



14th December 2011

Stellar night for fillies and mares

The Auckland Trotting Club's premier meeting this Friday (16th December) has no less than four races programmed for fillies and/or mares. The highlight of the meeting is the feature race, the Group 1 Rosslands Queen of Hearts with a mouth watering stake of \$100,000.

The five-time Group 1 winning mare, Carabella, will once again lay down the gauntlet to her peers. The exceptional Bettor's Delight mare bred and owned by Cavalla Bloodstock is heading into this Group 1 with a near perfect record - 15 wins and 1 second from 16 starts.

Bettor Cover Lover will be making a much anticipated comeback after she nearly died from a horrific injury last season. Trainer Brent Mangos has reported that she is suffering no ill effects from the injury and is set to face-off against Carabella.

Bettor Cover Lover, bred by Dennis Bennett and Linda Joyce goes into Fridays race with 11 lifetime wins under her belt from 15 starts. This tally includes three Group 1 wins including the Victoria Oaks Final.

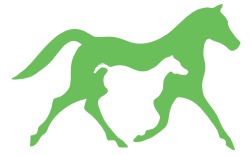
Of course we can't forget the Australian Group 1 winner Forever Gold, who is looking to build up New Zealand stakes to earn her place in the 4YO Diamond next season. One could possibly argue that this is one of the strongest Queen Of Hearts fields to be run.

The trotting mares have a special race to content on Friday. The Group 3 MPM Waterproofing Northern Trotting Breeders Stakes is the only Group race in the country for fillies and mares.

The Luk Chin, bred, owned and trained-Fayanni (Armbro Invasion-Faye's Jewel) starts off 40 metres and will make the history books if she wins; having won the previous two editions of this race. It is hard to pick out a dominating mare from a full and even field, with horses from all over New Zealand competing for the chance of a Group win and a share of the \$25,300 stakes.

Heat 4 of the Alabar Sires Stakes Fillies Series sees another full line-up of 3YO fillies, looking for a ticket to the lucrative Fillies Series Final worth \$170,000. The Breckon Bloodstock bred-Twist And Twirl (Artsplace-Giveitawhirlgirl), was very game last week when second to Here We Go Again.

Christian Cullen filly O Baby, bred/owned by Braeden and Caroline Whitelock, finished close behind Twist And Twirl last week and will be looking to reverse the placings. While last week's disappointing favourite Dancing Diamonds (Bettor's Delight/Asabella), another filly co-owned by the Whitelocks' seeks redemption following her lacklustre seventh.



The supporting race for fillies and mares, the Euroglass Mobile Pace features southern raider Southwind Arden (Bettor's Delight-Winter Rose) looking to continue her unbeaten form this season. Dakota Grace (Bettor's Delight- Achy Breaky Shufle) can't be ruled out of contention after drawing the ace barrier position and showing solid form this season.

Congratulations once again to Auckland Trotting Club for an excellent night of racing, showcasing some of the best fillies and mares in the country.

Kiely Buttell
Executive Manager