



Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate



January 2019 Newsletter

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Hi there

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

And once again, I welcome you to another monthly newsletter for the Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate.

This month we have seen some action in the north, with the second and third of your fillies making appearances at the workouts. Firstly, **Cheeky Babe** had a quiet run in a 2YO Workout Learners Mobile Trot, on the 18th December, at Pukekohe, having a nice run an impressing with a narrow but good win. She was the given a brief 10-12 days off and returned to training looking good. She is only about 3 or 4 weeks away from trialling again, so I'm sure that will be exciting. Then just yesterday (15th January) **Dragon Tattoo** attended the Pukekohe workouts, also having a nice run, to finish it off strongly for a good 2nd placing (although the official results show her as 3rd placed). She will have another run at the workouts next week (Monday, 21st January), once again at Pukekohe, before hopefully looking to attend the Qualifying Trials after that. **Ballroom Beauty** after qualifying back on the 7th November, was also given a short break and has returned to training and should be returning to the trials around the end of this month, in preparation to make her race debut. **On A Roll** had her surgery as previously reported and is working her way through her recuperation regime. She should be back in training early in March. **Tailored Elegance** returned to training after her spell on the 13th December and has been doing quiet work since her return. She is about to step up her work and should be ready to trial in about 6 weeks. **Monkee Around** has been back in training for 2 months now and started her hopped work at the beginning of January. She still needs to lose a bit of condition, but with her more serious work soon to start this will hopefully happen and she should be ready to trial in approximately 6-8 weeks.

As I have said before, it certainly does looks like we are well on our way to lots of fun and excitement, as all of your fillies have already shown some promise. This augers well for the future and I am looking forward to meeting you all personally soon, either at upcoming workouts or trials in the north, or hopefully soon at the races.

Here is the latest information on your horses, so I hope you enjoy the read.

The Fillies.....

Trainer **Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen** :-

Ballroom Beauty (Bettor's Delight / Twist And Twirl)

After qualifying back in November, Ballroom Beauty was sent for a brief 10-day spell.

She then returned to training with the All Stars Stable and was straight back into her work.

Ballroom Beauty has been progressing well and working towards a return to the trials.

Co-trainer Mark Purdon reported on the 10th January, "She's doing hopped work now and is about 3 weeks away from the trials."

So, in preparation to make her race debut, Ballroom Beauty should be looking to attend the trials towards the end of this month. I will confirm the details once these are known.

I'm sure it will be something for us all to look forward to, as Ballroom Beauty looks to be possibly your first filly to make her race debut – won't that be exciting?

On A Roll (Bettor's Delight / Only For You)

On A Roll underwent surgery on the 5th December to remove bone chips or fragments from her knee and the surgery went really well, as did her recovery afterwards.

She was then to complete 2 weeks in a box, then 2 weeks in a yard, before being able to go out into a paddock.

On A Roll is to have 2 months in the paddock and then she will be able to go back into training about the 4th March.

In the vet's opinion, everything should be fine and there is no reason why On A Roll will not make a full recovery and be able to make it as a successful racehorse.

Let's hope that she is able to do so.

Tailored Elegance (Muscle Hill / Classic Armbro)

Tailored Elegance showed some promise during her last 12-week time in training, pleasing her trainers with her attitude and trotting action, before being sent for a 5-week spell.

She returned to training at the All Stars Stable on the 13th December and immediately started jogging to increase her fitness.

On the 10th January co-trainer Mark Purdon advised, "She's still just doing quiet work at present, as there's no rush with her at this stage. She will soon move onto some strong work. She seems really good. She should be at the trials in about 6 weeks and we'll see how she is then."

It certainly sounds like Tailored Elegance is making good progress, so we can only but hope that this continues and we can look forward to seeing her in her first public appearance at the trials in about 6 weeks time. This will be in plenty of time for the first of the feature 2-year-old trotting races of the season that get underway in April, if she is up to it.

The first of these feature races is the Group 3 \$30,000 Majestic Son NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes, to be staged at Addington, on the 20th April. Then there is the Group 2 \$60,000 NZ Sires Stakes 2YO Trotting Champs, also at Addington, on the 17th May and the Group 1 \$125,000 Harness Jewels 2YO Ruby, this year at Addington, on the 1st June.

Later on, over in Australia, there is the Group 1 \$50,000 Seelite Windows & Doors Redwood Classic, at Maryborough, on the 4th August, then the Group 1 \$100,000 Breeders Crown Final, at Tabcorp Park Melton, on the 24th August.

Let's hope that Tailored Elegance is good enough to compete in most, if not all these classic races.

Trainer Tony Herlihy :-

Cheeky Babe (Muscle Hill / Factor The Odds)

Having completed virtually 3 months in training, Cheeky Babe was set to make her first public appearance and attend the Auckland TC Trials, at Pukekohe, on the 18th December, for a look at the mobile gate and some experience in having a quiet run.

This was in a 2YO Workout Learners Mobile Trot, Right Handed, over 1609m, where Cheeky Babe was the only entry for the heat, as it is very early in the season for 2-year-old trotters, so she was to have the company of a stablemate in Fortunato, a qualified 3-year-old half-sister to the very good trotter Temporale (Rowe Cup and National Trot winner), also from Tony's barn.

After a practice lap behind the mobile gate, Cheeky Babe made a safe beginning and settled in behind Fortunato, taking a nice trail.

She remained there throughout, trotting along nicely and doing everything right, until turning for home Tony hooked her out and ranged up alongside Fortunato and they ran home strongly up the home straight, hitting the line together.

The official result posted listed Cheeky Babe as the winner, in a time of 2:12.3 for the mile, with the final 800m completed in 62.3 and the 400m in 29.8. The official margin was a nose.

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

You now have your first winner, albeit a Learners Workout, but it was great to see Cheeky Babe perform so well and to trot along so nicely. I'm sure she has a promising future.

Tony said afterwards, "She trots along nicely. She did everything right, so that was the main thing. I think we'll give her 10 or 12 days off now and start back in the New Year. I've got another 2-year-old filly that can go out with her, so that will be good. I've got a nice fresh paddock organized for them."

Here are some photos taken at Pukekohe on the 18th December ...





In the running



At the finish



Back to the stables



Ungearing



Checked by the Stipe



Hosedown



Well-earned drink on a hot day



Walk after

So, Cheeky Babe was to have her short break and returned to Tony's stable looking good and refreshed.

Tony reported on the 14th January, "Yeah, she's back in and will be 3 or 4 weeks away from trialling again. We'll just have to see how she goes, as it's not easy up against the boys at their age. There's plenty of [2-year-old] trotting fillies around now, so it would be nice if they could get to go amongst themselves, rather than up against the boys all the time, but that's not happening so we'll just have to have a look at those feature races closer to the time."

It will be great to see Cheeky Babe back at the trials and if she is forward enough to look at making her race debut soon after a couple more trial runs, so I will confirm details of her first run at the trials as soon as they are available.

Cheeky Babe is also eligible, if good enough and if Tony decides to go up against the boys, for the feature 2-year-old trotting races of the season, that get underway with the Group 3 \$30,000 Majestic Son NZ 2YO Trotting Stakes, to be staged at Addington, on the 20th April. This is followed by the Group 2 \$60,000 NZ Sires Stakes 2YO Trotting Champs, also at Addington, on the 17th May and the Group 1 \$125,000 Harness Jewels 2YO Ruby, this year at Addington, on the 1st June.

Later on, over in Australia, there is the Group 1 \$50,000 Seelite Windows & Doors Redwood Classic, at Maryborough, on the 4th August, then the Group 1 \$100,000 Breeders Crown Final, at Tabcorp Park Melton, on the 24th August.

So, let's also hope that Cheeky Babe too is good enough to compete in these classic races, as it would be great for your syndicate to have two representatives in these.

Monkee Around (Art Major - Sheza Monkee)

After a decent 5-month spell, Monkee Around was to return to Tony Herlihy's stable on the 19th November and has now completed almost 2-months back in work.

Monkee Around was initially jogged to increase her fitness and after 6 weeks of this began her hopped work at the beginning of January.

Tony reported on the 14th January, "She came back in a solid little rock. She's finished her jogging and started her hopped work, but is still pretty solid. She will need to lose a bit more condition and then we will see what she's got. She should be ready to trial in about 6-8 weeks."

It will be interesting to see how Monkee Around progresses through her more serious hopped work over the next few weeks and hopefully she will trim down a little and be set to attend the workouts around the end of February.

Trainer **Brent Mangos** :-

Dragon Tattoo (Art Major / Rozelski)

Having completed her 2-month spell on the 27th September, Dragon Tattoo then returned to training with Brent Mangos and immediately began jogging to increase her fitness, before moving on to hopped work.

She has continued to please Brent with her progress to date, being much better gaited and not trying to kick while in the cart this preparation.

On the 29th December Brent advised, "She is coming along OK. She's doing everything right and I'll look at bringing her along maybe next Saturday, although the following Saturday will probably suit her better. We'll look to have a couple of runs and then go to the qualifiers."

It was originally planned that Dragon Tattoo would have a quiet run at the workouts in a Learner Heat around New Year, but this was to actually eventuate on the 15th January, when she was to attend the Auckland Trotting Club Trials at Pukekohe Raceway. This was in a 2:45 or Slower Learners Mobile Pace, Right Handed, over 2050m, where Dragon Tattoo drew Barrier No.6 in a 6-horse field. She was to be driven by stable Junior Driver Trent Lethaby.

Brent said before the heat, "She has actually improved. She does look good too and has grown a couple of inches, which is good. We'll give her a couple of workout runs and then hopefully look at qualifying her, if she's up to it. We brought her here last week and worked her and she worked well. She's just ready to go this time (2:45) and not too quick first-up."

From her outside barrier, Dragon Tattoo was eased back off the mobile gate to settle at the rear of the field, as Ruby Baby was chased out to take up the lead. They settled into single file and Dragon Tattoo ran along at the back of the field until her stablemate Weewah made a move forward with about 1100m to run to sit parked and Trent had Dragon Tattoo nicely onto her back and into the one-one.

She enjoyed a good run there until into the home straight, where Trent drew Dragon Tattoo out to make her run and she finished it off well to run home strongly and finish in 2nd placing, as shown in the video and called by the commentator, but not reflected in the official result where she is shown as finishing in 3rd placing.

The winner was Ruby Baby, in a moderate time of 2:54.0 (MR 2:16.5), with the final 800m in 63.7 and the 400m in 29.1.

Trent said, "She was good. She was good behind the gate and did everything right. She finished it off well, but she did run out a bit up the home straight. She probably doesn't need that [boring] pole on. She went a bit rough after the line, but she'll be OK."

Brent added, "That was good. She did everything right and was good up behind the mobile. They didn't go any speed; it was a pretty sedate pace really. She's actually worked faster than that. We'll come again next week and see how she progresses and go from there."

Here are some photos taken at Pukekohe on the 15th January ...





Away at the start



In the running



**Down the
outer in the
home straight**



At the finish



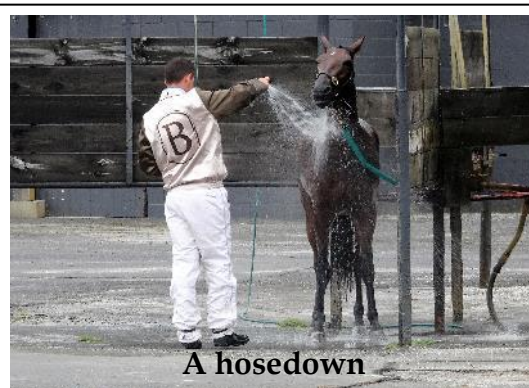
Return



Back to the stables



Gary watches the ungearing



A hosedown



A drink



Relaxing after



The video clearly shows Dragon Tattoo (outer) finishes in 2nd placing ... and the camera doesn't lie

Next week the workouts are scheduled for Monday, the 21st January, instead of the usual Tuesday meeting, so once details are available for these workouts, I will confirm these to you by the usual email.

It will be interesting to see how Gragon Tattoo goes, as she works towards having a Qualifying Trial soon, possibly on either the 2nd or 9th February, once again at Pukekohe.

GOOD LUCK & GO DRAGON TATTOO !!!

Newsletters On the Website

Please remember, your monthly newsletters will also be displayed on the Breckon Farms Website, so you can access them whenever you wish, especially if you can't find them amongst your emails.

The Breckon Farms website address is:- www.breckonfarms.co.nz

Under the 'Syndicates' menu, you will find the 'The Savvy Six Syndicate' section, then scroll to the bottom and you will find your newsletters. You may also enjoy reading some of the other sections contained within the website.

So good luck and many wins to come.

Cheers

Rob



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