

Sunday 4 August 2019

JOHNSON AT BRILLIANT BEST IN WINTER CUP TRIUMPH



Dez (inner) and Rosewood battle out the finish of the Gr.3 Winning Edge Presentations 122nd Winter Cup (Race Images South)

Central Districts raider **Dez (NZ)** (Zed) took out Saturday's Gr.3 Winning Edge Presentations 122nd Winter Cup (1600m) at Riccarton courtesy of a peach of a ride from master jockey Chris Johnson.

The lightly raced eight-year old, who was having just his seventeenth

career start, lifted in the final 100m under the urgings of Johnson to nail fellow North Islander Rosewood (NZ) (Redwood) right on the post to claim the victory.

The Simon Wilson-trained and part-owned gelding, who had finished

an unlucky third in the race 12 months ago, had looked a forlorn chance to even make the trip south earlier this winter after a run of poor form saw him beat just four horses home in his first three starts of a new campaign.

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JOHNSON AT BRILLIANT BEST IN WINTER CUP TRIUMPH

(Continued from page 1)

Wilson persevered and with Johnson legged aboard for the first time, Dez produced a revitalised effort to score well at Otaki last weekend to confirm his participation.

Under a typically patient Johnson ride, Dez settled nicely in midfield before driving through the middle of the pack as a slew of runners fanned wide early in the run home.

Rosewood, who had snuck through on the inner before angling to the middle of the track, had established what looked like a winning break at the 200m but Johnson never gave up on Dez who chased bravely to collar Rosewood and score his biggest victory.

"We've had a few problems, but we sorted them out and he has definitely hit top form at the right time," Wilson said.

"I was happy with him as he had travelled well and was eating up but you just never know on the day.

"Being by Zed we knew he would handle the conditions and he had a great rider on board.

"I actually can't see that well as I'm a little bit colour blind but when he turned in it looked like he was coming through with a good run and it was a fantastic ride by Chris."

Johnson was his typically relaxed self as he described proceedings about the race he last won back in 1991 on



Part-owner Paul Mitchell celebrates with jockey Chris Johnson and trainer Simon Wilson (rear) after winning the Gr.3 Winning Edge Presentations 122nd Winter Cup with Dez (Race Images South)

Robyn's Affair.

"He travelled nice in the race although when we moved into second halfway down, he was flat out," Johnson said.

"The second horse (Rosewood) kept kicking and he (Dez) just lifted that last bit.

"I wasn't sure if we had got up as I've had a run of seconds and thought I was second again.

"He's had a few issues in this prep, but I had a look at his run last year which was huge and on his last start it looked like he was back in that form."

The victory made it win number seven for Dez who spent two and a half years on the side-lines with tendon issues after winning two of his first three starts back in 2015.

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	CJC Winter Cup Gr.3 1600m
Winner	Dez (NZ) 2011
Owners	S G Lennox, P I Mitchell & S J E Wilson
Trainer	Simon Wilson (Waipukurau)
Breeding	by Zed out of Black Falcon by Felix the Cat (USA)
Breeder	Mrs C J & D R Isaacson





I BOOGI GIVES LANE SUCCESS AT THE VALLEY

Boogi (NZ) (Iffraaj) taught jockey Damian Lane a valuable lesson as the gelding embarked on his racing career at Werribee.

Lane told then trainer Russell Cameron he thought the gelding was unbeatable at his debut in January 2016.

However the gelding went up in the air as the gates opened before flashing home to run second.

"I came back in after that race and said I'll never declare a horse again," Lane said.

Lane was reunited with I Boogi in Saturday's Jockey Celebration Day Handicap giving the jockey his first metropolitan winner since his return from Japan.

The victory also provided Cameron's son Scott his first metropolitan win in his own name after starting out in a partnership with his father.

"This horse still has his issues but Scott deals with him really well," Lane said.

"He's been such a long work in progress and it's good to get another win out of him."

Supported from \$20 into \$10, I Boogi scored a long neck win from The Great Artiste (Atomic) with Mercy Street (NZ) (Roc de Cambes) 1-3/4 lengths away third.

Lane had a successful

return to riding at Pakenham on Thursday and has been working hard re-establishing connections.

"It's always good to get a break from the constant racing here," Lane said.

"It refreshes your body and your mind and I'm keen to ride as many winners as I can leading up to the spring.

"I'm still picking up rides for the same trainers before I left, so it's good I haven't lost those connections."

-AAP

Race	MVRC Jockey Celebration Day H. 1500m
Winner	I Boogi (NZ) 2012
Owners	Miss D E Carter, Mr N S Waratini, Mr C B Mrrray, Mr M Vaevea
Trainer	Scott Cameron (Flemington)
Breeding	by Iffraaj (GB) out of Boogi on the Grass by Yamanin Vital
Breeder	N Haynes; D McKellar; J & P A Shaw



Damian Lane united with I Boogi with success at Moonee Valley (Bruno Cannatelli)





Sunday 4 August 2019

VETERAN SPRINTER LEAVES NO ROOM FOR EXCUSES AT RICCARTON



Evergreen sprinter Irish Excuse proves too tough as he races to victory at Riccarton (Race Images South)

Evergreen sprinter **Irish Excuse (NZ)** (No Excuse Needed) gave his rivals weight and a beating as he proved too tough in the closing stages of the Dyer Decorating Premier Sprint (1200m) at Riccarton on Saturday.

The Ellis Winsloe-trained nine-year-old relished the testing Heavy11 track conditions as he out-finished race favourite Tabard in the final stages to score by a neat length with local runner Dynamic charging home into third.

Winsloe resisted the temptation to utilise an apprentice rider to provide some weight relief for his charge's 60kg impost, instead favouring visiting North Island jockey Shaun McKay who repaid the faith in him with a gem of an effort.

McKay had Irish Excuse within striking distance throughout before guiding him into the middle of the track in the straight where he produced a dogged finish in the better footing, to nail down the victory.

Winsloe was shaking his head in

amazement as he waited for his stable favourite to return to the Riccarton birdcage after the race.

"He's been a great horse, who has won 14 now and has never come down in the grades," Winsloe said.

"It was a great ride as Shaun is a good rider and he (Irish Excuse) was the horse to suit him.

"I was getting a hard time for not putting a claimer on him but Sam Collett won on him fresh-up in a similar sort of race so we stuck with

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VETERAN SPRINTER LEAVES NO ROOM FOR EXCUSES AT RICCARTON

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Shaun and forgot about the apprentice allowance.”

McKay, who was at Riccarton to take the ride on Central Districts raider She’s Poppy (NZ) (Alamosa) in the Gr.3 Winning Edge Presentations 122nd Winter Cup (1600m) later in the day, was full of praise for his mount who has now won fourteen of his 67 career starts.

“He’s a dude to ride who puts in 110 percent,” he said.

“He (Winsloe) has done a terrific job to get the horse fit and for a horse who was carrying 60kgs to beat one carrying 53kgs, it’s a big effort.”

– NZ Racing Desk

Race	CJC Dyer Decorating H. 1200m
Winner	Irish Excuse (NZ) 2010
Owners	G D & R A J Copland, P A Grant, M J Millard & E E Winsloe
Trainer	Ellis Winsloe (Gore)
Breeding	by No Excuse Needed (GB) out of Irish Babe by O’Reilly
Breeder	G D & R A J Copland, P A Grant, M J Millard & E E Winsloe



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TEAM ROGERSON IN DOMINANT FORM AT TE RAPA

The training triumvirate of Graeme, Debbie and Bailey Rogerson kicked the new racing season off in style at Te Rapa on Saturday when they dominated the early proceedings at the meeting.

The trio provided the quinella in the third race on the programme when accomplished mare **Malambo (NZ)** (Duelled) proved too speedy for stablemate Comeback (NZ) (Makfi) as she led all the way in the open 1200m sprint feature.

That was just thirty minutes after promising filly Roc Cha (NZ) (El Roca) headed home a quartet of Rogerson runners in the three-year-old 1100m contest, albeit they did provide six of the seven starters in the race.

Competently handled by four-kilogram claiming apprentice Shiarna Johnson, Malambo relished the Slow9 footing as she produced an eye-catching dress rehearsal for her first major assignment of the season, the Gr.2 US Navy Flag Foxbridge Plate (1200m) at the venue in a fortnight.

The five-year-old had been freshened after finishing a gutsy third at Trentham back in late May and after pinging away

from an inside barrier she gave nothing else a look in as she controlled proceedings from in front throughout.

“With the four kilos off I said to bounce out, be positive and try and lead hard on the fence and she pulled it off,” Debbie Rogerson said.

“She’s a very handy mare who I think is a lot better this time up.

“Hopefully she can win a Listed race this time in or be Group placed for her breeding prospects down the line.”

Rogerson confirmed a tilt at the Foxbridge Plate was the mare’s next target provided she came through today’s exertions in good shape.

“If she comes through this race, we’ve got nothing to lose,” she said.

“She races good at Te Rapa and if she happened to run in the first four (in the Foxbridge) then I’d be ecstatic.

“He (Comeback) also went really well and you will probably see him the Foxbridge as well.”

Bred by Graeme Rogerson, Malambo’s career record now

stands at seven wins from 32 starts, with four of those victories coming at the Te Rapa track.

– NZ Racing Desk



Race	Waikato RC Us Navy Flag Foxbdge Plate 17 August H. 1200m
Winner	Malambo (NZ) 2014
Owners	G A Rogerson MNZM & Wealleans Bloodstock Partnership
Trainer	Team Rogerson (Tuhikaramea)
Breeding	by Duelled (AUS) out of Dancing Song by Senior Pete (USA)
Breeder	G A Rogerson

Evergreen sprinter Irish Excuse proves too tough as he races to victory at Riccarton (Race Images South)





DAFFODIL RACEDAY CELEBRATING RUGBY, RACING AND VOLUNTEERS

Hawke's Bay Racing and the TAB is proud to announce that Tarzino Trophy TAB Daffodil Raceday is back at Hastings Racecourse on Saturday 31st August.

This year's event is a celebration of 'Rugby, Racing and Volunteers' to raise money for the Hawke's Bay Cancer Society.

"The team at Hawke's Bay Racing are again privileged to be able to work with our partners Westbury Stud and the TAB to pull together fundraising initiatives for the Hawke's Bay Cancer Society," Hawke's Bay Racing chief executive Andrew Castles said.

"This is a great way to start the Bostock New Zealand Spring Carnival and a cause dear to our hearts."

Over the past five years Hawke's Bay Racing has raised more than \$135,000 to provide care and support to local families affected by cancer.

TAB General Manager Customer, Gary Woodham, said he was delighted to announce the continued support of the annual initiative, with the TAB doubling its donations this year, handing over \$2,000 per winner in the Daffodil Raceday silks to the Cancer Society.

"Cancer touches everybody at some point, everywhere across New Zealand, Daffodil Raceday is an important way for the TAB to connect with our community and support the vital work provided by the Cancer Society," he said.

"Daffodil Raceday aligns with the TAB's mission to enhance Kiwi's involvement and

enjoyment of racing and sport in a safe environment, while contributing money back to New

Zealand communities. We are delighted to throw our weight behind this important

Initiative."

Former All Black and TAB Ambassador Stephen 'Beaver' Donald will be the guest speaker at a High Tea for Hawke's Bay Cancer Society Volunteers.

"To have 2011 World Cup hero Stephen Donald here to relive that iconic moment in New Zealand sports history will be fantastic," Castles said.



Former All Black and TAB Ambassador Stephen 'Beaver' Donald with Jockey Matt Cameron

"With the TAB now agreeing to pay \$2,000 for every winner in the Daffodil day colours I better get the right horses to carry them."

Hawke's Bay Racing will again put on a special 'High Tea' event for the volunteers as a way of saying thank you for their dedication, hard work and commitment.

The event will continue to be smoke-free as a sign of clubs'

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Sunday 4 August 2019

DAFFODIL RACEDAY CELEBRATING RUGBY, RACING AND VOLUNTEERS

(Continued from page 9)

ongoing commitment to its relationship with the Hawke's Bay Cancer Society.

"This will be the third year the event has been smoke-free, a move that has been embraced by race goers," Castles said.

"It is a small way we can show tangible support for the efforts of the Cancer Society as they continue their efforts to

reduce the harm caused in our society by this cruel disease."

Tarzino Trophy TAB Daffodil Raceday is the opening day of the Bostock New Zealand Spring Carnival.

Admission on the day is by \$5 donation to the Hawke's Bay Cancer Society.

– NZ Racing Desk



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END OF ROCKY ROAD **FOR BENCOOLAN**

Bencoolen (NZ) (Swiss Ace) finally franked the potential he has always shown with a convincing first win in the \$20,000 Open Maiden race over 1200m on Friday night.

Given a confident ride by champion jockey Vlad Duric, Bencoolen was quick out of his barrier one, but was just as quickly eased out of the speed battle when a trio made up of Lim's Sphere (Snippetson), Agni (Denman) and Air Combat (Dundeel) rushed past him.

Duric waited for the top of the straight to stoke the four-year-old up, who darted to the front for a move that looked a foregone conclusion, but he had to contend with one late challenge from Lee Freedman's newcomer Smoke And Mirrors (NZ) (Ocean Park) who was flying home on the outside.

Under Duric's hard riding, Bencoolen, however, kept finding to hold Smoke And Mirrors off by three parts of a length. Attention (Trusting) also ran on creditably for third place another 2 ¼ lengths away. The winning time was 1min 11.02secs for the 1200m on the Long Course.

Trainer Stephen Gray said the winner's circle was a place Bencoolen could have visited earlier, but it's been a struggle to get him there, especially following a recent racing setback.

"He's probably better than what he's shown. Two starts back, he got galloped on and it was pretty serious," said the Kiwi handler.

"We thought we were on top of it and then it got infected. We had to put him on penicillin, and we struggled for a while, but luckily, he got well.

"He ran on good with Vlad two starts back. At his last start, he was trapped on the fence, and when they sprinted away, he was left flat-footed.

"He probably needs a mile. I brought two good friends together to race this horse, Paul Hickman and Mr Lim Siah Mong.

"They have another horse with me. It's all about having a bit of fun together."

Race	Singapore TC Open Maiden S. 1200m
Winner	Bencoolen (NZ) 2015
Owners	Commonwealth Stable
Trainer	Stephen Gray (Kranji)
Breeding	by Swiss Ace (AUS) out of Show Exhibit (AUS) by Danehill (USA)
Breeder	G Harvey
Sales	2017 National Yearling Sale - Select V: Westbury Stud \$135000 P: S Gray

Duric said all the credit should go to Gray for not only his patience, but also for his horsemanship.

"I actually told Steve to leave the blinkers off as he was quite aggressive with them on, but Steve said he would be okay with them. It was a good call," said the two-time Singapore champion jockey.

"He was in a weak field tonight and he had the perfect draw. I still had to rate him and see how he would get through the field as he's not the brightest spark.

"But it worked out smoothly. I had to really get him through my rhythm in the end."

Named after the famous Singapore street downtown, Bencoolen has now taken his stakes earnings to somewhere around the \$15,000 mark for the Commonwealth Stable. -STC

Bencoolen gets off the mark at his fifth start at Kranji Singapore Turf Club

