



### Appleby, Charlie

*CSP – Blue Point*

Age: 42. Raised in Devon, Charlie Appleby was an amateur rider on the Flat in England and also rode in point-to-points. He attended the British Racing School in Newmarket and then worked for trainer Susan Piggott before moving on to David Loder just as the latter was embarking on his short-lived Godolphin venture at Evry, France. He remained with Godolphin when Loder returned to Britain as a public trainer. After 15 years as a travelling head lad at Godolphin, he was promoted to trainer in July, 2013. Appleby's first G1 win was achieved that November when Outstrip won the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. In October, 2014 he notched his first British G1 win with Charming Thought in the Middle Park Stakes. He is based at Moulton Paddocks in Newmarket for most of the year and Marmoom Stables in Dubai during the winter months. **Other major wins include:** Al Quoz Sprint (2018 Jungle Cat), Dubai Sheema Classic (2018 Hawkbill), Jebel Hatta (2018 Blair House), Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (2017 Wuheida), Sydney Cup (2016 Polarisation).

**Hong Kong wins:** 0



### Cruz, Tony

*APQEII – Exultant, Gold Mount, Pakistan Star, Time Warp  
CM – Beauty Only; CSP – Peniaphobia, Winner's Way*

Age: 61. Cruz is a son of Johnny Cruz, a renowned rider from Hong Kong's amateur era. His brother, Derek, is also a trainer. He was among the first intake of apprentices to the HKJC Apprentice Jockeys' School in 1972. Cruz started his riding career in the 1973/74 season and went on to be Hong Kong's champion jockey six times and rode 946 winners. Cruz also made his name at G1 level in Europe and partnered the great race mare Triptych. He started training in 1996 and won the trainers' title in 1999/2000 and 2004/2005, latterly setting a then record for a season's winners (91) and earnings (HK\$113m). He trained the great Hong Kong champion Silent Witness to win 17 consecutive races. **Honours:** Hong Kong Champion Jockey (1978/79, 1980/81, 1982/83, 1983/84, 1985/86, 1994/95); Hong Kong Champion Trainer (1999/00, 2004/05). **APQEII Cup wins (1):** Blazing Speed (2015). **Champions Mile wins (2):** Bullish Luck (2005 & 2006). **Chairman's Sprint Prize wins (2):** Silent Witness (2004 & 2005). **Other major wins include:** Hong Kong Cup (2011 & 2012 California Memory, 2017 Time Warp), Hong Kong Mile (2003 Lucky Owners, 2010 Beauty Flash, 2016 Beauty Only), Hong Kong Sprint (2003 & 2004 Silent Witness, 2015 Peniaphobia). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 1,151.



### Fownes, Caspar

*CM – Southern Legend*

Age: 50. Fownes assisted his late father Lawrie for several seasons before taking over the mantle in 2003/04. He eclipsed his father's best season stats in his rookie year with 44 wins. In 2006/07 he won his first trainers' premiership and has since added two more. His third championship came in 2013/14 when his strong late charge brought three wins on the closing day to tie with John Size on 62 wins, and with one more second place than his rival he sealed the title on count-back. Fownes is particularly known for his success at Happy Valley where he has notched 420 career wins, a tally second only to Hong Kong's longest-serving trainer John Moore. **Honours:** Hong Kong Champion Trainer (2006/07, 2008/09, 2013/14). **Chairman's Sprint Prize wins (2):** Lucky Nine (2013 & 2014). **Other major wins include:** Hong Kong Mile (2006 The Duke), Hong Kong Sprint (2011 Lucky Nine), KrisFlyer International Sprint (2010 Green Birdie, 2013 & 2014 Lucky Nine). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 783.



### Ho, Peter L

*CM – Fifty Fifty*

Age: 57. Peter Ho graduated from the ranks of assistant trainer to be licenced as a Hong Kong trainer in 1997/98. His biggest successes to date have come in the G1 Champions & Chater Cup thanks to Packing Winner and Mr Medici. The latter was crowned Champion Stayer (2009/10) after defeating Derby runner-up Super Pistachio and the great Viva Pataca in that local G1 contest. Mr Medici went on to run with credit in both the Caulfield Cup (sixth) and Melbourne Cup (10th) in 2010. **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 539.



### Ikee, Yasutoshi

*APQEII – Al Ain*

Age: 49. Yasutoshi Ikee is the son of Yasuo Ikee, the former JRA trainer who prepped two-time Japanese Horse of the Year Deep Impact and 2001 Hong Kong Vase winner Stay Gold. Ikee worked in his father's stable for a brief time before going to the UK to work for Michael Stoute in 1995. He went to California in 1996 to work for Neil Drysdale. He returned to Japan in 2003 to take out his trainer's licence and has notched almost 600 career wins, including eight this season (as of 9 April). He has no less than 19 G1/JPN G1 wins. Having won his first JRA Champion Trainer title in 2008, Ikee added a second in 2017, with him also winning the most prize money that season. Among the best horses he has prepared are 2011 Japanese Horse of the Year and two-time Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe runner-up Orfevre, three-time G1 winner Dream Journey, and Japanese classic winners Mikki Queen and Satono Diamond. Last year's G1 Japanese 2,000 Guineas one-two Al Ain and Persian Knight have been his flagbearers in recent times with the latter taking the G1 Mile Championship, while Satono Aladdin won the Yasuda Kinen last June. **Hong Kong wins:** 0

**Lui, Francis K W***CSP – Lucky Bubbles*

Age: 59. Francis Lui emerged from the HKJC Apprentice Jockeys' School to ride 36 winners as a licensed jockey between 1975 and 1982, and later became an assistant trainer. He received his own licence to train in 1996/97. Hello Pretty provided the handler with one leg of the Four-Year-Old Classic Series when he won the Hong Kong Derby Trial in 2006, while his standout stable star is sprinter Lucky Bubbles, who gave the trainer his first Group 1 winner in 2017 when he took the Chairman's Sprint Prize. Lucky Bubbles came within a short-head of giving Lui a first HKIR victory when he finished second to Aerovelocitv in the G1 LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint in 2016. **Chairman's Sprint Prize wins (1):** Lucky Bubbles (2017). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 573.

**Millard, Tony***CM – Singapore Sling*

Age: 56. Millard's father was the legendary multiple South African champion trainer Terrance Millard. Millard made an impressive start to his own training career in 1991. He was champion trainer in South Africa twice and won all of that country's majors. He trained three Horses of the Year there in Empress Club, Jet Master and Surfing Home as well as numerous other champions. He sent out 39 G1 winners in his first nine years of training before relocating to Hong Kong. He made an immediate impact locally, winning the 2000 Hong Kong Derby in his first season with Keen Winner. His most spectacular successes in Hong Kong have come with two-time Horse of the Year Ambitious Dragon whose 13 career wins included two G1s and five local G1s. **Honours:** South African Champion Trainer (1992, 1994 [shared with Pat Shaw]). **APQEII Cup wins (1):** Ambitious Dragon (2011). **Other major wins include:** Hong Kong Mile (2012 Ambitious Dragon), Hong Kong Derby (2000 Keen Winner, 2011 Ambitious Dragon), Hong Kong Classic Cup (2018 Singapore Sling), Durban July (1993 Dancing Duel). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 573.

**Moore, John***APQEII – Eagle Way  
CM – Beauty Generation, Helene Paragon*

Age: 68. Moore has been involved in Hong Kong racing since the professional era commenced in 1971 and is Hong Kong's longest-serving and winning-most trainer. A former amateur jockey, he began training in 1985, before which he held the position of assistant trainer to his late father, the legendary George. In 2007 he prepared an international G1 double thanks to Viva Pataca in the Audemars Piguet QEII Cup and Able One in the Champions Mile and, in a feat perhaps unprecedented in the sport, won the same two races with the same two horses three years later. The seven-time Hong Kong Champion Trainer was the first to saddle 1000 wins in Hong Kong and has been the leading prize money earner for the past 12 seasons. The stable has also produced the last five gallopers to be named Hong Kong Horse of the Year – Military Attack, Designs On Rome, Able Friend, Werther and Rapper Dragon. **Honours:** Hong Kong Champion Trainer (1985/86, 1990/91, 1991/92, 1992/93 [tied with David Hill], 1994/95, 2010/11, 2014/15); Hong Kong record holder for all-time career prize money (HK\$1.76 billion); record for most prize money in a season (HK\$155,263,295 in 2016/17). **APQEII Cup wins (5):** Viva Pataca (2007 & 2010), Military Attack (2013), Designs On Rome (2014), Werther (2016). **Champions Mile wins (6):** Able One (2007 & 2010), Xtension (2011 & 2012), Dan Excel (2013), Able Friend (2015). **Chairman's Sprint Prize wins (3):** Billet Express (2006), Dim Sum (2009 & 2011). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 1,594.

**Otonashi, Hidetaka***APQEII - Danburite*

Age: 63. Otonashi rode 84 winners as a JRA jockey between 1979 and 1993, including his sole top-class success aboard Noah No Hakobune in the 1985 Japanese Oaks. He obtained his JRA trainer license in 1995 and was crowned JRA champion trainer in 2010. He has earned two other JRA awards as the leading trainer in western Japan in 2004, and as the trainer with most total prize money in 2009. So far he has saddled a total of 756 wins in his training career, including 11 wins this season (as of 9 April). He has no less than eight wins at G1/JPN G1 level. His leading performers include Company (2009 Tenno Sho Autumn), Okan Bruce Lee (2008 Kikuka Sho), Victory (2007 Japanese 2,000 Guineas), and Mikki Isle (2014 NHK Mile Cup, 2016 Mile Championship). **Hong Kong wins: 0**

**Shum, Danny C S***CM - Seasons Bloom*

Age: 57. Danny Shum rode 24 winners in Hong Kong between 1977 and 1983. He learnt the training ropes as assistant to former multiple Hong Kong champion trainer Ivan Allan. He was granted a Hong Kong trainer's licence ahead of the 2003/04 season and began brightly with 34 winners. He improved on that good debut season to rank third in the trainers' premiership in his second term when Scintillation emerged as his standout runner. The 2011/12 season brought a first overseas success as Little Bridge went to Royal Ascot to clinch victory in the G1 King's Stand Stakes. He recorded a best ever season's tally of 54 wins to finish second in the 2015/16 trainers' premiership. **Major wins include:** Stewards' Cup (2018 Seasons Bloom), Centenary Sprint Cup (2006 & 2007 Scintillation), Hong Kong Classic Mile (2005 Scintillation, 2009 Thumbs Up). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 525.



### Size, John

*APQEII – Dinozzo, Ping Hai Star; CM – Western Express  
CSP – Amazing Kids, Beat The Clock, Ivictory, Mr Stunning, Thewizardofoz*

Age: 63. Size was a top trainer in Sydney before his arrival in Hong Kong in 2001 with a reputation for improving and rekindling the spark in his horses. He broke the mould by winning the trainers' premiership in his very first season. Size notched a ninth championship in 2016/17, which saw him set a new record for most winners in a season with 94, 27 more than nearest rival John Moore. He has trained the winners of two Horse of the Year titles, the multiple HKG1 scorers Electronic Unicorn and Grand Delight. In 2009/10 he trained Brave Kid to equal the then record of six wins in a season and Entrapment who finally broke that record with seven victories in just five months. **Honours:** Hong Kong Champion Trainer (2001/02, 2002/03, 2003/04, 2005/06, 2007/08, 2009/10, 2011/12, 2015/16, 2016/17). **APQEII Cup win (1):** River Dancer (2004). **Champions Mile wins (3):** Electronic Unicorn (2003), Sight Winner (2009), Contentment (2017). **Chairman's Sprint Prize win (1):** Grand Delight (2003). **Other major wins include:** Hong Kong Mile (2013 Glorious Days), Hong Kong Sprint (2017 Mr Stunning), Hong Kong Derby (2012 Fay Fay, 2015 Luger, 2018 Ping Hai Star). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 1,116.



### Takahashi, Yoshitada

*CSP – Fine Needle*

Age: 48. Yoshitada Takahashi is the son of Shigetada Takahashi, a G1-winning trainer and former Champion Jockey in Japan. Takahashi started his career as a groom in 1995 and gained experience working at trainer Sir Mark Prescott's stables in Newmarket. He obtained his JRA trainer license and inherited his father's stables after the elder Takahashi's retirement in 2011. He has amassed a total of 152 wins in his career, including 11 wins so far this season (as of 9 April). Fine Needle brought him an 11th pattern win, and his first at G1 level, in the Takamatsunomiya Kinen in March. **Hong Kong wins:** 0



### Yiu, Ricky P F

*CM - Blizzard*

Age: 60. Ricky Yiu rode 11 winners between 1974 and 1980 and was first licensed as a trainer in 1995/96. One of his greatest early moments came with Fairy King Prawn's success in the inaugural Hong Kong Sprint of 1999. Sacred Kingdom was his outstanding stable star and this two-time G1 Hong Kong Sprint winner and 2009/10 Horse of the Year won the Champion Sprinter title for the fourth year in succession in 2010/11. In the 2010/11 season he sent out Ultra Fantasy to triumph in the G1 Sprinters Stakes at Nakayama as, with Alex Lai on board, the pair became the first Hong Kong Chinese trainer-jockey partnership to triumph in an overseas G1 event. Following Sacred Kingdom's retirement in the spring of 2012, another blistering speedster, Amber Sky, provided Yiu with further elite successes including the 2014 G1 Al Quoz Sprint in Dubai. **Chairman's Sprint Prize wins (3):** Fairy King Prawn (1999), Sacred Kingdom (2008 & 2010). **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 707.



### Yung, Benno T P

*CM – Pingwu Spark*

Age: 59. Benno Yung started out at the Hong Kong Jockey Club as an apprentice jockey in 1978 and rode professionally in Hong Kong until 1986, the final four years as a senior jockey. He was first appointed assistant trainer in 1991, working under Christopher Cheung. He then spent two seasons in the same role for Tony Millard until moving to the John Size stable when the Australian first arrived in 2001. Yung remained in that role until receiving a licence to train ahead of the 2013/14 season. His best runner to date has been five-time winner Pingwu Spark, third in the G2 Chairman's Trophy this term. **Hong Kong wins (as of 16 April):** 144.