

Sunday 16 July 2023

## THIRD HORSE OF THE YEAR TITLE FOR GOLDEN SIXTY



*Karaka graduate Golden Sixty is crowned Horse of the Year and Champion Miler in Hong Kong for the third year in a row. (Hong Kong Jockey Club)*

Golden Sixty's record-breaking performance during the 2022/23 racing season saw Hong Kong's champion earn the Horse of the Year title for a third consecutive year at a special presentation in Hong Kong on Friday night.

As such, the Karaka graduate becomes the first horse in the history of Hong Kong racing to annex three consecutive Horse of the Year crowns.

The Francis Lui-trained seven-year-old's efforts this season also secured a

third straight Champion Miler title with his string of outstanding performances in Group One mile events.

Golden Sixty had five starts this season, suffering the only defeat in the campaign when beaten by California Spangle in the Gr.1 Hong Kong Mile (1600m).

The son of Medaglia d'Oro then scored a hat-trick of top-level wins, landing the Stewards' Cup (1600m), Citi Hong Kong Gold Cup (2000m) and FWD Champions Mile (1600m), taking

his overall record to 25 wins and three placings from 29 starts and extending his record prize money to HK\$147.93 million.

He stands alone as Hong Kong's most prolific Group One winner, eclipsing the feats of Beauty Generation by tallying an unmatched nine Group One wins after sealing a third FWD Champions Mile win in succession last April.

Golden Sixty's impressive feats

*Continued on page 2*



# TIME TEST

DUBAWI - PASSAGE OF TIME

2023 Service Fee  
\$10,000 + gst LFG

## NZ 3YO Premiership 2022/23

PLACE	STALLION	NO. OF WINNERS As at 14/7/23	2023 SERVICE FEE
1st	Savabeel	17	\$100k
2nd=	Proisir	14	\$70k
2nd=	Time Test	14	\$10k



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# THIRD HORSE OF THE YEAR TITLE FOR GOLDEN SIXTY

(Continued from page 1)

this year were reflected in the first edition of the 2023 LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Rankings, in which he topped the list with an international rating of 125 after scoring a Group One double in the Stewards Cup and Citi Hong Kong Gold Cup.

Currently, Golden Sixty and Lucky Sweynesse sit joint-third behind Equinox and Mostahdaf on an international rating of 125.

Both Golden Sixty and Lucky Sweynesse are graduates of New Zealand Bloodstock's Ready To Run Sale.

Golden Sixty was sold by Riversley Park at the 2017 Ready To Run Sale for \$300,000 to trainer Francis Lui. He then went under the early care of Matamata trainer Graham Richardson where he had three educational trials, winning the last of those at Te Teko in August 2018, before being sent up to Hong Kong.

Lucky Sweynesse was sold at the 2020 Ready To Run Sale through Woburn Farm's draft for \$90,000 to Joe Barnes' J & I Bloodstock. The gelding was a six length trial winner at Ellerslie out of Shelley Hale's Cambridge stable before transferring to Hong Kong.

The Manfred Man-trained Lucky Sweynesse was named this season's Champion Sprinter and Champion Four-Year-Old. The emerging youngster continued his advance from his 98 rating to becoming a three-time Group One winner this term, claiming each leg of Hong Kong's HK\$5 million Speed Series: Gr.1 Centenary Sprint Cup (1200m), Gr.1 Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup (1400m) and Gr.1 Chairman's Sprint Prize (1200m).

The Sweynesse gelding matched Beauty Generation's record for the most wins in a single season when he ended the term on a high note by scoring for the eighth time in the Gr.3 Sha Tin Vase (1200m).

Currently rated 131 locally, Lucky Sweynesse is the highest-rated four-year-old in Hong Kong.

The Danny Shum-trained Romantic Warrior was crowned this season's Champion Middle-Distance Horse for the second consecutive year by winning the two prominent 10 furlong features in Hong Kong, namely the Gr.1 LONGINES Hong Kong Cup (2000m) and Gr.1 FWD QEII Cup (2000m), beating overseas rivals on both occasions.

John Size was honoured with a record 12th Hong Kong Champion Trainer title. The battle for the championship was settled before the season finale, as Size successfully

repelled a strong challenge from Francis Lui and Frankie Lor throughout the season to recapture the crown.

Zac Purton is now a six-time Hong Kong Champion Jockey. The Australian rider enjoyed another remarkable season of dominance, including breaking Joao Moreira's single-season record of 170 wins. He also reached 1,600 career wins in Hong Kong. Purton and Douglas Whyte are the only jockeys in the history of Hong Kong racing to reach 1,600 wins.

Vincent Ho won the Tony Cruz Award as the season's leading homegrown rider with a personal best 94 wins (to date).

This season's Most Popular Jockey and Most Popular Horse will be presented at the conclusion of Sunday's 88th and final fixture this season at Sha Tin. - **HKJC**



Michael Lee, Chairman of The Hong Kong Jockey Club, presents the Horse of the Year trophy to Golden Sixty's owner Stanley Chan Ka Leung; the owner is accompanied by trainer Francis Lui and jockey Vincent Ho. (Hong Kong Jockey Club)







# YOUNG WERTHER BACK IN WINNER'S CIRCLE

**M**ultiple Group One performer **Young Werther (NZ)** (Tavistock) notched the second victory of his career when prevailing in a close finish at Flemington on Saturday over 2000m for trainer Danny O'Brien under a well-timed Billy Egan ride as he claimed runner-up Milford (NZ) (Savabeel) on the line.

The son of Tavistock won on debut over 1500m at Geelong in September 2020, but despite a slew of honest performances had failed to weigh-in first until start 23.

Group One placed in both the VRC Derby (2500m) and Australian Derby (2400m), Young Werther has also been placed in the past two editions of the Gr.1 Turnbull Stakes (2000m) and has performed well in all of his Flemington starts over 2000m.

A recent Queensland campaign seemed to agree with Young Werther, who ran well when fourth in the Gr.3 Lord Mayors Cup (1800m) and third behind Luncies (Iffraaj) in the Gr.3 Tatt's Cup (2400m).

"It is great for the owners. They have been very patient with this horse. He has been in and around the mark in some really big races and he has promised us the world but has finally delivered today," stable representative Jack Howard said.

"He really enjoyed his time in Queensland. He was the best behaved horse and thought he was the King of the Castle up there.

"When he hopped off the truck when he got back he was jumping out of his skin and we just thought we'd give him a few quiet days and see how he was going.

"He worked here at Flemington on Tuesday and couldn't have worked any better but we were always a bit cautious given his winning strike-rate.

"We left the instructions up to Billy here today and he might be the lucky charm."

The O'Brien stable have the luxury of multiple venues which assist in keeping the older middle distance horses fresh and happy.

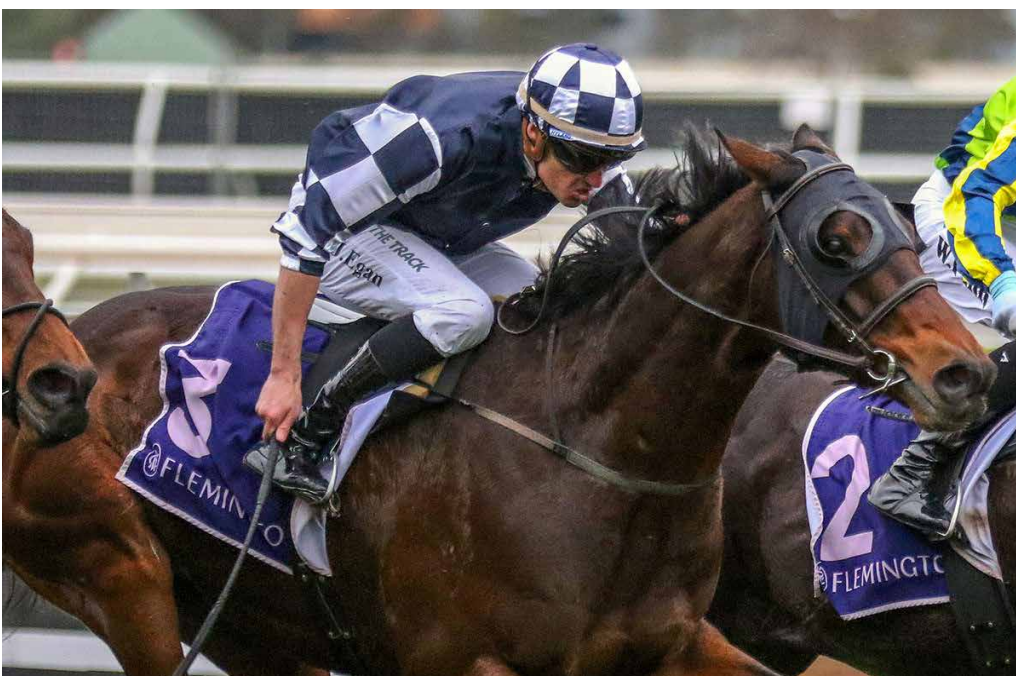
A five-year-old, Young Werther has now won two of his 23 starts and placed on a further eight occasions, banking more than A\$1.3 million in prizemoney.

"We will just get him back home, keep him ticking over and obviously we have got Barwon Heads where we can take him down and give him a bit of quiet time at the beach," Howard said.

"We will leave it up to Dan as to where he goes next but we have got the second win now so the challenge is to find the third and hopefully not let it take as long."

Young Werther was purchased out of Cambridge Stud's 2019 New Zealand Bloodstock Book 1 Yearling Sale draft by O'Brien, in partnership with Aquis Farm, for \$140,000.

Out of the winning Fastnet Rock mare Romantic Time, Young Werther is a half-brother to stakes-placed Romantic Lady (NZ) (Power) and a brother to three-time winner Villaden (NZ). – **NZ Racing Desk**



<b>Race</b>	<b>VRC Member Clint Jellis Trophy 2000m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Young Werther (NZ) 2017</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Mr D T O'Brien, Mrs J O'Brien, Mr B A Ainsworth, Mr T H Rourke, Mr J F Hardwick, Mr A C Lennen, Mr S W Bruhn, Mr C Kopacz, Mr R C Salter</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Danny O'Brien (Flemington)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Tavistock out of Romantic Time by Fastnet Rock (AUS)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Sir Patrick &amp; Lady Hogan</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2019 National Yearling Sale – Book 1; V: Cambridge Stud, P: Aquis Farm/O'Brien Thoroughbreds; \$140,000</b>

*Billy Egan drives Young Werther to a narrow victory at Flemington on Saturday (Bruno Cannatelli)*



# WEST COAST CONTINUES WINNING RUN

A perfectly judged ride by Shaun Fannin helped pave the way for **West Coast (NZ)** (Mettre En Jeu) to add another feature steeplechasing event to his blossoming career record when the pair took out the Grant Plumbing Wellington Steeplechase (5500m) at Trentham.

In an exciting display of jumping set up by tearaway pacemaker Izymydaad (NZ) (Istidaad), Fannin and second favourite West Coast (\$2.50) sat back

in the field of six as they covered all the moves of topweight and race favourite The Cossack (NZ) (Mastercraftsman) (\$2).

With 1000m to run Izymydaad started to come back to field after leading by more than 100m during the middle stages as Donardo (NZ) (Don Eduardo), Argyll (NZ) (Gallant Guru) and the favoured pair began to hunt him down.

In what proved to be the pivotal

moment of the race Argyll fell at the second last fence, checking stablemate The Cossack which allowed West Coast to get a crucial break on his rival as Fannin urged him into contention.

Izymydaad and West Coast cleared the last together with the latter proving too strong in the shadows of the post to record his sixth career victory for trainer Mark Oulaghan, with The Cossack

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A triumphant Shaun Fannin celebrates West Coast's victory in the Grant Plumbing Wellington Steeplechase (5500m) at Trentham on Saturday. (Peter Rubery (Race Images Palmerston North))







# WEST COAST CONTINUES WINNING RUN

(Continued from page 5)

picking himself up again to finish an unlucky third.

"He toughed it out very well and I thought it was a good, brave win," Oulaghan said.

"The ground out there was very gluey and was anchoring them a fair bit, but he got in a good rhythm and picked his fences well.

"I guess we got the rub of the green a little when The Cossack copped his check as it looked like he was going to be right in it.

"As long as he pulls up well he will head down to Riccarton to defend his Grand National crown as he likes the big fences down there as he showed last year."

The 148th Racecourse & Motor Lodge Grand National Steeplechase (5600m) is one of the main jumping features at Riccarton on August 12.

In a tragic aftermath to the race, it was confirmed that Argyll had suffered a suspected fatal heart attack that caused his fall with rider Emily Farr shaken but unhurt in the incident.

The victory took West Coast's career record to six wins from 26 starts and over \$216,000 in prizemoney.

Earlier in the day it was survival of the fittest in the closing stages of the Hydra-Cell Pumps Ltd Wellington Hurdle (3400m) as tough as teak galloper Suliman (NZ) (Redwood) took out the feature in a gruelling finish.

The nine-year-old son of Redwood went into the race after finishing fourth in the Hawke's Bay Hurdles (3100m) on his home track for trainers Paul Nelson and Corrina McDougal who also produced the race favourite in

stablemate Nedwin (NZ) (Niagara) who was sent out at \$2.20 on the tote.

Nedwin set up the speed and looked to be travelling comfortably before misjudging a fence nearing the 1000m mark and falling in front of the field.

That left third favourite Berry The Cash (NZ) (Jakkalberry) (\$5.30) in front, however he bungled the fence at the top of the home straight and dropped rider Portia Matthews which paved the way for Suliman to establish a winning break with two fences to clear.

In what looked like a slow-motion replay, Suliman climbed over the final obstacle and plugged to the line to defeat Carnaby (NZ) (Danroad) and Hurry Cane (NZ) (Nom Du Jeu) who chased valiantly in the final stages.

McDougal was left to ponder what might have been if Nedwin had not taken a tumble.

"I guess that is the highs and lows of racing," she said.

"We were expecting a decent scrap between our pair as they had worked well during the week and like racing at Trentham.

"I think he (Nedwin) may have just tried to put in a big leap and clipped the top of the fence. He has come back in with mud all over his head and a little stiff but is probably more embarrassed than anything else.

"In saying that Suliman was very good and showed some pretty nifty footwork to avoid both falls.

"When everything fell he got a bit lost as he had his ears pricked, but he got the job done in the end.

Suliman started his career with

Matamata trainer Graham Richardson where he won five of his first 33 starts before transferring to Nelson and McDougal in 2021. He has now recorded a further five victories including the 2021 Taumarunui Gold Cup (2200m) and the 2023 Awapuni Hurdle (2800m) for prizemoney in excess of \$262,000.

**-LOVERACING.NZ News Desk**

<b>Race</b>	<b>WRC Grant Plumbing Wellington Steeplechase 5500m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>West Coast (NZ) 2015</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Mrs G T &amp; H A E Williamson, Mrs J M &amp; R M Williamson</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Mark Oulaghan (Awapuni)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Mettre En Jeu out of Testament by Grosvenor</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Letham Stud Ltd</b>

<b>Race</b>	<b>WRC Hydra-Cell Pumps Ltd Wellington Hurdle 3400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Suliman (NZ) 2013</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>I See Red Syndicate</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Paul Nelson &amp; Corrina McDougal (Hastings)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Redwood (GB) out of Red Mariete (AUS) by Red Ransom (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>G Harvey</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2015 National Yearling Sales - Select Sale; V: Westbury Stud, P: Richardsonracing.co.nz; \$50,000</b>





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	WINNERS TO RUNNERS	STAKES WINNERS TO RUNNERS	STAKES HORSES TO RUNNERS
<b>CONTRIBUTER</b> \$18,000	<b>65%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>
<b>SO YOU THINK</b> \$90,000	<b>60%</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>10.7%</b>
<b>TORONADO</b> \$80,000	<b>68%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
<b>DUNDEEL</b> \$75,000	<b>55%</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>10.8%</b>

\*END OF AUTUMN CARNIVAL AS 5YO'S (AUS/NZ)\*

## VALUE SIRE OF 2023



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# BRADLEY BANKS **HOMETRACK DOUBLE**



Warren Kennedy drives Sulabella to victory in the ITM/GIB Winter Championship Final (1600m) for local trainer Michelle Bradley. (Race Images)

Local trainer Michelle Bradley was on cloud nine as she celebrated taking out two of the feature events on the card at Ruakaka on Saturday.

Bradley produced lightly raced four-year-old mare **Sulabella (NZ)** (Proisir) to score a convincing victory in the ITM/GIB Progressive Winter Championship Final (1600m) in the hands of Warren Kennedy, before Sam Spratt lifted Pentire gelding **Bosch (NZ)** off the canvas to defeat the Chris Gibbs-trained pair of Chevron (NZ) (El Roca) and Cruisy Lass (NZ) (Super Easy) in the ITM/GIB Whangarei Gold Cup Stayers Final (2100m).

Bradley, who has just 20 horses in work at any one time, admitted she had been hopeful rather than confident of success on such a big day.

"I'm really stoked and just a little speechless actually," Bradley said.

"This is such a big day for everyone and when I saw the fields I thought Sulabella might be my best chance, but we

would need everything to fall in our favour.

"We have had to be very patient with her (Sulabella) as she has had her issues, but I know she has good ability and the breeding to run out a strong mile like she did today.

"The other thing is that Warren gets on so well with her and that can be half the battle as she is a quirky thing at times.

"She doesn't like to be bossed around and he knows that and she responds to him.

'My main concern was she hadn't had a start for nearly a month, however Warren had her beautifully placed in the running and she was nice and strong to the line.'

Bradley also had concerns about Bosch after she saw the field assembled for his race.

"When I saw the field and the likelihood there would be more speed on, I had my doubts that Bosch could cope with that," she said.

"He loves to get his own way in front and if he can't or he

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# BRADLEY BANKS HOMETRACK DOUBLE

(Continued from page 8)

doesn't have any room he pretty much switches off for the day.

"I told Sam that if he couldn't lead to just try and keep him in clear air, so she did a super job and he really lifted when the other horses came for him."

It wasn't all plain sailing for Bradley who found herself watching the races from the Ruakaka birdcage where she couldn't quite get a good view of the action.

"I couldn't get near a television so had to watch the races live which meant I had trouble picking out where we were in the home straight," she said.

"I had to listen pretty hard, so the feeling that comes across you when they are fighting it out is amazing.

"For me this is a massive moment in my career and one I will certainly cherish forever."

Bradley had more to celebrate with the win of Sulabella as she part owns the mare after purchasing her for \$12,000 from the Highline Thoroughbreds Book 2 National Yearling Sale draft at Karaka, while Bosch is raced by a group of; locals including her co-breeder Mike Beazley who is the president of the Whangarei Jockey Club.

**-LOVERACING.NZ News Desk**



Ruakaka trainer Michelle Bradley (Trish Dunell)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Bold Mac too strong at Randwick

The Chris Waller-trained **Bold Mac (NZ)** (The Bold One) ran out a strong winner of the Robrick Lodge Eremein Handicap (1800m) at Randwick on Saturday under a confident ride by apprentice Zac Lloyd.

The former Kiwi galloper sat in midfield and when presented at the top of the straight found a good kick to score by half a length.

The son of The Bold One led home a New Zealand-bred trifecta, with Mach Schnell (NZ) (Zacinto) and King Of The Castle (NZ) (Castledale) filling the placings.

The winner of three of his nine starts in New Zealand prior to joining Waller, Bold Mac was bred by Bernie Gudsell, who races the gelding with members of his extended family plus his original trainer Colin Cromarty.

Now the winner of six of his 24 lifetime starts with a further seven placings, Bold Mac has banked A\$412,894 in prizemoney.

Bold Mac's sire The Bold One is an impeccably bred son of Fastnet Rock and Group One winner The Jewel (NZ) (O'Reilly) and stands at Grangewilliam Stud for a fee of \$4,000 plus GST,

Bold Mac is out of the useful racemare Mrs Mac (NZ), a half sister to seven race winner Zumba (NZ) (No Excuse Needed). **-NZ Racing Desk**

<b>Race</b>	<b>WRC ITM/GIB Progressive Winter Championship 1600m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Sulabella (NZ) 2018</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Mrs M L Bradley, C &amp; E J Heron</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Michelle Bradley (Ruakaka)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Proisir (AUS) out of Amiga Mia (AUS) by Conatus (USA)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>C &amp; E J Heron</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2020 National Yearling Sales – Book 2; V: Highline Thoroughbreds, P: Mrs M L Bradley; \$12,000</b>

<b>Race</b>	<b>WRC ITM/GIB Whangarei Gold Cup Stayers' Final 2100m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Bosch (NZ) 2018</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>M T &amp; D A Beazley, H W &amp; K S Perry, J M Kerr</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Michelle Bradley (Ruakaka)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Pentire (GB) out of Highlight by High Chaparral (IRE)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>M T Beazley &amp; H W Perry</b>





# MILLEFIORI CONTINUES TE AKAU'S WINNING RUN

A brave performance by **Millefiori (NZ)** (Iffraaj) to take out the final race on the card at Ruakaka on Saturday, the ITM/GIB Winter Sprinters' Championship Final (1400m) has edged trainer Mark Walker even closer to the magical 200-win mark for the 2022/23 racing season.

Walker is now just a tantalising four victories away from achieving the milestone and become the first New Zealand trainer to do so although he is philosophical about reaching the target with just two weeks left in the season.

"We are getting very close and the team is still racing well which is very heartening," Walker said.

"While it would be special to reach the mark, if we don't we

have still had a phenomenal season.

"The pursuit of the goal has been great for all the staff at home, as it can tend to be a bit tough at this time of the year with the wet tracks and cold mornings, so to have something to collectively work towards has been good for everyone."

Walker was delighted to see Millefiori back to her best after she had a very disappointing three-year-old campaign last year.

"She is a handy mare who was really down on confidence after her last campaign where she tended to be a little disappointing at times," he said.

"I'm a firm believer that one of the best ways to turn their form around is to try and get them a win that can boost their confidence and you can see that has worked well for this mare.

"She won nicely at Tauranga back in March and then again at Awapuni two starts back so she has really lifted and is starting to show what we think she is capable of.

"With a touch more maturity on her, I think she is definitely capable of winning at stakes level so that will be our target next season.

"I also thought Jess Allen rode her beautifully today.

"The winning of the race was in the first 200m as she bounced her away and got into a lovely position where the

mare could hold off the challenges in the run home."

Walker is uncertain of the next start for the daughter of Iffraaj as he contemplates a trip to New Plymouth next Saturday for the Listed Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Opunake Cup (1400m)

"We will see how she pulls up, but the Opunake Cup holds some appeal next Saturday," he said.

"She doesn't want it bottomless though and because she goes so well at Tauranga we may skip that and take her to that meeting on the same day."

Purchased for \$65,000 by Te Akau Racing boss David Ellis out of the Archer Park draft during the Book 2 National Yearling Sale at Karaka in 2020, Millefiori has now won seven of her 23 starts and nearly \$150,000 for owners, the Te Akau Millefiori Racing Partnership.

*Millefiori toughs out her rivals to take out the ITM/GIB Sprinters Winter Championship Final (1600m) under apprentice Jess Allen. (Race Images)*

<b>Race</b>	<b>WRC ITM/GIB Sprinters' Winter Championship Final 1400m</b>
<b>Winner</b>	<b>Millefiori (NZ) 2018</b>
<b>Owners</b>	<b>Te Akau Millefiori Racing Partnership (Mgr: Karyn Fenton-Ellis MNZM)</b>
<b>Trainer</b>	<b>Mark Walker (Matamata)</b>
<b>Breeding</b>	<b>by Iffraaj (GB) out of Miss Bluebell by Savabeel (AUS)</b>
<b>Breeder</b>	<b>Totara Park Stud</b>
<b>Sales</b>	<b>2020 National Yearling Sales – Book 2; V: Archer Park, P: Mr DC Ellis; \$65,000</b>





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