



# TODAY

October  
2021

## NEWSLETTER

### From the desk of the CEO



Dear Members

Welcome to the October edition of RA Today.

I would like to congratulate all of our feature race winners during the month and look forward to the lead-ins for upcoming feature races.

This Friday, the 29th of October sees the running of the Nelson Mandela Bay Racing Algoa Cup (L) over 2000m and the Racing Association Stakes (L) over 1600m. The Racing Association has proudly contributed to the stakes of both these races with R100 000 and R50 000 respectively. This popular Fairview raceday also sees the running of the Cradock Place Stakes (NBT) and the Wedgewood Handicap (NBT).

Feature racing then moves to the Highveld on Saturday with no less than 6 feature races and 3 RA Bonus races to be run at Turffontein. The Allied Steelrod - Onamission Mile (G2) run over 1600m is the main feature on the day. The RA was pleased to contribute R200 000 to the stake of this race. Other feature races on the day are the Graham Beck Stakes (G3), the HSH Princess Charlene Starling Stakes (G3), the

Yellowwood Handicap (G3), the Golden Loom Handicap (L) and the Java Stakes (L). The RA also contributed R50 000 to the stake of each of the Grade 3 races and R25 000 to the stake of each of the Listed Races. We look forward to an exciting and profitable day's racing.

During the month of October The Racing Association contributed R590 000 to minor stakes in the Western Cape and a further R225 000 to minor stakes and R150 000 to feature stakes in the Eastern Cape. A total of R600 000 was added to feature races on the Highveld as we continue to play a vital role in support of the industry. To date we have paid out R52 500 in RA bonuses with more bonus races scheduled during the course of the season.

This month I am delighted to announce a new basis for the awarding of the equine categories for the Equus Awards going forward. The new method will be based on a similar model to the UK's Cartier Awards. Turn to page 2 to read more on this exciting new initiative.

Since the publication of our last edition of RA Today, I was saddened to hear of the decision by owner Chris Van Niekerk to no longer have horses racing in his colours. Chris is a true gentleman of the sport and will be sorely missed for his composure, good humour and graciousness. We thank Chris for his huge contribution to racing and honour him on page 4.

The Racing Association has recently updated our website. The content and functionality has undergone a much-needed revamp and we encourage

members to visit the site and provide us with feedback as to what other sources of information we can add in order to make your visit to the site more engaging and useful. This upgrade is just the first step in modernising and digitising our services. We plan to launch our new social media platforms in the next few weeks and will keep our members posted on new developments. Visit us on [www.racingassociation.co.za](http://www.racingassociation.co.za)

I take this opportunity to welcome all of our members, both local and international, back to our racecourses for the feature season. Our venues are open and ready to offer you quality hospitality and service. Kindly note that due to Covid restrictions, bookings remain essential. Please find all booking details on page 9.

Warm regards

Natalie Turner, CEO

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# 2021-2022

## EQUINE CATEGORY EQUUS AWARDS

### TO BE STYLED ON UK CARTIER RACING AWARDS

The basis for the awarding of the equine categories for the Equus Awards from the current season (1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022) has been changed to a South African version of the UK's Cartier Racing Awards.

These are awarded each year based on a combination of the following three elements:

- Pattern Race Points System
- Expert Panel Rating
- Public Vote

For the new South African version each of these three elements will carry an equal weighting (33,3%) in the final award calculation. The Pattern Race points system will be based on the result of the season's Graded races, followed by an expert panel rating and a public vote which will collaboratively determine the Equus Award in each of the equine categories.

The list of nominees for the expert panel rating and the public vote in each of the equine categories will be determined by points accumulated by each horse during the season in Graded races, with an exception made for the Champion Stayer category where Listed performances are also to be included. The points system will ensure that South Africa's best races are awarded the most points in each category and each horse nominated to the final voting list has demonstrated potential Champion status.

Grade 1 races will carry more points than Grade 2 races, Grade 2 more than Grade 3, open races more points than restricted-races (by age or sex), and WFA or fixed-weight races more points than conditions or handicap races of the same grading.

Additionally, certain races have been designated "Super Status" in their respective Grading in acknowledgement of their enhanced importance in the pattern of Graded races through the season. These races will carry the most points in each category and Grading.

Points will accumulate for the first-four finishers in Grade 1 races, and for the first-three in Grade 2 and Grade 3 races. Listed races which carry points towards the Champion Stayer category will be awarded for the first-three finishers except in races restricted to fillies and mares where only the first-two will be awarded points.

All Graded performances in the season will carry points towards the Horse-Of-The-Year, Age-Group categories and Male / Female categories. However, the four Distance-related categories (Champion Sprinter, Miler, Middle Distance and Stayer) will EXCLUDE performances in Age-Group restricted races and points for these categories will only accrue from races where all ages may participate.

There are currently 114 Graded races in the season from which points will accumulate for the equine awards. Of these, 29 are Grade 1, 36 Grade 2 and 49 Grade 3. Additionally, 8 Listed races over 2400 metres and further are included for points accrual in the Stayers category.

Six races at Grade 1 and two at Grade 2 level have been designated "Super Status" and will carry enhanced points. All these Super Grade 1 races are WFA races, while the two Super Grade 2 races are WFA plus penalties.

The points outlined above are summarised in the table below:

Category	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Super Grade 1	48	24	12	6
Durban July	40	20	10	5
Grade 1 Open WFA	40	20	10	5
Grade 1 Open Hcp	32	16	8	4
Grade 1 Age restricted	32	16	8	4
Grade 1 F&M	32	16	8	4
Super Grade 2	24	12	6	
Grade 2 Open WFA(+P)	20	10	5	
Grade 2 Open Hcp	16	8	4	
Grade 2 Age restricted	16	8	4	
Grade 2 F&M	16	8	4	
Grade 3 Open WFA(+P)	10	5	3	
Grade 3 Open Hcp	8	4	2	
Grade 3 Age restricted	8	4	2	
Grade 3 F&M	8	4	2	
<b>2400m+ only</b>				
Listed Open Conditions	6	3	1	
Listed Open Handicaps	4	2	1	
Listed Open F&M	3	1		

The Graded races designated Super-status are:

- the Queen's Plate (Gr 1), the Cape Met (Gr1) and the Green Point Stakes (Gr2) in the Western Cape
- the Horse Chestnut Stakes (Gr1) and the Champions Challenge (Gr1) on the Highveld
- the Gold Challenge (Gr1), the Champions Cup (Gr1) and the Drill Hall Stakes (Gr2) in KZN

Significant work has been undertaken modelling the past three seasons Graded Races results against a combination of the new points system, the known expert panel voting outcomes and a simulation of the likely spread of a public vote. This has adequately proven the suitability of the new mechanism when compared to previous Equus Awards nominees and winners.

An updated table will be published monthly from the new year through the season indicating the points accumulation in each category. Final lists will be distributed at the end of the season for the voting by both the expert panel and the public.

The composition of the expert panel will be announced in due course, while details of the public vote will be communicated towards the end of the season.

The human Equus Awards and equine Breeding Categories will continue to be awarded as before based on industry statistics and will not comprise a points or public voting element. The criteria for these awards can be found on the new Equus Awards website [www.equusawards.co.za](http://www.equusawards.co.za).

**For any queries on the new format, and indeed anything else related to the Equus Awards, please email us at [info@equusawards.co.za](mailto:info@equusawards.co.za).**

# HAMBA KAHLE

## CHRIS VAN NIEKERK



Chris van Niekerk started racing in 1993 and it was the start of a very special journey. His contribution to the business and sport of horseracing has been vast and his victories and accomplishments are too numerous to mention. To name but a few he has walked off with the Summer Cup, twice with the Vodacom Durban July trophy and is a three time winner of the Equus Champion Owner Award.

Chris was elected to the Board of the Racing Association in 2002 and held the position until 2007, serving as Chairman from 2004 – 2006. During his term of office Chris was the RA appointee to the Thoroughbred Horseracing Trust and the Phumelela Gaming and Leisure Limited Board. He also served as Chairman of Kenilworth Racing and Cape Thoroughbred Sales. He gave of himself to our industry working tirelessly and on occasions had to take hardships in his stride. But he Never Gave Up – he is a true legend and will be missed and fondly remembered. I am sure that all members of the Racing Association, past and present, join us in giving our heartfelt appreciation to Chris for his contribution to racing.

However, life was not all about hard work. Anyone who had the pleasure of socialising with him will know that he enjoys a good party. His ability in delivering memorable speeches was another one of his numerous attributes and

often you would see his audiences' eyes welled with tears of emotion at the sincerity and humility of this gentleman. His words always came from the heart.

When asked about most memorable victories and some of his best horses, he singled out National Colour as having a special place. She boasted being honoured as 2005/2006 Horse of the Year and was placed second in the Nunthorpe Group 1 at Newmarket when York was rained out for the first time in its history. Other magical moments were Mythical Flight's Group 1 win at Turffontein in what is still, a course record. Carry on Alice achieved five Group 1 victories, one in each season of her racing career and then of course, the two July winners, Pomodoro and Heavy Metal in consecutive years. Chris is proud of many other special horses and Group 1 winners.

Sean Tarry was his trusted trainer and the team enjoyed a lengthy and successful partnership. Chris plans to maintain his breeding interest with Klawervlei Stud and CTS.

Chris we will miss those familiar blue and red racing silks of yours as well as your charming demeanour at the races in the parade ring and at the winners' rostrum. You deserve a rest and the time to enjoy the many happy memories that you have of successful thoroughbreds, the sport of racing as well as its people.

# RA OWNER OF THE MONTH



OCTOBER 2021

## GAYNOR RUPERT

Well known thoroughbred racehorse owner and breeder Gaynor Rupert is the proud owner of Drakenstein Stud Farm. Established in 2003, the Stud is situated below the Drakenstein Mountains, alongside the L'Ormarins vineyards in Franschhoek. Her victories in racing have been significant and she was awarded the Equus Champion Owner Award for the 2017/2018 racing season. It was during this memorable season that the home-bred Oh Susanna became the first 3YO filly in almost 100 years to win the Sun Met and be crowned Equus Horse of the Year. Gaynor has been a member of the Racing Association since 2013. She has also been involved in the promotion of one of South Africa's most prestigious racing spectacles, the L'Ormarins Queens Plate race day hosted at Kenilworth Racecourse. Considered one of the world's great race days, it has grown over the years to what is now a two-day Racing Festival, held in early January each year.

In being recognised as October's Owner of the Month, Mrs Rupert boasted 9 winners from numerous stables during this month which included a RA Added Bonus race plus two graded races.

Seven of the nine winners are owned and bred by Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs GA Rupert), namely, Silver Darling, Safe Passage, Trip of Fortune (Winner of Grade 3 Cape Classic) Amanzimtoti (Winner of Grade 2 Western Cape Fillies Championship), Quick Breeze, Lucy English and Bureau De Legende with the remaining two winners being Supreme Warrior and Cracklin' Rose (Bonus race winner).

We thank Gaynor for her support and contribution to our industry.



Highveld Racing and the Racing Association is proud to announce the return of the:



1st place: R2500 and a trophy

2nd place: R1000

3rd place: R 750

4th place: R 500

5th place: R 250



## THE HORSES BEST FRIEND

"IN THE QUIET LIGHT OF THE STABLE, YOU HEAR A MUFFLED SNORT, A STAMP OF AHOOF, FRIENDLY SNICKER. GENTLE EYES ENQUIRE "HOW ARE YOU OLD FRIEND?" AND SUDDENLY, ALL YOUR TROUBLES FADE AWAY."

## QUALIFYING RACES - 2021 / 2022

Month	Date	Venue	Race	Grade
Oct	30	TURF (S)	Allied Steelrode - Onamission Mile	Grade 2
	30	TURF (S)	Graham Beck Stakes	Grade 3
	30	TURF (S)	HSH Princess Charlene Starling Stakes	Grade 3
	30	TURF (S)	Yellowwood Handicap	Grade 3
Nov	06	TURF (S)	Victory Moon Stakes	Grade 3
	13	TURF (S)	Fillies Mile	Grade 3
	27	TURF (S)	Gauteng Summer Cup	Grade 1
	27	TURF (S)	Dingaans	Grade 2
	27	TURF (S)	Ipi Tombe Challenge	Grade 2
	27	TURF (S)	Merchants	Grade 2
	27	TURF (S)	Magnolia Handicap	Grade 3
Dec	27	TURF (S)	Lebelo Sprint	Grade 3
Jan	01	TURF (S)	London News Stakes	Grade 3
	01	TURF (S)	Tony Ruffel Stakes	Grade 3
		TURF (S)	Three Troikas Stakes	Grade 3
	22	TURF (S)	Sea Cottage Stakes	Grade 3
Feb	05	TURF (S)	WSB Gauteng Guineas	Grade 2
	05	TURF (S)	Wilgerbosdrift Gauteng Fillies Guineas	Grade 2
	05	TURF (S)	Tommy Hotspur Handicap	Grade 3
	26	TURF (S)	Acacia Handicap	Grade 3
Mar	05	TURF (S)	WSB SA Classic	Grade 1
	05	TURF (S)	Wilgerbosdrift SA Fillies Classic	Grade 1
	05	TURF (S)	Hawaii Stakes	Grade 2
	12	TURF (S)	Senor Santa Stakes	Grade 2
	19	TURF (S)	Sycamore Sprint	Grade 3
	26	TURF (S)	Colorado King Stakes	Grade 2
	26	TURF (S)	Protea Stakes	Grade 3
	26	TURF (S)	Pretty Polly Stakes	Grade 3
Apr	02	TURF (S)	WSB SA Derby	Grade 1
	02	TURF (S)	H F Oppenheimer Horse Chestnut Stakes	Grade 1
	02	TURF (S)	Wilgerbosdrift SA Oaks	Grade 2
	02	TURF (S)	Caradoc Gold Cup	Grade 3
	02	TURF (S)	Man O' War Sprint	Grade 3
	16	TURF (S)	HSH Princess Charlene Empress Club Stakes	Grade 1
	30	TURF (S)	Premier's Champions Challenge	Grade 1
	30	TURF (S)	Computaform Sprint	Grade 1
	30	TURF (S)	SA Nursery	Grade 2
	30	TURF (S)	Gerald Rosenberg Stakes	Grade 2
	30	TURF (S)	Camellia Stakes	Grade 2
	30	TURF (S)	S A Fillies Nursery	Grade 2
	30	TURF (S)	Gold Bowl	Grade 3
Jun	05	TURF (S)	Betting World Jubilee Handicap	Grade 3



*chase.*

## Feature Race Winners

**2 October 2021**  
**Western Cape – Durbanville**

**Diana Stakes (G3)**

**Captain's Ransom**

*Jockey:* Richard Fourie

*Trainer:* Justin Snaith

*Owner:* Mrs S Viljoen

**Matchem Stakes (G3)**

**Seeking The Stars**

*Jockey:* Anton Marcus

*Trainer:* Vaughan Marshall

*Owner:* Mr RM Sewgoolam

**3 October 2021**  
**Highveld – Turffontein**

**Joburg Spring F&M Challenge (G2)**

**Big Burn**

*Jockey:* Warren Kennedy

*Trainer:* Paul Peter

*Owner:* ASSM Racing Syndicate  
(Nom: Mr A Chadha) and Mr I Levitan

**Joburg Spring Challenge (G2)**

**MK's Pride**

*Jockey:* Warren Kennedy

*Trainer:* Paul Peter

*Owner:* Mr MK Nkale

**17 October 2021**  
**Kwa-Zulu Natal – Greyville**

**Michaelmas Handicap (L)**

**Donald McDonald**

*Jockey:* Warren Kennedy

*Trainer:* Gareth van Zyl

*Owner:* Messrs RG Coppin & JF &  
LMF Wernars

**23 October 2021**  
**Western Cape – Kenilworth**

**Cape Classic (G3)**

**Trip Of Fortune**

*Jockey:* Aldo Domeyer

*Trainer:* Candice Bass-Robinson

*Owner:* Drakenstein Stud  
(Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)

**Western Cape Fillies Championship (G2)**

**Amanzimtoti**

*Jockey:* Aldo Domeyer

*Trainer:* Candice Bass-Robinson

*Owner:* Drakenstein Stud  
(Nom: Mrs GA Rupert)

# Feature Races -

## November 2021

DATE	W Cape	Gauteng	E Cape	KZN
Nov, 6	Laissefaire Stakes LR Woolavington Stakes LR Cape Mile NB	Victory Moon Stakes G3 Gardenia Hcp LR		
Nov, 13		Fillies Mile G3		
Nov, 19			November Stakes NB	
Nov, 20	Cape Merchants G2 Concorde Cup G2			
Nov, 26			Glendore Sprint NB	
Nov, 27		Summer Cup G1 Dingaans G2 Ipi Tombe Challenge G2 Merchants G3 Magnolia Hcp G3 Racing Association Hdcp LR		



# RA Bonus Races

## Western Cape

Sat 6 Nov - Kenilworth	WR MP 1200m
Sat 20 Nov - Kenilworth	WR MP 1000m MP F&M 1000m
Sat 4 Dec - Kenilworth	MP 1200m MP F&M 1200m MP 1600m
Sat 18 Dec - Kenilworth	MP 1600m MP F&M 1600m
Fri 7 Jan - Kenilworth	MP 1200m MP F&M 1400m
Sat 8 Jan - Kenilworth	WR MP F&M 1200m MP 1400m
Sun 23 Jan - Kenilworth	WR MP 1200m MP F&M 1200m MP 2000m MP F&M 2000m
Sat 29 Jan - Kenilworth	MP 1400m MP F&M 1400m

## Highveld

Sat 30 Oct - Turffontein Standside	MP 1160m MP 1600m MP F&M 1600m
Sat 27 Nov - Turffontein Standside	MP 1600m MP F&M 1600m MP 2000m
Sat 11 Dec - Vaal	MP 1600m MP F&M 1600m
Sat 18 Dec - Turffontein Standside	MP 1160m MP F&M 1160m

## Eastern Cape

Fri 24 Dec - Fairview Poly	MP F&M 1600m MP 2200m
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## RA Bonus Race Winners

Congratulations to Messrs RC Marias, GM Kotzen, ST Dev Naidoo, AM Owens & Mrs Sharon Kotzen, Mr WGC Miller, Mr GD Smith, Drakenstein Stud (Nom Mrs GA Rupert) and Mrs PA Isdell



# Competition Time

All members in good standing are invited to enter a competition, the prize being a classy box framed miniature of your silks courtesy of Odds On Colours. In order to enter, kindly send an email through to [natalie@racingassociation.co.za](mailto:natalie@racingassociation.co.za) with your name and contact details by midnight on the 24 November 2021. All eligible entries will be entered into a random draw and the winner will be announced in the October edition of RA Today. T's and C's apply.



## Welcome to new RA members:

Mr Ravi Naidoo  
Mrs Geraldine Ryman  
Ms Sibongile Moyo  
Mrs Nicole Botha  
Mr Craig Solomon Naidoo  
Mrs Nalini Pillay  
Mr Alan Pillay

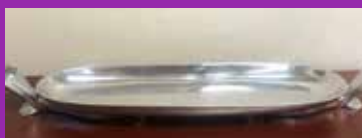


THE RACING ASSOCIATION  
CONTINUES TO PLAY A VITAL  
ROLE IN **SUPPORTING** OUR  
**HORSERACING INDUSTRY.**

## Competition Winner

The winner of the Carrol Boyes platter courtesy of Innovative Glass Design is **Dale Stonebridge**.

**Congratulations on your win!**



- BONUS STAKES RACES FOR RA MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING TOTTALLING R 1 MILLION FOR THE SEASON
- STAKES SUPPORT FOR HORSERACING TOTTALLING R 4,5 MILLION UNTIL THE END OF DECEMBER 2021
- FREE ACCESS TO TELLYTRACK.COM
- DEDICATED MEMBERS RESTAURANT AT TURFFONTEIN, VAAL, FAIRVIEW, KENILWORTH AND DURBANVILLE RACECOURSES
- INVITATIONS AS GUESTS OF THE RACING ASSOCIATION FOR GRADE ONE RACE OWNERS, SPECIAL RACEDAYS, GIVEAWAYS AND COMPETITIONS.

## BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

BY CONTACTING [PENNY@RACINGASSOCIATION.CO.ZA](mailto:PENNY@RACINGASSOCIATION.CO.ZA) OR VISITING [WWW.RACINGASSOCIATION.CO.ZA](http://WWW.RACINGASSOCIATION.CO.ZA)

## THE RACING ASSOCIATION CONTACT DETAILS: Head Office | (011) 683-3220

### Race Day Bookings:

Turffontein Racecourse	Elevation Room (RA Members) Contact Angie (011) 683 3220 or <a href="mailto:angie@racingassociation.co.za">angie@racingassociation.co.za</a> Furious Room Contact Khanya (011) 681 1796 or <a href="mailto:khanyal@phumelela.com">khanyal@phumelela.com</a>
Vaal Racecourse	Contact Angie (011) 683 3220 or <a href="mailto:angie@racingassociation.co.za">angie@racingassociation.co.za</a>
Fairview Racecourse	HB Christian Room Contact Gail on (041) 372 1859 or email <a href="mailto:gailr@phumelela.com">gailr@phumelela.com</a>
Kenilworth & Durbanville Racecourse	Contact Shihaam (021) 700 1625 or (081) 092 2068 or <a href="mailto:shihaamh@kenilworthracing.com">shihaamh@kenilworthracing.com</a>