



JULY 8, GAWLER SATURDAY RACES

The Gawler and Barossa Jockey Club enjoyed hosting a Saturday metropolitan race meeting on July 8.

The Terrace Function Centre dining area was booked out while a good crowd enjoyed festivities in the Maverick Marquee.

A highlight of the day was the Gawler Caravan Park Footballers Sprint with eight of the Barossa, Light and Gawler Football Association clubs represented.

The winner was Jack Sherman from the Barossa District Football Club.

Sherman, 19, revealed he gave a hamstring a ping as he pulled up after scoring the victory.

“The \$1000 prize will come in very handy,” said Sherman.

“The boys want me to put it into the end of year footy trip but I reckon I can find other uses, after all, I am an apprentice worker and don’t get a lot of money.”

Jockeys Justin Potter and apprentice Raquel Clark were the leading riders each landing a double.

RACE 1 - Gawler Caravan Park

Fancy Rumble will be given a chance to go for black type for her breeding career after winning the Gawler Caravan Park Handicap (1206m).

A \$3.70 chance, Fancy Rumble, ridden by Jamie Kah, led throughout to score by 2-1/2 lengths from Lady of Crebilly (\$5.50) with Secret Reward (\$3.20 fav), two lengths away third.

The two-year-old filly is part-owned and trained by the training partnership of Wayne Francis and Glen Kent at Strathalbyn.

Kent said the Listed \$100,000 Oaklands Plate (1400m) at Morphettville on Saturday, July 22 was a likely next target.

“Even though she led today, she doesn’t have to set the pace,” Kent said.

“She has now won two from four and looks to have a bit of promise.”

Fancy Rumble was bred at Rosedale by David and Kath Hornhardt.

RACE 2 - A Moment In Time Event Hire Handicap

A bold front running ride by jockey Justin Potter returned a major prize when Bon Elise scored in the A Moment In Time Event Hire Handicap (2112m).

“No-one wanted the lead, and no-one wanted to challenge,” Potter said.

The result was Bon Elise (\$21) lasted to score a head win from the heavily backed favourite Chosen Angel (\$4.20 fav) with Craven Image (\$5), a neck away third.

Strathalbyn trainer Peter Moody revealed he had originally planned to run the five-year-old mare at Port Augusta the next day.

“After looking at the nominations I decided to stay and run at Gawler,” Moody said. “It was worth more and not as far to travel.

“She is a good handy staying mare which loves wet tracks.”

RACE 3 - GBJC Life Members Appreciation Handicap

Classy Jack scored his first win for two years with a brilliant all-the-way victory in the GBJC Life Members Appreciation Handicap (1100m).

Ridden by apprentice Rachel Clark, Classy Jack (\$10) bounded away from his rivals to score by 7-1/2 length from Stragun (\$11) with Wapping (\$19) a half neck away third.

Murray Bridge trainer John Hickmott said the six-year-old had been a very smart horse but had lost form after hurting a shoulder on Goodwood Handicap day two years ago.

“It has been a long process to get him back but hopefully today’s win will give him a bit of confidence,” Hickmott said.

Clark said being allowed to lead with no pressure had helped Classy Jack.

“He loved the heavy track and gave a real kick when I asked him to go,” Clark said.

RACE 4 - Coopers Brewery Handicap

Breaker Of Chains, trained by Will Clarken, proved a popular result for part-owner-breeder John Kelton in the Coopers Brewery Handicap (1506m).

Ridden by Todd Pannell, Breaker Of Chains (\$4) proved too strong, leading throughout, to score by 1-3/4 lengths from Locks Well (\$16) with Melody Queen (\$14), a half-length away third.

Kelton said the win had an extra bonus.

“Apart from the \$25,500 first prize I also collected a \$20,000 breeders bonus,” Kelton said.

“I thought he had his chance today with front-runners being suited.

“It was hard for horses to make ground as the track is a bit softer out wide.”

Kelton also said his good mare Tidy Prophet had been retired this week.

“She has had issues and it was time to send her to the breeding barn.”

RACE 5 - Goldin Farms Handicap

A pre-race decision paid a dividend when It's Been A Battle won the Goldin Farms Handicap (1206m).

It's Been A Battle (\$4.60) gave jockey Justin Potter a winning double when she led throughout to score by 2-1/4 lengths from Zalmona (\$4.40) with Game Of War (\$4 fav), four lengths away third.

Trainer Shane Oxlade said the original plan had to be try and take a sit early from her wide draw.

"When you see the first four races dominated by the leaders I said to Justin to go for the lead," Oxlade said.

"Fortunately, she had the pace to cross and proved too good.

"She's now won three from five and I think she is going to be a more than handy filly."

The filly got her name because Oxlade said it had been a battle to get her qualified to race.

"I gave her quite a few preparations to get to this stage but I'm glad I persevered because she is doing the job."

RACE 6 - Ausbia Electrical Handicap

Magic Boy became the first non-leader to win when he proved too strong in the Ausbia Electrical Handicap (1706m).

Ridden by Jason Holder for Morphettsville trainer Jon O'Connor, Magic Boy (\$8) outstayed his rivals to score a three-quarter length win from Emmooki's Dash (\$17), with Vintage Grove (\$14), a head away third.

Holder said he had to revert to 'plan C' to land the five-year-old a victor.

"I was trailing up nicely getting to the home turn but got held up," Holder said.

"Actually, I think it might have helped as once he got clear Magic Boy knuckled down strongly."

O'Connor said the five-year-old had been consistent but had been finding it hard to win.

"He deserved today's win," O'Connor said. "It takes his stakes close to \$300,000."

RACE 7 - Life Member Ray Brumby Tribute.

Home track knowledge paid off when Lady Silhouette took out the Life Member Ray Brumby Tribute (1506m).

Gawler trainer Gary Searle told jockey Brandon Griffiths that the mare, which gets back in her races, could not come down the middle of the track and win.

"Horses were bogging down in the centre of the track," Searle said.

"No-one has come down the outside for six months, except the course tractor.

"I told Brandon get to the outside on Lady Silhouette and see what happens."

A \$19 chance, Lady Silhouette charged home to score by a length from Affray (\$8) with Spirit Of Endeavour (\$13) a head away third.

The winner is owned by Gawler businessmen Danny Dare and Jim Johnstone in partnership with Gary Wilks.

Searle said with wins at her past two starts, Lady Silhouette had now earned a short break.

The victory was the mare's fifth win from 11 starts at Gawler with four placings as well. It took her overall tally to eight wins with six placings from just 32 starts.

RACE 8 - Back to the Exchange Hotel After Party Handicap

Apprentice Raquel Clark brought up a double when Battle Brewing came from last to win the Back to The Exchange Hotel After Party Handicap (1205m).

The \$2.60 favourite, Battle Brewing scored a 4-1/4 length win from Oamaru Owl (\$3.50) with Patch Hero (\$6.50), a length away third.

After the first five winners had led and stayed hard up against the inside rail, all but Clark, opted to go wide in the home straight.

As a result, Battle Brewing charged through without going around another horse to win.

Co-trainer Leon Macdonald, who with son-in-law Andrew Gluyas, will win the 2016-2017 South Australian Trainers premiership, said Battle Brewing could win his way through to open company.

"He's a nice horse, and on today's run could run 1400 metres," Macdonald said.

For Macdonald, it will be his first SA title since 2002-2003.