

LONGINES HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL RACES







*“Spectacular. It’s the best.
HK is a leader.”*

Lord Grimthorpe, Racing Manager to Prince Khalid Abdullah

「精彩絕倫！頂級質素！
香港是領導分子！」

鴨都拿王子的賽馬經理 Lord Grimthorpe



*“They do it marvellously well.
This is a first-class facility.”*

Trainer Sir Michael Stoute

「馬會確實做得非常出色，
香港的賽馬設施實在一流。」

練馬師司徒德爵士



*“Amazing. The best. I like
everything. That's why I come.”*

Trainer Ed Dunlop

「了不起！無與倫比！我喜歡這裏
的一切，所以派馬出戰。」

練馬師鄧樂普

浪琴表香港國際賽事 成就本港一百三十年來世界級賽馬高峰

LONGINES Hong Kong International Races the pinnacle of a 130 year journey to world-class racing



Opening Ceremony of the 2014 LONGINES HKIR.
二〇一四年浪琴表香港國際賽事開幕儀式。

一八八四年，香港賽馬會的創辦人為令本港賽馬活動正規化，舉辦了首次會議；然而，當時的賽事純屬業餘娛樂性質，每年在跑馬地一條較簡樸的跑道上僅舉行數次賽事。大抵他們萬萬想不到，一百三十年後的今天，香港的賽馬活動享譽全球，擁有不少世界頂級賽駒、騎師及練馬師。

香港的賽馬活動，自一九七〇年代初轉為職業化開始，四十多年來可算發展得有聲有色，其間經歷各項變革，包括獲政府准許由馬會提供場外投注服務、以及在沙田填海興建本港第二個世界級馬場等等，凡此種種，造就了香港賽馬今天的佳績。

自香港於一九八八年首次舉辦接受海外佳駒參與的國際賽事以來，本港賽馬更有長足發展。時至今天，本港每季上演十場國際一級賽，其中六項賽事被列入全球百大一級賽排名榜，當中四項更加躋身首二十五位之內。以香港這個只有一千二百匹競賽馬的賽馬地區而言，能夠取得此等佳績，實在難能可貴。

在本港舉辦的各項國際一級賽中，重頭戲莫過於每年十二月在沙田舉行的香港國際賽事。現時這項盛事的贊助商乃享負盛名的浪琴表，而於同一天上演的四場國際一級賽，每年吸引全球各地頂尖佳駒參賽，四場賽事的總獎金更高達八千三百萬港元，廣被譽為「世界草地錦標大賽」。

When the founding fathers of The Hong Kong Jockey Club held their inaugural meeting in 1884 to put the city's horse racing on to a more formal footing, they had in mind an amateur pastime covering just a few meetings a year on a simple track at Happy Valley. Scarcely could they have imagined that 130 years later, Hong Kong would be considered one of the leading global powers in the sport, home to many of the world's most respected racehorses, jockeys and trainers.

Much of that dramatic change has come in the four decades since the early 1970s, when Hong Kong racing turned professional, the Government allowed the HKJC to provide off-course betting for the first time, and plans were put in hand to build a second, world-class racecourse on reclaimed land at Sha Tin.

And the pace of change has moved even faster since Hong Kong staged its first race open to international entries in 1988. Today the city stages ten races a season at the highest International Group One level, of which six are rated among the World's Top 100 Group/Grade One events and four of those in the Top 25 - an incredible achievement for a jurisdiction with a racehorse population of only 1,200.

Among them, the "blue riband" event remains the Hong Kong International Races (HKIR) staged at Sha Tin each December, now under the prestigious sponsorship of Longines and featuring four International Group One races on a single day. Given the superlative quality of entries they attract each year from around the world and alluring total prize money of HK\$83 million, the HKIR are now widely recognised as the "Turf World Championships" of horse racing.

Zac Purton wins the LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint on Aerovelocity.
潘頓策騎「友瑩格」贏得浪琴表香港短途錦標。



四場一級賽港駒奪三冠

Hong Kong celebrates by taking three of the four International Group Ones

Each year the HKIR seem to get better and better, and the 2014 renewal was no exception. Some 74,000 local and overseas racing fans packed Sha Tin Racecourse, the highest attendance since 1997, while another 4,000 watched the live broadcasts relayed to Happy Valley - a perfect way for the Club to preface its 130th Anniversary celebrations on a world-class note. Many thousands more fans in Hong Kong and overseas were able to enjoy live streaming of the HKIR through the Club's electronic channels. Total turnover on the day's ten races reached HK\$1.47 billion, a 7.6% increase on the 2013 figure and again, the highest since 1997.

Perhaps most encouragingly of all, Hong Kong horses are nowadays more than able to hold their own in such exalted global company. Whereas in earlier days of the HKIR it was common to see three or even all four of the international races go to overseas raiders, the shoe is now on the other hoof – Hong Kong-trained horses regularly take two or three of the titles, reflecting the world-class racing standards that local fans can now enjoy.

香港國際賽事歷年來屢創高峰，二〇一四年的賽事吸引約七萬四千名本港及海外馬迷前往沙田馬場觀賽，人數為一九九七年以來之冠，另有四千名馬迷於跑馬地觀賞賽事直播，而有不少本地及海外馬迷則透過會方的電子媒體廣播觀賞賽事，為馬會一百三十週年連串慶祝活動掀起精彩的世界級序幕。當天上演十場賽事，總投注額達十四億七千萬港元，較二〇一三年上升百分之七點六，同樣創下自一九九七年來的最高紀錄。

最令人鼓舞的，也許是本港賽駒今年在海外頂級佳駟環伺下仍能綻放光芒。以往，海外賽駒多能於香港國際賽事中摘下三項甚至全取四項一級賽桂冠；但「今時不同往日」，本港訓練的佳駟近年常於其中兩、三項一級賽中掄元，顯示本港馬迷現時所欣賞到的香港賽馬，早已達至世界級水準。





Hong Kong Vase 香港瓶



Winner 勝出馬匹:
Flintshire (FR)
「富林特郡」(法國)

Jockey 騎師:
Maxime Guyon 紀仁安

Trainer 練馬師:
André Fabré 費伯華



Hong Kong Sprint 香港短途錦標



Winner 勝出馬匹:
Aerovelocity (HK)
「友瑩格」(香港)

Jockey 騎師:
Zac Purton 潘頓

Trainer 練馬師:
Paul O'Sullivan 蘇保羅

Hong Kong Mile 香港一哩錦標



Winner 勝出馬匹:
Able Friend (HK)
「步步友」(香港)

Jockey 騎師:
Joao Moreira 莫雷拉

Trainer 練馬師:
John Moore 約翰摩亞



Hong Kong Cup 香港盃



Winner 勝出馬匹:
Designs On Rome (HK)
「威爾頓」(香港)

Jockey 騎師:
Joao Moreira 莫雷拉

Trainer 練馬師:
John Moore 約翰摩亞



Joao Moreira takes the LONGINES Hong Kong Cup on *Designs On Rome*.

莫雷拉策騎「威爾頓」摘下浪琴表香港盃。

At Sha Tin on 14 December, the fans created a befittingly exciting atmosphere, cheering wildly as local favourites *Peniaphobia* and *Aerovelocity* fought out a thrilling battle to the wire in the LONGINES Hong Kong Sprint, the latter prevailing by a neck under Zac Purton to give Hong Kong its first success of the day.

The cheers got even louder in the LONGINES Hong Kong Mile as home favourite *Able Friend* more than justified his odds-on starting price by simply brushing aside a top-class international field, producing a sensational final run under Joao Moreira to blitz the rest of the field by 4½ lengths. It was a performance that was to earn the John Moore-trained *Able Friend* the accolade of joint third best racehorse in the sport in the 2014 World's Best Racehorse Rankings.

And as if that wasn't already enough, Moreira promptly gave Hong Kong its third international win of the day - and Moore his second - in the next race, the HK\$25 million LONGINES Hong Kong Cup. This time he piloted *Designs On Rome* to a short-head victory over *Military Attack* to give the home team yet another quinella.

Earlier, the overseas riders had scored first blood when French favourite *Flintshire* took the LONGINES Hong Kong Vase, though Hong Kong's *Willie Cazals* pushed the Arc de Triomphe runner-up the whole way. For the third time in four years, however, it was three Group One wins out of four for Hong Kong's equine heroes.



Canto-pop star Miriam Yeung headlines the opening variety show.
香港歌手楊千嬅為開幕綜合匯演揭開序幕。

There was plenty of excitement off the track, too, with singer Miriam Yeung, Ban's Gig Drums and the renowned Fuyong Acrobatic Troupe entertaining fans in the opening variety show, and movie star Eddie Peng attracting much attention in his role as a Longines Brand Ambassador. Then, before the excited fans finally headed for the exits, a spectacular pyrotechnic display brought International Day to a memorable close.

"Today has been the perfect occasion to showcase the quality and vibrancy of Hong Kong racing, and to promote Hong Kong racing as a world brand," an elated Club CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges told the media. "We are happy with what we have achieved and now, as we always do, we must look at ways to set the bar even higher."



Ban's Gig Drums get the day off to a rousing start.
激鼓樂社帶來激動人心的表演。



十二月十四日，本地佳駒「幸福指數」及「友瑩格」在馬迷吶喊助威下於沙田包辦浪琴表香港短途錦標頭二名，後駒在潘頓胯下以一馬頸之先力壓前者，為香港贏得當天首場國際賽勝仗，率先將現場氣氛推向高峰。

及後的浪琴表香港一哩錦標令馬迷的情緒更為高漲，約翰摩亞馬房的本地名駒「步步友」在莫雷拉胯下，於賽事末段交出旋風式後勁趕過對手，以四又四分一馬位之先大熱勝出此場國際賽事，而憑此仗出色表現，牠其後更獲評為全球評分第三高賽駒之一。

本港賽駒勝出兩仗後再下一城，在緊接的浪琴表香港盃中，「威爾頓」險勝「軍事出擊」，於此項總獎金達二千五百萬港元的賽事中高奏凱歌，本地代表再一次包辦連贏，練馬師約翰摩亞亦摘下同日第二項桂冠。

在當天的首場國際賽浪琴表香港瓶，法國凱旋門大賽亞軍「富林特郡」在港隊賽駒「威利加數」全程進逼下，最終首先衝線，為外隊馬勝出一仗。同日共上演四場一級賽，當中三場由港隊奪冠，為四年來第三次取得如此佳績。

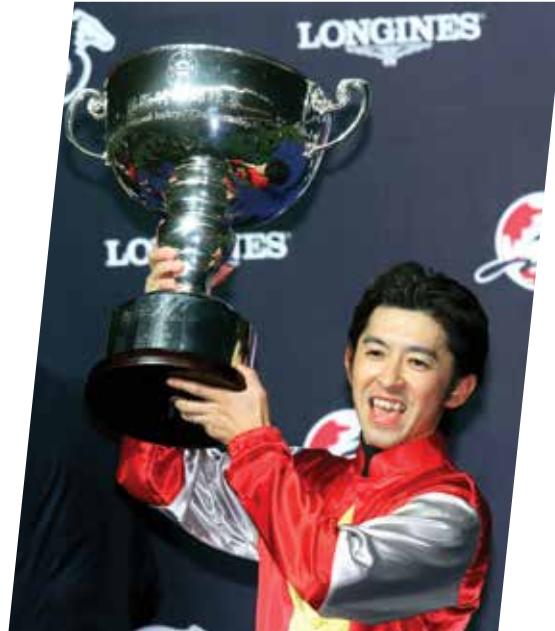
跑道上氣氛固然緊張刺激，而馬場內其他表演節目同樣令人目不暇給。歌星楊千嬅、激鼓樂社及著名的福永雜技團，於開幕匯演傾力演出，「浪琴表優雅形象大使」彭于晏親臨觀戰亦成焦點之一。全日賽事過後，跑道旁發放璀璨煙火，為香港國際賽事畫上完美句號，入場觀眾俱可盡興而歸。

馬會行政總裁應家柏欣喜道：「香港今天上演了四場精彩的世界級賽事。藉著這個盛會，我們向世界展示香港賽馬的質素和活力，亦進一步鞏固香港的世界級賽馬品牌。我們對所取得的成果感到滿意。現在，一如既往，我們要朝著更高的目標邁進。」



A major lead-up event is the LONGINES International Jockeys' Championship held at Happy Valley on the Wednesday before the HKIR, and in this case featuring 12 of the world's finest riders rather than top equine stars. The 2014 list featured a number of previous winners including Australia's defending champion Kerrin McEvoy, British ace Ryan Moore and France's representative Christophe Soumillon, as well as new faces Irad Ortiz Jr from the US and S'Manga Khumalo from South Africa. But the handsome prize of a silver whip and HK\$500,000 went to Japan's Yuichi Fukunaga after he won the middle two legs of the four-race contest.

With so many prominent racing officials and media in town for the HKIR, it's also the perfect time for staging prestigious social events. In 2013, Hong Kong was proud to host the inaugural LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Awards, and this time the HKIR Gala Dinner was the venue for the first-ever presentation of the LONGINES World's Best Jockey Award. It went to Britain's Ryan Moore, who won no fewer than five of the IFHA's Top 50 Group/Grade One races in four different countries around the world, while Hong Kong's Zac Purton finished a creditable 5th.



An elated Yuichi Fukunaga holds aloft the LONGINES IJC trophy.

騎師福永祐一高舉浪琴表國際騎師錦標賽的冠軍獎盃。

另一項精彩活動，乃香港國際賽事舉行前的星期三在跑馬地上演的浪琴表國際騎師錦標賽，由來自全球十二位頂級騎師競逐四關賽事，爭奪王者寶座。參賽騎師包括衛冕的澳洲騎師麥維凱、英國好手莫雅、法國的蘇銘倫，以及首次參賽的美國騎師奧天信和代表南非的關銘諾。最終，日本代表福永祐一連奪第二關及第三關賽事頭馬，勇奪錦標，贏得銀鞭及五十萬港元獎金。

香港國際賽事同時也吸引一眾世界主要賽馬機構高層及傳媒聚首香港，因此亦是舉行重要賽馬盛會與社交活動的好時機。二〇一三年，香港為在港舉行首屆浪琴表全球最佳賽駒頒獎禮而感榮幸；到二〇一四年，浪琴表全球最佳騎師之首屆頒獎禮則於香港國際賽事晚宴期間進行，得獎者為英國騎師莫雅，他在全球四個不同國家勝出不少於五場被國際賽馬組織聯盟列為五十大的一級賽；而香港的潘頓則憑藉出色表現名列第五。



精彩活動橫跨三週 掀起國際賽事序幕

Three weeks of thrilling international action for racing fans

While the day of the Hong Kong International Races represents the pinnacle of the city's racing calendar each year, it is only the culmination of a series of related activities that make the HKIR one of the racing world's most celebrated events.

The serious action starts three weeks earlier when the HKJC stages three lead-up races that themselves have International Group Two status and are open to overseas horses - the Jockey Club Cup, Mile and Sprint, the last two of which are sponsored by BOCHK Wealth Management. The 2014 running of the Jockey Club Sprint on 23 November saw Tony Cruz-trained *Peniaphobia*, the youngest horse in the field, make himself an early HKIR favourite by storming to victory in the hands of Douglas Whyte, while in the Mile, John Moore's *Able Friend* took another step towards international stardom with a resounding win under Joao Moreira.

The LONGINES Jockey Club Cup produced more of a surprise, perhaps, as *Blazing Speed* started out only fourth favourite despite his name and previous winning record, but seeing off a top-class field under Neil Callan to give trainer Tony Cruz a second success.

香港國際賽事日被視為本港每年賽馬的重頭戲，且屬全球最著名的賽馬盛事之一，而在此之前所舉行的連串精彩活動，自是推動大賽氣氛不可缺少的重要部分。

就在香港國際賽事日舉行前三週，馬會安排三場前哨戰，分別為浪琴表馬會盃以及「中銀理財」馬會一哩錦標及「中銀理財」馬會短途錦標。此三場賽事均為接受海外賽駒參加的國際二級賽，於二〇一四年十一月二十三日上演。當中馬會短途錦標結果由告東尼訓練的三歲佳駒「幸福指數」，在韋達胯下擊敗一眾比牠年長的對手掄元，令牠在之後的浪琴表香港短途錦標中備受熱捧。至於馬會一哩錦標，則由約翰摩亞訓練的「步步友」，在莫雷拉胯下輕鬆擊敗一眾強敵奪標。

三場前哨戰中，以馬會盃的賽果較為出人意表。「將軍」雖然往績不俗，但於此仗只以第四熱門身分上陣。然而，此駒最終仍能在郭能胯下擊敗一眾強手，並為告東尼馬房再取一場勝仗。



Jockey Club CUP 馬會盃



Jockey Club MILE 馬會一哩錦標



Jockey Club SPRINT 馬會短途錦標

香港馬壇邁進新里程

A season of new racing milestones



Sixteen years after Hong Kong first graduated to the top echelon of world racing by gaining International Group One status for the Hong Kong Cup in 1999, season 2014/15 saw the city's favourite spectator sport attain several notable new milestones.

For the first time ever, Hong Kong could lay claim to the world's top-ranked horse in *Able Friend*; its total number of International Group One races increased from six to ten; and four of the existing top-level races were ranked among the World's Top 25 for 2014, with the other two in the Top 100 - a best-ever achievement.

Only the UK has more elite races in the Top 25 with eight, while France is Hong Kong's equal with four and Japan and the US have three apiece. The four Hong Kong races to win that accolade were the Champions Mile (17th), Audemars Piguet QEII Cup (19th), LONGINES Hong Kong Mile (22nd equal) and LONGINES Hong Kong Cup (25th equal).

"This is a phenomenal achievement when you consider that we only had six International Group One races eligible for consideration in that period," says Executive Director of Racing William A Nader. "We have made a strategic investment in our major races, supported by great quality from our relatively small population of 1,200 horses. Our marquee events also enjoy the benefit of being run at a fabulous venue in Sha Tin Racecourse, and have gained worldwide recognition for excellence."

Adding further icing to the cake, the 2014 World's Best Racehorse Rankings released in January 2015 saw a record 23 Hong Kong-trained horses make the list, headed by *Able Friend* who was then ranked joint third in the world.

一九九九年，香港盃升級為國際一級賽，令香港賽馬在國際馬壇上名聲初露。十六年後，這項在城中家傳戶曉、深受各方喜愛的運動在二〇一四/一五年度馬季創下多個輝煌里程碑。

季內，香港佳駒「步步友」曾獲評為全球最高評分賽駒；此外，本地的國際一級賽由六項增至十項；而原有六項國際一級賽中，四項獲評為二〇一四年全球二十五大賽事，另外兩項亦名列全球百大一級賽排名榜，成績斐然。

位列前二十五名的四項本港賽事包括冠軍一哩賽（第十七位）、愛彼女皇盃（第十九位）、浪琴表香港一哩錦標（並列第二十二位）及浪琴表香港盃（並列第二十五位）。在全球二十五大賽事中，只有英國所佔賽事數目多於香港，共有八場；法國與香港看齊，有四場賽事上榜；而日本及美國則各有三場。

香港賽馬會賽馬事務執行總監利達賢表示：「上年度馬季香港仍只舉行六項國際一級賽，結果全部位列百大之內，這確實是一項難能可貴的成就。我們在大賽方面作出策略性的資源投放。我們的馬匹數目雖然較少，只有約一千二百匹，但大賽的水準卻高。我們所舉辦的大賽獲全球公認屬高水準的賽馬盛事，這些賽事俱在設施一流的沙田馬場舉行，進一步增添了不少吸引力。」

至於二〇一五年一月公布的二〇一四年世界馬匹年終排名，同樣顯示港駒佳績，共有二十三匹香港佳駒上榜，打破以往紀錄，其中「步步友」成績最佳，於當時位列全球評分第三高賽駒之一。

Top-ranking horses, four races in the World's Top 25, and 10 International G1s cement Hong Kong's reputation as a powerhouse in world racing



香港賽駒獲評世界最高評分 四項一級賽名列全球廿五大
全季舉行十場國際一級大賽 彰顯世界級賽馬領導者地位



By April, two more Group One wins by the brilliant five-year-old had further uplifted *Able Friend's* standing and – for the first time ever – Hong Kong could lay claim to having the top-ranked horse in the world, tied with North American star *Shared Belief*.

"This is a great achievement and is a recognition of the world-class status of Hong Kong racing and our premier brand," commented Club CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges after the April rankings were announced. "The quality and number of Hong Kong horses at the elite world level continues to rise and that is down to the hard work of a lot of people. *Able Friend* is an outstanding horse and an exciting asset to Hong Kong racing."

The very first Hong Kong-trained horse to make the rankings came as recently as 1998 when *Johan Cruyff* registered 115, notes Nader. By 2003 the number of Hong Kong horses in the list had risen rapidly to eight and it has been almost continuously on the rise since then. "For Hong Kong to have the world No.1 in any sport is amazing; to have it in horse racing is quite incredible."

應屆香港馬王「步步友」，在一至四月間再添兩項一級賽勝利，其排名更因此而上升，當時與北美星級賽駒「信念一致」並列世界馬匹排名榜首，成為首匹獲得全球最高評分的香港賽駒。

香港賽馬會行政總裁應家柏於排名公佈後表示：「取得世界排名第一是一項非凡成就，也是對香港賽馬的世界級水平和馬會卓越品牌的認同。香港精英賽駒不但在質素方面不斷提升，能夠躋身世界頂級之列的數目亦持續增加，一切全賴各方面的努力。『步步友』是一匹傑出的賽駒，也是香港馬壇的寶貴資產。」

利達賢表示，香港首匹名列世界馬匹年終排名的賽駒為「告魯夫」，牠在一九九八年獲評115分。及至二〇〇三年，獲列入年終排名的香港賽駒數目已迅速增至八匹，此後更不斷遞增。利達賢說：「任何運動能代表香港取得『世界第一』的殊榮都是一件大喜訊，而香港賽馬能得到這個殊榮，更是難能可貴。」

香港馬迷見證 新一代王者誕生



Local fans witness birth of another legend

During the past year, newly-crowned Hong Kong Horse of the Year *Able Friend* has captured the imagination of local racing fans in a way not seen since the glory days of the great *Silent Witness* between 2003 and 2005 – and at the same time drawn the world's attention to the high quality of Hong Kong racing.

After a gentle 4th-placed warm up in The Premier Bowl in October, the John Moore-trained gelding went on to win his next six races in a row, four of them at the top International Group One level – and not just win them, but saunter home in a casual way that only the greatest horses can, with Joao Moreira barely needing to raise his whip. *Able Friend* has now won 11 of his 16 starts in Hong Kong since June 2013.

When he was racing on Champions Mile day in early May, attendance for the day jumped 18% – but as Club CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges pointed out “today is not about numbers, it is about the excitement of having one of the best horses we have had in Hong Kong since *Silent Witness*”. On a normal day after Race 5, he noted, usually 500 to 600 more people would come into the racecourse, “but today we had 4,000 people arrive to see *Able Friend*, so we can see the resonance with the public”.

Hardly surprising then, that the end-of-season awards saw *Able Friend* take the public vote for Most Popular Horse, as well as the Horse of the Year and Champion Miler titles.

“He’s just outstanding,” observes jockey Moreira. “He just does everything properly. He’s a dream horse. I feel like my dream came true; I found one of the best horses in the world and I’m very pleased at the opportunity I was given by the trainer and the Owner.”

And *Able Friend*’s growing status as a new Hong Kong legend is perhaps best summed up by his Owner. “He is Hong Kong’s horse now, not mine,” says Dr Cornel Li.

「步步友」過去一年的出色表現令一眾馬迷嘆為觀止。此駒與在二〇〇三年至二〇〇五年間雄踞馬壇的「精英大師」一樣，吸引全球目光聚焦香港馬壇。

由約翰摩亞訓練的闔馬「步步友」，自二〇一四年十月於精英碗跑入殿軍後便捷報頻傳，輕取其後連續六場賽事的桂冠，當中包括四項頂尖國際一級賽，鞍上人莫雷拉在陣中毋須用鞭的情景一再出現。「步步友」自二〇一三年六月起，在香港取得十六戰十一勝的佳績。

「步步友」在五月初出戰冠軍一哩賽，當天入場人數上升百分之十八。馬會行政總裁應家柏表示：「今天的重點不在於數字，而是繼『精英大師』之後，香港馬壇出現了全球其中一匹最出色的賽駒，令人感到興奮。」應家柏指出：「在第五場賽事之後，通常只有五、六百人進場觀賽，但今天第五場後卻有多達四千人進場支持『步步友』，似乎此駒之出眾表現已越來越引起馬迷共鳴。」

於季末的冠軍人馬獎頒獎禮中，「步步友」成為公眾投票選出的「最受歡迎馬匹」，並榮膺「香港馬王」及「最佳一哩馬」，可謂意料中事。

騎師莫雷拉表示：「牠確實太過超卓，今仗勝來一切順利，牠是一匹夢寐以求的佳駒。我現在感到夢想成真，因為能夠遇上全球其中一匹最出色的賽駒。我很高興練馬師和馬主給我機會策騎此駒，我實在非常感恩。」

「步步友」在香港馬壇聲勢如日方中，其馬主李福錦醫生為此落下最貼切的註腳：「它不單屬於我，現在更是屬於香港人的賽駒。」



Able Friend with his regular jockey, Joao Moreira.

「步步友」與其好拍檔騎師莫雷拉。

Stewards' Cup heralds Triple Crown battle

董事盃掀起三冠爭霸戰序幕

The four new races to be given International Group One ranking from 2014/15 onwards were the Stewards' Cup in January, the Citibank Hong Kong Gold Cup in early March, the Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup in mid-March and the Standard Chartered Champions and Chater Cup in late May. This means they are all now open for the first time to overseas horses, and have had their prize money significantly elevated as a result.

With prize money now standing at HK\$10 million, the 1600m Stewards' Cup – first leg of the Triple Crown – drew a stellar line-up including three former winners of the race. But none of them was able to see off the newest big star on the block, *Able Friend*, piloted by Joao Moreira to an imperious 1½-length win over *Beauty Flame*.

二〇一四/一五年度獲升格為國際一級賽的四項香港賽事分別為一月舉行的董事盃、三月初舉行的花旗銀行香港金盃、三月中舉行的女皇銀禧紀念盃及五月底舉行的渣打冠軍暨渣打盃。此四項賽事自此接受海外佳駒參賽，獎金亦因而大幅提升。

三冠系列首關董事盃（一千六百米）升格後，總獎金增至一千萬港元，吸引眾多佳駒參加，包括三匹曾捧走此盃的賽駒。然而，由莫雷拉策騎的新星「步步友」，在此賽中以一個半馬位輕易取勝，壓倒亞軍「美麗之星」及一眾頂級對手奏凱而回。



Citibank Hong Kong Gold Cup

花旗銀行香港金盃



Five weeks later, however, with the 2000m distance keeping Able Friend safely back in his stable, reigning Horse of the Year *Designs On Rome* was able to remind fans of his still-towering presence with an impressive 1½-length win over *Helene Super Star* in the HK\$10 million Citibank Hong Kong Gold Cup, second leg of the Triple Crown – and with that man Moreira again in the saddle.

五星期後的花旗銀行香港金盃（二千米），“步步友”暫時偃旗息鼓。相反，上年度馬王“威爾頓”在此戰中再一次展現其驕人級數及實力，在莫雷拉胯下以一又四分一馬位之先擊敗“喜蓮巨星”，攻下這項總獎金達一千萬港元的三冠大賽次關賽事。



Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup

女皇銀禧紀念盃

Mid-March saw a double billing of top-notch action with the BMW Hong Kong Derby and Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup run on the same day, and the latter becoming the first of the new International Group One races to attract overseas participation, in the shape of veteran Irish raider *Gordon Lord Byron*. But once again it was *Able Friend*'s day as he stormed home late to see off *Beauty Flame* by 2½ lengths, despite Moreira being unable to find clear running until well inside the 200m mark.

The 1400m Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup also serves as the final leg of the Hong Kong Speed Series, which this time saw the spoils evenly shared with Tony-Cruz-trained *Peniaphobia* taking the Kent & Curwen Centenary Sprint Cup over Sha Tin's 1000m straight under Douglas Whyte, and Richard Gibson-trained *Gold-Fun* winning the 1200m Chairman's Sprint Prize under visiting jockey Christophe Soumillon.

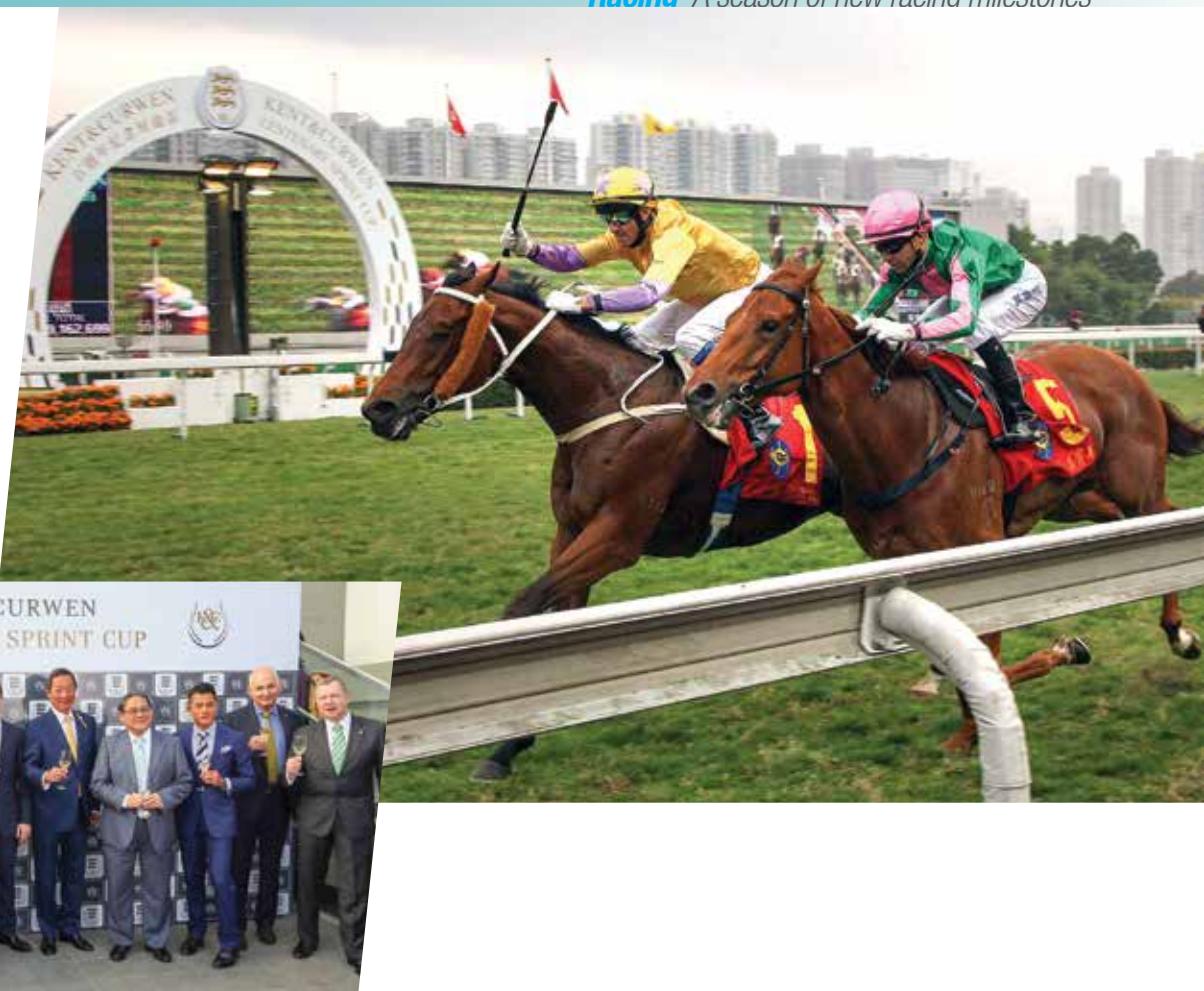
三月中則有兩場一級大賽在同日先後上演，分別是寶馬香港打吡大賽及女皇銀禧紀念盃。愛爾蘭名駒「拜倫勳爵」更越洋出戰女皇銀禧紀念盃，成為本季新升格的一級賽中，首項有海外賽駒參加的賽事。然而，當日桂冠再度成為「步步友」囊中物。「步步友」由莫雷拉策騎，直路上雖一度被困於內欄直至二百米處，但望空後仍以超強爆發力加速上前超越「美麗之星」，以二又四分一馬位之先奪魁。

途程一千四百米的女皇銀禧紀念盃是香港速度系列的尾關。本季速度系列其餘兩關分別由告東尼訓練、韋達策騎的「幸福指數」於沙田勝出首關 Kent & Curwen 百週年紀念短途盃（一千米），而由高伯新訓練、訪港騎師蘇銘倫策騎的「大運財」則贏得次關賽事主席短途獎（一千二百米）。





Centenary Sprint Cup 百週年紀念短途盃



Chairman's Sprint Prize 主席短途獎



AUDEMARS PIGUET
QEII CUP
愛彼女皇盃



The Hon Chief Justice Geoffrey Ma Tao-li (right), the Chief Justice of the Court of Final Appeal, presents the winner's trophy to Fentons Racing Syndicate, Owner of AP QEII Cup winner Blazing Speed.

香港特別行政區終審法院首席法官
馬道立(右)，將冠軍獎盃頒予愛彼女皇
盃頭馬「將男」的馬主奔騰賽馬團體。

Audemars Piguet QEII Cup

愛彼女皇盃

So to the two "Spring Internationals", the 2000m Audemars Piguet QEII Cup and the 1600m Champions Mile, which are already well established in the world calendar as International Group One races, having enjoyed that status since 2001 and 2007 respectively. And things certainly didn't go by the formbook in the first of these, with 14-1 outsider *Blazing Speed* seeing off the likes of Australian star *Criterion* and English veteran *Red Cadeaux* to storm to a two-length win over another visiting raider, Japan's *Staphanos*. Surprisingly, perhaps, it was a first-ever success in this race for two-time Champion Trainer Tony Cruz, as well as a first International Group One win in Hong Kong for jockey Neil Callan.

愛彼女皇盃（二千米）及冠軍一哩賽（一千六百米）兩項「春季國際大賽」，各自早於二〇〇一年及二〇〇七年分別獲升格為國際一級賽。愛彼女皇盃今年賽果有點令人意外，半冷賽駒「將男」以兩個馬位之先力壓日本代表「善得福」，以及澳洲來客「模範駒」、英國代表「紅色禮物」等好手成功掄元。這是兩屆冠軍練馬師告東尼首次以練馬師身分捧走愛彼女皇盃，亦是郭能首度在港贏得國際一級賽。





Champions Mile

冠軍一哩賽

The Champions Mile turned out rather more predictably with – you've guessed it – the irrepressible Able Friend taking the honours, though it hadn't always looked that way. Hong Kong Derby winner Luger was sent off by the fans as a strongly-fancied second favourite but finished up being eased off by jockey Zac Purton and was later found to have an irregular heart rhythm.

相反，冠軍一哩賽的戰果可謂一如多數人所料，由如日方中的「步步友」輕鬆掄元。應屆打吡冠軍「戰利品」被視為另一重心分子，但在潘頓胯下最終尾隨群駒過終點，賽後經獸醫診斷證實心律不正。



Standard Chartered Champions & Chater Cup 渣打冠軍暨遮打盃

Traditionally the 2400m Standard Chartered Champions & Chater Cup, final leg of the Triple Crown, has brought Hong Kong's black-type racing to a memorable close each season, and this time proved no different – but with the added excitement of an upgrade from domestic to International Group One status. Incredibly, it saw five of the eight starters cross the line within half a length of each other in the most thrilling finish imaginable, with *Helene Super Star* just getting the edge under Douglas Whyte to give trainer Tony Cruz his third consecutive success in this race, and all with different horses.

A fitting end indeed to a season of unprecedented excitement at world-class level for Hong Kong racing fans – with ten events including the Hong Kong International Races run at International Group One level, nine of them going to locally-trained runners, and the emergence of a true new “superstar” horse in *Able Friend*. Impossible to top? Well maybe, but time and time again Hong Kong horse racing has shown that it keeps setting the bar still higher year after year, so don't count on it!

以往，三冠系列尾關渣打冠軍暨遮打盃（二千四百米）通常為本港每季分級賽事劃下難忘句號，今年也不例外，但最為不同的是，今年的渣打冠軍暨遮打盃已由本地賽事升格為國際一級賽。在賽事末段，八匹參賽馬中，五駒同時奮力衝刺，各駒相距不足半個馬位衝線，鬥得難分難解，緊張刺激；結果「喜蓮巨星」在韋達胯下以短馬頭位之先摘下桂冠，為練馬師告東尼連續第三次憑不同佳駒奪得此項盃賽。

香港馬迷年內可算享受了一個前所未有的精彩馬季 — 季內上演十項國際一級賽，當中包括香港國際賽事。十項賽事中，香港賽駒囊括九項冠軍，更見證星級佳駒「步步友」愈戰愈勇。香港賽馬水平每年不斷提升，有誰可以斷言我們不能再進一步？

渣打冠軍暨遮打盃 Standard Chartered Champions & Chater Cup



 Santa Anita Sprint Championship

 Takamatsunomiya Kinen

 Al Quoz Sprint
Dubai Sheema Classic
Dubai Golden Shaheen

 Singapore Airlines International Cup
KrisFlyer International Sprint

香港新興賽駒揚威海外馬壇

More new frontiers conquered overseas



 聖雅尼塔短途錦標賽

G1 Santa Anita Sprint
Championship

Olivier Doleuze rides *Rich Tapestry* to a historic win in the Santa Anita Sprint Championship.

杜利萊策騎「好好計」勝出聖雅尼塔短途錦標賽，締創歷史。

It was not only on home turf that Hong Kong horses distinguished themselves in season 2014/15, with local Owners and trainers giving their top runners a chance to shine as far afield as the US, UK, Japan and Australia, and claiming no fewer than four overseas successes at the highest International Group One level.

Since *Fairy King Prawn* became the first Hong Kong horse to win overseas in landing the 2000 Yasuda Kinen in Tokyo, the roll has been steadily increasing each year and now stands at 24 international wins by 19 different horses.

What made the 2014/15 season especially memorable, though, is that it brought victories in two hitherto unconquered races – *Rich Tapestry*'s success on dirt in the G1 Santa Anita Sprint Championship in California and *AeroVelocity*'s win in the G1 Takamatsunomiya Kinen in Japan.

Michael Chang-trained *Rich Tapestry* was only the second Hong Kong horse ever to compete in the US, following the hoofprints of the legendary *River Verdon* in the early 1990s, and was the first to taste success there, creating more than a few shockwaves in US racing circles. The Santa Anita win under Olivier Doleuze was enough to put *Rich Tapestry* among the favourites for his main target, the Breeders' Cup Sprint on 1 November, but sadly he was not able to repeat his winning form this time.

Hong Kong also had strong representation in the Dubai World Cup racing festival in late March with seven of its horses contesting three different dirt and turf races. This year, local fans had to be content with two second places by *Periaphobia* and *Super Jockey* and a third place from *Rich Tapestry* – still a feat to be proud of in such world-class company, though.





● G1 *Takamatsunomiya Kinen*

香港賽駒在二〇一四／一五年不只揚威本地，牠們的馬主和練馬師更積極衝出香港，挑戰海外，足跡遍及美國、英國、日本和澳洲，更贏得四項國際一級大賽冠軍。

自「靚蝦王」於二〇〇〇年在東京舉行的安田紀念賽勝出，成為首匹在海外勝出一級賽的香港賽駒後，本地陣營的海外捷報數字也是連年上升，至今共有十九匹香港賽駒贏得合共二十四項海外國際賽冠軍。

二〇一四／一五年是別具意義的一年，皆因兩匹香港賽駒「好好計」和「友瑩格」先後締造歷史，分別在加州舉行的一級賽聖雅尼塔短途錦標賽及日本的一級賽高松宮紀念賽中贏得冠軍，各自成為歷來首匹勝出該賽的海外賽駒。

繼名駒「翠河」在一九九〇年代初出征美國後，由鄭俊偉訓練的「好好計」是歷來第二匹遠征美國賽事的香港賽駒，更是首匹在美國掄元的香港賽駒，震驚美國馬壇。「好好計」在騎師杜利萊胯下勝出聖雅尼塔短途錦標賽並贏得在十一月一日出戰一級賽育馬者盃的參賽資格，可惜最終在育馬者盃中無功而還。

三月底舉行的杜拜世界盃賽馬日，香港以鼎盛的陣容出戰，七匹佳駒分別角逐三項泥地與草地賽，結果，在群雄環伺下，「幸福指數」和「積多福」力拼獲亞，而「好好計」則獲季軍，可謂雖敗猶榮。

Aerovelocity storms home under Zac Purton to take the Takamatsunomiya Kinen (left); *Peniaphobia* (yellow cap) runs a close second in the Al Quoz Sprint (below); *Designs On Rome* (No.7, left) finishes fourth in the Dubai Sheema Classic (centre); and *Super Jockey* (No.12) is narrowly beaten in the Dubai Golden Shaheen.

「友瑩格」在潘頓胯下勝出高松宮紀念賽（左圖）；
「幸福指數」（黃帽）在阿喬斯短途錦標力拼獲亞（下圖）；
「威爾頓」（七號馬，左）在杜拜司馬經典賽跑獲第四名（正中）；
「積多福」（十二號馬）在杜拜金莎軒錦標以些微差距見負跑獲亞軍。



阿喬斯短途錦標

G1 *Al Quoz Sprint*



杜拜司馬經典賽

G1 *Dubai Sheema Classic*

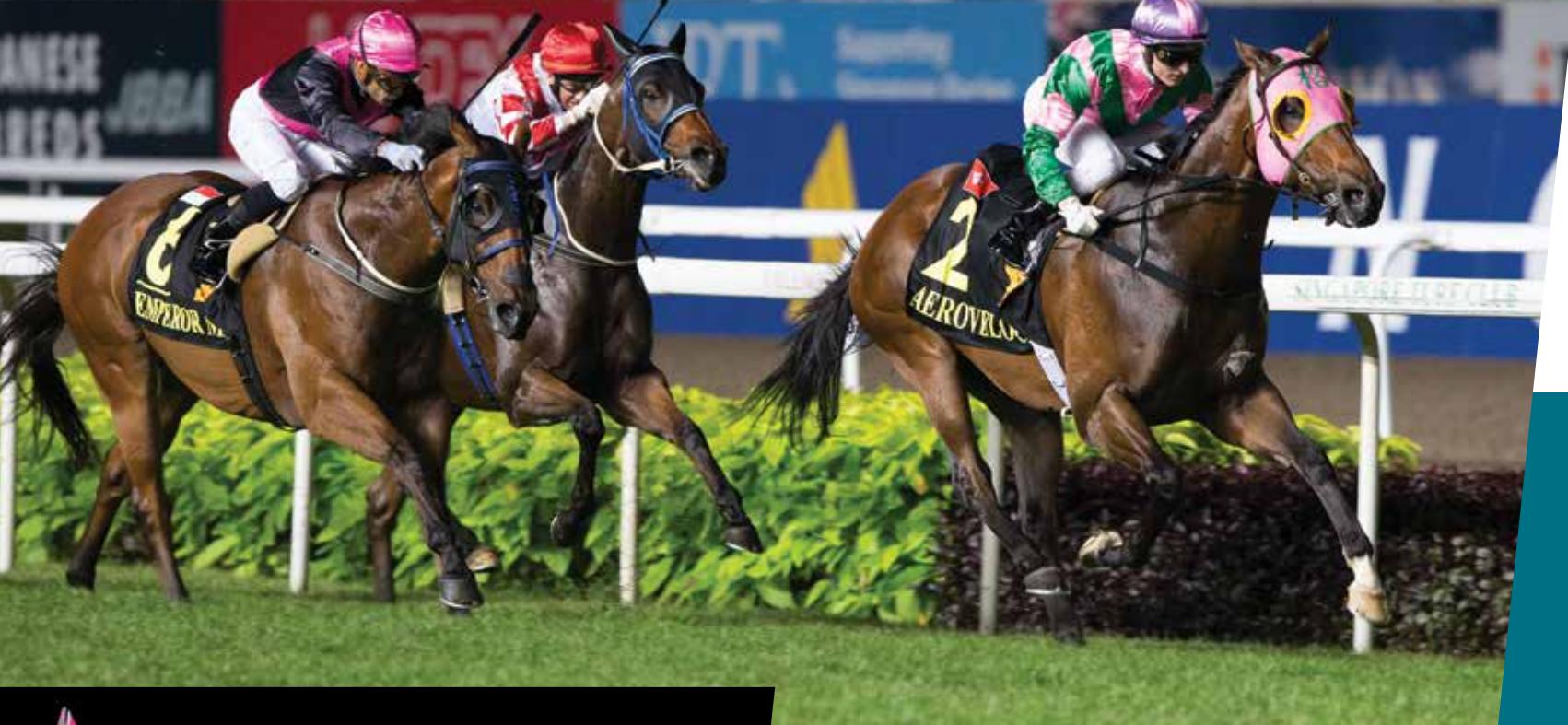


杜拜金莎軒錦標

G1 *Dubai Golden Shaheen*



G1 KrisFlyer International Sprint KrisFlyer 國際短途錦標



The most remarkable achievement of all, however, was Hong Kong's dominance in taking both International Group One races on Singapore Airlines International Cup Raceday for the third year on the trot. First, Paul O'Sullivan-trained *Aerovelocity* gave a brilliant front-running performance under Zac Purton to win the KrisFlyer International Sprint – dashing the hat-trick hopes of eight-year-old *Lucky Nine*, who nonetheless finished a creditable third after twice suffering interference.

Then 50 minutes later, Hong Kong's *Dan Excel* made history by becoming the first horse from anywhere to achieve back-to-back wins in the Singapore Airlines International Cup, likewise leading all the way under Tommy Berry to see off another top Hong Kong rival, 2013 winner *Military Attack*.

Following his earlier success in Japan, *Aerovelocity* is now in strong contention for the US\$1 million bonus offered for any horse winning legs of the Global Sprint Challenge in three different jurisdictions during the same calendar year.



G1 Singapore Airlines International Cup 新航國際盃



本年度最令馬迷欣喜萬分的海外征戰，無疑是新航國際盃賽馬日，當日兩項國際一級大賽連續三年成為香港代表的囊中物。由蘇保羅訓練、潘頓策騎的「友瑩格」在KrisFlyer國際短途錦標上，以一路領放姿態輕取桂冠，而爭取三度蟬聯的八歲賽駒「天久」儘管在陣上一再遇到阻滯，仍能跑獲季軍，表現出色。

香港代表「花月春風」在五十分鐘後舉行的新航國際盃上，成為歷來首匹兩度攻下該賽的賽駒，在騎師貝湯美機智的策騎下一放迄終，拋離另一本港佳駒及二〇一三年冠軍「軍事出擊」。

繼早前在日本勝出後，加上在新加坡再度報捷，「友瑩格」現甚有機會在同一年內成功在三個賽區勝出三項指定的短途一級賽，成為問鼎世界短途挑戰賽的一百萬美元特別獎金的熱門分子。



全年精彩賽事饗馬迷 *Every raceday is a special one for Hong Kong fans*



各大主題賽事扣人心弦

Regular themed events ensure horse racing remains a perennial favourite

It has been said by numerous overseas observers that horse racing in Hong Kong is an experience unmatched anywhere else in the world: the vibrant atmosphere, the passion of local racing fans, the world-class facilities and most of all, the sheer volume of business that goes through the betting channels – anything up to HK\$1.7 billion on the biggest racedays.

Horse racing in Hong Kong began as a pastime for the British elite but over the years local people have truly made it their own, turning it into an icon of the city's freewheeling lifestyle. In a city that works hard and plays hard, it is more than just a sport and certainly more than just a gambling activity; it is a not-to-be-missed twice-weekly social relaxation.

Another unusual phenomenon is that while Hong Kong bettors, like everywhere else in the world, are always eager to snare the success that could change their lives, they tend to take losing wagers with remarkably good grace – knowing that win or lose, the proceeds from betting will ultimately find their way back to the community through The Hong Kong Jockey Club's not-for-profit business model. They realise that the Club shares their own goals and dreams and is committed to "Riding High Together for a Better Future" with the people of Hong Kong.

The major racedays of the season can attract anything up to 100,000 on-course fans, but even the regular day and night meetings typically draw at least 15,000, despite the convenience nowadays of being able to follow live broadcasts on their home TVs or mobile phones. In this respect, Hong Kong is defying a world trend of falling racecourse attendance, amid growing competition from other forms of entertainment.



Catwalk show on Sa Sa Ladies' Purse Day.
莎莎婦女銀袋日的時裝匯演。

不少留意香港馬壇的海外人士都曾說過，香港賽馬全球獨一無二：馬場內的高漲氣氛、熱情洋溢的本地馬迷、世界級一流設施，以及在大賽日可高達十七億港元的投注總額，實在令香港賽馬無與倫比。

香港賽馬早期是英國上流社會的消遣娛樂，但經過多年洗禮後，已經成為港人家傳戶曉的活動，也是香港自由生活的象徵。在這個人人努力工作後認真玩樂的城市，賽馬不單是運動、更不只是博彩遊戲，而是不容錯過的社交活動，每周舉辦兩次，供市民消閒娛樂。

另一個難得的現象與香港的投注人士有關。他們與全世界所有參與博彩的人一樣，希望得到一個改變生活的機會。然而，本地投注人士卻對輸掉的注碼有着非一般的從容。歸根究底，只因在馬會的非牟利營運模式下，不論輸贏，這些款項最終都會回饋到大家的社區。大家都明白，馬會與他們有着共同目標和夢想，與香港人「同心同步同進，共創更好未來」。

馬季內一些重要賽事日往往可吸引近十萬名觀眾入場觀戰。儘管馬迷現在可在電視和手提電話觀看賽事直播，每周的日賽和夜賽也平均有至少一萬五千名觀眾進場。在各式娛樂活動紛紛冒起，琳琅滿目的時代，香港賽馬逆流而上，觀眾人數不跌反升，成為世界馬壇中的奇葩。



The winning Owner, trainer and jockey of *Luger* enjoy a victory parade on turf after the 2015 BMW Hong Kong Derby.
寶馬香港打吡大賽冠軍「戰利品」的馬主、練馬師及騎師，乘坐寶馬開篷跑車在草地跑道上進行勝利巡遊。

開鑼日

Opening meeting

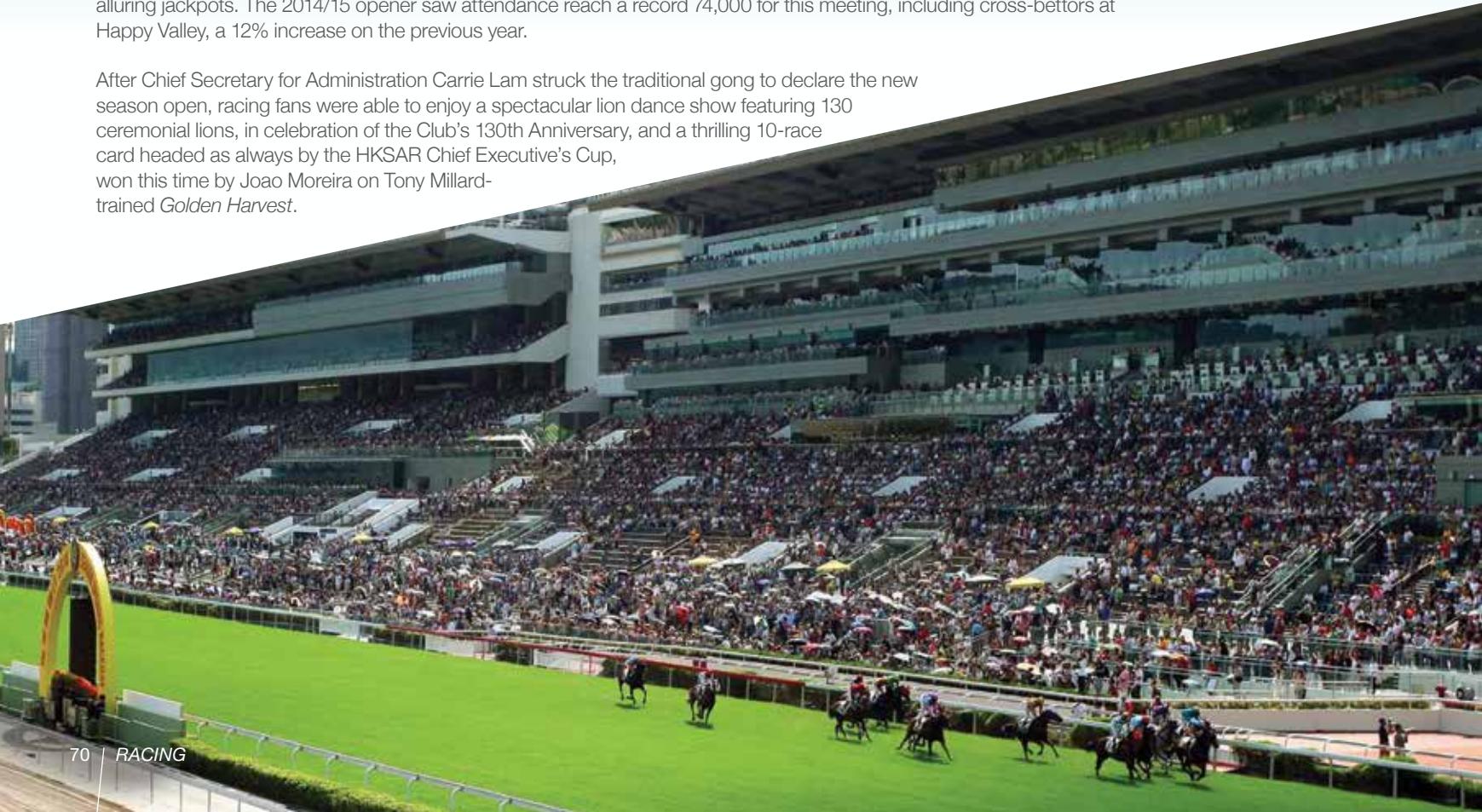


Accompanied by Club Chairman Dr Simon Ip (right) and CEO Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges, Chief Secretary Carrie Lam strikes the gong to signify the opening of the new season.

在馬會主席葉錫安博士（右）及行政總裁應家柏陪同下，香港特區政務司司長林鄭月娥大槌一揮，敲響巨型銅鑼，象徵新馬季正式展開。

Few racedays are as eagerly awaited as the season opening meeting at Sha Tin in early September, when the Club pulls out all the stops to welcome back racegoers with free door gifts, on-course entertainment programmes and alluring jackpots. The 2014/15 opener saw attendance reach a record 74,000 for this meeting, including cross-bettors at Happy Valley, a 12% increase on the previous year.

After Chief Secretary for Administration Carrie Lam struck the traditional gong to declare the new season open, racing fans were able to enjoy a spectacular lion dance show featuring 130 ceremonial lions, in celebration of the Club's 130th Anniversary, and a thrilling 10-race card headed as always by the HKSAR Chief Executive's Cup, won this time by Joao Moreira on Tony Millard-trained *Golden Harvest*.





Racegoers received a free 130th Anniversary Racing Calendar on arrival at Sha Tin Racecourse. The Anniversary was also marked with a spectacular parade of 130 ceremonial lions.

馬迷抵達沙田馬場即獲贈一百三十週年精美賽事月曆；大會更派出一百三十頭醒獅作盛大匯演。



全季最叫人翹首盼望的賽事，當數九月初在沙田馬場舉行的開鑼日。當天，馬場重新打開大門，歡迎一眾馬迷，會方並大派入場紀念品，安排各式場內娛樂和令人心動的多寶獎金。二〇一四/一五年度，共有七萬四千名觀眾到兩個馬場迎接新馬季開鑼，總入場人數比上季開鑼日增加百分之十二，創下歷年新高。

當天，香港特區政務司司長林鄭月娥大槌一揮，敲響巨型銅鑼，象徵新馬季正式展開。大會派出一百三十頭醒獅慶賀馬會成立一百三十週年，場面壯觀，馬迷大飽眼福。馬季一如既往，由香港特區行政長官盃為開鑼日的主題盃賽，結果經過一番激戰後，由騎師莫雷拉夥拍苗禮德馬房的「金滿載」勝出這項焦點賽事。



Fashion Show participants.

時裝匯演的參加者。

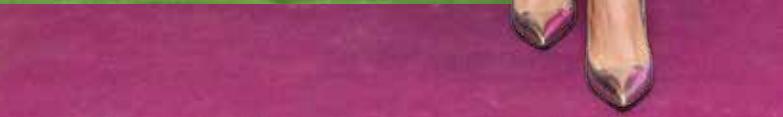
Sa Sa Ladies' Purse image girl Gao Yuanyuan.
莎莎婦女銀袋日形象大使高圓圓。



Sa Sa Ladies' Purse Day

November is usually a warm and dry month in Hong Kong, providing the perfect chance for the sport's many local female followers to dress up in their finery for Sa Sa Ladies' Purse Day. This is always the most stylish raceday of the season as well as being one of the most historic, with the traditions of the Ladies' Purse feature race dating back to 1846. It was won this time by *Packing Llaregyb*, trained by Andreas Schutz and ridden by Mirco Demuro, who went on to notch up a treble for the day.

December brings another type of experience when many of the world's finest racehorses, trainers and jockeys descend on the city for Hong Kong International Races Week (see pages 44-51), attracting racing fans from across the globe and huge international media coverage.





Make-up workshops prove a popular attraction (above), as does a headwear boutique (right).

彩妝專櫃(上)和帽飾專門店(右)大受歡迎。

莎莎婦女銀袋日

十一月的香港秋高氣爽，正是舉辦莎莎婦女銀袋日的最好時機。女士們當天悉心打扮，馬場內衣香鬢影，言笑晏晏。這項賽事早於一八四六年首次舉行，因此不單時尚華麗，也是本港其中一項歷史最悠久的賽事。孫達志馬房的「包裝鬥士」，在杜滿萊的出色發揮下勝出當天主題賽事婦女銀袋，而杜滿萊更在當天大演帽子戲法，三勝頭馬。

十二月的香港馬壇又是另一番氣象。世界各地的佳駒、練馬師和騎師濟濟一堂，出席香港國際賽事週（詳閱四十四至五十一頁），也吸引了海外一眾馬迷和各大媒體參與盛事。





Lucky Start

Jan 1 Raceday

好運1月1賽馬日



Then with the dawning of a new calendar year, the Club makes good use of the New Year's Day public holiday to stage a "Lucky Start" themed raceday offering various special attractions including an added Triple Trio jackpot. This year almost 68,000 racing fans turned out for the occasion, boosting turnover to a then season high of almost HK\$1.51 billion. They were able to enjoy the free door gift of a 3OMETHING LUCKY key chain designed by celebrity Jan Lamb and the chance to meet popular TV actors Priscilla Wong and Louis Cheung, who joined the Club's Lucky Cheering Team to play mini-games with racegoers offering fabulous prizes.

On the track, the day's highlight was the Hong Kong Group Three Chinese Club Challenge Cup, won by *Rewarding Hero* with Neil Callan in the saddle.

新年伊始，馬會在元旦公眾假期當日，舉行「好運1月1賽馬日」，為市民提供眾多場內娛樂活動，同時配合巨額三T多寶，讓馬迷試試運氣。當日有接近六萬八千名市民進入兩個馬場觀賽，全日總投注額近十五億一千萬港元，成為今季開鑼至當日為止投注額最高的一個賽馬日。當日入場市民除獲贈由名人林海峰設計的「3OMETHING LUCKY」匙扣，更有機會與人氣明星黃翠如、張繼聰及好運打氣團玩有獎遊戲，贏取豐富獎品。

當日的焦點賽事是香港三級賽華商會挑戰盃，「駿馬名駒」在郭能策騎下勇奪該賽的冠軍寶座。



Popular TV actors Priscilla Wong and Louis Cheung play mini-games with racegoers.

電視紅星黃翠如及張繼聰與入場馬迷大玩遊戲。



(Left) Financial Secretary John Tsang (left) dots the eyes of the ceremonial lion with Club Chairman Dr Simon Ip; and (right) presents the Chinese New Year Cup to Kenneth Lau Ip-keung, Owner of *Real Specialist*.

(左圖)香港特別行政區財政司司長曾俊華(左)和馬會主席葉錫安博士主持醒獅點睛儀式，曾先生又於賀年盃頒獎禮上(右圖)，頒發獎盃予勝出馬匹「驕龍」的馬主劉業強。

Chinese New Year Raceday

農曆新年賽馬日



To experience Hong Kong people's passion for horse racing at its best, though, there is nothing that comes close to the Chinese New Year Raceday staged on the third day of Lunar New Year, when racing fans come from far and wide to put their New Year fortune to the test. It has drawn such massive crowds in recent years that the Club actually limited publicity this time and put more focus on the 1 January Raceday instead, to ensure a comfortable environment for all. Nonetheless more than 91,000 people turned out to welcome the Year of the Goat and turnover topped an amazing HK\$1.7 billion.

Popular local singers Andy Hui, Ram Chiang and Rita Carpio kept the throngs well entertained, more than HK\$680,000 worth of gold-plated ornaments were given away in the lucky draw, and jockey Joao Moreira took the day's feature race, the Chinese New Year Cup, on John Size's star *Real Specialist*.

香港人對賽馬的熱情，在每年年初三舉行的農曆新年賽馬日可見一斑。不少馬迷親臨馬場，希望一試運氣，討一個好彩頭。有鑑於近年農曆新年賽馬日人山人海的盛況，馬會今年相對調減宣傳策略，同時加強推廣元旦賽馬日，希望讓入場馬迷有一個更舒適的體驗。然而，當天仍然有超過九萬一千人入場迎接羊年，投注額更達十七億港元。

當天，本地當紅藝人許志安、蔣志光及韋綺姍為馬迷送上精彩表演，大會的幸運抽獎送出總值逾六十八萬港元的包金擺件。焦點賽事賀年盃最終由莫雷拉夥拍蔡約翰馬房的「驕龍」奪得錦標。



Trying the windmills of fortune.

馬迷試轉好運風車。



Racing fans take their chance with lucky bags of Club merchandise (top); singer Andy Hui entertains the crowds (centre); the jockeys give out auspicious symbols.

馬迷選購馬會的幸運福袋（頂）；歌手許志安為觀眾獻唱（中）；還有騎師送上新年祝福。



四歲功名
一生一次

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME DERBY



BMW 寶馬香港打吡大賽
HONG KONG
DERBY

Four-year-olds to the fore

四歲新星 鋒芒初露





Winning connections go on a victory parade.

得勝馬主、練馬師及騎師乘坐跑車在跑道上巡遊。

The early months of the year also see many of Hong Kong's top domestic races, most notably the Four-Year-Old Series which culminates in the BMW Hong Kong Derby. While every season nowadays produces an impressive crop of new rising stars, there is rarely one horse that stands out above the others at this stage, and more often than not these three Hong Kong Group One races produce some unexpected winners.

So it proved this year with Tony Cruz-trained *Beauty Only* taking a surprise victory in the first leg in January, the 1600m Hong Kong Classic Mile, storming home late under Neil Callan to see off the hot favourites, twin greys *Divine Calling* and *Giant Treasure*, by more than two lengths. And there was a further shock in store a month later in the 1800m Hong Kong Classic Cup, which saw outsider *Thunder Fantasy*, trained by John Size and ridden by Karis Teetan, prevail by no more than a nose from favourite *Redkirk Warrior*.

Both winners also lined up in the 2000m final leg on 15 March, eyeing the once-in-a-lifetime accolade of BMW Hong Kong Derby winner, but they could only finish sixth and eighth respectively as the honours went instead to a horse that had kept its powder dry for the opening two legs, John Size-trained *Luger*. Ridden by Zac Purton for the first time, *Luger* cruised to a three-quarter length victory over the fast-closing *Got Fly* and *Romantic Touch*.

The Derby showpiece attracted a crowd of over 64,000 fans, the highest since 1998, for a memorable day of racing which also featured the Queen's Silver Jubilee Cup, newly elevated to International Group One status; an appearance by martial arts movie star Donnie Yen, this year's BMW Derby Ambassador; the grand finals of a Derby phone-in quiz game; and a new collection of Derby merchandise.

不少本地一級賽均於每年年初舉行，其中最矚目的是四歲馬系列賽事，重頭戲是寶馬香港打吡大賽。每年的四歲馬系列新星輩出，而且實力旗鼓相當，令此系列的三場香港一級賽往往帶來意外驚喜。

今年亦不乏較意外的賽果，先有告東尼馬房的「美麗大師」於一月在郭能胯下以兩個多馬位之先，擊敗兩匹灰馬「和順超影」及「大印銀紙」，輕鬆攻下首關香港經典一哩賽（一千六百米）；一個月後舉行的香港經典盃（一千八百米），則由蔡約翰訓練、田泰安策騎的「酷男」，以馬鼻位之微壓倒大熱門「精彩鬥士」奪魁。

系列首兩關勝出賽駒雙雙進軍於三月十五日舉行的尾關寶馬香港打吡大賽（二千米），爭取一生一次的四歲功名。然而，「美麗大師」最後只取得第六名，而「酷男」則以第八名過終點。當天贏得打吡榮譽的是在四歲系列首度登場的「戰利品」。這匹由蔡約翰訓練、潘頓策騎的佳駒，衝線時以四分三馬位之先擊敗後追強勁的「直震撼」及「醒目名駒」掄元。

當天共有逾六萬四千名觀眾進入沙田及跑馬地馬場欣賞賽事，創下自一九九八年以來此賽日的入場人數新高，今年剛升格為國際一級賽的女皇銀禧紀念盃也在同日上演。今屆打吡大使及武打明星甄子丹應邀出席當天活動。馬迷除可一睹其風采，還可參與「打吡大賽熱線分獎金」遊戲尾關和選購全新打吡主題精品。

Zac Purton celebrates his Derby success on *Luger*.

潘頓策「戰利品」勝出香港打吡大賽後祝捷。



Eighteen years on, the racing continues

As the season draws to a close, a major draw is the Hong Kong Reunification Raceday on the 1 July public holiday, with Sha Tin Racecourse one of the most popular places for local residents and visitors to mark the SAR's establishment in 1997. This year was no exception, as more than 23,000 racegoers turned out on the 18th Anniversary of the handover to enjoy a themed programme of special oncourse attractions, with face-painting booths proving a favourite.

On the track, the sweltering heat proved no deterrent to rising all-weather track specialist *Gun Pit*, trained by Caspar Fownes, who broke his own course record with Zac Purton aboard to take the Hong Kong Reunification Cup. David Hall-trained *Solar Hei Hei*, ridden by Brett Prebble, won the day's other feature race, the Guangdong–Hong Kong Cup. Run for the first time in 2014, this trophy recognises the growing co-operation between Hong Kong and Guangdong, notably in the area of sports development, as exemplified by the donation of retired racehorses to the Guangdong Equestrian Team for training and competition, the Club's co-hosting of the 2010 Guangzhou Asian Games equestrian events, and its sponsorship of the final leg of the 2014 LONGINES China Tour in Guangzhou.

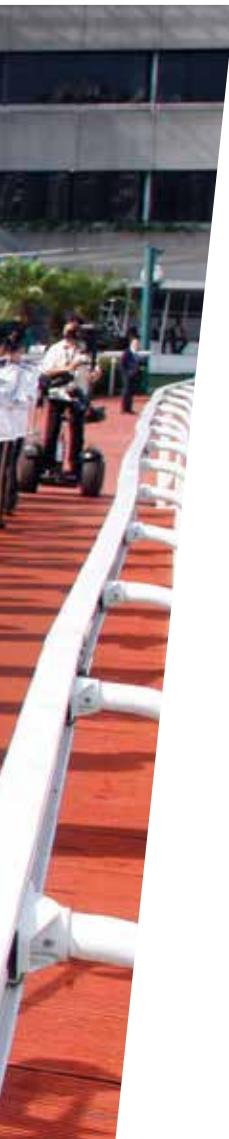


「馬照跑」

香港繼續 特區成立十八週年

七月一日公眾假期舉行的香港共慶回歸賽馬日，近年成為馬季季末焦點。大批市民和遊客擁至沙田馬場欣賞賽事，慶祝香港特別行政區於一九九七年成立。今年一如以往，超過二萬三千名馬迷入場欣賞賽事及共慶特區成立十八週年，參與場內特色主題活動，當中彩繪攤位更是大受歡迎。

當天雖然天氣較熱，但方嘉柏訓練的「準備就緒」仍一如預期交出上佳水準。這匹泥地新星在潘頓胯下攻下香港回歸盃，更刷新了本身保持的泥地場地紀錄時間，而另一主題賽事粵港盃，則由賀賢訓練、柏寶策騎的「太陽喜喜」奪冠。粵港盃在二〇一四年首辦，標誌粵港兩地在體育方面的交流合作，包括由馬會捐出退役馬供廣東馬術隊訓練和比賽之用、合辦二〇一〇年廣州亞運馬術項目及贊助二〇一四年浪琴表中國馬術巡迴賽廣州總決賽。



fans swarm to celebrate

“incredible record-setting season”

「屢創驕人紀錄的馬季」煞科
馬迷場內同歡慶

It's always a day of mixed emotions for Hong Kong's dedicated racing fans when the season finally draws to a close in mid-July – fond memories to recall of the year's thrilling on-track moments, yet sadness as they contemplate an eight-week abstinence from their favourite sport. Happy or sad, though, the end-of-season meeting offers another great excuse to party!

It was certainly an atmosphere of celebration at this year's finale meeting on 12 July, with 42,000 fans turning out at Sha Tin and Happy Valley – an 8.9% increase on the previous year – and turnover for the day reaching an eye-popping HK\$1.76 billion. And while this time there were no right-to-the-wire battles for the major titles, there was no shortage of landmarks to celebrate either in what Chief Executive Officer Winfried Engelbrecht-Bresges termed an “incredible record-setting season”.

Turnover for the season set a new record, total attendance at 2.07 million was the highest for 12 years, and Champion Jockey Joao Moreira simply left the previous nine-year-old record in the dust by riding an amazing 145 winners, rounding up his feat in style with a last-day quadruple.

In the season when the HKJC marked its 130th Anniversary, Hong Kong-trained horses excelled at home and abroad, winning nine out of ten Group 1 races on home turf and breaking new ground at international level.

Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges stressed that these milestones had not been achieved easily, but resulted from a lot of hard work behind the scenes. “Since the 2005/06 season, turnover has increased 79.7%, which is testament to the successful strategies the Club has undertaken in that time to revitalise Hong Kong horse racing,” he observed. “This in turn provided a record tax contribution from racing of HK\$12.3 billion, which means that horse racing has again been able to make a significant positive contribution to the Hong Kong community.”

Nevertheless, Mr Engelbrecht-Bresges added, “it is not for us to rest on our laurels. Our goal is to further improve, even though the economic circumstances for next season, we think, are a little bit more challenging. But we always have an optimistic outlook for the future.”



Watched by his son and mother, John Moore gives the thumbs-up as he receives the Champion Trainer's trophy from Club Chairman Dr Simon Ip; (below) jockeys in the starting stalls throw souvenirs to the crowd.

約翰摩亞在兒子及母親見證下，從馬會主席葉錫安博士手上接過「冠軍練馬師」獎座，興奮得豎起拇指；(下圖) 騎師在起跑閘廂拋送禮物予觀眾。



每年七月中的馬季煞科日，熱情的本港馬迷總是悲喜交集。可喜的是，季內精彩刺激的場內活動為他們帶來美好回憶，可堪回味，而在同一時間，他們最喜愛的賽馬運動將會歇暑休賽八星期。然而，無論如何，馬季煞科日賽事絕對是盡情歡慶的好時機！

今年的煞科日賽事於七月十二日在一片歡樂的節慶氣氛中舉行，共有四萬二千名馬迷到沙田及跑馬地馬場觀賽，人數較去年上升百分之八點九，當天的投注額接近十七億六千萬港元。雖然一眾冠軍人馬的爭逐於當日賽事舉行前幾乎已經塵埃落定，但當天仍不乏值得慶祝的時刻，而香港賽馬會行政總裁應家柏則把這個馬季形容為「屢創驕人紀錄的馬季」。

全季總投注額創下歷來最高紀錄，總入場人數達二百零七萬人次，創十二年來新高。香港冠軍騎師莫雷拉當天全日取得四捷，季內共贏得一百四十五場頭馬，打破已保持九年的紀錄，為其今季出色表現畫上完美句號。

今季適逢馬會一百三十週年紀念，本港訓練的佳駒在本地及海外賽事均表現出色，於本港舉行的十項一級賽中摘下九項桂冠，在國際馬壇亦取得卓越成就。



Champion Jockey Joao Moreira enjoys the fans' adulation. 冠軍騎師莫雷拉接受馬迷歡呼祝賀。



Joao Moreira holds aloft the Champion Jockey's trophy accompanied by his son and watched by Club Chairman Dr Simon Ip (centre) and Deputy Chairman Anthony Chow.

莫雷拉在其兒子、馬會主席葉錫安博士(中)及副主席周永健陪同下，高舉「冠軍騎師」獎座。

Besides cheering on their favourites in a packed farewell programme of 11 races, fans were able to enjoy the traditional Jockeys' Parade and witness the crowning of the season's best-performing jockeys and trainers.

The Champion Jockey title went, of course, to Joao Moreira for his astonishing 145 victories, while John Moore notched up 70 wins to edge out John Size for the Champion Trainer title and, more significantly, earn his connections a record HK\$139.9 million in stakes money. Vincent Ho took the Best Freelance Jockey title, awarded for the first time.

Two nights earlier, the rest of the coveted Champion Awards had been presented at a glittering ceremony at the Grand Hyatt hotel. Top prize of Horse of the Year went to *Able Friend* for his six victories in the season including four at the highest International Group One level – a performance which took him to equal top of the world rankings in April, a feat unprecedented for a Hong Kong-trained horse. The John Moore-trained *Able Friend* was also named Champion Miler and not surprisingly, won the public vote for most Popular Horse.

Paul O'Sullivan-trained *Aerovelocity* was crowned Champion Sprinter in recognition of his feat in winning Group One events in three different countries and regions – Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore. Last year's Horse of the Year *Designs On Rome* was named Champion Middle-Distance Horse, while the Champion Stayer title went to Tony Cruz-trained *Helene Super Star*.

Lifetime Achievement Awards were bestowed on two great champion horses who retired during the season – *California Memory*, the only two-time winner of the G1 Hong Kong Cup, and *Ambitious Dragon*, a two-time Horse of the Year.



應家柏強調，本季佳績得來不易，背後付出了不少努力。他說：「自二〇〇五/〇六年度馬季以來，投注額已增加了百分之七十九點七，足證馬會於這段時間內採取的活化香港賽馬之策略十分成功。今季創出新的投注額，亦令馬會繳納歷來最多賽馬博彩稅達一百二十三億港元，這再次顯示賽馬運動為香港社會作出重大貢獻。」

雖然如此，應家柏續道：「我們不會滿足於現有的成就，我們的目標是要不斷進步。展望下季，縱使我們預期到時將要面對略具挑戰性的經濟環境，但我們仍一如以往，樂觀面對未來。」

當天共上演十一場煞科賽事，入場馬迷除了為喜愛的馬匹吶喊助威外，更可欣賞按傳統進行的騎師閉幕巡遊，並見證本季冠軍騎師及冠軍練馬師的誕生。

莫雷拉憑一百四十五場頭馬，強勢摘下冠軍騎師榮譽，而約翰摩亞則共取得七十場頭馬，以七場之先壓倒蔡約翰，成為冠軍練馬師。約翰摩亞更刷新一季贏得最多獎金紀錄，達至一億三千九百九十万港元。何澤堯則成為首屆最佳自由身騎師。

於煞科日前兩晚，馬壇觸目盛事冠軍人馬獎頒獎典禮在香港君悅酒店舉行，見證其餘獎項花落誰家。由約翰摩亞訓練的「步步友」榮膺香港馬王，此駒季內取得六捷，包括四項國際一級賽，於四月公佈的世界馬匹排名中並列第一位，成為首匹香港賽駒獲排於全球評分最高的位置。「步步友」同時獲選為最佳一哩馬，並獲公眾選為最受歡迎馬匹。

蘇保羅馬房的「友瑩格」憑藉在香港、日本及新加坡三個不同國家或地區勝出一級賽的卓越表現，獲選為最佳短途馬。上年度馬季香港馬王「威爾頓」則獲選為最佳中距離馬，最佳長途馬的榮銜則由告東尼旗下的「喜蓮巨星」奪得。

於季內光榮退役的賽駒「加州萬里」及「雄心威龍」獲頒終身成就獎，前者是迄今唯一曾兩奪香港盃（一級賽）的佳駒，而後者則為兩屆香港馬王。



Winning Owners in the 2014/15 Champion Awards line-up for a group photo; (below) Dr Cornel Li, Owner of triple prizewinner Able Friend.

二〇一四/一五年度冠軍人馬獎得獎馬主大合照；(下)三料馬王「步步友」的馬主李福鑾醫生。

2014/15 Champion Awards 二〇一四/一五年度冠軍人馬獎

Horse of the Year 香港馬王	Able Friend 步步友
Champion Sprinter 最佳短途馬	Aerovelocity 友瑩格
Champion Miler 最佳一哩馬	Able Friend 步步友
Champion Middle-Distance Horse 最佳中距離馬	Designs On Rome 威爾頓
Champion Stayer 最佳長途馬	Helene Super Star 喜蓮巨星
Champion Griffin 最佳新馬	Thewizardofoz 澳斯卡
Most Improved Horse 最大進步馬匹	Contentment 詠彩繽紛
Champion Trainer 冠軍練馬師	John Moore 約翰摩亞
Champion Jockey 冠軍騎師	Joao Moreira 莫雷拉
Best Freelance Jockey 最佳自由身騎師	Vincent Ho 何澤堯
Most Popular Horse of the Year* 最受歡迎馬匹*	Able Friend 步步友
Most Popular Jockey of the Year* 最受歡迎騎師*	Joao Moreira 莫雷拉
Most Admired Overseas Horse* 最受香港馬迷欣賞海外馬匹*	Solow (France) 經濟學家 (法國)
Lifetime Achievement Awards 終身成就獎	Ambitious Dragon 雄心威龍 California Memory 加州萬里

* public vote 由公眾投票選出



Hong Kong-trained horses that achieved an international rating of 115 or above in 2014/15

二〇一四/一五年度獲國際評分一百一十五分或以上的香港賽駒

Rating 評分	Horse 馬匹	Trainer 練馬師	Owner 馬主
127	ABLE FRIEND 步步友	John Moore 約翰摩亞	Dr & Mrs Cornel Li Fook Kwan 李福鑾醫生及夫人
123	DESIGNS ON ROME 威爾頓	John Moore 約翰摩亞	Cheng Keung Fai 鄭強輝
123	MILITARY ATTACK 軍事出擊	Caspar Fownes 方嘉柏	Canny Leung Chi Shan 梁芷珊
122	GOLD-FUN 大運財	Richard Gibson 高伯新	Pan Sutong 潘蘇通
121	BLAZING SPEED 將男	Anthony Cruz 告東尼	Fentons Racing Syndicate 奔騰賽馬團體
119	DAN EXCEL 花月春風	John Moore 約翰摩亞	David Philip Boehm 包大偉
118	AEROVELOCITY 友瑩格	Paul O'Sullivan 蘇保羅	Daniel Yeung Ngai 楊毅
117	AMBITIOUS DRAGON 雄心威龍	Anthony Millard 苗禮德	Johnson Lam Pui Hung & Anderson Lam Hin Yue 林培雄與林顯裕
117	BEAUTY FLAME 美麗之星	Anthony Cruz 告東尼	Kwok Siu Ming 郭少明
117	LUCKY NINE 天久	Caspar Fownes 方嘉柏	Dr Chang Fuk To & Maria Chang Lee Ming Shum 張福滔醫生與張李明沁
117	PENIAPHOBIA 幸福指數	Anthony Cruz 告東尼	Huang Kai Wen 黃凱汶
116	DUNDONNELL 誰可拼	Richard Gibson 高伯新	Elizabeth Lee Ho Ling 李皓玲
116	GLORIOUS DAYS 精彩日子	John Size 蔡約翰	Tom Brown's Syndicate 百家樂團體
116	PACKING LLAREGYB 包裝鬥士	Andreas Schutz 孫達志	Lee Man Yan 李文恩
116	RICH TAPESTRY 好好計	Michael Chang 鄭俊偉	Silas Yang Siu Shun, Wong Tak Wai, Ho Chi Keung & Cheung Yuk Tak 楊紹信、黃德偉、何志強與張育德
116	WILLIE CAZALS 威利加數	Anthony Cruz 告東尼	Eugene Chuang Yue Chien 莊友堅
115	AMBER SKY 崇山寶	Ricky Yiu 姚本輝	Hung Kam Po 洪金寶
115	BUNDLE OF JOY 喜寶駒	David Hall 賀賢	Mr & Mrs Colin Lo Chor Cheong 盧楚鏘先生及夫人
115	CHARLES THE GREAT 一寶	John Moore 約翰摩亞	Julian Hui Chun Hang & Michele Monique Reis 許晉亨與李嘉欣
115	ENDOWING 安賞	John Size 蔡約翰	Ada Wong Yin Man 王賢敏
115	HELENE SUPER STAR 喜蓮巨星	Anthony Cruz 告東尼	Wilson Woo Ka Wah, Dawson Woo Ka Chung & Jackson Woo Ka Biu 胡家驛、胡家驥與胡家驃
115	LUGER 戰利品	John Size 蔡約翰	Terry Fok Kwong Hang 霍廣行
115	REWARDING HERO 駿馬名駒	John Moore 約翰摩亞	Lee Fung Tai 李逢泰
115	SUPER JOCKEY 積多福	Anthony Millard 苗禮德	Tony Lau Yiu Tong & Thomas Lau Sum Fai 劉耀棠與劉心暉

Note: All ratings to be ratified by the LONGINES World's Best Racehorse Rankings Conference in December 2015.

備註: 表內評分須經定於二〇一五年十二月舉行的浪琴表世界馬匹年終排名會議確認。