



PRIME DISPATCH

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A great photo of Rubisaki winning at Flemington in June
She is set to resume at Flemington on Oaks Day

It hasn't been a good week for the thoroughbred industry. In fact, it hasn't been a great year!!! We have had quite a few of the 'big' names in the industry really let the majority down. The ABC 730 report has certainly caused a lot of discussion both inside and from outside the industry. Some of the criticism is fair but most isn't.

I know a lot of work has been done in NSW and Victoria to make sure our equine athletes are properly cared for once their racing days are over. I haven't got the time or space go to get into the detail of the improvements that have been made over the past couple of years in this "Dispatch". I though Racing NSW's response to the ABC report was good. It is available on the Racing NSW website.

I am most disappointed by the lack of response to the issue by Racing Queensland. It appears the industry in that state is once again lacking leadership.

The carnival steps up a grade this weekend with two magnificent meetings at Moonee Valley supported by a strong card at Randwick.

The Cox Plate is an iconic race that is without doubt is the Weight For Age Championship of Australasia. This year's field is a cracker for the race which has given us so many great moments from Kingston Town to Bonecrusher to Makybe Diva and of course the incomparable Winx.

I'm looking forward to watching the highly rated Japanese visitor Lys Gracieux. She is a serious racehorse and more highly regarded in Japan than the Caulfield Cup winner Mer De Glace. She has drawn the outside but good horses can overcome bad barriers.

My heart is with Adam Trinder's great mare Mystic Journey. She is a star carrying the hopes of the Apple Isle. I'd love to see her win, but it won't be easy for her. She has the perfect barrier draw with her lead up run in the Turnbull Stakes being outstanding. Moonee Valley suits her racing style. She is the best of the locally bred horses.

I'm not sure if Te Akau Shark is good enough to beat these but he is a good horse. I was amazed at the press he was receiving when I was in NZ a few weeks ago. Having him in the race will certainly raise the interest in the race across the ditch. It is also good to have a NZ runner in the race.

It is good to see horses from so many different backgrounds competing for the ultimate prize in Australian racing. The Moonee Valley Racing Club Committee are to be congratulated for getting the final field 'right'. Good luck to everyone with a runner.

THE EVEREST

The Everest has gained great traction in the past three years and highlights the good things about the Australian breeding industry. In Australia we have concentrated on breeding sprinter/ milers for the past 50 years and it makes great sense that our richest race is for the sprinters. The time run by Yes Yes Yes in winning the great race demonstrated just how powerful our sprinters are.

I wasn't surprised to see the international runner at the tail of the field. There is very little incentive for our horses to go overseas to race. The stakes money on offer here is exceptional and the reason so many overseas horses are heading here for our carnivals.

Look at these figures. The 11 Australian bred runners were by sires that stood in NSW at the time of conception. The studs represented were Arrowfield (Snitzel, Not A Single Doubt), Coolmore (Pierro, Rubick), Darley (Sepoy, Time Thief, Street Cry), Patinack Farm (Lope De Vega) and Widden (Nicconi, Zoustar).

Two of the Australian bred runners were sired by international horses with Lope De Vega represented by Santa Anna Lane and Trekking by the great Street Cry. The remaining nine were by colonially bred sires.

Importantly, ten of the runners were out of mares by the colonially bred sires Charge Forward, Encosta De Lago, Exceed And Excel, Fastnet Rock, Flying Spur, Redoute's Choice (2), Rubiton and Zeditave. These are amongst our very best broodmare sires. The international runner Ten Sovereigns is out of an Exceed And Excel mare.

The two exceptions were Nature Strip and Yes Yes Yes who are out of Desert Sun and Fantastic Light mares. Both these horses stood in Australia with the mares being Australian bred.

All the runners have Danehill in their pedigree with the exception being Nature Strip. These statistics tell a great story for our industry.

I'd like to see more money directed towards the sprinting races and less to the big cups. It doesn't make much sense to me for us to offer ridiculous amounts of money for staying races. This encourages our owners to go overseas and spend serious money buying staying horses when our industry here has evolved around the sprinter / milers that suit our harsh racing conditions. Most of our tracks and training facilities are suited to training sprinters. It should be remembered 95% of our races are at distances below 2000m with the majority being at distances from 1200m down.

Don't get me wrong, I enjoy watching staying races, but a balance needs to be achieved. Tipping millions of dollars into staying races that are becoming benefits for the international visitors doesn't make much sense to me.

I spoke with a client of mine on Tuesday who said he had been contacted with an offer to get into a horse that is set to run in this year's Melbourne Cup. He said the cost was \$32,500 for 2% of the horse. That equates to about \$10,000 for each minute the horse runs at Flemington, for the 2%. He told me he declined the offer.

MELBOURNE CUP WEEK DRINKS

We are having our Cup week drinks on Wednesday night 6 November at Proper and Son at the South Melbourne Markets. This function is open to our owners and their partners and gives you the opportunity to meet some of our trainers in a relaxed environment.

There is no need to reply. Just turn up on the night and enjoy the occasion.

The address of Proper and Son is 14/322 Coventry Street South Melbourne which is part of the South Melbourne Market. The function will commence at 6pm and conclude at 9pm.

BRING ON CUP WEEK

We are only a week from the best week of the Australian racing calendar. It has been a couple of tough weeks for our industry. We need Flemington to shine. I'm sure it will. I'm looking forward to our good filly Rubisaki stepping out on Oaks Day in the Red Roses Stakes. Enjoy Moonee Valley, it should be a great couple of days.

It is impossible for me to get extra tickets for our clients during Cup week. The issue of tickets is closely monitored by both the VRC and RVL. If you need tickets, please go to Ticketek where you can book your tickets.

I look forward to catching up with the many visitors that come to Melbourne over the next three weeks. Fortunately, I am feeling much better which is a bonus. My advice is to avoid the flu if you can, it isn't much fun!!!

WEANLING SYNDICATIONS

I purchased two yearlings at the Magic Millions National Weanling Sale. These colts by Rubick and Sizzling are growing out at Ascot Farm near Pitt Town. They are nice colts with the Rubick heading to Kris Lees and Sizzling going to Patrick Payne. I have had great success over the years purchasing weanlings and offering them to our clients. In my opinion we are purchasing them for less than half what they would have cost as yearlings at next year's sales. The best horse in our team at present purchased as a weanling is Invincible AI who cost \$50,000 and has won six races and \$389,590 in stakes earnings. Here is some information on these colts.



Sizzling colt out of Distant Symphony 2018
Patrick Payne To Train 10% shares \$7,500 (5% \$3,750)

I have been very bullish about Sizzling since day one and my opinion of him continues to strengthen as his progeny mature and get older. This colt is a ripper and a full brother to Miss Divine Em which I syndicated last year. The reports on this filly are very positive and the pedigree has taken a big step up since I purchased her with **Anaheed** coming out and winning the Group 2 Sweet Embrace Stakes and Group 2 Percy Sykes Stakes and \$954,200. These are two very good races. She was also placed

6th in the Golden Slipper. She is out of Distant Symphony's half-sister. This family has a lot of upside.

I was very active at the 2017 sales series and purchased two yearlings and was the under bidder on a third one by Sizzling. These horses have displayed great potential already with Zizzis winning three races and \$234,490 already. She won the 2018 Adelaide Magic Millions 2YO Classic where she trounced a very good field and then won again at Caulfield on Cup day which was a big thrill for her owners.

The other yearling that I purchased was Addocarr who was an impressive winner recently. Like many of the progeny of Sizzling he looks like he is looking for a middle-distance trip and he is being aimed at the Grafton Guineas over 1600m.

I was the under bidder on a 3rd yearling which races under the name Sizzling Belle. She is a beautiful filly, is a Sydney winner and was placed in the Listed Black Opal Stakes. She was the one that got away.

I jumped in and supported him again last year and this year have three rising 2yo by the sire. I have also purchased a breeding interest in Sizzling.



Anaheed

Sizzling

I really liked what I saw in many of the progeny of Sizzling from the start. To me it is a no brainer that he will be a success at stud. He was a terrific racehorse and precocious two years old from the most dominant sire line in Australia for the past 20 years out of a 'black type' mare by one of the

greatest sprinters of the modern generation in General Nediym. Sizzling also won one of the five 2yo Group One races run in Australia winning the JJ Atkins Stakes.

Sizzling's pedigree page is very strong with a host of very good horses down the page. In fact, it couldn't be any stronger with both the 2nd and 3rd dams being superior producers.

I love the General Nediym (1st dam), Alzao stakes winner (2nd Dam) and Without Fear stakes producer (3rd dam) down the page. Estate Label, the 3rd dam was a very high-class producer also throwing the outstanding two years old filly Loving Cup.

I must say I had a bit to do with both sides of this pedigree with Sizzling's sire Snitzel being out of Snippet's Lass. Both General Nediym and Snippet's Lass were trained by Bill Mitchell when I was his Racing Manager. They were both high class racehorses with Snippet's Lass being one of the toughest mares I have had anything to do with.

Sizzling has started out his stud career in great fashion finishing 3rd on the Australian First Season Sires List for both Stakes earnings and winners and is currently 4th on the Second Season List for winners. He is in a very strong crop of young sires that includes Zoustar, Spirit Of Boom, Dundee, Fiorente and Akheed Mofeed and Epaulette. There are 52 sires represented with runners on this List which is a big number.

Distant Symphony

Distant Symphony has done a good job with four winners to her credit including the stakes winner Mystic Master. Her results are better than they look because she really hasn't been too a top sire with this mating being the best she has had in my opinion.

Distant Symphony has a nice record being a ½ sister to the Group 1 winner Rostova. She is by Distant Music who has done a remarkable job at stud with seven stakes winners from limited chances. His best is Bella Martini by Stratum with two stakes wins to her credit. This reads very well to me. Other well-known horses out of Distant Music mares to race here include Miss Promiscuity, Upbeat, Meteoroid and Volcanic General.

All in all, this colt represents great value and heads to an outstanding trainer who has done a remarkable job for us.



Zizzis winning the 2018 Adelaide Magic Millions 2YO Classic
Out of Sizzlings first crop of yearlings!!!
Highest stakes earner for Sizzling!!!



Japery as a yearling - Sizzling / Andromeda
Runs in the \$500,000 Inglis Banner at Moonee Valley on Saturday