



Douglas Whyte aboard *Glorious Days* takes the LONGINES Hong Kong Mile - amazingly, his first Hong Kong International Races success since 1998. 章達策騎「精彩日子」勝出浪琴表香港一哩錦標,是他自一九九八年以來再次勝出香港國際賽事。





## LONGINES HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL RACES 2013

It seems that almost every year the verdict on the Hong Kong International Races is "the best yet", but this is an event that really does just keep getting better – and surely few in the nearly 70,000 crowd at Sha Tin Racecourse on 8 December would dispute that the 2013 edition of Hong Kong's "Turf World Championships" hit new heights once again, both on and off the track.

With star international names like *Lord Kanaloa*, *Moonlight Cloud*, *Sky Lantern*, *Cirrus des Aigles* and *The Fugue* lining up among the 26 top overseas runners from seven countries, there was never any doubt that the racing action was going to be top class – the only question was whether Hong Kong's home team could keep up its habit of taking at least two of the four International Group One races in such distinguished company.

Yet not only did the local equine heroes achieve that, they went one better by taking three of the four feature races for only the third time in the event's history, including a first win in the Hong Kong Vase for 15 years. Adding icing to the cake, turnover for the day jumped 7% from the previous year to HK\$1.36 billion, the highest since 1997.

"This is the day when the eyes of the international sporting world are on Hong Kong. We are always trying to improve and set a benchmark for international racing events and today we are very happy with the result," an elated Club CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges told the media afterwards.

The day could hardly have got off to a better start when unfancied *Dominant*, brushing off the disadvantage of the outside gate, was given

a superb ride by Zac Purton to take the 2400m LONGINES Hong Kong Vase, holding off a late challenge from hot favourite *The Fugue*. It was Hong Kong's first win in this race since *Indigenous* in 1998 and completed a "full set" of HKIR successes for trainer John Moore.

However, scores were quickly levelled in the LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint when Japan's star sprinter *Lord Kanaloa*, making the final start of his career, simply blitzed the rest of the field to take this race for the second year in a row – an astonishing five-length win that Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges described as "one of the best sprinting performances I've ever seen on a racetrack".

From then on, though, it was Hong Kong all the way as *Glorious Days* took the LONGINES Hong Kong Mile by three-quarters of a length from local rival *Gold-Fun*, then reigning Hong Kong Derby champion *Akeed Mofeed* triumphed by a length over Japan's *Tokei Halo* in the prestigious LONGINES Hong Kong Cup. Both were ridden by Douglas Whyte.

There was almost as much excitement off the track with singer Kay Tse, Ban's Gig Drums Troupe and the renowned Inner Mongolia Acrobatic Troupe putting on a spectacular opening variety show, and superstar horse owner Aaron Kwok drawing much attention as an official LONGINES Ambassador.

Four days earlier, there was a similar carnival atmosphere at Happy Valley Racecourse where the LONGINES International Jockeys' Championship featured 12 top riders boasting over 24,000 wins between them – a line-up described as an



Connections of joint winners *Black Caviar* and *Treve* are honoured at the inaugural World's Best Racehorse Ceremony.

「魚子精華」和「卓芙」的代表在首屆「全球最佳賽駒頒獎禮」上接受殊榮。

"assembly of the greatest riders in the world" by none other than American legend Gary Stevens. It also included Mike Smith from the USA, British champion jockeys Richard Hughes and Ryan Moore, and the eventual winner from Australia, Kerrin McEvoy.

Adding further spice to HKIR week this year was Hong Kong's hosting of the inaugural LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Ceremony at the Gala Dinner, with many of the world's leading horse racing officials in town to share the occasion. The joint winners were retired Australian sprint star *Black Caviar* and France's young Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe heroine *Treve*, with US Horse of the Year and two-time Breeders Cup Mile winner *Wise Dan* the third best horse in the world in 2013.

All in all, it was a fantastic week that can only have further enhanced Hong Kong's standing in world racing. "The challenge now is how we can do better next year," Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges said, "but that is what we thrive on."





## 二〇一三年 浪琴表香港國際賽事

年復一年,每一屆香港 國際賽事均被喻為「最精 彩的一屆」, 而這項年度 盛事的確屢創高峰。二○ 一三年浪琴表香港國際賽 事於十二月八日在沙田馬 場上演,相信當天在場接 近七萬名觀眾,大多也會 同意這項「世界草地錦標 大賽1,不論場內場外, 又再寫下新的光輝一頁。

參戰賽駒陣容鼎盛, 「龍王」、「月影雲霞」、 「天燈」、「天鷹翺翔」和 「朦朧美態」等二十六匹

海外頂級名駒由七個國家遠道而來,勢必掀起 連番激戰。唯一的懸念是香港代表在強敵環伺 下,能否在四項國際一級賽中,保持多年摘下 至少兩大桂冠的佳績?

本地的精英賽駒結果不負所望, 而且更勝出三 項賽事,大演帽子戲法,造就香港代表第三次 在香港國際賽事中連折三桂。而港隊自十五年 前贏得香港瓶後,今年終於在此賽再奏凱曲。 好消息接踵而來——當天的投注額高達十三億 六千萬港元,較去年上升百分之七,創下自

馬會行政總裁應家柏賽後欣然向傳媒表示: 「這天是國際體壇聚焦香港的日子,馬會致力將 這項賽事打造成體育盛會,並不斷求進,力求 為國際賽馬盛事確立高水平指標。我們對今日 所取得的成果感到滿意。|



LONGINES Ambassador of Elegance Aaron Kwok (left) with President of Longines International Walter von Kanel. LONGINES優雅形象大使郭富城(左)與LONGINES總裁霍凱諾合照。

一場短途賽事。|

一九九七年以來此賽日的新高。

冠,更為練馬師約翰摩亞實現香港國際賽事大滿 貫的佳績。 在接下來的浪琴表香港短途錦標,日本星級賽駒 「龍王」不遑多讓, 迅即為客隊扳回一城。在其 競賽生涯的最後一場賽事,「龍王」於直路上加 速拋離群駒,以五個馬位之先成功衞冕。應家柏

當日主要賽事甫開始,主隊便傳來捷報。「多名

利」克服外檔的不利因素,在潘頓胯下力壓後勁

凌厲的大熱門馬「朦朧美態」,登上途程二千四

百米浪琴表香港瓶的冠軍寶座。這是自「原居 民」在一九九八年勝出此賽後,香港首次再度奪

接著兩項國際賽事均由港隊馬贏得:先有「精彩 日子」在浪琴表香港一哩錦標以四分三馬位 之先,擊敗另一匹主隊馬「大運財」奪冠;再有

形容「龍王」的表現「可説是我看過最精彩的其中



Australia's Kerrin McEvov celebrates winning the LONGINES International Jockeys' Championship.

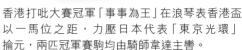
澳洲騎師麥維凱慶祝勝出浪琴表國際騎師錦標賽。





HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL RACES TURNOVER SINCE 1997

十三億六千萬港元總投注額 自一九九七年來 香港國際賽事日的最高紀錄



賽道內激戰連場,賽道外同樣精彩。在開幕綜合 匯演上,人氣歌手謝安琪傾力獻唱,敲擊樂團激 鼓樂社及著名內蒙古雜技團同樣落力演出,而星 級馬主郭富城作為浪琴表優雅形象大使,成為當 日另一焦點。

國際賽事舉行四天前,跑馬地馬場舉行了另一項 盛事——浪琴表國際騎師錦標賽。參賽的十二位 頂級騎師,迄今合共贏得逾二萬四千場頭馬, 參賽的美國傳奇騎師史提芬大讚這是「匯聚全球 頂尖騎師的聚會」。當晚的陣容包括美國騎師史 文夫、英國冠軍騎師夏偉卓及莫雅,以及今屆騎 師錦標賽冠軍澳洲騎師麥維凱。

今屆的浪琴表香港國際賽事派對,同場加插首屆 浪琴表全球最佳賽駒頒獎禮。在全球賽馬組織 高層見證下,三匹頂級良駒——已退休的澳洲 短途佳駟「魚子精華」、法國凱旋門大賽冠軍 「卓芙」及現任美國馬王暨兩屆育馬者盃一哩賽 冠軍「聰明丹」,分別在典禮上獲頒獎項,以為 揚其卓越成就。其中「魚子精華」及「卓芙」為 二〇一三年全球評分最高兩匹佳駟,而「聰明 丹」則為全球評分第三高的賽駒。

本年的香港國際賽事週精彩萬分,進一步奠定香港在國際馬壇的地位。應家柏表示:「我們現在要面對的挑戰,就是明年如何做得更好。然而,這正是我們得以持續發展的重要一環。」

LONGINES HK Cup winner  $Akeed \, Mofeed \, ridden$  by Douglas Whyte. 章達策騎「事事為王」勇奪浪琴表香港盃。







Winner 勝出馬匹: Glorious Days (HK)

Glorious Days (HK) 「精彩日子」(香港)

Jockey 騎師:

Douglas Whyte 韋達

Trainer 練馬師:

John Size 蔡約翰



港駒奪三冠四場一級賽 國際賽事指標 國際賽事指標

## 香港短途錦標 HONG KONG SPRINT

Winner 勝出馬匹:

Lord Kanaloa (Japan)

「龍王」(日本)

Jockey 騎師:

Yasunari Iwata 岩田康誠

Trainer 練馬師:

Takayuki Yasuda 安田隆行

