

Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate



BRECKON
FARMS



February 2019 Newsletter

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Hi there

Once again, welcome to another monthly newsletter for the Breckon Farms – The Savvy Six Syndicate. This month we have seen further action in both the north and south, with two of your fillies making appearances at the workouts and trials.

Firstly, **Dragon Tattoo** attended the Pukekohe workouts on the 26th January where she ran a creditable 3rd placing, before attending the Qualifying Trials at the same venue on the 2nd February, where she duly qualified, running 3.3 seconds under the required time, so **CONGRATULATIONS**, Dragon Tattoo has become your second filly to officially qualify. Although she was initially going to head to the races, Brent thought it was best that she be sent for a spell instead, so she has now gone to Breckon Farms to enjoy a 2-3-month break. In the south **Ballroom Beauty** attended the workouts at Rangiora on the 23rd January, where she ran a close-up 3rd placing, but when she returned for another run at the same venue on the 7th February, she could only manage a 5th placing some 8 lengths from the winner, with driver Tim Williams saying she was a bit disappointing and still a bit weak, so suggested that she should be turned out for another spell, to give her the time to strengthen up. It is thought that she may have also picked up a bug that has gone through the stable, so she too has gone for a spell. **On A Roll** is still recuperating from her knee surgery and should be ready to return to training early in March. On a more positive note, **Cheeky Babe** is progressing well and Tony is happy with her at this stage, so she should be ready to trial in about 2 weeks. **Tailored Elegance** is also making good progress and is "going nice" and only 1-2 weeks away from attending the workouts or trials. Tony is also happy with **Monkee Around's** progress, but she is taking a little longer to be set to trial, as she still needs to lose a bit of condition, but with more serious hopped work over the next few weeks, she should be ready to attend the workouts in about 4 weeks.

We have already had some action, albeit at the workouts and trials, but with two fillies already officially qualified and another three soon to make appearances at the workouts and trials, we are edging closer to lots of fun and excitement, when it is possible two, or maybe three are soon to make their race debuts. All of your fillies have already shown some promise, so this augers well for the future and hopefully I will soon be able to meet you personally, as your fillies attend workouts or trials in the north, or even 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)

Having qualified back in November and completed a brief 10-day spell after that, Ballroom Beauty returned to training at the All Stars Stable and made good progress in her work to be ready to make her return to the workouts at the North Canterbury TOA Workouts at Rangiora, on the 23rd January.

This was in a 2YO Fillies Mobile Pace, over 2000m, where she drew Barrier No.5 in a field of 7 runners. She was to be driven by stable driver Tim Williams.

Ballroom Beauty made a good beginning, but was then restrained to settle back in the field, three from the tail, as the field settled into single file. She ran along 5-back until heading into the back the final time with 800m left to run, Ballroom Beauty was the first to make a move and began to go forward without cover.

She moved up to be closer to the leader's wheel as they ran passed the quarter pole and as they straightened for the run home Ballroom Beauty began to mount her challenge. She hit the lead halfway down the straight, but was caught in the last 50m by firstly her stablemate Splendid Me and then the fast-finishing Live Sport.

Ballroom Beauty finished in 3rd placing, only a nose and $\frac{3}{4}$ length from the winner.

The winner was Live Sport, in a time of 2:37.1 (MR 2:06.3), with the last 800m completed in 59.1 and the 400m in 28.2.

Tim said, "I was pleased with her. She's a cruisy Bettor's Delight at the moment, so it was a good effort. I clocked her last quarter in 26.6, so I was pretty happy with that."

Ballroom Beauty was to return for another run at the workouts, at Rangiora on the 7th February, as she was hopefully working towards making her race debut.

This was in a 2YO Fillies Mobile Pace, over 2000m, where she drew Barrier No.7 in a field of 7 runners and was once again to be driven by Tim Williams.

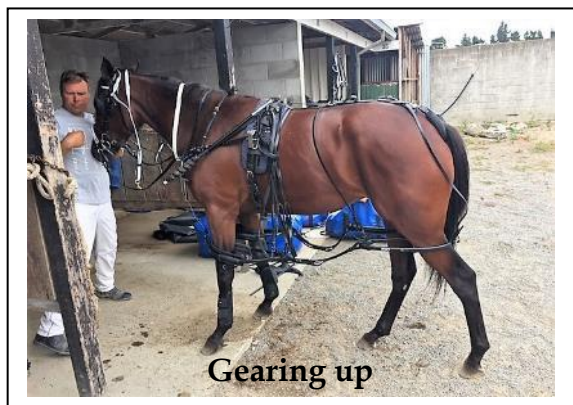
Ballroom Beauty was taken back off the gate from her wide draw to settle at the rear of the field. She remained there, until approaching the 600m point, Tim began a forward move one-out.

As they rounded the home turn Ballroom Beauty remained one-out and as they turned into the home straight, Tim took her back down to the markers and she ran home in 5th placing, about 8 lengths from the winner.

The winner was Tiffany Rose, in a quick time of 2:31.2 (MR 2:01.6), with the final 800m in 57.8 and the 400m in 28.3.

Tim said, "She was a bit disappointing. She's still a bit weak and hasn't developed yet. She'll get turned out now, as she hasn't stepped up like the other ones. She does need to improve. She's still a bit weak and needs time to strengthen."

Here are some photos taken at Rangiora on the 7th February by Phil & Glenys Kennard ...



Many thanks for the photos Phil and Glenys, they are great and most appreciated.

Co-trainer Natalie Rasmussen advised on the 14th February, "We gave others in the barn bloodtests after they performed poorly at the races, so I am just wondering if she was crook when she trialled, with the bug that has gone through the rest of the team. That may explain it. She can still have her spell though."

Ballroom Beauty has actually now already returned to Breckon Farms for her spell, arriving on the 14th February. Hopefully this will help her get over any bug she may have picked up, as well as give her the chance to strengthen-up and develop and hopefully be able to make it as a successful racehorse next time in training.

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

After undergoing surgery on her knee on the 5th December to remove bone chips or fragments, On A Roll made a good recovery from what was considered a successful operation.

She recovered well afterwards too and then had 2 weeks in a box and 2 weeks in a yard, before she was able to go out into the paddock.

On A Roll has now completed over a month in the paddock and as she is scheduled to have 2 months out, she will be able to go back into training about the 4th March.

It appears that On A Roll has a good prognosis for her full recovery and so should get her chance to make it as a successful racehorse, given a little extra time.

Let's hope she is able to do so.

Tailored Elegance (Muscle Hill / Classic Armbro)

After her last 12-week preparation, Tailored Elegance was given a 5-week spell and returned to training on the 13th December.

She completed a month's jogging to increase her fitness, before moving onto her strong work and has now started working on her speed.

On the 29th January All Stars Stable Racing Manager, Michelle Neilson, advised, "Tim [Williams, a stable driver] drives her most of the time. We're really happy with her."

Then on the 11th February Tim Williams reported, "She's going nice. Hayden [Cullen, the All Stars Stable Foreman] worked her on Saturday and he was pleased with her. She's not too far away, maybe another week or two, so we're on target for the end of February to go to the trials. She is ticking along real nice. I'm trying not to let anyone else drive her and keep it quiet, but too many know already."

So, things certainly do sound promising with Tailored Elegance and it will be exciting to see her make an appearance at the trials or workouts in the next couple of weeks.

I will advise you of the details when these are known, by the usual email advice.

As I have said previously, 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 indeed she does prove to be up to it.

The first of the 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.

Here's hoping 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)

Cheeky Babe's last time in training culminated in her having a run at the trials for a look at the mobile gate and to gain some experience and she certainly acquitted herself well, beating her 3-year-old qualified stablemate Fortunato, who has since gone on to race 5-times for 1 win, 1 second and 2 thirds, so it certainly was a good effort.

She was then to have 10 or 12 days off before starting back in training early in January. Cheeky Babe has been brought back up and it wasn't long before she was back into the serious side of her training.

Stable Foreman, Tony Cameron, advised on the 2nd February, "Cheeky Babe worked well this morning and shouldn't be too far away."

Then on the 13th February, Tony Herlihy advised, "Everything seems really good with her. I'm happy with her work. She's doing everything good at this stage. She's probably about 2 weeks away from the trials, so all is OK with her."

It will be great to see Cheeky Babe back at the trials and hopefully she will be forward enough to look at making her race debut soon after, but maybe after having a couple of trial runs.

As also previously advised, Cheeky Babe is also eligible, if good enough, 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.

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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 maybe have two representatives in these.

Monkee Around (Art Major - Sheza Monkee)

Monkee Around completed a decent 5-month spell and returned to training back on the 19th November and so has now completed almost 3-months back in work.

She was initially jogged for 6 weeks to increase her fitness and then moved on to strong hopped work at the beginning of January.

Monkee Around has now completed almost 6 weeks of her hopped work and on the 13th February Tony advised, "She's coming along OK. I'm happy enough with her. She doing her strong work now and doing it well enough. She came back in great order, so we're working a bit of that off as we go. She's about 4 weeks away from the workouts, so we'll get her to do that and decide where we go from there. The next month will tell us a lot more; you know how it is. I am quite happy with her."

Because Monkee Around is such a solid girl, it has taken a little longer than usual to get her to the point of being ready to attend the workouts, but this is now not too far away.

She should be set to go around this time next month, so I will confirm details when these are available.

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 mid-March.

Trainer **Brent Mangos** :-

Dragon Tattoo (Art Major / Rozelski)

After her promising placing at the workouts on the 15th January, Dragon Tattoo was initially scheduled to return for another run on the 21st January, but unfortunately these

did not proceed due to a lack of numbers nominated, so she was then to attend the Auckland Trotting Club Trials at Pukekohe Raceway on the 26th January.

This was in a 2:45 or Slower Learners Mobile Pace, Right Handed, over 2050m, where Dragon Tattoo drew Barrier No.2 in a field of just 5 runners and was once again to be driven by stable Junior Driver Trent Lethaby.

Dragon Tattoo got away best at the start and took up the early lead. She led them along throughout, with her stablemate Weewah on her back and just inside the 800m mark Dragon Tattoo got in a little on the corner and clipped a pylon, but maintained her lead.

Soon after Sweeter Than Sweet was the first to move, pulling out from 4-back and moving up to sit parked outside Dragon Tattoo's wheel. She led them around the final turn and into the home straight, where she was soon challenged by Sweeter Than Sweet, but fought well all the way to the line with Sweeter Than Sweet to her outer and Weewah making a run up the inside, with all three finishing together in what was a close finish.

So close in fact, that a deadheat was declared between Weewah and Sweeter Than Sweet, with Dragon Tattoo just a head away in 3rd placing, with 4 lengths back to the 4th placed horse.

The winning pair's time was 2:45.7 (MR 2:10.0), with the final 800m in 61.5 and the 400m in 28.8.

Trent said, "She did everything right and I was happy with her. She did it easily."

Brent added, "She went good. I had a few to hopple, so I arrived in time to watch her and she went good. She has improved a lot. We'll just have to see how she steps up and how she copes with going that bit quicker. We'll definitely go in the Qualifying Trial next week and depending how she goes in that, we'll see if she needs a spell or if we look for a race for her. She should qualify, it's just how good she does it."

Unfortunately, I was unable to make it along for this workout, due to a prior commitment, so sorry there are no photos available of the event.

So, Dragon Tattoo was to attend the Qualifying Trials at Pukekohe, on the 2nd February.

This was in a 2YO (Barrier Trial) Mobile Pace, Right Handed, over 1609m, with a Qualifying Time required of 2:06.4. Dragon Tattoo drew Barrier No.2 in a field of 6 runners and was to be driven by Brent Mangos.

Dragon Tattoo was a 1/2-length off the gate when they were released, but got away well enough and settled in 3rd position, 3-back on the markers. The field was headed by Hilary Barry in the lead, with Dragon Tattoo remaining 3-back throughout, as they ran along in single file.

As they rounded the final turn and passed the 400m Mark, Brent pulled Dragon Tattoo out to make her run. She moved up alongside her stablemate Weewah as they turned for home and ran home well in the home straight, just coming to the end of her run with about 100m to go, finishing in 5th placing, but still only about 3 lengths from the winner.

The winner was Hilary Barry, in a time of 2:02.6, with the final 800m completed in 60.7 and the 400m in 29.2. The first qualifier home was Sweeter Than Sweet in a time of 2:02.8, so only 0.3 seconds faster than Dragon Tattoo.

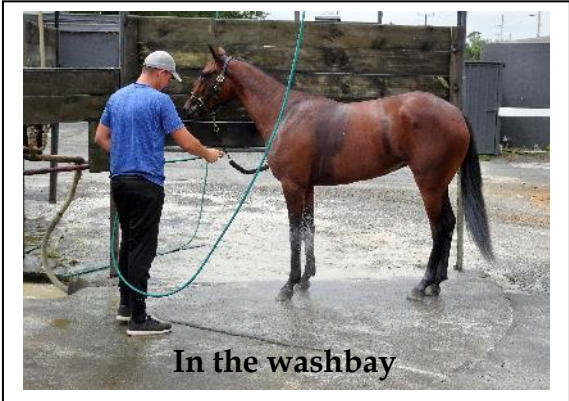
The first two fillies home had actually qualified previously and had indeed each had a race start, so it certainly was a good effort by Dragon Tattoo, who ran a time of 2:03.1, to officially qualify 3.3 seconds under the required time and thus become your second filly to qualify.

So, **CONGRATULATIONS !!!**

Brent said, "She was OK. She just came to the end of it in the last 100m. She did everything right and got out of the gate OK as well. That's as fast as she's been asked to go, so she should improve on that. There's a 2-year-old race at Auckland in 2 weeks (15th February) so we might just have a look at that. We'll nominate anyway and see what's in it. They might only get 7 starters, so it will be worth a look."

Here are some photos taken at Pukekohe on the 2nd February ...





As Brent had advised, after pleasing him in her Qualifying Trial, Dragon Tattoo was to be nominated to race at Auckland on the 8th February in the 2-year-old fillies race on the programme there, but then Brent advised on the 7th February, "She's just come to the end of it that wee filly. She's had enough this time. She has come a long way from being a ratty, kicking wee thing and she did go 2.03 [when she qualified], so that was good. The way she worked this morning I think we'd be doing the wrong thing carrying on. It's no good lining up and her going no good. There's no fun in that. We really have to do the best for the horse too. She would be better having a break now. I'll give her 2 or 3 months out, I think that will be best for her. She can go back to the farm and have her spell there."

So, on the 11th February Dragon Tattoo was sent to Breckon Farms to commence her spell.

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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