



RISING STARS

Battle for once-in-a-lifetime glory

Akeed Mofeed storms to victory under Douglas Whyte in the BMW Hong Kong Derby. 「事事為王」在韋達策騎下成功贏出寶馬香港打吡大賽。

Anticipation and excitement were at full throttle for this year's Hong Kong Group One four-year-old series, with first blood going to trainer Richard Gibson when favourite *Gold-Fun* narrowly took the opening leg, the Hong Kong Classic Mile, thanks to the tactical nous of jockey Douglas Whyte. It was Gibson's first top-flight success since his move to Hong Kong in 2011 and he looked well on song to land a clean sweep, with *Akeed Mofeed* also heavily favoured for the next two legs. But a strong start and good turn-of-foot in the straight saw John Size-trained outsider *It Has To Be You* spring a shock in the Hong Kong Classic Cup, giving Tim Clark his first Hong Kong Group One victory. And so to the final leg and the star prize, the BMW Hong Kong Derby, which saw *Akeed Mofeed* live up to the hype surrounding him with a determined victory over *Endowing*, helping Whyte seize a third Hong Kong Derby win in four years. *Gold-Fun* was a further half-length behind, giving both Gibson and owner Pan Sutong a unique 1st and 3rd double.

Adopting a new two-date format to help the Club bring in horses at the ideal time, the 2012/13 Hong Kong International Sale saw a total of 33 lots pass through the ring in December and March for an aggregate price of HK\$91.2 million. Top price of HK\$6.2 million was paid at the March sale for Lot 13, an *Exceed And Excel* three-parts brother to Group One Blue Diamond Stakes runner-up *No Looking Back*. Executive Director of Racing William A Nader said the Club had actually lost money on this season's sale, but "that's not what drives this, our overriding aim and hope is that these horses can go on and have productive racing careers in Hong Kong".



Hong Kong International Sale Figures (HK\$M)

香港國際馬匹拍賣會統計數字(百萬港元)

| Racing Season 馬季 | No. of Horses 拍賣馬匹數目 | Gross Receipts 總拍賣價 | Average Price 平均拍賣價 | Top Price 最高拍賣價 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 2012/13 | 33 | 91.2 | 2.8 | 6.2 |
| 2011/12 | 26 | 114.4 | 4.4 | 9.0 |
| 2010/11 | 20 | 94.1 | 4.7 | 7.5 |
| 2009/10 | 19 | 70.4 | 3.7 | 5.7 |
| 2008/09 | 30 | 87.2 | 2.9 | 5.5 |



Tim Clark celebrates a victory on *It Has To Be You* in the Hong Kong Classic Cup. 郭立基慶祝「魅力知己」勝出香港經典盃。

四歲新星角逐打吡功名

今年的四歲馬系列，新星湧現，戰情緊湊。首關香港經典一哩賽，「大運財」在韋達出色的發揮及臨場應變下，於末段力抗對手，勇奪桂冠，亦為高伯新贏得自二〇一一年在港設廠以來首項香港一級賽冠軍。高伯新麾下另一匹四歲新星「事事為王」，在次關香港經典盃備受注目，但結果卻由「魅力知己」憑檔位之利和強勁走勢爆冷勝出，替郭立基贏得首個本地一級賽冠軍。第三關是萬眾矚目的寶馬香港打吡大賽，名氣響亮的「事事為王」賽前已備受看好，結果也不負眾望，力壓「安賞」，以大熱身分掄元，韋達奪得四年來第三個打吡桂冠。「大運財」僅落後底侶兼綵衣相同的「事事為王」半個馬位過終點，為高伯新和馬主潘蘇通一併摘下寶馬香港打吡大賽桂冠與季軍。

馬會將本年度香港國際馬匹拍賣會分期舉行，以便於適當的時間推出幼馬拍賣。馬匹拍賣會第一部分於去年十二月舉行，第二部分在今年三月舉行，合共售出三十三匹馬，總拍賣價達九千一百二十萬港元。售價最高的一駒是第二部分的十三號拍賣馬，為「盡善盡美」子嗣及一級賽藍鑽石錦標亞軍「義無返顧」的四分三弟弟，以六百二十萬港元成交。馬會賽馬事務執行總監利達賢於拍賣會後表示：「雖然本年度馬季兩次馬匹拍賣會的總成績是有所虧蝕，但這並不是最重要的一點，要知道我們舉辦拍賣會從來都不是為了賺錢，我們最期望的是賣出的馬匹日後能不斷進步，在香港交出理想的競賽成績。」



Gold-Fun (red and yellow cap) sets the pace in the four-year-old series with victory in the Hong Kong Classic Mile, giving trainer Richard Gibson his first top flight success in the city. 「大運財」(紅黃帽)攻下四歲馬系列首關香港經典一哩賽，為高伯新贏得其在港從練首項香港一級賽冠軍。