

### TAVAGO IN LIGHT TRAINING WITH SPRING AIMS



Former Australian Derby winner Tavago is on the comeback trail after shaking off a suspensory ligament injury

fter initial fears **Tavago (NZ)** (Tavistock) would miss the spring carnival, the Group One winner is back in light work with connections hoping to target the Caulfield and Melbourne Cups.

The 2016 Australian Derby winner, Tavago won the Sky High Stakes during the autumn in Sydney but injured his suspensory at his next start in The BMW. "When he came back to scale he was properly broken down. It was five out of five lame," co-trainer Trent Busuttin said.

"I went up and said to the owners, 'we won't be seeing this horse until the autumn next year'.

"But two days later it was down, there was no swelling and



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### TAVAGO IN LIGHT TRAINING WITH SPRING AIMS

(Continued from page 1)

no soreness. We scanned it and he had basically given it a very hard tweak.

"So we actually worked him for a couple of days thinking we might be a chance of going to the Sydney Cup but we thought better of it and pulled him out."

Tavago was given 10 weeks off and is back in pre-training at Cranbourne with a view to the spring.

"He's doing a bit of trotting and quiet cantering," Busuttin said.

"In a couple of weeks I'll give him a scan just to be safe and if all is well, we'll just progress through to the spring.

"And obviously with a horse like him the Caulfield and Melbourne Cup is the target."

Busuttin says Tavago is at his best on rain-affected going,

something he doesn't expect to get for the spring Cups in Melbourne.

"But we'll just take him through the path and see which way he leads us," he said.

Tavago's 2016 spring was cruelled by a virus with his campaign aborted after his second start.

After a pleasing autumn return in the Chipping Norton Stakes, won by Winx (Street Cry), Tavago won the Sky High and went into the BMW as one of the main chances.

"At the moment, touch wood, he's fine," Busuttin said. "But if the scan reveals that it's not 110 per cent we'll forget about the spring and look towards the autumn

"If he stays sound he's got to be a genuine chance in a race like the Caulfield Cup."



-AAP

### ART DECO PAINTS A PRETTY PICTURE AT TAURANGA

Progressive mare Art Deco (NZ) (Road To Rock) underlined her potential as a serious winter performer when she gave her rivals a start and a comprehensive beating over 1200 metres at Tauranga on Saturday.

Trainer Allan Sharrock brought the four-year-old north in search of the better prizemoney available on the day and was delighted to take home the thick end of the \$30,000 stake on offer. Sharrock has often noted the high regard he holds for the Road To Rock mare and is keen to see her step up to better things in the short term.

"Long term she is an Opunake Cup mare which I've said all along," he responded when questioned after the race.



Art Deco and Alfred Chan return to the winners enclosure at Tauranga

"We might have a look at the Winter Cup as well although I think the owners might want to have a go at the Merial Metric Mile instead.

"We were here for the \$30,000 on offer for the rating 85 grade today with the bonus that she will still be on the minimum when she does step out in open class."

Sharrock's Hong Kong apprentice Alfred Chan was aboard the mare and produced a nicely judged effort to run down free-going pacemaker Rich Billie Marsh (NZ) (Viking Ruler) in the closing stages although he did admit he was a little worried when well back in the field with just 600 metres to run.

"Allan told me to sit midfield in about 4th or 5th but the pace was too quick so I had to ease off and sit her back," he advised.

"On the corner, I was panicking a bit as she was too far

back but she's outstanding and was just too good."

Chan was also quick to mention the advice he had received from former top-class rider Noel Harris before the race.

"It was my first-time riding right handed in New Zealand so I talked to Mr Harris about how to ride on this sort of track and he really helped me," he said.

The victory was Art Deco's fifth at just her 14th start where she has yet to finish outside the first three in her career to date. – *NZ Racing Desk* 

Race	BOP RC GPS-It Land Mapping H. 1200m.
Winner	Art Deco (NZ) 2012
Owners	Pee Gee & W J Bloodstock Ltd
Trainer	Allan Sharrock (New Plymouth)
Breeding	by Road to Rock (AUS) out of Something Special (AUS) by Bletchingly (AUS)
Breeder	Pee Gee & W J Bloodstock Ltd; Central; NZ



## IRISH EXPRESS SET FOR EXCITING THREE-YEAR-OLD SEASON

romising South Island two-year-old **Irish Express (NZ)** (Ekraar) threw his hat in the ring as a likely contender for the major three-year-old classics next season with a gutsy display at Riccarton on Saturday.

Sent out a warm favourite for the TWS Group sponsored two-year-old 1000 metre dash off the back of a winning debut earlier in the month, the giant Ekraar gelding didn't let his multitude of supporters down as he dived late to snatch a courageous win in the hands of leading rider Chris Johnson.

Despite registering his maiden victory in similar conditions to Saturday's Heavy11 surface, the Ellis Winsloe trained galloper looked all at sea early in the run home before knuckling down to his task inside the last 200 metres as he out-finished the diminutive Ajay Tee (NZ) (Foxwedge) to score by a neck at the line.

Winsloe was taken with the run after expressing some concerns before the race about the track and the influence an inside barrier draw might have on his charge.

"I wondered if he would cope with the track being drawn down on the rail and with 400 metres to run I wasn't too sure how he was travelling," he admitted.

"Chris came back in and said he never really handled it at



all so that's why he took him wide to make his run as he felt he needed some clear air to get into his stride.

"To do what he did was quite special and he looks an exciting prospect. We do think a lot of him as he hadn't done much before he went to the races and he managed to win on debut and has taken another big step up with this win."

Winsloe will now ease back on the horse as he sets his sights on a major local prize later in the year.

"He still has a lot of growing and maturing to do so we don't want to bust him by over-racing him at this stage," he said.

"We think he could get to a race like the 2000 Guineas if he can keep improving so we have had that race as a goal right from the word go.

"We needed to run him as a two-year-old so we have achieved that now so it might be time to back off him a little and give him some time out. He won't go to the paddock but he can have an easy time of it at the stable and we can just bring him along as we need to.

"We followed a similar pattern with Tartan Tights and that worked out okay so we know that's the right way to go."

Tartan Tights (NZ) (Tights), who was ridden by Johnson to win the New Zealand 1000 Guineas and New Zealand Oaks in the 1994-95 season, won the Canterbury Belle Stakes at Riccarton and placed in the John Grigg Stakes at Ashburton en route to her Riccarton classic win. She was trained by Winsloe's father Ted. – **NZ Racing Desk** 

Race	Amberley RC TWS Group 2YO S. 1000m.
Winner	Irish Express (NZ) 2014
Owners	G D & R A J Copland, P A Grant, M J Millard & E E Winsloe
Trainer	Ellis Winsloe (Gore)
Breeding	by Ekraar (USA) out of Irish Babe by O'Reilly
Breeder	G D & R A J Copland; P A Grant; M J Millard & E E Winsloe; South; NZ

Impressive two-year-old Irish Express



PER INCANTO , SAVABEEL , SNITZEL



## COMPARISON AT THE SAME STAGE IN THEIR CAREERS 15/5/17

	RUNNERS	WINNERS	STAKES WINNERS	STAKES PLACED	G1 WINNERS
SNITZEL AUSTRALIA'S CHAMPION & LEADING SIRE	183	127	8	12	_
SAVABEEL NZ'S CHAMPION & LEADING SIRE	147	83	8	10	_
PER INCANTO NZ'S LEADING SIRE OF INDIVIDUAL 2YO WINNERS 2014/15 NZ'S LEADING SIRE OF INDIVIDUAL 3YO WINNER 2015/16 CURRENTLY 2ND ON NZ'S 3YO SIRES FOR INDIVIDUAL WINNERS 2016/17	148	76	5	7	1

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## DIDHAM BELIEVES HE HAS THE RIGHT MATERIAL FOR TOP PERFORMER

Rawmaterial (NZ) (Falkirk) hinted he could be a future open handicapper in the making after overcoming some home straight traffic issues to register a notable victory at Riccarton on the weekend.

The lightly raced gelding showed his penchant for his home surface as he made it win number three from just six starts with each of those wins coming at Riccarton. Handled beautifully by visiting North Island rider Leah Hemi, the Falkirk gelding travelled sweetly at the rear of the eight-horse field that contested the rating 75 1400 metre event before Hemi asked him to improve between runners on the point of the home turn.

Things got a little sticky at that point

with Rawmaterial blocked behind the weakening leaders as race favourite Waylay (NZ) (Gallant Guru) made her bid for glory. Hemi didn't panic as she moved her mount across heels to follow Waylay through the gap before producing a resolute finish to down the favourite in the shadows of the post.

Trainer Les Didham was a happy man when interviewed after the race as Rawmaterial returned to scale to the boisterous cheers of his large group of owners.

"He's a good horse in the making and I've said that all along," he advised.

"He's one of those horses that has just got better and better as he showed us bugger all early on.

"I said to the owners about eighteen months ago that when brains were given out he was standing behind the door but he has just gotten better and better."

Didham was quick to sing the praises of Hemi who has been aboard the horse for his last two wins.

"Leah is riding him great as he hasn't been easy to ride or to do anything with," he noted.



Rawmaterial gets the better of Waylay to record his third career win

"However, in the last few months he has improved out of sight.

"I reckon in February or March next year you will see a real good horse. He raced on firm tracks when he was at the trials and just learning so I don't think good ground will bother him at all.

"I'd love to see him at the Cup meeting in November, which is our pinnacle event in the South Island, so that's our main goal." – **NZ Racing Desk** 

Race	Amberley RC Smiths Hire H. 1400m.
Winner	Rawmaterial (NZ) 2013
Owners	T Inwood, K Marshall, M Haase, S J W Morris, A J Scott, D Hart, A Kennedy, B & J O'Malley
Trainer	Les Didham (Riccarton Park)
Breeding	by Falkirk out of High Clarity by High Chaparral (IRE)
Breeder	Windsor Park Stud Ltd; Waikato; NZ
Sales	2014 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale V: Windsor Park Stud \$10000 P: NM McCrostie



## KAMIKAZE REBEL OPENS HIS ACCOUNT IN STYLE

ell regarded galloper **Kamikaze Rebel (NZ)** (Alamosa) is a maiden no longer after putting win number one on the board in comprehensive fashion at Tauranga on the weekend.

The stylish bay gelding has always looked a galloper of some promise but had the misfortune to find one or two better in his previous eight starts before Saturday's effort. Despite some questioning his effectiveness on the Heavy 11 surface on offer on the day, the Alamosa five-year-old displayed a touch of class to travel sweetly throughout the contest before sprinting hard to dash past pacemaker Imblaze (NZ) (Battle Paint) in the final 100 metres.

Making the effort even more noteworthy was the fact it was his first run since finishing fourth at Ellerslie on New Year's Day and he went into the 1200 metre event without a trial under his belt. The victory also provided a positive note in a tumultuous time for the Lammas family with rider Cameron sporting a black armband as a mark of respect for the passing of his wife Tracey's father Evan earlier in the week.

"It was a good win and I think the old boy was helping us out a bit," said Lammas as he made his way to weigh in after the race.

"I thought he might have needed the run as he felt a little fat after his last gallop but he's tough and tries his hardest and today he's got up.

"He was fresh up with no trial so he's a tough little horse."

Kamikaze Rebel is the son of well performed racemare Something Majic (NZ) (Mohamed Abdu) and was a \$16,000 purchase from the 2012 NZB National Weanling and Broodmare Sale out of the Curraghmore Stud draft.

- NZ Racing Desk

Race **BOP RC Christmas at the Races Book Now Maiden** S. 1200m. Winner Kamikaze Rebel (NZ) 2011 **Owners** Mrs L Boyd & Mrs T J Lammas Trainer **Tracey Lammas** (Matamata) Breeding by Alamosa out of Something Majic by Mohamed Abdu (IRE) Breeder Nearco Stud Limited; Waikato; NZ Sales 2012 National Weanling; Broodmare & Mixed Sale V: **Curraghmore Stud** \$16000 P: Regal Farm

Kamikaze Rebel brings some joy to the Lammas family with a victory at Tauranga





## PIKE PRODUCES ANOTHER STAR AT TE AROHA

ambridge trainer Tony Pike completed a satisfying 24 hours when **Hui Hai Stars (NZ)** (Pour Moi) dashed home to score an eyecatching win at Te Aroha on Sunday.

Fresh off a recent mid-winter holiday, Pike produced Dynamic Eagle (NZ) (Guillotine) for a comfortable victory at Tauranga on Saturday and completed a winning weekend with Hui Hai Stars who was having just her second raceday start after placing third at Avondale on debut.

The benefit of that raceday experience weighed in the Pour Moi filly's favour late in the piece as she dashed away from debutant Way Too Easy (NZ) (Super Easy) after the pair settled down to fight out the finish to the 1000 metre contest.

"She was perhaps a touch unlucky at Avondale as she never really got clear and finished the race off strongly," noted Pike after the race.

"She travelled well today from an awkward gate and it was a nice confident ride from Jordan (Nason). He didn't push the button too early and she was always travelling."

Tony Pike made a welcome return from vacation with a winning weekend double including two-year-old Hui Hai Stars

Pike is confident the filly can measure up in better company with plans in place to test that theory in the coming months.

"She's a big filly but obviously handles this sort of ground and is very genuine," he said.

"Seeing she does handle this ground and seems to love being in work I think we will press on and might look at a couple of black type options with her at the tail end of the season."

Those options could include the Listed Ryder Stakes (1200m), with the traditional late season juvenile feature scheduled to be run at Otaki on the 29th of July. – **NZ Racing Desk** 

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Race	Te Aroha JC Glen
	Armstrong Builders 2YO
	S. 1000m.
Winner	Hui Hai Stars (NZ) 2014
Owners	Tongjun Guo
Trainer	Tony Pike (Cambridge)
Breeding	by Pour Moi (IRE) out
2	of There's No Doubt by
	Pompeii Court (USA)
Breeder	D W Butler; G R
	Cunningham & J A
	Walker; Waikato; NZ
Sales	2016 National Yearling
	Sale - Select Session V:
	Curraghmore \$40000 P:
	Dean Hawthorne B/stock







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## NZ STALLION AWARDS

### **THE CENTAINE AWARD**

STALLIONS	EARNINGS	
SAVABEEL	\$10,934,533	
DARCI BRAHMA	\$7,925,495	
TAVISTOCK	\$7,225,349	
PINS	\$7,017,376	
IFFRAAJ	\$6,644,868	
O'REILLY	\$6,166,616	
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$5,444,663	
THORN PARK	\$5,227,850	
PENTIRE	\$3,766,092	
KEEPER	\$3,705,922	
Criteria: Sire whose NZ-conceived progeny have accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide		

### THE DEWAR STALLION TROPHY

STALLIONS	EARNINGS		
SAVABEEL	\$7,268,350		
IFFRAAJ	\$4,312,850		
PINS	\$3,431,185		
TAVISTOCK	\$3,170,694		
DARCI BRAHMA	\$2,875,112		
O'REILLY	\$2,794,197		
PENTIRE	\$2,696,601		
MAKFI	\$2,638,006		
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$2,253,747		
SHOCKING	\$2,115,464		
Criteria: Sire whose progeny have accumulated the highest combined stakes earnings in Australia & New Zealand			

### **THE GROSVENOR AWARD**

STALLIONS	EARNINGS	BEST PERFORMERS	EARNINGS
SAVABEEL	\$3,021,795	KAWI	\$378,750
IFFRAAJ	\$1,953,913	GINGERNUTS	\$665,450
TAVISTOCK	\$1,637,977	VOLKSTOK'N'BARRELL	\$288,000
DARCI BRAHMA	\$1,524,695	DEVISE	\$114,625
PINS	\$1,267,999	REILLY LINCOLN	\$119,062
MASTERCRAFTSMAN	\$1,101,015	THEE AULD FLOOZIE	\$305,375
ALAMOSA	\$1,017,160	BEEFEATER	\$61,350
PER INCANTO	\$998,430	SARACINO	\$144,375
MAKFI	\$962,360	BONNEVAL	\$289,000
GALLANT GURU	\$932,908	TOMMY TUCKER	\$155,925

Criteria: Leading Sires by Earnings in New Zealand



### NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG JUNE 21

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
Amos – SPARKLING TALENT (H.K.) (NZ) 2010 by Alamosa out of Tinkerbabu (AUS) by Giant's Causeway (USA)	Miss D Ho; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Po Toi H. 1000m.	2012 National Yearling Sale - Premier Session; V: Trelawney Stud Ltd, P: Johnston Houlahan BStk; \$70,000
Parallel Universe – LUCKY WAN FENG (H.K.) (NZ) 2012 by Darci Brahma out of Anca by Howbaddouwantit (USA)	Cambridge Hunt Ltd; Central; NZ	HKJC Manawatu RC Challenge H. 1200m.	
IMPERIAL GALLANTRY (NZ) 2011 by Guillotine out of Reflection by Thorn Park (AUS)	Windsor Park Stud Ltd; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Crooked Island H. 1650m.	2013 National Yearling Sale - Select Session; V: Windsor Park Stud, P: 888 B/stock; \$20,000

### NZ BRED WINNERS IN HONG KONG JUNE 25

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
Pluck That – WINWIN RUBY (H.K.) (NZ) 2013 by Pluck (USA) out of Spirit of Karlu (AUS) by Dubawi (Ire)	S Y S Yan; Waikato; NZ	HKJC Jasper H. 1600m.	2015 Ready to Run Sale; V: Weowna Park Ltd, P: AC Forsman; \$20,000

### NZ BRED WINNERS IN SINGAPORE JUNE 23

HORSE & BREEDING	BREEDER	RACE	SALES DETAILS
ETTIJAH (NZ) 2013 by Jimmy Choux out of Yellow Brick Road by Soviet Star (USA)	Ngaire Fraser; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Restricted Maiden S. 1200m.	
DARC BOUNTY (NZ) 2013 by Darci Brahma out of Miss Elusive (AUS) by Elusive Quality (USA)	A W; Mrs V A & W K Pike; Waikato; NZ	Singapore TC Kranji S. 1000m.	2015 National Yearling Sale - Premier Sale; V: Longlands Stud, P: CS Chen; \$100,000

