

Racing Report: Seater's winning formula continues

A generous and enthusiastic Australia day crowd gathered at Murray Bridge for the beach party themed race meeting, with the hope of backing a few winners and their day started off with a flyer with in form trainer Paul Seater saluting with favorite runner Sassy Sheila in the first. The 2year old filly broke through the barriers before the event, but that was the last her backers had to worry as she demolished her opposition easing down at the line. Now that she has broken through for her maiden victory, she can be followed confidently in future events. In the second event, the Mark Ricciuto part owned gelding Some Call Me Tim, trained out of Morpherville by Jon O'Connor, won the 1000m maiden scamper with a neck to spare on the line narrowly defeating Kylie Huxtable's Blue Lake which looked to have the winners measure half way down the straight. The locals bounced back in the next however with Simon Casey trained Uma Wave bringing up a double for leading jockey Simon Price, the filly just held out the unlucky Karen Byrnes 3yo Cognac Queen who didn't enjoy the best of runs and should go one better in future starts. This cleared the way for Seater to bring up his training double in the fourth to give Murray Bridge trainers 3 out of the 4 first events when Saeta Rose showed her liking for her home track recording her third win from six starts at the Bridge. When the Jake Stephens 5yo mare Awholelotofloving impressively took out the 5th, four outright favorites had been successful and the bookies were hemorrhaging. Running the placings in this event were the Susan Nolan trained Hotdeal and Irish Cheer. Both of these geldings are out of the handy producing mare Linney Head and performed well, the third horse being a little unlucky, the pair should be hard to beat wherever this astute stable places them especially Hotdeal who has come back from a spell in fine form and should break through in town this preparation. Light The Knight just lasted in the sixth for Ryan Plumb and Scott Trenowden and the feature event, Hallett Ski Boats Australia Day Cup, was won by the class runner of the field Lapel after a typical polished riding exhibition from Libby "Hollywood" Hopwood. After being held up momentarily coming into the straight she eased the gelding into clear going and saluted convincingly for her master Richard Jolly. The local flag was raised again in the last when Craig Stewarts' Miss Mallbeck finally notched a win after 12 attempts. The grey mare angled for a late gap in the straight to just get the nod on the line by a head. It's a change of luck for the young trainer who is not afraid to travel vast miles to place his horses suitably and hopefully it can start a run of success for him.

The Beach Party Raceday concluded a big Australia Day “long weekend” in Murray Bridge in popular style with the large crowd enjoying the entertainment and fun of a day at the races.