

Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate



BRECKON
FARMS



January 2019 Newsletter

Rob Carr - Syndicate Liaison

Mobile (021) 227-6444

Email rob.carr@xtra.co.nz

Hi there

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

Once again, the frustrating time with Luby Lou has continued. There were plans for her to race at Alexandra Park, initially on the 14th December, then on the 31st December, but unfortunately soreness curtailed both.

After the second occurrence, it was deemed necessary to perform surgery on both her knees and so this was arranged and carried out very successfully on the 9th January.

Luby Lou must now undergo an extended recuperation period, which in total will be for 6 months, so will mean that she is to miss the entire 2018/19 season. As the syndicate's racing lease of Luby Lou was set to expire on the 31st July 2019, it would mean that her entire 4-year-old season had been lost. In recognition of this, Ken Breckon has decided to renew the lease to the syndicate to enable you to race her through her 5-year-old season in 2019/20. This will hopefully enable the syndicate to enjoy and benefit from a successful season on the track, as we all know how much talent Luby Lou has already demonstrated in her brief career to date.

Luby Lou is also held in very high regard by her co-trainer Mark Purdon, who thinks she is a very special trotter and one that no risks should be taken with her physical wellbeing and that an operation and delay in her career are both fully justified.

So, Luby Lou is currently having the prescribed 4 weeks in a box, then will have a further 4 weeks in a small yard, before she is turned out in the paddock for another 4 months.

This is a long process, but I'm sure if Luby Lou makes a full recovery, it will be one that is very worthwhile and beneficial to the syndicate to be able to race her as a 5-year-old. There are certainly numerous prestigious classic races that she will be able to contest, both here and in Australia, so let's hope she can make a full recovery.

The vet is very positive about her prospects, so we wish Luby Lou all the best for a full recovery.

GOOD LUCK LUBY LOU !!!

Here is the latest information on your mare:-

Trainer Mark Purdon & Natalie Rasmussen :-

Luby Lou (Muscle Hill – Luby Ann)

As we all know, Luby Lou had travelled north and was to be nominated to race in the Group 2 \$50,000 Lyell Creek Stakes, on the 14th December at Alexandra Park, when unfortunately, just 4 days before she was favouring her near fore leg in training. It was decided to send her to Matamata vets to be checked out and have scintigraphy (a scanning procedure which is used to locate lameness issues), which showed her knees were the problem and so she was to have her knee joints injected on the 13th December, in the hope she would then be able to race for the remainder of the season.

Unfortunately, these injections were not effective and Luby Lou went sore again. Ken Breckon advised, "She needs to have an operation to remove the cartilage from her knee. To do one it is approximately \$2,700 and to do both about \$3,400, so we have opted to do both. I will extend the [racing] lease to the Syndicate for another year, to give the Syndicate a fair go with her, as Mark has a lot of time for her and does think she is something special."

Then on the 30th December Mark Purdon advised, "When she resumed after her treatment (injections), she seemed good and sound in front, then after a couple of weeks she started to come back in after her work and was holding up in behind and seemed to be feeling something. Then she was all at sea behind, in her work and was not comfortable at all. It appeared to be as if it was her fetlock or stifle, but maybe this was secondary and she was compensating. I sent her back down to Matamata and it wasn't too bad on x-ray and an operation should help her, but she will need some time off, so we thought it was best to aim for next season. She may need a good break, but that will help her too. Hopefully she can put all her issues behind her, as she has certainly shown she has some ability. So, the end result is that she will need an operation on her knees."

Then on the 31st December I spoke to the consulting vet and she advised, "In layman's terms, her left knee was dodgy and her right knee was slightly dodgy. After a couple of weeks back in training, she reached a certain point of severity and she was sent back here. Given the calibre of racehorse she is, it was decided that she should have the operation and give her the best chance to perform on the track next season. We will clean up the pads of cartilage and then she will need a good break. She has to be boxed for a month, then in a small yard, then sometime in the paddock. She should have 4-6 months off and when she comes back in, because they're not as good as new, we need to be prepared to treat the knees again, not aggressively, but just routine. It is very common in racehorses. She's getting gold standard treatment. She's a tough filly and it's the tough ones that usually do well with this sort of thing. When she comes back into training, initially she should go on the treadmill and/or in the water walker, as this helps them later on when they are racing. We have to get her back to being a regular racehorse and manage her with injections about every 12 weeks of racing. She is scheduled to have the surgery next Monday [7th January], as we had to hold-off until things had settled down after her previous injections. We'll send a report through after the operation. We keep them a day or two after, just to make sure that they have come through it OK and everything is normal. She's out in the paddock here now, head down and eating away, enjoying it while she can."

It had certainly been a frustrating time, with Luby Lou now having travelled twice to Auckland to race and had not yet made it to do so.

The vets at the Matamata clinic had an emergency, so Luby Lou didn't actually have her surgery until the 9th January, but all went well and on the 10th January Matamata Veterinary Services sent through the following report:-

10 January 2019

Surgical Report

Matamata Veterinary
Services Ltd
362 Hinuera Road West
RD2, Matamata 3472
New Zealand
Tel 07 888 8193

Re: Luby Lou
Brand: 149840
Owner: Breckon Farm

On 9 January 2019 the above described horse underwent arthroscopic surgery of both intercarpal joints for assessment of her third carpal bone disease.

A routine dorsal approach was made to the left intercarpal joint. Several full thickness cartilage wear lines were present on the proximal aspect of the third carpal bone and a partial thickness cartilage erosion was present on the radiocarpal bone opposite third carpal bone. The damaged cartilage was removed and underlying abnormal subchondral bone was debrided to healthy margins. Portals were closed routinely and the procedure was repeated on the right. Multiple full thickness cartilage wear lines were present on the right third carpal bone. These were debrided and abnormal subchondral bone removed. This joint was less severely affected overall than the left.



Left third carpal bone wear lines



Post-debridement

Due to the degree of cartilage damage within these joints, a rest period of 6 months is recommended to allow cartilage adequate time to heal. Intra-articular treatment with bone marrow derived mesenchymal stem cells is recommended to improve the quality of fibrocartilage that fills the defects as the joint heals. Bone marrow has been collected for culture and should be ready for injection in 3-4 weeks. Dr Noel Power will be contacted when the cells are ready for injection. Cells will be stored for a year and storage can be renewed if desired. Repeat stem cell injection at 6 month intervals is recommended while she is racing.

The filly is being discharged today with the following directions.

Management:

1. Rest: Please maintain the filly on box rest for 4 weeks followed by 4 weeks in a small yard. Following that, she may be turned out to a paddock. Six weeks of work on a water walker or water treadmill is recommended prior to return to training.

Equine
Dove Harton BVMS(Hons) PhD MARECVS DACV
Dave Reenan BVSc MANZCVS
Andrea Robinson BVSc (Hons) MS DipACV
Leigh de CBDove BVSc CertAVP PGDipVPS MVSc
Barbara Purdie DVM MS MARECVS DACVLSA
Robbie Kerr BVSc BAgrSc DipAgSci
Ruthie McCulloch MVB BAgrSc
Theresa Frost BVSc
Nichola Daly BVSc
Megan du Toit BVSc

Farm & Small Animals
Greg Jervis BVSc BVSc
Fiona Hollnhead BVSc (Hons) PhD MARECVS DipACT
Suzie Murray BVSc
David Fraser BVSc
Alice Anderson BVSc
Shona Foster BSc (Hons)
Eylee Cooke BVSc
Sarah Harper BVSc
Yam Sagar BVSc
Christopher Stone BVSc
Amy Harding BVSc (Hons)

2. Bute: Please give 9mls by mouth once a day for 3 more days starting 11 January 2018.
3. Suture removal: Please have sutures removed 21 January 2018.
4. Bandaging: Please change the bandage every 4 days, or sooner if soiled, with the final bandage removed 24 hours following suture removal.
5. Pentosan: Treatment with Pentosan post-operatively is recommended starting at suture removal. 5mls in the muscle once a week for 4 weeks and then fortnightly for 12 weeks following that.

Intravenous injections have been administered to this horse. Please monitor the catheter, injection sites and incisions closely. Please contact Dr Power if there are any signs of heat, pain, swelling and/or discharge.

Yours sincerely



Barbara Hunter DVM MS MANZCVS DACVS-LA
Registered Specialist in Equine Surgery

Please ensure that this report is forwarded to the horse's owner(s) and the person(s) responsible for the future care of the horse, as well as to the insurer, if applicable.

Equine

Dave Harlow BVMS(Hons) PhD MANZCVS DACT
Dave Keenan BVSc MANZCVS
Andrea Rimmer BVSc (Hons) MS DipACVSc
Leigh de Gifford BVSc CertVET PGDipVPS MVSc
Barbara Hunter DVM MS MANZCVS DACVS-LA
Rochele Keer BVSc (AgSci) DipAgSci
Rosie McDuffin MVB BAgSc
Thomas Rilton BVSc
Rebecca Daly BVSc
Megan de Tui BVSc

Farm & Small Animals

Greg Jernat BSc BVSc
Fiona Pollock BVSc (Hons) PhD MANZCVS, Dip ACT
Susan Murray BVSc
Gwen Farrow BVSc
Alice Anderson BVSc
Rhonda Power BSc, BVMS
Kyle Coates BVSc
Sarah Pepler BVSc
Tom Seppel BVSc
Christopher Gocco BVSc
Amy Harding BSc (Hons)

The vet at Breckon Farms, Noel Powers, advised, "I have spoken to Barbara [Hunter, the veterinary surgeon who performed the operation] and she said that Luby Lou's prognosis was very positive and that she was very pleased with the way the operation had gone. We will be all set to give her the stem cell therapy as prescribed, when this is ready and available, so hopefully she will make a full recovery."

Luby Lou returned to Breckon Farms on the 10th January and will have her recuperation managed and adhered to as the vet has prescribed in her report.

Luby Lou will have 4 weeks in a box, then 4 weeks in a small yard and 4 months in the paddock, with her stem cell treatment administered as specified, before she will be ready to return to training, at which time it is recommended that she has 6 weeks on a water walker or water treadmill before commencing regular training.

Let's hope that all goes well for Luby Lou's recuperation and that she will make a full recovery and be able to race up to her already known potential, for the Syndicate next season.

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, click on 'Six of the Best Syndicate', then scroll to find your newsletters.

You may also enjoy reading some of the other sections contained within the website.

So good luck and many more wins to come.

Cheers

Rob



Breckon Farms - Six of the Best Syndicate

**Rob Carr – Breckon Farms – Six of the Best Syndicate Liaison
Mobile: (021) 227-6444 or Email: rob.carr@xtra.co.nz**