

Star power gives added shine to **A RECORD-BREAKING DAY**

LONGINES HONG KONG
INTERNATIONAL RACES 2012

The sun shone brightly while the stars were also out in force as some 70,000 local racing fans and visitors descended on Sha Tin Racecourse for the 2012 Hong Kong International Races on 9 December, the first under the banner of prestigious new sponsor LONGINES and carrying a record HK\$72 million in prize money.

With two victories for the home team and one apiece for Japan and Great Britain, the event fully lived up to its billing as the “Turf World Championships”, drawing international star power with the likes of movie star and horse owner Omar Sharif and LONGINES Ambassadors Kate Winslet and Aaron Kwok in attendance. There was also a strongly royal ring to the

occasion with connections of the 25 visiting horses including Britain’s Queen Elizabeth, Prince Khalid Abdullah, Sheikh Fahad Al-Thani and the Aga Khan.

Turnover for the ten-race card increased almost 3% to HK\$1.27 billion, the highest at the International Races since 1997.

“It was a great day of racing, and from the financial and attendance point of view it was tremendous,” said an exuberant Club CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges afterwards. “It was our highest attendance since our International Races all became Group One in 2002, which I think is extremely important for us and our fan base.”

The CEO reserved special praise for new sponsor LONGINES, hailing



HK\$
72
million
PRIZE MONEY
七千二百萬港元
總獎金

HK\$
1.27
billion
HIGHEST
INTERNATIONAL
RACES TURNOVER

SINCE 1997
十二億七千萬
港元總投注額
自一九九七年來
香港國際賽事日
的最高紀錄

70
thousand
LOCAL
RACING FANS
AND
VISITORS
七萬名本地馬迷和
海外訪客

the Swiss watchmaker as “a tremendous partner that has really supported the event significantly and added additional elegance and glamour”.

All four of the International Races produced top-class action with the crowd’s biggest roar of the day reserved for local favourite *California Memory*, as the little grey with a big heart became the first to achieve back-to-back wins in the LONGINES Hong Kong Cup, both under home-grown rider Matthew Chadwick.

Reigning Horse of the Year *Ambitious Dragon* garnered huge cheers, too, as he swept to victory in the Mile, while there was also a local connection in British-trained Vase winner *Red Cadeaux*, whose Hong Kong owner is former Club Chairman Ronald Arculli. Japan completed the honours with a first Sprint win by *Lord Kanaloa*.

Four days earlier, there was a similar carnival atmosphere at Happy Valley Racecourse as the LONGINES International Jockeys’ Championship got International Races Week off to an equally thrilling start. In a battle won eventually by just a nose in the fourth and final leg, Singapore-based Joao Moreira edged out Hong Kong’s Zac Purton to take the HK\$500,000 top prize.

On the Friday night, hundreds of overseas racing connections and media guests were given a taste of Hong Kong’s fine hospitality at the LONGINES HKIR Gala Party, where the star guest was songstress Sandy Lam.

LONGINES®



璀璨星光 耀頂峰



浪琴表香港國際賽事 2012

七萬名本地馬迷和海外訪客，在驕陽下見證耀目光臨沙田馬場，出席十二月九日舉行、首度由LONGINES贊助的二〇一二浪琴表香港國際賽事，並欣賞世界頂級名駒競逐獎金再創新高、合共高達七千二百萬港元的四項國際一級賽。

全日四項國際一級錦標，結果由兩匹本地明星賽駒瓜分其二，餘下兩項則由日本和英國代表各折一桂，再次彰顯香港國際賽事在世界馬壇的重要地位，不負「世界草地

錦標大賽」的美譽。這項國際體壇盛事吸引了眾多名人，包括荷李活著名影星兼馬主奧馬沙里夫、LONGINES 品牌優雅形象大使琦溫絲莉及郭富城等蒞臨觀賞。二十五匹參賽的海外佳駒當中，更不乏英女王伊利沙伯二世、Prince Khalid Abdullah、Sheikh Fahad Al-Thani 及 Aga Khan 等多國皇室成員的愛駒。

全日十場賽事的總投注額達十二億七千萬港元，與去年同一賽馬日相比，增加近百分之三，是自一九九七年以來所有香港國際賽事日的最高紀錄。

馬會行政總裁應家柏於賽事結

束後欣然表示：「這是一個成功的賽馬日，不論從投注額或入場人數來看亦然。自四項國際賽事於二〇〇二年全部達至一級賽地位以來，今日的入場人數為歷年最多。這對於馬會和馬迷顧客群而言，都十分重要。」

應家柏特別讚賞這項盛事的新贊助商LONGINES，稱其為「理想的合作夥伴，對今次盛會給予鼎力支持，並為它增添不少星光魅力。」

全日四項國際一級賽競逐過程精彩緊湊。贏盡馬迷掌聲的灰馬「加州萬里」，挾上屆冠軍之威重臨，與同為本土精英的騎師蔡明

THEY SAID IT
星級評語

“Horse racing is really serious here. It's No.1!”

賽馬在這裡是頂級盛事！

Jockey Gérald Mossé,
eight-time HKIR winner
八項香港國際賽事錦標
勝出騎師巫斯義

“In the international scene, it ranks really highly.”

香港國際賽事在國際間
聲譽極隆。

Sir Michael Stoute,
trainer of Queen
Elizabeth's Carlton House
英女王伊利沙伯二世
愛駒「嘉登行宮」
練馬師司徒德爵士

“It really is one of the best racedays in the world.”

絕對是當今世上
最精彩的賽事日之一。

Francesca Cumani, host
of CNN's Winning Post
CNN「Winning Post」
節目主持 Francesca Cumani

“For everybody here, it's a day to remember.”

親歷其境令人回味再三。

Emma Spencer,
BBC World News anchor
「BBC World News」主持
Emma Spencer



Vase

香港瓶

WINNER
Red Cadeaux (UK)

JOCKEY
Gérald Mossé

TRAINER
Ed Dunlop

勝出馬匹
「紅色禮物」(英國)

騎師
巫斯義

練馬師
鄧樂普

Sprint

香港短途錦標

WINNER
Lord Kanaloa (Japan)

JOCKEY
Yasunari Iwata

TRAINER
Takayuki Yasuda

勝出馬匹
「龍王」(日本)

騎師
岩田康誠

練馬師
安田隆行

Mile

香港一哩錦標

WINNER
Ambitious Dragon (HK)

JOCKEY
Zac Purton

TRAINER
Tony Millard

勝出馬匹
「雄心威龍」(香港)

騎師
潘頓

練馬師
苗禮德

Cup

香港盃

WINNER
California Memory (HK)

JOCKEY
Matthew Chadwick

TRAINER
Tony Cruz

勝出馬匹
「加州萬里」(香港)

騎師
蔡明紹

練馬師
告東尼

紹，雙雙蟬聯浪琴表香港盃冠軍，成為首匹連續兩屆贏得此項殊榮的佳駒。

應屆香港馬王「雄心威龍」，同樣在馬迷熱烈的喝采聲中登上香港一哩錦標冠軍寶座。而在浪琴表香港瓶中脫穎而出的「紅色禮物」，雖為英國賽駒，但由於馬主為前任馬會主席夏佳理，香港因而與有榮焉。另一方面，東瀛佳駒「龍王」攻下浪琴表香港短途錦標，為日本首次贏得該項一級賽冠軍。

將時鐘回撥到四天前，同樣熱鬧繽紛的嘉年華氣氛籠罩跑馬地馬場。當晚上演的浪琴表國際騎師錦

標賽，為精彩刺激的國際賽事週掀開序幕。該系列四關賽事高潮迭起，需鬥至最後一關最後一步才能分出勝負。新加坡冠軍騎師莫雷拉，最終在第四關以一馬鼻位之微力壓香港代表潘頓勝出，奪得騎師錦標賽總冠軍及五十萬港元獎金。

國際賽事舉行前的星期五，數百海外馬主、騎師、練馬師及傳媒嘉賓，應邀出席浪琴表香港國際賽事派對，體驗香港熱情的好客之道，陶醉在歌后林憶蓮的繞樑歌聲之中。



Left to right:
Red Cadeaux,
Lord Kanaloa,
Ambitious Dragon and
California Memory
左至右：「紅色禮物」、
「龍王」、「雄心威龍」和
「加州萬里」