



# ROA TODAY

## NEWSLETTER

March 2024

## From the desk of the CEO

Dear Members

Welcome to the March edition of ROA Today.

This month has ushered in some very positive news for the horseracing and breeding industry in South Africa. The South African Equine Health and Protocols (SAEHP) announced the reinstatement for the direct export of horses out of South Africa to the European Union. This is a landmark development and I'm very proud to note that the ROA has supported this initiative over several years. The ROA contributed in excess of R5,8 million to SAEHP since 2018 and we are delighted with the knock-on effect this will have throughout the entire value chain of racing, the opportunities for international racing success for our owners as well as the overall advancement in equine health standards in South Africa. I must acknowledge all of the other funders and thank the team at SAEHP, under the leadership of Adrian Todd and David Abery for getting this over the line. Turn to page 2 for more on this exciting development.

During the month of March, the ROA hosted two Social Member events both in the Eastern Cape and on the Highveld. In Gqeberha, we hosted a breakfast and stable tour and just last week Saturday we enjoyed the company of members and their guests at a behind the scenes raceday tour at Turffontein. I must thank the ROA team in

both regions for their assistance and good hospitality as well as the film crew from the daily racing talk show, Racing Today, who captured the raceday experience so perfectly. Both days were very successful, and we look forward to holding many more of these kinds of experiences in future. Turn to page 3 and 6 for a review of these events and a link to the episode of Racing Today, highlighting ROA Social Membership.

Champions Day is the pinnacle of the Highveld Championships season and takes place on Saturday the 6th of April at "the Big T". This raceday includes the running of the TAB SA Derby (G1), the TAB Empress Club Stakes (G1), the World Pool Premiers Champions Challenge (G1) and the Jonsson Workwear Computaform Sprint (G1). With four Grade 1's and four Grade 2 races on the day, it promises to be an exceptional day's racing. Turn to page 4 for more information. This year, Champions Day is also a World Pool event in partnership with the Hong Kong Jockey Club, click [here](#) for a short clip on why this partnership is so important and the significant impact and reach it will create for Champions Day globally.

The National Yearling Sales takes place at the TBA Complex in Germiston on Thursday 18th and Friday the 19th of April 2024. We invite you to visit us at the sale and use the opportunity to engage with myself and other ROA members. Directors of the ROA will also be in attendance as well as all staff members, who will make themselves

## Contents

Direct Exports from SA to EU Approved	2
Eastern Cape Social Member Event	3
Champions Day 2024	4-5
Highveld Social Member Event	6
Racing Today streaming	8
Owner of the Month	10
Life Member profile	11
Feature Race winners	12-13
Feature Races - April	14
ROA Bonus race winners	15
Bonus Race Schedule - April	16
New Members & Competition Time	17

available for any queries or information you may have on membership. We invite you to bring friends and family along too and encourage them to become involved in the thrilling world of horseracing. You can find the [online catalogue here](#).

In closing, I was saddened to hear of the passing of two of our long-standing Western Cape ROA members. On behalf of the Board and staff members of the ROA, I offer our sincerest condolences to the family and friends of both Mr Rodney Dunn and Dr Hassen Adams.



Natalie Turner  
CEO

# Direct Exports from SA to EU Approved



**South African Equine Health and Protocols (SAEHP) is pleased to provide an important and exciting update regarding the re-opening of European Union (EU) export markets to the various equine disciplines in South Africa.**

**SAEHP, in conjunction with the South African Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD), advises that DALRRD has received official notification that the reinstatement of direct exports of registered equines from South Africa to the EU has been approved.**

This official notification followed a meeting of the EU Commission Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed – Controls and Import Conditions Section whereby the EU Member States endorsed the Commission's proposal for an amendment to Annex IV of the Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/404.

This amendment places South Africa's African Horse Sickness (AHS) free zone back on the Annex IV list as an authorised zone within South Africa from which registered equines are authorised for direct entry into the EU following the required in-country pre-export quarantine period.

It is 13 years since South Africa was last able to export registered equines directly to the EU. SAEHP was formed in 2018 and has been working with the South African Government for the past six years to achieve this export milestone. It has taken longer than originally anticipated, with the main reason being that Covid affected the first official EU audit timing, scheduled for 2020, but with the audit rescheduled and carried out in 2022 and subsequent communications between DALRRD and the EU authorities, the reinstatement of direct EU equine exports has now been granted. The most challenging hurdle has now been surpassed, and the implementation of exports will be straightforward.

The workstreams to achieve this success have been long and complex. SAEHP would like to sincerely thank the South African Government, DALRRD, the Western Cape Veterinary Services, SAEHP's various funders in South Africa, The Hong Kong Jockey Club, the National Horseracing Authority (NHA), the Kenilworth Quarantine Station, the Thoroughbred Breeders Association as well as all the participants in the audit process, the laboratories,

trainers, stud farms, registering authorities (NHA, Stud Book, and South African Equestrian Federation), stop over quarantine facilities and last but not least the SAEHP board members, management and staff for together achieving this important outcome.

This is a very positive development for both the South African thoroughbred racing industry as well as for other equine disciplines in the country and the re-opening of normal trade will have many benefits, including in time the creation of further jobs in this employment intensive industry.

The reinstatement of direct exports to the EU may lead to other export markets deciding to invest in South African horses, either by exporting via the EU or exporting directly from South Africa. This will lead to greater interest in South African yearlings and horses in training of all equine disciplines, benefiting breeders and owners who choose to either sell to overseas buyers or compete internationally.

Dr Mpho Maja, Director Animal Health at DALRRD, said "I am very pleased with the outcome; this shows that when we work together, we can achieve what is thought to be impossible. I send my gratitude to the equine industry and provincial veterinary services for the support provided in ensuring compliance to the requirements. I look forward to our horses flying the flag internationally and making us all proud."

David Abery, Chairman of SAEHP, said "This is very exciting news, and thank you to everyone involved in making it happen. It is anticipated that this opening up of direct EU exports will, over time, give a significant boost to not just the South African thoroughbred racing and breeding industry, but also to the other equine disciplines, all of which have been somewhat internationally isolated for many years."

"It is vital that what has now been achieved is maintained, and we look forward to working with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the functions of SAEHP are well funded and developed as required, so that we can support industry in maximising the value which flows from an efficient and strong horse export system."

---

*Notes: This EU amendment will come into effect after publication in the Official Journal of the European Union which is expected to occur shortly. SAEHP will advise when this publication has been made.*

*The pre-export quarantine period will take place at the existing Kenilworth Quarantine Station, exports will be then able to take place from the AHS free zone in Cape Town directly to the EU. Further information will be disseminated in due course.*

---

# Eastern Cape Social Member Breakfast

The Racehorse Owners Association hosted an early morning Social Member Breakfast and stable visit at Fairview Racecourse on Saturday the 9th of March. Guests were able to interact with the horses and watch them doing some track work. We were also lucky enough to catch the farrier on duty and watch him carrying out some vital behind-the-scenes work. By all accounts, the group in attendance had a wonderful time.

We would like to thank Sharon Kotzen Racing as well as Gavin Smith Racing along with their respective teams, for allowing us to visit their yards.



# CHAMPIONS DAY 2024

The global racing community is thrilled to witness a historic Champions Day in South Africa on Saturday April the 6th. 4Racing & The Hong Kong Jockey Club have come together to make Champions Day a truly international horse racing event. Hosted at Turffontein Racecourse by 4Racing, this year's Champions Day promises to be the most exciting yet, with the race meeting hosting four World Pool races for the first time, elevating the excitement to unprecedented heights.

Racegoers on the day will enjoy an immersive, family-friendly experience with a variety of food stalls and entertainment for kids at the Turffontein Racecourse. Festivities will also include the second edition of the Parade Ring Party, this time featuring award-winning South African break-dancing champion and Hip Hop & Afro DJ Courtnae Paul. Entertainment will begin after the main race and entry into the Parade Ring party is free for everyone.

## Here are the final fields:

THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

### FINAL FIELD

EMPERESS CLUB STAKES (GR1)



WORLD POOL

NO.	Horse Name	Draw	Jockey	Trainer
1	HUMDINGER	5	Piere Strydom	Mike de Kock
2	GILDED BUTTERFLY	6	Kabelo Matsunyane	Stuart Pettigrew
3	EMIRATE GINA	3	S'manga Khumalo	Roy Magner
4	PERFECT WITNESS	4	Diego De Gouveia	Candice Dawson
5	LADY OF POWER	1	Muzi Yeni	M G Azzie/A A Azzie
6	GIMME A NOTHER	8	Juan Paul v'd Merwe	Mike de Kock
7	MRS GERIATRIX	7	Richard Fourie	Sean Tarry
8	BAVARIAN BEAUTY	2	Calvin Habib	Tony Peter

#2024racing  
#takeabet  
www.4racing.com





THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

### FINAL FIELD

JONSSON WORKWEAR COMPUTAFORM SPRINT (GR1)



WORLD POOL

NO.	Horse Name	Draw	Jockey	Trainer
1	DYCE	12	Craig Zackey	Lucky Houdalakis
2	WILLIAM ROBERTSON	4	S'manga Khumalo	Corne Spies
3	THUNDERSTRUCK	11	Richard Fourie	Sean Tarry
4	MOVER AND SHAKER	5	Denis Schwarz	Fabian Habib
5	SHELDON	3	Hennie Greyling	J A Janse van Vuuren
6	RULERSHIP	9	Kabelo Matsunyane	Tony Peter
7	PRAY FOR RAIN	7	Serino Moodley	Carl Hewitson
8	ZIYASHA	10	Muzi Yeni	Clinton Binda
9	READY TO CHARGE	1	Juan Paul v'd Merwe	M G Azzie/A A Azzie
10	KISS ME CAPTAIN	6	Rachel Venniker	M G Azzie/A A Azzie
11	IPHIKO	8	Marco V'Rensburg	Mike de Kock
12	GOLDEN SICKLE	2	Calvin Habib	Tony Peter

#2024racing  
#takeabet  
www.4racing.com






**FINAL FIELD**  
TAB SA DERBY (GR1)

WORLD POOL  
GET INTO THE WORLD

NO.	Horse Name	Draw	Jockey	Trainer
1	PURPLE PITCHER	6	Kabelo Matsunyane	Robyn Klaasen
2	HOTARUBI	4	S'manga Khumalo	Sean Tarry
3	PURE PREDATOR	9	Richard Fourie	Fanie Bronkhorst
4	MONDIAL	5	Muzi Yeni	M G Azzie/A A Azzie
5	PRESLEY	8	Gavin Lerena	J A Janse van Vuuren
6	MARAUDING HORDE	2	Marco V'Rensburg	Mike de Kock
7	VIVA BRAZIL	7	Craig Zackey	Lucky Houdalakis
8	GEORGE HANDEL	13	Piere Strydom	Fanie Bronkhorst
9	TWENTY DRACHMA'S	11	Philasande Mxoli	Stuart Pettigrew
10	SHOOT THE RAPIDS	12	Calvin Habib	Frank Robinson
11	ATARIME	3	Rachel Venniker	Paul Matchett
12	THUNEE PLAYA	1	Denis Schwarz	Lorenzo Karriem
13	TAXHAVEN	10	*Malesela Katjedi	Paul Matchett

**FINAL FIELD**  
WORLD POOL PREMIER'S CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE (GR1)

WORLD POOL  
GET INTO THE WORLD

NO.	Horse Name	Draw	Jockey	Trainer
1	DAVE THE KING	1	Piere Strydom	Mike de Kock
2	PUERTO MANZANO (ARG)	5	Gavin Lerena	J A Janse van Vuuren
3	COUSIN CASEY	13	Richard Fourie	Sean Tarry
4	ZEUS	6	Denis Schwarz	Fabian Habib
5	WINCHESTER MANSION	10	Kabelo Matsunyane	Brett Crawford
6	WITHOUT QUESTION	9	Rachel Venniker	Justin Snaith
7	ROYAL VICTORY	3	Muzi Yeni	Nathan Kotzen
8	SON OF RAJ	7	S'manga Khumalo	Weiho Marwing
9	ARAGOSTA	2	Marco V'Rensburg	Mike de Kock
10	FUTURE PEARL	4	Serino Moodley	Sean Tarry
11	SAFE PASSAGE	11	Juan Paul v'd Merwe	Mike de Kock
12	LITIGATION	14	Craig Zackey	Sean Tarry
13	MERIDIUS	8	Calvin Habib	Tony Peter
14	STREET ART	12	Tristan Godden	Tony Peter

**FINAL FIELD**  
WILGERBOSDRIFT BRIDGET OPPENHEIMER SA OAKS (GR2)

NO.	Horse Name	Draw	Jockey	Trainer
1	SILVER SANCTUARY	4	Richard Fourie	Mike de Kock
2	MY SOUL MATE	6	Piere Strydom	Candice Dawson
3	LET'S GO NOW	7	S'manga Khumalo	Sean Tarry
4	BEATING WINGS	5	Calvin Habib	Stuart Pettigrew
5	FRANCES ETHEL	3	Kabelo Matsunyane	Brett Crawford
6	SUKHUMVIT	1	Juan Paul v'd Merwe	Alec Laird
7	EXPLOSIVE BOND	8	Philasande Mxoli	Paul Matchett
8	MOUNT ETNA	2	Chase Maujean	Fanie Bronkhorst
9	DARLING HARBOUR	9	Serino Moodley	Candice Dawson
10	AZALEAS FOR ALL	11	Rachel Venniker	Fanie Bronkhorst
11	BE REAL	10	Raymond Danielson	Heather E Adamson

# Highveld Social Member Behind The Scenes Raceday Tour

The Racehorse Owners Association hosted its first Social Member Behind the Scenes Raceday Tour on Saturday 23 March. Social Members were treated to a light lunch in the Private Suite which provided a fantastic view of the racecourse. They were introduced to what happens in the parade ring, the back saddling area where horses are scanned by the NHRA and we took a trip down to the starting stalls to watch the horses at the start of a race. Experiencing the horses jump out of the gates was quite exhilarating and members had a fun time getting an insider's look into all the work that goes into a raceday.

The TV Crew from Racing Today joined us on the day and interviewed some of the Social Members who have now invested in racehorse ownership. The episode aired on 26 March and can be viewed here

 [Play Video](#)

We thank Racing Today for their continuous support and we look forward to many more exhilarating experiences with our Social Members.





# EQUILIXIR™

## RADIANT & RESILIENT

### – PREMIUM TONIC –

Equilixir combines unrefined organic, cold pressed sesame oil with carefully selected botanical flavour essences to support, maintain and maximise:

- Soundness and vitality
- Joint integrity, mobility, flexibility, and comfort
- Bone, tendon and ligament health and recovery
- Muscle mass, strength, flexibility and recovery
- Excellence in high performance training and competition
- Optimum energy metabolism and endurance
- Sale, show and competition preparation and readiness
- Preparation for travel to mitigate stress
- Recovery from exertion, competition and injury
- Mental resilience for fizzy, hot or stressed horses
- Luxurious, healthy coat, mane and tail
- Healthy digestion and a balanced insulin response

Distributed by



**MOGUL** *Equine*



mogulequine



mogulequineza



Scan to order from:  
[mogulequine.co.za](http://mogulequine.co.za)  
[info@mogulequine.co.za](mailto:info@mogulequine.co.za)  
(+27) 83 633 3586

# Racing Streaming: New Home, New Look, No Subscription Fees

4Racing has announced the migration of its founding OTT platform, 4Racing.tv, to its exciting new home at [RacingToday.co.za](http://RacingToday.co.za), which launched on Classic Day on the 2nd of March 2024. This strategic move marks a significant milestone in the evolution of Racing Today, expanding to a rebranded, reimagined and enriched experience for our racing audience across the globe.

At [RacingToday.co.za](http://RacingToday.co.za), fans will continue to have access to an extensive array of both local and international racing content, now more accessible than ever before, as the platform transitions to a free-to-view model. From live race coverage to captivating documentaries, insightful analyses and behind-the-scenes stories, Racing Today strives to be the ultimate destination for all things horseracing.

Racing Today was born as a daily racing talk show and has amassed an audience of over 3.1 million viewers since its inception in August 2022. "Leveraging this momentum, we have chosen to re-brand our bespoke OTT streaming platform and associated mobile applications (previously 4racing.tv) to Racing Today," says Stephen Watson, Head of 4Racing's Broadcast. "Under this new umbrella service, Racing Today's goal is to create a completely FREE horse racing streaming offering, for novices to well-versed punters. We are dedicated to bringing the best that horse racing has to offer to audiences spanning all communities and ensuring that staying up to date with all things racing has never been easier."

Racing Today's lineup of daily and weekly shows will continue to keep viewers informed and entertained. Popular shows like Track Talk, Weighted to Win presented by Betway and Racing Today's own daily talk show will all be hosted on the platform, plus previews and shows received from international partners. Expert hosts will guide both seasoned punters and curious newcomers through each day's racing action, offering tips, predictions, and invaluable insights to enhance the racing experience.

"With Racing Today, fans can stream live races or catch up on missed action anytime, anywhere," Stephen added. "Our Archive section is super popular for post live race reviews and if you just missed the action and need an immediate replay, our channels can be rewinded too. Registered users can scroll back on the Electronic Program Guide for up to seven days, if you missed any must-see racing. Or you can set a reminder and/or record racing that may be coming up to your playlist too."

Existing customers can opt to stream content from the new platform without logging in. Alternatively, they can access their existing profile using their previous 4Racing credentials and will be automatically redirected to the new platform at [www.racingtoday.co.za](http://www.racingtoday.co.za) ensuring a seamless transition. Racing Today is completely free to users, with the new platform transitioning away from a Subscription based service to a Free Service with supported Advertiser / Programme Sponsorships.



Any existing long-term subscriptions will be reimbursed, and all customers will be contacted directly to arrange a pro-rata credit.

Racing Today's omni-channel strategy will continue to ensure ease of access to popular racing content across all Social Media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube. 4Racing's YouTube channel has accumulated over 4,6 million views since April 2022. This will be migrated to sit under the Racing Today brand, with additional content be added from around the world.

While registration remains optional for users who simply wish to stream content, those seeking to access the platform's full suite of functionalities – including downloading content, adding races to their favourites folder, creating playlists, setting reminders and/or recording content – need to register to enable your free profile creation and personal cloud storage. Registration entails providing an email address and setting up a password, to enhance your personalised and comprehensive user experience.

Customers currently utilizing the 4Racing application on their mobile will need to update their app to the new Racing Today platform available on the app-stores. Both Android and iOS apps support casting to your big screen.

Racing Today has no streaming restrictions. Users can stream content on unlimited devices and can enjoy both unlimited streams and unlimited concurrency.

"We're committed to creating an overarching content streaming platform which covers great live local and international racing content, supported with feature-rich functionality and personalisation options for horse racing fans and punters alike. Racing Today takes us another step closer towards to full digital inclusion and access" said Colin Gordon, COO, 4Racing.

**For inquiries, support, or further information, please contact Racing Today via email at [support@racingtoday.co.za](mailto:support@racingtoday.co.za) or by phone at 087 095 3363. Alternatively, contact the ROA offices for any further assistance.**





# NATIONAL YEARLING SALE 2024

**Save  
The  
Date!**

**18 & 19 April 2024  
TBA Complex, Johannesburg, Gauteng.**

View the catalogue: [www.bsa.co.za](http://www.bsa.co.za)



# ROA OWNER OF THE MONTH

## MARCH 2024

### Melandie Taljaardt

In the competitive world of horse racing, where victory is often measured by a short-head or a nose, there are individuals who stand out not just for their success, but for their passion and dedication to the sport of racing. This month's owner of the month is Dr Melandie Taljaardt, who is one of these individuals who is always there to shout her horses home on raceday.

Growing up, Melandie always had the ambition of becoming a wildlife veterinarian. As a vet student, Melandie attended an endurance event and was amazed by how athletic and versatile equines are. She also rode in a few endurance events and represented Gauteng at the Tri-Nations event over 120km. Melandie was then introduced to racehorses and has never looked back. Melandie is currently a veterinarian specializing in equines and owns shares in her parents' macadamia and pecan nut farm.

Currently, Melandie owns six horses in an individual capacity and is also involved in partnerships in an additional eleven horses with dear friends. Lucky Houdalakis introduced Melandie to owning her first racehorse, NINJARA, a 2014 bay filly by GREYS INN (USA) x TRIANGULAR SERIES (SAF), who was also her first winner. Lucky went on to produce a few more winners for Melandie. Michael and Adam Azzie then got Melandie involved in shares in RIVARINE, who she described as such a blessing, as the son of VAR(USA) was her first Grade 1 winner when he galloped home to win the GR1 Computaform Sprint on 27 June 2020 as a 6-year-old gelding. Corne Spies has trained SNOW PALACE, who Melandie part owns and describes as one of the most special fillies she has ever owned. Melandie will never forget when this daughter of POTALA PALACE won the 11th race, under the beaming lights of Hollywoodbets Greyville Racecourse on July Day in 2022.

Fanie Bronkhorst currently conditions all of Melandie's horses and they are all stabled on the Highveld as she enjoys having all of her horses in one yard and close to her. She is appreciative of the care and attention he provides her horses with, along with attention to detail to what each horse's training requirements are. Fanie has also given Melandie the most winners as an owner to date. Her success as an owner is evident, with an impressive tally of 11 winners for the season thus far, following an equally impressive 23 winners in last season, including DANCING DORA who has won 4 races in a row. Every win is special and memorable to Melandie as she follows her horses' journeys every step of the way. She says winning a Grade 1 race is every owner's dream, so RIVARINE'S win ranks at the top for her. Another memorable win is DARK TIDE, winning the Heritage Consolation on 5 December 2020. Melandie also mentions that having winners with first time owners will always be special.

Family is extremely important to Melandie, her parents have been married for 39 years, she has two beautiful sisters and amazing brother in laws, along with three nieces and one nephew who get spoiled by their aunt. Melandie is a very passionate owner and says as humans, it is sometimes easy to forget how magnificent these animals are, and in return all they need is to be loved and cared for. She urges owners to visit their horses when they have any time available, to give them big hugs and show them the love and appreciation they are so deserving of.

Melandie has been a member of the ROA since 2018, she enjoys how informative the newsletters are, and appreciates the ROA bonus cheques. We thank Melandie for her continuous support and wish her many more fantastic racing memories.



# Life Member Profile



## LIFE MEMBER Darren Simpson

The Racehorse Owners Association continues to feature our Life Members each month, we always enjoy learning about how the sport has become part of their lives and why they still love it so much. This month, we are thrilled to catch up with Darren Simpson.

Darren was born in 1962 in the United Kingdom and relocated with his family to South Africa in 1970. He attended St Henry's Marist Brothers in Durban and went on to study at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Darren was introduced to the racing industry through his father, William Simpson, who enjoyed the occasional flutter. Winning the first bet he was involved in, being a Place Accumulator, Darren thought he was a multi-millionaire, and the bug had bitten.

While being a university student, Darren was a part-time cameraman at Greyville, Scottsville and Clairwood which has subsequently been sold. He said it was a fantastic job, became a real eye opener into the world of racing, and also inspired him to become a racehorse owner. While having many favorite racing memories, Darren recalls a first timer named CASA GRANDE, who raced at Clairwood in 1998, trained by the Alexander brothers and ridden by Rhys van Wyk. Darren and his father watched this horse run a phenomenal race, winning by 5,75 lengths. Darren had become involved with the Alexander family when he

hired a private suite on course for customers next to theirs, and they became good friends. They asked Darren to be part of their first racing syndicate "The Alexander Ascot Syndicate", and Darren had shares in five horses including CASA GRANDE who they sold to buyers in Hong Kong. Other horses include WINTER CHASE, FOREST EDGE and ELEGANT AL, who won the Grade 2 Premier's Handicap at Turffontein on 2 October 1999. Darren mentions that the best horse he was a part of was CHAMPAGNE HAZE, who he had the pleasure of owning with classic owners Laurence Wernars and Bruce Gardner. This son of KAHAL won the Emperors Palace Ready To Run Cup in 2015, the Grade 2 Senor Santa Stakes in 2017 and the Grade 3 Tommy Hotspur Handicap in 2018. Darren currently has shares in 14 horses split between Grant Maroun, who has produced many winners for Darren, Paul Matchett and more recently, former top jockey and newly licensed trainer Mark Khan, who had his first winner as a trainer on Classic Day with SEA SHANTY, who is also part owned by Darren, and he is elated to be part of that history. John Maroun is a good friend of Darren's and the driving force in the partnerships that he is involved in.

In 1986, Darren moved from Durban to Gauteng and worked for global logistics and international shipping company DHL. In 1990, Darren and his best friend Brian Hull started a courier/logistics company called Hull's Express Freight, which has been renamed DCB Logistics as Brian had to unfortunately retire in 2014 due to illness. Today, DCB Logistics has a national footprint with 14 strategically placed branches across South Africa. There is not a day in South Africa that DCB trucks will not be seen travelling the roads of South Africa moving urgent parcels between cities. Darren still heads up DCB. Along with his horseracing hobby "moving parcels" is all Darren knows. He has three children who are all grown up and live abroad, Tamara is in the Isle of Man, Justin is in Jersey, and Trent is in London. Darren explains that it is not easy (and also quite expensive) to coordinate trips to visit them, but they all love the horseracing experience. Darren's fiancée, Karen, is an avid racing fan and loves dressing up for the big days. He notes that his remaining racing ambitions are to have another runner in the July, to win a Grade 1 race, and to attend a top-class race meeting in the UK.

Outside of racing, he is an avid sports fan. He follows soccer (Pirates and Middlesbrough), loves rugby and is a Sharks fan. He is also a very keen golfer, as he lives and plays on a great course outside of Benoni. He also tries to stay fit by going to the gym, running and swimming. He loves cooking and enjoys quality wine, as well as collecting (and drinking) fine whiskies too. Darren finds solace in travelling and will soon be going, with his sons, to play golf in Marrakesh, to celebrate one of his son's 30th birthday.

"Being a member of the ROA has been a privilege. My family and friends really enjoy the facilities and it's a great way to spend an afternoon. The whole of the ROA staff go out of their way to make you feel special and privileged, along with the improved communication. I think they have done sterling work to assist in keeping racing alive! The ROA certainly enhances my racing experiences", says Darren. We would like to thank him for his continued support and wish him a wonderful remainder of 2024!

# ► Feature Race Winners



## 2 March 2024 Highveld – Turffontein

### HKJC World Pool Event 6 April Storm Bird Stakes (L)

#### Pistol Pete

*Trainer:* Mr A P Peter

*Owner:* Mrs S Viljoen

*Breeder:* Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

### Wilgerbosdrift Ruffian Stakes (L)

#### Almond Sea

*Trainer:* Mr A P Peter

*Owner:* Hyperpaint Syndicate (Nom: Mr J T Peter)

*Breeder:* Mr P G de Beyers

### Wilgerbosdrift Acacia Stakes (L)

#### Silver Hills

*Trainer:* Mr S G Tarry

*Owner:* Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)

*Breeder:* Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)

### Wilgerbosdrift SA Fillies Classic (GR 1)

#### Gimme A Nother

*Trainer:* Mr M F de Kock

*Owner:* Mauritzfontein (Pty) Ltd (Nom: Mrs J B Jell)

*Breeder:* Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

### TAB SA Classic (GR 1)

#### Purple Pitcher

*Trainer:* Miss R L Klaasen

*Owner:* Mr S S Poole

*Breeder:* Bush Hill Stud

### Wilgerbosdrift H F Oppenheimer Horse Chestnut Stakes (GR 1)

#### Main Defender

*Trainer:* Mr A P Peter

*Owner:* Messrs J J Habib, G, K & M M Nassif

*Breeder:* Jagessar Limited

### TAB J J The Jet Plane Stakes (GR 3)

#### Mover And Shaker

*Trainer:* Mr F P P Habib

*Owners:* Messrs J Nassif, G J Nassif, J Sarkis &

Tri-Deal Sixteen CC (Nom: Mr Z L Nassif)

*Breeder:* Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

## 9 March 2024 Western Cape – Kenilworth Newlands Stakes (NB)

#### Tyrion Lannister

*Trainer:* Mr P A W Botha

*Owner:* Dare 2 Dream Racing Syndicate (Nom: Piet Botha)

*Breeder:* Millstream Farm

## Highveld – Turffontein

### Ormond Ferraris Oaks Trial (L)

#### Frances Ethel

*Trainer:* Mr B J Crawford

*Owners:* Messrs D Chinsammy & G S Knowles

*Breeder:* Wilgerbosdrift & Mauritzfontein

### TAB Hawaam Stakes (L)

#### Marauding Horde

*Trainer:* Mr M F de Kock

*Owners:* Messrs JF & LMF Wernars, Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert), Lammerskraal Stud, Ridgemont (Nom: Craig Kieswetter), Wilgerbosdrift (Pty)Ltd & Devin Heffer

*Breeder:* Maine Chance Farms (Pty) Ltd

### TAB Aquanaut Handicap (L)

#### Crimson King

*Trainer:* Mr B J Crawford

*Owner:* Messrs P G de Beyer & Andre Louw

*Breeder:* Ridgemont Highlands

## 15 March 2024

### Eastern Cape – Fairview

#### East Cape Fillies Nursery (L)

#### Splicethemainbrace

*Trainer:* Mr A C Greeff

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

*Breeder:* Varsfontein Stud

## 16 March 2024

### Highveld – Turffontein

#### Betway Sycamore Sprint (GR 3)

#### One Fell Swoop

*Trainer:* Mr A P Peter

*Owner:* Mrs S Viljoen

*Breeder:* Varsfontein Stud

## 22 March 2024

### Eastern Cape – Fairview

#### East Cape Guineas (L)

#### Fairy Knight

*Trainer:* Mr A C Greeff

*Owner:* Pine Lodge Stud & Halo Stables T/A Halo Syndicate (Nom: Mr A C Greeff)

*Breeder:* Ascot Stud (Pty) Ltd

#### East Cape Sprint Cup (L)

#### Countdown

*Trainer:* Mr G S Kotzen

*Owners:* Messrs P Bamford, W N Frost & W Luthi

*Breeder:* Varsfontein Stud

## 24 March 2024

### KwaZulu-Natal – Greyville

#### Kings Cup (L)

#### Narina Trogon

*Trainer:* Mr M D Miller

*Owner:* Mr Morgan Govender

*Breeder:* Drakenstein Stud (Nom: Mrs G A Rupert)



# Feature Races –

April 2024

DATE	KWAZULU-NATAL	WESTERN CAPE	HIGHVELD	EASTERN CAPE
Apr, 2		Easter Sprint NB		
Apr, 5				Glenlair Trophy NB
Apr, 6		Variety Club Mile G3 Sweet Chestnut Stakes LR	Premier's Champions Challenge G1 Empress Club Stakes G1 TAB SA Derby G1 Computaform Sprint G1 Wilgerbosdrift Bridget Oppenheimer SA Oaks G2 Hawaii Stakes G2 SA Nursery G2 S A Fillies Nursery G2 Caradoc Gold Cup L	
Apr, 11			WORK RIDERS RACE DAY	
Apr, 12				East Cape Oaks LR Fairview Flying Five NB
Apr, 13			(Hennenman Memorial Day) Mythical Flight Sprint NB	
Apr, 14	The Sledgehammer LR The Scarlet Lady LR Highland Night Cup NB			
Apr, 19				East Cape Nursery LR
Apr, 20		Champagne Stakes G3		
Apr, 27			Senor Santa Stakes G2 Colorado King Stakes G2 IGUGU Stks G2 Camellia Stks G2 Gold Bowl L Protea Stakes G3 Pretty Polly Stakes G3	
Apr, 28	Poinsettia Stakes G3 Godolphin Barb Stakes G3 Strelitzia Stks G3 In Full Flight Handicap LR			

# ROA Bonus Race Winners



## Congratulations to:

Mr J F Wernars  
 Mr L M F Wernars  
 Mrs T J Wernars  
 Mr A Delpch  
 Mr A R Beck  
 Mrs A B L Beck

Mr D Chinsammy  
 Mr W Marwing  
 Mr C Kieswetter  
 Mr D Heffer  
 Mr D Kalidin  
 Mrs S Viljoen

Me S C Meadows  
 Mr D M Johnson  
 Mrs L J Johnson  
 Mr J G Gomes  
 Mr W J Coates  
 Mrs M Slack

Mr D van der Merwe  
 Mrs K van der Merwe  
 Mr T Zackey  
 Mr S G Tarry  
 Mr L A Marques  
 Mr A G Balanco

# ▶ ROA Bonus Race Schedule – April

## HIGHVELD

- 4 April** – Vaal – Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m
- 11 April** – Vaal – Work Riders Raceday – Maiden (F&M) 1000m, Maiden Plate 1200m, Maiden Plate (F&M) 1200m, Maiden Plate 1600m, Maiden Plate (F&M) 1600m, Maiden Plate 1800m, Maiden Plate (F&M) 1800m, Maiden Plate 2400m
- 17 April** – Vaal – Maiden Plate 1200m, Maiden Plate 1400m, Maiden Plate (F&M) 1400m
- 20 April** – Turffontein (Inside Track) – Maiden Plate (F&M) 1600m
- 23 April** – Vaal (Classic Track) – Maiden Plate 2000m, Maiden Plate 1000m
- 25 April** – Turffontein (Inside Track) – Maiden Plate (F&M) 1200m, Maiden Plate (F&M) 2000m, WR Maiden Plate 1500m

## EASTERN CAPE

- 5 April** – Fairview (Turf Track) – Open Maiden 1400m
- 12 April** – Fairview (Turf Track) – Open Maiden (F&M) 1400m
- 16 April** – Fairview (Polytrack) – Maiden Plate 1600m, Open Maiden 1900m
- 19 April** – Fairview (Turf Track) – Open Maiden 1200m, Maiden Plate (F&M) 1200m
- 26 April** – Fairview (Polytrack) – Open Maiden (F&M) 1000m, Open Maiden (F&M) 1600m

**PARTY**  
**AT THE PARADE RING**  
**FEATURING**  
**COURTNAÉ PAUL & JÄGERMEISTER BRASS CARTEL**  
**6 APRIL 2024 | 17H30 - 19H30**  
**TURFFONTEIN RACECOURSE**  
**FREE ENTRY**

POWERED BY   **4 RACING** | DRINK RESPONSIBLY 



# Competition Time

All ROA Members in good standing are invited to enter a competition, the prize being a R1000 voucher for The Bullring Grill & Bar at the Randjesfontein Training Centre.

In order to enter, kindly send an email through to [natalie@racehorseowners.co.za](mailto:natalie@racehorseowners.co.za) with your name and contact details by midnight on Friday 19 April 2024. All eligible entries will be entered into a random draw and the winner will be announced in the April edition of ROA Today.

*T's & C's apply*



# Competition Winner



The winner of the R1000 online betting voucher courtesy of TAB, is

**Mr C Stonebridge**

Congratulations on your win!

## Welcome! New ROA Members:

Mr D S Heffer	Mr J Nassif
Mr A G Balanco	Mr T Zackey
Mr R Barnard	Mr L Harvey
Mr M A Kalunga	Mr E Khan

## New ROA Social Members:

Mr B H Botha	Mr L R N Nicholls
Mr A S Bruton	Ms J M Parker
Mr D T Chiwedere	Mr K V Swales
Ms S A Hardiman	Mr C A Volschenk
Ms T A Mtetwa	Mrs V Webber



[Click Here](#)

**RACEHORSE OWNERS ASSOCIATION**

Contact Details: Head Office | (011) 683 3220

### Race Day Bookings:

Turffontein Racecourse

Elevation Room (ROA Members) Contact: [info@racehorseowners.co.za](mailto:info@racehorseowners.co.za) or (011) 683 3220

Furious Room contact 011 681 1796 or [PennyM@4Racing.com](mailto:PennyM@4Racing.com)

Vaal Racecourse

Contact: [info@racehorseowners.co.za](mailto:info@racehorseowners.co.za) or (011) 683 3220

Fairview Racecourse

Bold Silvano Room Contact Gail on (041) 372 1859 or email [gailr@4racing.com](mailto:gailr@4racing.com)