

Post Race Write Up 31.08.15

The day started with the Champion Trainer and Champion Horse accolades very much up for grabs with Aly Malzard and Christa Gilbert tied on 9 winners, and several horses in with a shot at being Champion Horse. The ground after the inclement weather was given as soft.

First race of the day was The Hennessy Hurdle, and a field of three went to post for this 2 mile handicap. Dalmo was the last time out winner where he wore Fourni down in the final furlong, with Granit Man a close third. Over the shorter distance the punters had made Fourni the evens favourite to exact revenge. Dalmo under Mark Quinlan jumped off in front, but was soon passed by Richard Hodson on Granit Man and by the time they turned into the straight for the first time Dalmo had been relegated to 3rd. Heading out on to the final circuit and Fourni took over the lead and began to turn the screw on Granit Man who soon came under pressure, and turning in for the final time Fourni had opened a 10 length gap with others hard under pressure the mare was allowed to coast home to an easy 4 length win, from Dalmo who ran on past the third placed Granit Man.

Second race of the day was the Liberation Brewery Handicap over the minimum trip of 5 furlongs, for which 5 went to post. The President owned Country Blue was sent off the 6/4 under double seeking Mattie Batchelor, with Purley Queen next in the betting at a generous 3/1 under Phillip Collington. Last time out all the way winner over 7 furlongs Movementneverlies jumped off in front under Phillip Prince, closely attended by the favourite, with further back the again slow starting Purley Queen. Turning in and Country Blue took up the running and soon opened up a 3 length lead on his pursuers who were now lead by Pas D'Action under Jemma Marshall up the inside, while Purley Queen made ground up the middle. Approaching the last half a furlong and distress signals were starting to go out on the leader as Purley Queen began to eat in to the lead, but the post came in time for Country Blue who hung on for neck victory. This brought up doubles on the day for Trainer Aly Malzard and Jockey Mattie Batchelor.

Feature race of the day was the Ross-Gower Associates 2015 Clarendon, a handicap over 1m 4f for which a competitive field of 8 went to post, headed in the betting by Aussie Lyrics with his last time out conqueror Rossetti next best at 9/4 and the ever green King Kenny next at 5/2. Steely under Mark Quinlan jumped off to make it stern test of stamina, which denied the slow starting Rossetti his favoured position at the head of affairs. Turning in to the home straight for the first time and Steely led Rossetti by 5 lengths, with the rest of the field led by King Kenny close up behind. Rounding the top bend and Rossetti was asked to take closer order, and joined the leader rounding the castle bend, and passing the 5 Steely was shoved along to hold his position on the rail from Rossetti, while King Kenny maintained 3rd from the improving Aussie Lyrics under Phillip Collington. Passing their point of departure and the fast pace was taking it's toll on the front 2 who were both driven, while King Kenny and Aussie Lyrics cruised in behind. Rounding the bottom bend and Nora Looby swept round the outside on King Kenny to lead in to the straight, however Aussie Lyrics had this move covered as he travelled supremely well on the new leader's tail. Approaching the final furlong and the Christa Gilbert Aussie Lyrics hit the front with the minimum of fuss, and was kept up to his work to record an emphatic 8 length victory, while wicked Tara stayed on for second under Hollie Doyle from Herbalist another head back in 3rd, with the gallant King Kenny the same distance back in 4th.

The fourth race was The Jersey's Finest Establishments "Glory Bee" Handicap over 1m 2f for horses yet to win this season. Favourite was the eternal bridesmaid Carrera under the treble seeking Mattie Batchelor, with Beck's Bolero and Lady Petrus next best. Albecq and Lady Petrus jumped off in front at what was steady pace, closely followed by the front two in the betting. The order remained virtually unchanged for the next mile of the race which saw them turning back into the straight with Lady Petrus under Phillip Prince narrowly in front on the outside of Albecq, while Beck's Bolero and Carrera were joined on the wide outside by the strong travelling rebel Woman to make a line of three. Straightening up and Beck's Bolero under Mark Quinlan challenge up the centre while Rebel Woman came stands side with Lady Petrus between them. Approaching the final half furlong and the Karl Kuk trained Lady Petrus began to assert while Carrera ran on to finish a 2 1/2 lengths second, with Rebel Woman running well to keep third under Nora Looby.

The curtain was brought down on the Jersey Race Club's 2015 season by The HSBC Handicap Mile for which a very competitive field of 9 went to post. Punters found it difficult to split them with Lucifers Shadow under Alice Mills being sent off the narrow favourite at 5/2 ahead of Captain James and last time out winner First Cat. The field was led in to the first bend by Ocean Crystal, with Speedy Writer and Fast Freddie close up. Passing the 5

and these three were neck and neck, with Larch next best followed by First Cat. Ocean Crystal was first to give way, while Fast Freddie won the battle with Speedy Writer and lead in to the straight with First Cat and Larch improving in to 2nd and 3rd followed through by favourite Lucifers Shadow. Passing the 2 and First Cat on the stands side had taken it up tracked through by Lucifers Shadow on his inner and these two set out to battle it to the line, or so it seemed. First Cat started to drift across the course carrying Lucifer's Shadow with him, and this cleared a past for Jemma Marshall on Larch to sweep past them both in the final 100 yards to record a narrow head victory from the unlucky Lucifers Shadow.

This win brought up a treble on the day for Aly Malzard who was crowned Champion Trainer for 2015 with 12 winners. A special mention must be made for Christa Gilbert's who finished second with 10 winners at a fantastic strike rate. Mattie Batchelor once again easily won Champion male Jockey with a total of 17 winners, while Jemma Marshall picked up the top female Jockey award with 4 winners.