



PRIME DISPATCH

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Zizzis stormed home to win at Sandown yesterday
Trained by Patrick Payne

It was great to see the Patrick Payne trained **Zizzis** return to the winner's list yesterday at Sandown. She was a class above her opposition and produced the run of the day to run away to win by three lengths after giving the leaders 12 lengths start on the turn. She will now head to Morphettville for the Lightning Stakes on 27 July where she will hopefully get that elusive 'black type'.

Patrick was back at it today with **Casa De Lago** aided by a superb ride from Bill Egan winning at Warrnambool. She has taken a few runs to get back to her best but was very strong late to grab victory in the shades of the post. Bill is an important part of the Prime team in Victoria riding trackwork most days for Patrick. It is hard to believe Casa De Lago is easily the best horse Delago Deluxe has thrown. She was a stunning yearling and is the only stakes performed horse he sired. I purchased her out of his first crop of yearlings. He's had 150 named foals with Casa De Lago being the only one to earn more than \$150,000 in Australia. He had some stunning looking yearlings. The 2nd best was a ½ brother to our good mare Awasita which was from memory a very expensive yearling.

We have started to get a steady flow of winners and have some nice chances in the next few days. Invincible Al and Rubisaki head to Flemington on Saturday with Reneged down to run at Randwick.

Sali's Sister is likely to make her debut at Donald on Saturday where Zelsignoret will also be running. Bill Egan is heading to Donald to ride these two horses. Black and Tan will be running at Randwick on Wednesday with Sam Clenton likely to ride her. This will depend on the weight she receives. The eight horses highlighted above were purchased from The Gold Coast Magic Millions Sale, Magic Millions National, Magic Millions Tasmanian, Inglis Classic Sale and privately from Yarraman Park.

Rubisaki is Zizzis ½ sister. I first came across this family when I visited Nathan Tinkler's Patinack Farm prior to its closure. I loved the look of a filly that was a ½ sister to these two very good fillies. You never waste time travelling around and collecting intelligence on the industry. It is amazing what you pick up. The better horses stand out, particularly when they are weanlings. You can see faults in the young horses with some sires throwing similar issues through their progeny. By the time they get to the yearling sales the smart breeders have their products looking spot on.



Casa De Lago was great at Warrnambool

I was thrilled for our Perth trainer Dan Morton when his good sprinter Man Booker won the Eye Liner Stakes at Ipswich on Saturday. It is a big effort and very good training performance to bring a horse across from Perth and win a feature race in the Eastern States although the Morton's have done it many times over the years.

The Queensland Carnival is winding down and it seems to have been a success. The industry in the Sunshine State has been battered in recent years with one controversy after another. Hopefully it can get some clean air going forward although a couple of serious integrity issues around two high profile trainers are still being dealt with.

I am focused on the Grafton and Mildura Carnivals as we head forward with Reneged aiming towards the Grafton Cup and Husson Eagle will be looking to defend his title in the Mildura Cup.

HUSSY'S GLOW RETIRED



Hussy's Glow has been retired – thank you!!!
Cost \$17,000 Stakes earnings \$215,210 with 5 wins to her credit

Hussy's Glow has been a great advertisement for Prime Thoroughbreds. She cost just \$17,000 at the Adelaide Magic Millions Sale and has earned in excess of \$200k with five wins to her credit. She is a member of a great family that includes the super mare Emancipation. In total 14 horses have raced from the first three dams with all these winning. You should check out her ½ sister going to Patrick Payne. She is a beautiful filly and more athletic than Hussy's Glow was at the same age.

We wish the honest mare all the best at stud. She is being listed on the Inglis Digital site if any one is interested in purchasing her as a breeding proposition. She should make a successful broodmare.

POINT OF CONSUMPTION TAX

I have been closely observing the effects of this tax since it was introduced. It is having some big impacts on the wagering markets in most states. Currently the tax is levied at 8% in Victoria, 10% in NSW and 15% in the other states.

I have had discussions with a couple of experienced bookmakers and from the information I gained off them combined with my own observations make the following comments.

Firstly, the two big states are receiving substantial revenue from this tax. This is due to the large volumes being wagered on their product. I imagine the smaller states are not getting the returns they expected which is causing issues. It is important to note the two biggest states have the lowest point of consumption tax levels.

It is important to understand the imposition of this tax impacted heavily on the corporate bookmakers. From my investigations it would seem government fees and taxes are seeing about 50% of their gross income being absorbed in various fees.

As I see it the biggest flow on effect from this is that the fixed prices being offered by the corporates are much tighter than before the tax was introduced. The biggest trap punters can fall into is betting early at fixed odds in a market that could be as high as 135 or 140%. In effect while you may think you are being smart in fact in many cases you are taking well under the odds you would if you waited. For example, deductions will apply for any horses that may be scratched prior to the race. Depending on the prices of the horses coming out you could easily see the price you took, say 16/1 reduced to 8/1 or less with the horse starting at a much better price than by post time. If you must bet early make sure you are doing the best thing by yourself and understand the risks involved.

The corporates have also stopped giving as many incentives. For example, price boosts on SA racing are not being offered due to the high level of tax in that state. They can also place meetings from the states with the biggest tax levels at the bottom of their list. This can have a big impact on betting turnover on a meeting which in turn impacts on the returns to the industry. Remember the less wagering the less revenue distributed to the industry which eventually will impact on stakes money. It makes economic sense for the corporates to direct their clients to meetings where they pay less tax.

In my opinion the state governments which have introduced the 15% rate have done the industry no favours in their jurisdictions.

It would seem the biggest losers are the punters with reduced returns due to tightening markets. TABCORP is a big winner with their products looking more attractive to the market. It should be remembered that TABCORP closed its fixed odds arm Luxbet down almost as soon as the POC tax was introduced. That wasn't done for no reason.

On the positive the changes have been a boost for oncourse bookmakers whose future looked bleak a couple of years ago. They are exempt from the tax if their gross income is below \$1 million. Most oncourse bookmakers, certainly in Victoria would be under this threshold and are able to set their book and take bets accordingly.

It will be interesting to see how this pans out in the next couple of years. It certainly is an interesting wagering market we are operating in with Racing NSW raising returns to owners almost every six months. Most of this money is heading to the top end of town although the levels of stakes money on offer in both NSW and Victoria for Provincial and Country meetings is very good.

I would like to see the same level of tax charged across the board. 10% would seem a reasonable level and keep things balanced.

VISIT TO PATRICK PAYNE'S TRAINING COMPLEX

On Sunday 30 June we have arranged a visit to Patrick Payne's training complex at Plumpton. The visit will start at 1030am and we will finish up about 12pm. This is a great opportunity to have a look at your horses, meet Patrick and his staff. They are a fantastic bunch and totally professional.

Patrick continues to do a great job for us as he has done from day one. He has put together an amazing record for us and his strike rate is the best in Victoria. His last 50 runners have yielded 13 winners which is exceptional. Patrick has the best strike rate of the top 20 trainers in Victoria for this season at 19%. He is also now placed 6th on the Victorian Trainer's Premiership. We are represented with three winners from eight runners on that list. He has a much smaller stable than those above him although he could get to 5th position if the marbles fall his way in the next six weeks. Congratulations to him and his staff.

I'm certain you will be impressed with the improvements he has made at Plumpton. He is very innovative.