



NEWSLETTER

Vol 298 March 2023

WA APG Yearling Sale Results...

Hopefully everyone got mostly what they wanted – both buyers and sellers. The average of the 100 sold lots was \$34,615, with 9 withdrawn and 22 passed in from the catalogue of 131. Any passed in lot can still access the lucrative APG Sales Classic races starting in 2024 for the 2yos, if they are sustained by the owners, so don't forget to take a look and see if you like a passed-in lot <https://www.apgold.com.au/perth-2023-results/>.

You need to contact the vendor directly, not APG regarding one of these passed in lots, but make sure you also contact APG to confirm what payments are required from YOU to keep your yearling eligible.

Only yearlings sold/passed-in through the 2023 sale are eligible, if sustained, for \$125,000 2YO Finals and \$100,000 3YO Finals (an increase of \$50,000) for each sex, run in WA in 2024 (2yos) and 2025 (3yos).

The highest priced colt (Captaint Crunch USA - Lavra Florence NZ, bred by Kevin and Annette Charles) and filly (Sweet Lou USA – Invidia, bred by Steve Johnson) were sold for \$140,000 to Tom Erceg and will head to Kat Warwick's stables. The colt is a half brother to Lavra Joe, and the filly is out of an unraced full sister to Red Hot Roxy (Somebeachsomewhere USA), previously trained by Kat.

Bonus payments in February 2023...

Westbreds 121 wins
\$435,000 in Bonuses
\$1.3 million in stakes

Absolute bumper of bonus payments in February, with \$435,000 paid out to owners and breeders of Westbreds. Splitting the amounts, racebook owners received \$327,000 and breeders received \$108,000.

Hoping you were one of the recipients. Don't forget the first lifetime start bonus swung in on 1 January 2023, and that's \$500 to the racebook owner on a Westbred's first lifetime start (in WA). The increased Westbred bonuses for 2yos also came in on the same date.

2YO, 3YO, MARES and WESTBRED OPPORTUNITIES

2yo	The \$30,000 (Listed) Fillies Gold Bracelet is on 31 March The \$50,000 2YO APG Gold Bullion races are on 21 April (Heats on 11 April) The \$50,000 Champagne Classic is on 28 April
3yo	The \$50,000 3YO APG Gold Bullion races are on 21 April (Heats on 11 April)
Mares	The \$75,000 Empress Stakes is on 31 March The \$30,000 Race For Roses (Stand) is on 28 April The \$14,000 WASBA King-Lethbridge is on 26 April (Westbred mares HWOE < \$25,000)



2023 – the \$1 million Nullabor slot race

Certainly warming up for this. You can be part of the "Nullabor ownership" of multiple Group 1 winner and Miracle Mile runner up **Spirit Of St Louis NZ (Sweet Lou USA)** if there are any spots left – go to <http://aaronbainracing.com.au/nullabor/>. Great initiative by them, letting others join in.! Note - at your own risk!!

Announced previously are **Magnificent Storm NZ** and WA bred **Lavra Joe**. The newest starters announced are **Betterzipit NZ (Bettors Delight USA)**, a winner in 1:54.7 last qtrs 26.7 and 27.2 over 2400m on Miracle Mile Night. He will represent TABtouch. Unofficially **Diego NZ** will run for Stephen Waters and Gary Hall Snr, with **Jumpingjackmac NZ** also likely, although not updated on the website people! Get onto it!.

The Bond Team, Jeavons Racing, Swandoo, Regency Foods and JP Pacing are still considering their options. The race will get underway over 2536m on 14 April, with Fireworks to finish off the night with a bang.

2023 APG 2YO Sales Classics

What about those brilliant 2yos, and not to forget the 3yo winners either

Some great racing in the 2YO Heats with winning performances by **Princess Katie (Vincent)**, **Lion Queen (Control The Moment USA)**, and **Water Lou (Sweet Lou USA)** for the girls with placegetters Xceptional Arma and Shes A Mare (American Ideal USA), The Swindler (Control The Moment USA), Manea (Fly Like An Eagle), Copy Cat Queen (My Hard Copy NZ), Tiger Stevie (Tintin In America NZ), with the final place going to Remarkable Rock (Rock N Roll World USA).

The scratching of the favourite Lion Queen, who would have started from barrier 2, did make the \$100,000 2YO Fillies Sales Classic a little more predictable, but it was a great win in the \$100,000 Final by the filly Water Lou (bred by KTC Bloodstock and Kevin and Annette Charles) in 1:57.5 from a valiant Xceptional Arma (breeders Liam O'Connor and Jim Currie), with Remarkable Rock (breeder Allwood Stud) filling the final place.

Water Lou was a \$65,000 purchase from the 2022 APG WA Sale. She is the 8th foal and 7th winner from her non winning dam **Living Hei (Live Or Die USA)** with other winners including **Erskine Range (Four Starzzz Shark USA)** 1:54 \$255,480 and **Im Living The Dream (Art Major USA)** 1:57.4 \$103,431. Other locally raced horses from the family include **Courage Tells NZ (Courage Under Fire NZ)** 1:54.1 \$433,861.



No less exciting for the 2yo boys, although we did have to wait an extra week for the result. Heat winners **Waverider (Downbytheseaside USA)**, **Blaze Away (Sweet Lou USA)** and **Soho Skyfall (Sweet Lou USA)** were super impressive and were followed by placegetters Thelittle Master (Vincent), Grevis (Lazarus NZ), Ten To The Dozen (Art Major USA), Wideawake (Follow The Stars), Greatgreat Boulder (American Ideal) and Thenu Came Along (Bettors Delight USA).

Greatgreat Boulder came out of the \$100,000 Final following an indiscretion in the first attempt, and the final two places went to Off The Charts (Downbytheseaside USA) and Menemsha (Sunshine Beach USA). In a dominating display Waverider (breeders Mike and Sharon Howie) won in 1:55.4 from Blaze Away (breeder Steve Johnson) and Grevis (breeder Girl Power In Pacing and clients).



Waverider was a \$60,000 purchase from the APG 2022 Sale. He is the third live foal from his non-winning dam **Premium Copper (Major In Art USA)**, who is a granddaughter of 3yo Fillies Diamond Classic winner and Sires Produce winner **Copper Strike (Maple Lanes Strike USA)** \$91,644 1:58.8. Other locally raced big winners from this family include Pearl Classic winners **Willowleaf Boy (Perfect Art USA)** 1:57.7 \$74,200, **The Miki Taker (Always B Miki USA)** 1:55.6 \$153,529, **Copagrין (Grinfromeartoear USA)** 1:54.7 \$241,352, **Bettor Be Oscar (Bettors Delight USA)** 1:52.6 \$247,089 and **Caveman (Somebeachsomewhere USA)** 1:51 \$156,059.

Absolute quality in the 2yos and great to see the range of sires and breeders represented, giving plenty of faith in the quality of the Yearlings that go through the WA Sale.

Five of the 6 2YO Heat winners were favourite, and both Sales Classic winners were favourites.

In the \$50,000 Sales Classics for the 3yos it was a great result for 3yo gelding **Lucapelo (Sweet Lou USA)** breeders Kevin and Annette Charles, who has won 3 times from 5 starts for his new trainer.

For the 3yo Fillies \$50,000 Sales Classic it was a win to the impressive **August Moon (Captaintreacherous USA)** breeder Harry Capararo, who has now won her last 3 starts. Both 3yo winners started favourite, so punters were having a brilliant night along with the winning connections.

Congratulations to everyone involved in these events – quite a solid showing from the 2021 and 2022 Yearling Sale graduates.

Not Catching A Wave

Some of us thought that Slot holders were slow off the mark when they didn't try to pick up **Catch A Wave (Captaintreacherous USA)** BEFORE the running of the \$500,000 Group 1 Hunter Cup on 4 Feb, which would have been the only time he was affordable. He was not selected for the Hunter Cup due to conservative selection policies that really need to be overhauled before it makes most of Australia's major feature harness races just ho hum.

This exciting 4YO proved the selectors very wrong when two starts later he should have lost the \$250,000 Chariots of Fire for 4yos, but won. The odds were very nice as well, with his 4th in the Paleface Adios (from 9) the previous start and an ordinary barrier in the Chariots extending his odds out to 16/1.

He then stepped out 2 weeks after the Chariots to brilliantly win the \$1 million Miracle Mile, beating Spirit Of St Louis NZ (Sweet Lou USA) who would have to be classed as extremely unlucky to run second again (last year to King Of Swing NZ) in this great race – although he did collect \$150,000 each time. Getting to the front or the breeze, *regardless* of barrier or track size, results in a 50% win rate and Catch A Wave scooted to the lead from 4, ran a 25.5 first qtr and final qtrs of 27.9 and 26.2, and would have taken a Concord to run him down.



Catch A Wave on the way to the Miracle Mile win

Catch A Wave is from the family of Interchange NZ (New York Motoring USA), which has produced amongst many others the champion **Elsu (Falcon Seelster USA)**, Group 1 winner Cabsav, WA raced Queen Shenandoah and Beltane. Catch A Wave's dam **Bettor Coppagoodone NZ (Christian Cullen NZ)** is also a half sister to 6 times Group 1 winner **De Lovely (Falcon Seelster USA)** 1:54 \$613,355.

Spirit Of St Louis should be here in WA in April for his Slot appearance.

Snippets from the USA and Canada..

☑ Two time Breeders Crown champion and US Pacing Championship winner **Boulder Creek (Pacific Rocket)** passed away at the age of 23 due to colic. Boulder Creek sits in the top 10 for all time earnings amongst pacers with \$3.4 million.

☑ Australia's **Lochinvar Art (Modern Art)** has 3 from 3 in the US and is heading to the Borgata Pacing Series, starting 20 March with \$50,000 Heats. Some of his competitors in the series include Jimmy Freight (Sportswriter), \$1.6 million earner and a track record holder at Yonkers, Adios winner Hellabalou (Sweet Lou)

and 8yo \$1.3 million earner Backstreet Shadow (Shadow Play). Jimmy Freight returned to racing in 2022 after 2 years at stud, having suffered from fertility problems.

☑ Nominations for the 2023 Pepsi North America Cup, to be run 17 June, are up from 61 last year to 86. Leading the nominees is O'Brien and Dan Patch Award winning colt **Stockade Seelster (State Treasurer)**.

☑ In a rare occurrence for the US, a mare is running in open races and winning. Seven year old mare **So Much More (Big Jim)** won a \$48,000 Free For All at Mohawk Park. So Much More has now won 59 races from 130 starts, with earnings of \$1.3 million. She was named the O'Brien 2022 Older Pacing Mare of the Year.

☑ 2022 Dan Patch 3YO Colt of the Year **Pebble Beach (Downbytheseaside)** will shuttle for Alabar in 2023

☑ America is about to get fixed odds wagering. Apparently Australia leads the way in this form of gambling, with \$19.1 billion wagered in 2022, followed by the United Kingdom at \$12.9 billion out of a total of \$44.3 billion globally through legalized fixed odds on horse racing.

And elsewhere...

☑ The only mare in the race, **Braeview Kelly NZ (Bettors Delight USA)** did the girls proud with her start in the Miracle Mile, finishing ahead of some very good horses. At her previous start she ran 1:49.5 in winning the Group 1 \$200,000 Queen Elizabeth II Mile (previously the Ladyship) at Menangle. Braeview Kelly belongs to the same family as triple Miracle Mile winner King Of Swing NZ.

☑ Champions **Copy That NZ (American Ideal USA)** and last start NZ Derby winner **Akuta (Bettors Delight USA)** had to play second fiddle to **Nicholas Cage (Art Major USA)** in NZ's first Open Class Group race for the season. Driven by Matthew White, who spent a bit of time driving in WA, neither of the NZ champions could get to the leader after he showed his customary gate speed, while they settled near the rear of the field. Copy That NZ is still on a path to race in The Race by Grins April.



☑ The 6 confirmed starters for the \$1 million The Race By Grins are **Nicholas Cage** (following his recent sterling performance), **Old Town Road NZ**, **Akuta NZ**, **Self Assured NZ** – all by Bettors Delight USA, Australian bred 2022 Chariots of Fire winner **Bettor Eclipse (Betterthancheddar USA)** and **Copy That NZ**. Four to go.

☑ Gary Hall Snr made it a double in the \$50,000 Pinjarra Cup with his top two horses Diego NZ and Jumpingjackmac NZ finishing 1-2. Neither gelding has started since running 1-2 in the WA Pacing Cup late January. Diego has since won the \$50,000 Governors Cup.

✝ Harness racing icon Peter Wolfenden sadly passed away in February at the age of 88. His name is most recognized in association with the one and only **Cardigan Bay**, but he also won over 1700 races and 14 driving Championships. He drove Cardigan Bay to two Auckland Cup wins and won a further 4 Auckland Cups with the likes of Armalight, Enterprise, Sole Command and Damian, and Inter Dominion Pacing Championships with Rondel and Cardigan Bay.

✝ Another renowned harness racing identity from NZ has passed away. Breeder, owner and veterinary surgeon Dr Anthony Parker died at the age of 80. Dr Parker is best known in breeding terms for breeding **Auckland Reactor (Mach Three CA)** 1:52.9 \$1.7 million and Chase Auckland, but also bred a myriad of other top horses that raced across Australia and New Zealand. The WA raced **The Parade NZ (Real Desire USA)** 1:53.2 \$425,999 was bred by Dr Parker, who was a critical part of National Bloodstock when they imported great sires like Sokys Atom USA, Butler BG USA, New York Motoring etc.

☑ Most states of Australia have multiple Group 1s every year. With the benefit of HRA's new Group racing policy, Tasmania has just the one Group 1 race – AND at \$150,000 it's the highest stakes for a standing start race in Australia. Congratulations Tasmania. Two qualifying heats were run, with winners Check In and Wheres The Gold. The winner was Wheres The Gold who settled one by one before going to the lead with a lap to go.

☑ The 2021 NSW Oaks and Derby winners both came from the 2021 Bathurst Gold Crown Yearling Sale, a pretty good wrap for the sale. The 2023 Bathurst Sale held Sunday 19 March has produced the best clearance rate so far of all the eastern states sales, at 71%, with other sales having pass-in rates of 40 to 50%. The

remaining major sales are Adelaide (26 March), Melbourne (1-3 April) and Redcliffe (Qld) on 2 April. Good luck to everyone who participated or intends to participate in purchasing at one of the Yearling Sales this year.

☑ Breeding successfully in the east is the Mike Howie bred **Delightful Jade (Bettors Delight USA)**. Delightful Jade did most of her racing in WA and was an unlucky performer, but still managed to win over \$240,000. Her first two foals are both Group winners, with Soho Spectre (Art Major USA) the most recent Group winner after her first foal Soho Rhapsody (American Ideal USA) won the Group 1 Bathurst Gold Bracelet in 2022.

☑ Alexandra Park has been rebuilt after being badly impacted by floods in February - how quick was that!

☑ First season sires Lazarus NZ, Rock N Roll World USA, Ohoka Punter NZ and My Hard Copy NZ have all hit the ground running with 2yo winners.

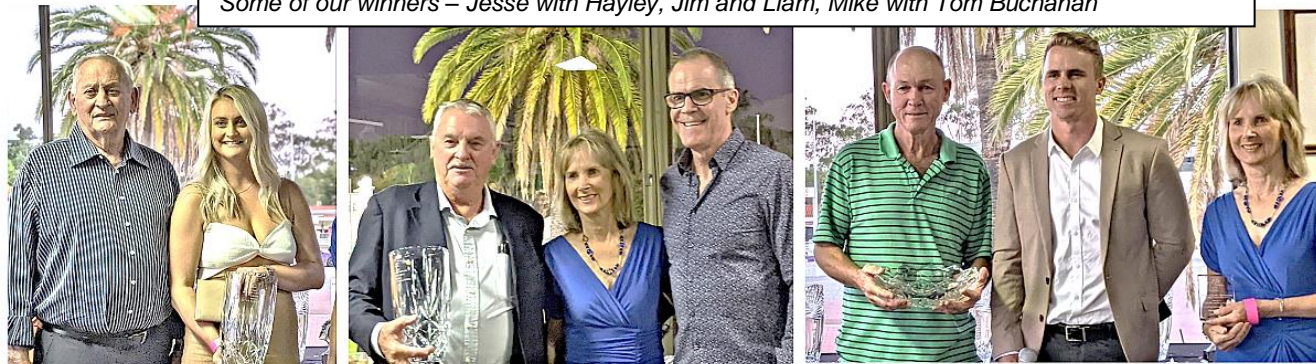
☑ With their numbers already out (why is Australia so far behind?) the services by pacing sires in NZ has dropped by around 100, although they are hopeful this rectifies once the numbers from Cobbitty are in. The most used stallions in NZ in 2022 were Captain Crunch USA (158), Bettors Delight USA (151), Downbytheseaside USA (149), Always B Miki USA (136) and Lazarus NZ (124). Only Lazarus and Captain Crunch increased their tally. The other big mover was Sweet Lou USA, who went from 52 in 2021 to 82 in 2022.

Wasba Breeding Awards for 2022

The WASBA 2022 Breeding Awards were announced by MC Tom Buchanan at the joint WASBA Awards/ APG Sales Classic function at Gloucester Park on 3 March. Other than the winners previously announced (2YO,3YO, and Overall WA based Sire of the Year) the winners were:

- 2YO Filly of the Year – Zephyra (Sweet Lou USA), breeders Marie and Jesse Moore
- 3YO Filly of the Year – Wonderful To Fly (Fly Like An Eagle), breeders Kevin and Annette Charles
- Mare of the Year – American Arma (American Ideal USA), breeder Jim Currie
- 2YO Colt/Gelding of the Year – Never Ending (Sweet Lou USA), breeder Steve Johnson
- 3YO Colt Gelding of the Year – Tricky Miki (Always B Miki USA), breeder Steve Johnson
- 4YO and older Entire/Gelding of the Year – Lavra Joe (Roll With Joe USA), breeders Kevin and Annette Charles
- Breeder of the Year – Kevin and Annette Charles
- Breeding for Excellence Winner - Steve Johnson
- Broodmare of the Year – Harriet Elizabeth (Modern Art USA) breeder Steve Johnson

Some of our winners – Jesse with Hayley, Jim and Liam, Mike with Tom Buchanan



Bob and Marilyn

Nick representing Steve

Kevin and Annette



Never Ending of course was announced by HRA as the Australian 2YO Pacing Colt/Gelding of the Year, a special accolade.

Congratulations to all our winners and those breeders who have continued to supply horses for the WA racing industry. They are all champions

WASBA also provided trophies for WA bred Group 1 winners (Never Ending – Golden Slipper, Taking The Miki – WA Oaks and Tricky Miki – WA Derby) along with a \$500 breeding voucher to be used in WA in the 2023 season. To be eligible for the Open Group winner awards, breeders must be financial members of WASBA and be present or represented at the Awards ceremony.

RECENT MEMORABLE MOMENTS

- ♣ NSW Derby winner Better Be The Best, by the WA based sire Shoobees Place. If you are looking for credentials, this stallion has them;
- ♣ Over \$400,000 in Bonus money to WA based progeny in February– if you don't have one you should breed one or buy one
- ♣ Isn't it amazing that when a driver drives a bad race, the horse gets the warning for tiring



BREEDER OF THE MONTH – February 2023

The Breeder of the Month award goes to a different WA bred horse each month. Previous (horse) winners are not eligible for later WA Breeder of the Month awards. You must be a WASBA member to win a Breeder of the Month Award. All other breeding awards are open to all WA breeders.

Just two months into the new racing season and its been great excitement from all the new stars. However they aren't the only ones that keep the system running smoothly, so its *congratulations* to our *Breeder of the Month* for *February 2023*, Albany's Adrian Shanks, who has put his heart and soul into breeding in WA and one of his 3yos **Runningonempty (Fly Like An Eagle** out of **Starring Live NZ** by **Live Or Die USA**) caused some quick arithmetic in the office when he dead heated at his first race win and the slide rule had to come out to work out his portion of the Westbred Bonus money for his double Westsired win. No matter, he stepped out next start 7 days later and won outright, collecting the full Westsired Bonus. Runningonempty only has 6 starts to date, for 2 wins and 4 seconds – you cant do much better than that.

Runningonempty is the 7th foal and 5th winner from his dam **Starring Live NZ (Live Or Die USA)** 2:01.4 5 wins \$15,545, with her other winners including **Adda Rising Star (Rich And Spoilt)** 1:58.1 \$184,608 and **Rockinthebox (Pet Rock USA)** 1:56 \$85,297. Adda Rising Star is the dam of Group 1 winner **Blue Chip Adda (Heston Blue Chip USA)** 1:55 \$102,357. This is a big family with many stars, but some of the very good winners with a local flavour include **Famous Alchemist (Mach Three CA)** 1:53 \$322,869, **Aliveandwell (Live Or Die USA)** 1:50.4 \$467,815, Group 1 winner **Rich Yankee** 1:57.6 \$137,492, **Can Return Fire (Courage Under Fire NZ)** 1:53.9 \$312,222 and the unlucky **Gracias Para Nada (Mach Three CA)** 1:56.3 \$114,741



Runningonempty (6) in running at a recent GP race

Congratulations **Runningonempty** and owner breeder trainer Adrian Shanks.

WINNERS - WA BASED SIRES FEBRUARY 2023

There were 13 sires represented by Westsired winners in February, producing 29 winners of 32 races. **Follow The Stars** was again dominant with 12 winners of 12 races.

There were 3 multiple winners including 2yo **Del Bocavista Bay** (Bonavista Bay) who won a double at Albany, 3yo **Runningonempty** (Fly Like An Eagle) also a double at Albany, and 4yo **Babysgotblueeyes** (Alta Chirstiano NZ) won a double at Bunbury. For those who don't know, **Bonavista Bay** is a multiple Group 1 winner who won the 2009 Golden Nugget, ran second to Tintin In America NZ in the 2009 3yo Breeders Crown and won both the Vicbred 4YO Final and the WA 4YO Classic, all Group 1 events.

The 12 First Time winners included 2yos **Allamerican Teen** (Follow The Stars), **Copy Cat Queen** (My Hard Copy NZ), **Maximum Rock** and **Worlds Above** (both Rock N Roll World USA) and **Del Bocavista Bay**. All the 2yos benefited from the increased Westbred Bonuses that came into play for them from 1 January. Other first time winners included 3yos **Runningonempty**, **Chewysloosechange** and **Gliding Star** (both Follow The Stars), 4yos **Babysgotblueeyes**, **Follow The Milkyway** (Follow The Stars), **Nyarnyee Navajo** (Rich And Spoilt) and 5yo **Son Of Starsky** (Follow The Stars).

Tragically, **My Hard Copy** joins Alta Christiano NZ having very limited opportunities to demonstrate his sire capability. Copy Cat Queen certainly showed what the millionaire My Hard Copy NZ might have achieved.

Westbred progeny received a phenomenal \$209,000 in Westbred, First Win and First Start Bonuses for February 2023. Included were the 24 first time starters whose connections received \$500 for achieving that first race start. Great to see starters benefiting from two initiatives that WASBA has pursued with RWWA – a first start bonus and an increase in the Westbred Bonus.

In February 2023 there was 1 Westbred winner at premium metropolitan or country meetings:

★ ♠ 6yo **Medieval Man – Renaissance Man** o/o **Crimsonandclova (Bettors Delight USA)**, breeder part owner Graeme Davies, started 2nd favourite with a good draw and the lone horse on the back row, went forward and straight into the breeze role after the 2 horse scooted to the lead, steady first half, head to head with the leader at the 400m, worked forward to lead into the straight and raced home to win the \$18,500 Pace by 4.7m in 1:58.6, last qtrs 28.3 and 28.2.

WESTBRED WINNERS – FEBRUARY 2023

There were 103 individual Westbreds winners in February 2023, winning 121 (67.6%) of the 179 races run. In percentage terms that's the highest value for at least 10 years, and follows the high trend from January 2023. These numbers are certainly helped by the high number of first time starters, mostly 2yos that enter the racing system in the early months of the season. Of note is the high number of 2yos coming through from the 2022 APG Yearling Sale, with over 50% of the lots sold being starters in the APG Sales Classic Heats.

The best performing stallion standing outside WA from a Westbred perspective was **Sweet Lou USA**, with 8 winners of 11 races, followed by Sportswriter (8 winners of 11 races), and **Betterthancheddar USA** and **Mach Three CA** both with 6 race wins. There were 45 sires represented by Westbred winners.

There was also 27 First Time winners in February, the equal highest number to date. Excluding Westbred previously covered they'll were:

- 2yos **Lion Queen** (Control The Moment USA), **Waverider** (Downbytheseaside USA), **Menemsha** (Sunshine Beach USA), **Blaze Away**, **Maddy Lou** and **Soho Skyfall** (Sweet Lou USA) and **Princess Katie** (Vincent);
- 3yo **No Noney** (Rock N Roll Heaven USA); and
- 4yos **Krafty Louise** (Betterthancheddar USA), **Miss Laurel Lea** (Betting Line USA), **Ee Jay Why** (Hes Watching USA), **The Running Camel** (Sportswriter USA), **Speed Force** (Sunshine Beach USA) and **Justfollowmehome** (Well Said USA)
- 6yo **Sumo Tomo** (American Ideal USA).

There were 17 multiple winners for February 2023 including First Time winners Lion Queen, The Running Camel and Maddy Lou. Those not mentioned under Westbred or First Time winners include:

Free Wheeling (American Ideal USA) won at Pinjarra and Northam, **Alcopony** (Betting Line USA) a Gloucester Park metro double, **Beat The Bank** (Bettors Delight USA) wins at Narrogin and Pinjarra, **August Moon** (Captaintreacherous USA) also a GP metro double, **Jill Mach** (Mach Three CA) a Pinjarra double, **Feeling Aces** (Mr Feelgood USA) a Williams double, **Know When To Run** (Roll With Joe (USA) a metro stakes double, and **Showpony** (an Albany double) and **Water Lou** (wins at Bunbury and an APG Heat), both by Sweet Lou

USA, and Cavalry Call (Tintin In America NZ) won at Narrogin and Williams. Top mare **Nevermindthechaos** (Sportswriter USA) won a Gloucester Park Friday night treble.

Total Bonus payments in February 2023 were \$435,000, the best monthly bonus result to date, helped by all the 2yos coming in to race.

Breaking up Bonus payments by age – 2YOs received \$223,000 3yos received \$102,000 and the older horses received \$110,000 – all very good numbers.

Westbreds won 20 races at Community level, 94 \$9,000 level, 9 mini feature \$11,000 races and 16 metropolitan level races. Total stakes earned by Westbreds was \$1.3 million.

Two year old starters (66) was 5 higher than February last year, with 47 actual starters, plus scratchings, in the 2YO APG Sales Classic Heats. There were 18 2yo races run including 6 for the APG Heats. Westbreds won all 18 2yo races, and contributed all but one of the 2yo starters.

The new normal for 3yos sees a repeat of last month with a low number of starters, with 53 starters compared to 86 last year. Bonus money is still available and if you are eligible for the 3YO Sales Classics (which for the 2023 Sale Catalogue will be worth \$100,000) there is money to be earned. There were 13 races (3 maidens) provided for this age group. WA bred 3yos won all 3yo races, as well as 2 of the 6 3yo and over races won by 3yos. Westbred 3yos contributed 87% of 3yo starters.

The number of 4yo and over starters declined from January 2023 but did show an overall increase compared to February last year (545 against 512) as did mares (175 against 166) so slightly brighter results compared to the same month in 2022. WA horses in this age category increased to 347 in February 2023 compared to 331 in the same month 2022. There were 13 races provided specifically for this age group (10 won by WA bred horses), and 5 of the races were maidens. At this time of year, maiden races are important for 3yos and the older horses, and with the major 3yo races at the end of each year this is a good opportunity to provide races for those horses who perhaps don't make top 20.

Wins by Westbreds older than 3yo (87) were 4yos (34), 5yos (21), 6yos (12) and 20 older than 6 years. The oldest winners were 10yo Sanford Tilly (Yankee Sensation USA) winning at Albany and Cavalry Call (Tintin In America NZ) winning at Narrogin and Williams. How important are these tracks for providing these races!

As well as winning the \$30,000 Manea Classic at Bunbury and the \$20,000 Village Kid Sprint at Northam, WA bred horses won 16 of the 36 races run at prime Gloucester Park meetings in February 2023.

Five of the metro wins were by fillies or mares, one Westsired winner and one country feature won by a mare. The remaining 9 winners of 11 races were:

- ◆ 4yo **Alcpony - Betting Line USA** o/o **Kurios (Sportswriter USA)**, breeders Kevin Keys, R Gaunt, did well last season earning \$30,000. A win and a place in January at his previous 2 starts then started favourite from 1, beaten for speed early but went around and retook the lead in the first half lap, even first half, nearly a length clear at the 400m, rounded in front and clear, wobbled over the final 20m as the challengers threw everything at him but got the nod to win the 1730m \$20,250 Pace by a half head in lifetime best 1:56.3, last half 58 flat. Three weeks later, after an unplaced run, started at sizeable odds of 17/1 from 3, settled one out two back after a super quick lead, one by one with a lap to go after a change of lead, 3rd at the 400m in a pressure race, 3rd into the straight and tougher than the others to grab the lead near the line and win the \$30,000 The Warwick by a neck in 1:55.2, last qtrs 28.9 each;



- ◆ 5yo **Aussie Scooter - Mach Three CA** o/o **Jasmin Amal (Sportswriter USA)**, breeder Steve Johnson. Having a great time in stands. A winner last month off the 10m then 4th in the Northam Cup. Next up started inside the 10m line. Quickly away and had the lead after half a lap, not likely to lose from there, led comfortably throughout to win the 2503m \$20,250 Stand by 4.7m in 1:59.9, last qtrs 28.2 and 28.6;



- ◆ 9yo **Handsandwheels – Mach Three CA** o/o **Benjor Maddy Lombo (Perfect Art USA)**, breeder Mike Howie, nice to see him back and doing well. Resumed in December and 4 places from 6 starts before starting 2nd favourite from 7, very fast out for an old boy and straight to the front. Slow lead and first qtr before stepping up to even time, faster down the back and a length clear on the corner but under challenge, got a bit more space at the top of the straight then withstood the late challengers to win the \$20,375 2536m Pace by a head in 1:58.5, last qtrs 28 and 27.6;
- ◆ 5yo **Ifeel Sikdarl - Sportswriter USA** o/o **Millwood Kansas NZ (Bettors Delight USA)**, breeders R, J and K Gartrell, G F J Bond and clients. Won \$42,000 last season and won at his previous start in January. Ten days later started favourite from 3, quickly away and pressed on to be in front after half a lap, avoided the mid field mishap, a length clear down the back, same into the straight but under threat, held on well to just win the \$9,000 Pace by a head in 1:57.7, last qtrs 28.9 and 28.7;
- ◆ 7yo **Know When To Run - Roll With Joe USA** o/o **Heather Mary (Modern Art USA)**, breeder Steve Johnson, \$58,000 last season, resumed in October and just hitting his straps. Started favourite from 3, breezed for a lap before getting the sit over the 2536m journey, made a 3 wide move just before the 400m, raced up to round the corner a length clear, raced away to win the \$18,500 Pace by 12.3m in 1:59.4, last qtrs 28.5 and 28. A week later started 2nd favourite inside the back row over the sprint 1730m journey, settled 3 along the pegs, got an opening 600 from home and was 3 wide and 4th off the back, wide down the straight and just a bit better than the others to win the \$20,375 Pace by a neck in lifetime best 1:54.2, last qtrs 27.2 and 28.9;
- ◆ 3yo **Lucapelo – Sweet Lou** o/o **Glenferrie Clan (Rock N Roll Heaven USA)**, breeder Kevin and Annette Charles, new trainer this time in, won second up at Bunbury by a good distance, then started a short favourite from 5, grabbed the opportunity to lead in the first 200m after the initial leader galloped, slow first qtr before better than even time next 800m, going well at the 400m, no trouble to lead into the straight and an easing win in the \$20,250 3YO Pace by 2.6m in 1:58.7, last qtr 28.4;
- ◆ 5yo **Mighty Ronaldo – Alta Christiano NZ** o/o **Millwoods Delight NZ (Bettors Delight USA)**, breeder Trevor Lindsay. Won the Fremantle Cup, 3rd in the WA Pacing Cup, then started favourite from 3, single file early and settled 3rd on the pegs, still 3rd at the 400m, swooped to be 2nd at the top of the straight and came away in the end to win the \$30,000 4/5YO Manea Classic in 1:57.4, last qtrs 27.9 and 26.9;
- ◆ 5yo **Rocknroll Elliot – A Rocknroll Dance** o/o **Pure Empathy NZ (Elsu NZ)** breeder Mike Howie. Has quietly amassed over \$80,000 in earnings. Started favourite from 3, settled one out one back before moving to the breeze with 1 ½ laps to go, just in front at the 400m, led into the straight, saw off the challenge to win the \$9,000 Pace by 4.1m in 1:57.4, last qtrs 28.4 and 28.7;
- ◆ 5yo **Talks Up A Storm – Artspeak USA** o/o **Typhoon Tan NZ (Live Or Die USA)**, breeder Harry Capararo, hasn't won since his victory in the \$30,000 Pure Steel last June. Started from 5 on the 3rd line of betting, flew out from the barrier to get to the front in a fast lead time, slower first qtr, a length clear at the 400m, gained some ground at the top of the straight and held out a strong challenge down the straight to win the \$18,500 Pace by a half head in 1:57.7, last qtrs 28.5 each.

A number of these horses are first timers at metropolitan level, isn't that fantastic!

WA bred horses are critical to the racing system. In February 2023 they provided 73% of individual starters and race starts, while winning 67.6% of races and 63% of stakes, plus bonuses, for their connections.

How did the FILLIES AND MARES GO (February 2023)

Fillies and mares won 64 (35.8%) of the 179 races run in February 2023. This is the highest February result in percentage terms for the last 10 years, and is 9 more than February 2022 off a similar number of races. An excellent start to the season.

There were 23 fillies/mares races provided in February 2023 (two less than February 2022), with the remaining 41 wins (22.9%) in open races. The wins included 7 (6 Westbred) at Community level, 47 (38 Westbred) wins in \$9,000 level races, 3 (all Westbred) mini feature races and 7 (6 Westbred) wins in standard metropolitan, or FFA or Group level races. Westbred fillies and mares won 83% of the races won by fillies and mares and 77% of their stakes.

There were 53 individual filly or mare winners, from 30 sires, with **Follow The Stars** (7 wins) leading the results ahead of Sweet Lou USA and Betterthancheddar (both with 5 wins).

During February there were 10 multiple winners, including WA bred **Babysgotblueeyes** (Alta Christiano NZ), **Free Wheeling** (American Ideal USA), **August Moon** (Captaintreacherous USA), **Lion Queen** (Control The Moment USA), **Jill Mach** (Mach Three CA), **Maddy Lou** (Sweet Lou USA) and **Water Lou** (Sweet Lou USA). Top mare **Nevermindthechaos** (Sportswriter USA) featured in consecutive months, this time with a Gloucester Park Friday night treble.

There were 14 fillies/mares who took their first career win bonus home for their connections – Babysgotblueeyes (**Alta Christiano NZ**), Krafty Louise (**Betterthancheddar USA**), Miss Laurel Lea (**Betting Line USA**), Lion Queen (**Control The Moment USA**), Allamerican Teen, Chewysloosechange, Gliding Star and Follow The Milkyway (**Follow The Stars**), Ee Jay Why (**Hes Watching USA**), Copy Cat Queen (**My Hard Copy NZ**), Nyarnyee Navajo (**Rich And Spoilt**), Maddy Lou (**Sweet Lou USA**), Princess Katie (**Vincent**), and Justfollowmehome (**Well Said USA**).

In February 2023 (excluding "Fillies Preferred" races), there were 4 races for 2yo fillies (including 3 APG Heats) and 3 (4 last year) for 3yo fillies. *We believe owners of 2yo and 3yo fillies need much more certainty about the provision of races at this time of year, and a longer calendar should be provided.* Another 16 races were provided for 3yo+ fillies and mares, including 3 races for mares only.

Outside of those restricted races, fillies won 5 of 11 open 2yo races and 2 of the 11 open 3yo races, along with 2 3YO and over races.

Amongst the 64 wins by mares there were 23 wins by 4yos, 11 by 5yos and 7 by 6yos. The oldest winner was Sanford Tilly at Albany. Again! Eighty three percent of the wins were at the \$9,000 level and above.

There were 5 wins by fillies and mares (16.7%) at the prime Gloucester Park meetings as well as a feature win at Northam. This is below the acceptable level and requires a shift in thinking for the race program.

City winning mares included Bettor Get It On NZ (Bettors Delight USA) in the feature \$50,000 Laurie Kennedy. The remaining winners were:

- ♥ 3yo **August Moon – Captaintreacherous** o/o **My Samantha Jane NZ (Extreme Three CA)**, breeder Harry Capararo. Lovely filly, \$44,000 last season. Won at Pinjarra then 9 days later started favourite from 3, straight to the lead, easy first half, put the pressure on down the back, rounded clear by a length plus and extended that lead to win the \$20,250 3YO Fillies Pace by 8.6m in 1:57.7, sizzled last qtrs in 27.7 and 28.1. A fortnight later started 2nd favourite from 4, restrained to the rear before moving to be outside the leader with a lap to go, edged closer off the back, just in front at the top of the straight and moved away to win the \$20,250 3YO Fillies Pace by 4m in 2:00.6, last qtrs 28.5 and 28;



- ♥ **Free Wheeling – American Ideal** o/o **Le Chambon (Art Major USA)** breeder Patrick Gilroy, won mid-week in January then Pinjarra in February and coming up for her 3rd in a row – and the only mare in the race. Started favourite from 1 and retained the lead, led off the back and into the straight, withstood inside and outside challenges down the straight and came away to win the \$20,000 Village Kid Sprint by 4.5m in 1:57.2, impressive last qtrs 28.3 and 28.1; and



♥ 5yo **Nevermindthechaos** - **Sportswriter USA** o/o **Dontgetmeruffled (Courage Under Fire NZ)**, breeder Mike Howie. Won two Fillies and Mares FFAs in January then started favourite from 8, restrained from the barrier, settled last mid race, first to go 3 wide with 1000 to go, moved up to second at the 400m, shot to the lead off the back and moved further away before easing near the line to win the \$22,000 Fillies and Mares Pace by 9.5m in 1:56.3, last qtrs 28.1 and 28.2. Missed a place next start then started 2nd favourite from 6, 4th last before shooting forward after half a lap and led with 2 laps to go, clear at the 400m, racing away over the final stages to win the \$30,000 Summer Feature Fillies and Mares by 6.7m in 1:55.2, last qtrs 28.3 and 27.9. Top performance, good second by The Amber Hare. Just to put the icing on the cake, started a week later and initially one out two back before a change of leader with 2 laps to go and now one out one back, 3rd at the 400m, 3 wide into the straight and powered home to just win the \$26,000 Fillies and Mares FFA by a half head in 1:54.2, last qtrs 28.3 and 28.1.

Definite Oaks and Mares Classic material here.

Total stakes paid to fillies and mares in February 2023 was \$689,993, lower than February 2022. However, total stakes distributed for the month was \$600,000 less, so the result was actually reasonable (the Sales Classics are usually run in February but were moved to March this year).

In total 185 Westbred fillies and mares raced in February 2023, an increase of 14 from January. Westbreds contributed 78% of the racing mares and same for 3yo fillies, with Westbred 2yo fillies comprising 100%.

SUPPORT FOR YOUR SPONSORS

We thank our sponsors for their support and contribution to our industry. They make it possible for us to provide incentives such as stakes, awards, rugs, trophies, garlands and breeding vouchers. **They also assist greatly with donations for rehoming.** Please support your sponsors by purchasing their goods and services.

Alabar Farms, Allwood Stud Farm, Woodlands Stud and Gloucester Park are our great long term supporters. **Australian Pacing Gold (APG), Pacing WA, KTC Bloodstock, PSC Bloodstock Services, Australian Premium Feeds and Westbred Pacing,** are welcome additions.

All our sponsors, including those who assisted us on our Breeders Stakes Night are shown next. For website information and more contact details, go to the Breeding News Page of our website www.wasba.com.au :

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- ✓ **Woodlands Stud (freecall) 1800 615 143;**



YOUR COMMITTEE

If you have a genuine interest in promoting breeding and harness racing in WA, have been a financial member for at least one full calendar year and have relevant experience and time to contribute to a Committee position involving meetings and undertaking various projects, please forward a brief profile to the WASBA Secretary.

President	Jeanine Diederich	M: 0407 383 256	Committee	Pat Borg	M: 0433 331 087
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Don't forget to check out the facebook page and website from time to time for news, breeding information, links to various items of interest and contact information. The WASBA website is www.wasba.com.au

And Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WesternAustralianStandardbredBreedersAssociation>

The last WASBA AGM (for the 12 months ending 31 August) was held on Friday 25 November 2022

The **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING** has been scheduled for **29 March 2023**. Meetings are scheduled monthly on the last Wednesday of each month, except on specific occasions and over the Christmas New Year period. If you would like to raise any issues or make comment, contact a Committee member or:

- Send an email to info@wasba.com.au .
- Write to WASBA at PO Box 3237 EAST PERTH WA 6892.
- OR you can **PM us on facebook** or use **Messenger** to get in touch.

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