter Muscutt	R Fourie	57
6	DANILO DANILOVITCH	3b	G	Paul Matchett	S Khumalo	54.5
7	VASEEM	5b	G	Roy Magner	M Yeni	58.5
8	GALLIC CHIEF	3b	G	Paul Matchett	K Matsunyane	57.5
9	ANNA CAPRI	4gr	F	David Nieuwenhuizen	G Lerena	60.5
10	CASA INVERNO	3b	F	Paul Peter	W Kennedy	57.5
11	WINTER FLIGHT	4ch	G	Peter Muscutt	R Munger	52
12	MR COBBS	5b	G	Candice Bass-Robinson	A Domeyer	57.5

Tough race to round off the day. The striking grey, almost white, **AFTER THE RAIN** tries the poly. He is a strong front runner and if allowed to get away on this surface he will be difficult to peg back. **ISIVUNGUVUNGU** had it difficult from a wide gate and a big field in the Gr2 Post Merchants and had no luck in running. Prior to that he was running on strongly when third behind William Robertson and Master Archie, both Grade 1 performers. He has gone close over course and distance and you should get a run for your money. **MOUNT PLEASANT** tries the poly for the first time. His form is a little patchy of late but he is way better than his last run and the switch of surface could bring out the best in him. The filly **CASA INVERNO** faces her toughest task to date but was game under a big weight in a tough handicap and could round off a record season for trainer Paul Peter. **VASEEM** has come to hand nicely since a break and has his peak run for veteran trainer Roy Magner.



REFERENCE ODDS

4,3 AFTER THE RAIN, **4,5** ANNA CAPRI, **5,5** ISIVUNGUVUNGU, **8** CASA INVERNO, **11** MOUNT PLEASANT (AUS), **13,5** VASEEM, **15** & upwards others.



PAST WINNER'S





1 (3) AFTER THE RAIN 2 (5) ISIVUNGUVUNGU

3 (4) MOUNT PLEASANT 4 (10) CASA INVERNO 5 (7) VASEEM

2021	PRAY FOR RAIN	3G	Dennis Drier	T Godden
2020	CELTIC VOYAGER	4G	Glen Kotzen	W Kennedy
2019	SUNSET EYES	5G	Brett Crawford	C Orffer
2018	KISSABLE	3F	Paul Matchett	M V'Rensburg
2017	RODNEY	4G	Candice Bass-Robinson	G van Niekerk

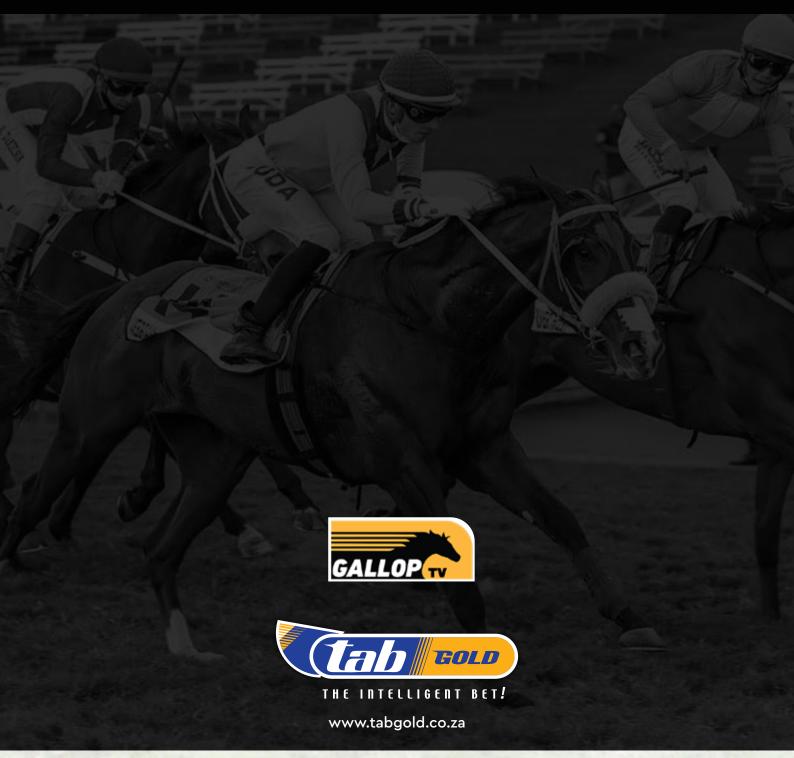


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