



## 2004 PERTH ROYAL SHOW

Although numbers were down on previous years, the quality of horses that were presented for this year's royal show was once again outstanding with the judge commenting during the Best Presented class that this was the best group of standardbreds she had judged Australia wide! Several members and spectators sitting in the public seating also commented that every horse on the arena looked a treat, which indicates why the poor judge took so long making her decision in the best-presented class. A top six was pulled out for further inspections and these horses were put through a workout to help in her decision. The top three placings were creating a headache with the judge commenting that she still could not pick a winner as the colour coordination's of handlers and horses were superb. Finally a decision had to be made and the big stallion Pazam and Kristy Padberg took the honours for another Royal with the young filly Nikki and Leonie Morrone coming in second over Admiral's Christmas and Kristie Morrone third.

Yearling Nikki was the sole entrant in her class and was awarded first place accordingly but one could sense that whatever senior mare was to win would have a real contest on their hands as the judge did not hold back in showing her delight in the young filly.

Unfortunately, the mare's class had three withdrawals in Candi Dasa, Holmwood Chip and Maya Rani, which left only five mares for judging. Take On Me, with her owner Alesha Giles over east looking after northerly, was turned out a treat thanks to boyfriend Dan Nye's endless hours of grooming over the weeks leading up to the event and saw her win this class over Lady O'Tara who had virtually been dragged out of the paddock at the last minute for a second and Weona Delight third. If we thought Best Presented was a difficult decision then judge was totally stumped in her decision as to who would win Champion Mare/Filly. After workouts and side profiles she spoke to both handlers and explained the difficulties she was having as what one lacked, the other had. Finally she requested both mare and filly to walk side by side as close as possible up and back hopefully to make her decision. The judge's final comments were that it had come down to a maturity issue as the mare at this stage had a better walk and with that, Take On Me secured her third Royal Show Champion Mare title. It was pleasing to see both handlers come out of the ring both looking like winners as Jackie Series handled the mare and Kristie Morrone prepared her and as both said, it was such a tight contest neither could have been disappointed.

The stallion class had three different types presented for judging. Firstly there was the big thoroughbred type Pazam who looked a little uncomfortable in behind in his workout up against the pony type, twenty one year old flashy chestnut Salvation Son with his daisy cutting action and then the athletically big moving Admiral's Christmas who the judge absolutely fell in love with his big trot. Admiral's Christmas was sashed Champion Stallion with Pazam second and Salvation Son third.

The Supreme Standardbred was over in a flash with the stallion winning relatively easily but the judge made sure she passed her comments onto the mares handler that she was a beautiful big mare ideal for breeding but the stallion had exceptional qualities.

The gelding class had three entrants with last year's supreme winner Cousteau not fairsing too well after being gelded, prompting Kristy Padberg to leave him home. All geldings worked out well, but unfortunately this class seems to lack the wow factor as all other competitors are marshalled from the arena after the Supreme, leaving only the gelding competitors behind. Supermart for Fiona Attard turned the tables on Admiral Abernethy to take first and Paid In Cash third.

The ridden class had only one height class, as Maya Rani and Holmwood Chip were withdrawn. This event was judged totally on the circle which had several people complain but unfortunately due to certain people not marshalling on time, the breed was fifteen minutes late getting onto the arena and as every minute counts with programming it was unavoidable. Needless to say what a remarkable story this turned out to be. Lady O'Tara whose career was all but washed up after months and months of continual discomfort in her feet and everywhere else. Owner Jackie Series came to a compromise with the mare and only worked her for limited sessions two weeks

leading up to the Royal. What's more amazing in that, is that most of these sessions were carried out bareback and bridles and hardly asking for any collection. The mare did not work that well on the left rein but when a change of rein was called for, she worked balanced and showed splendid forward movement which I must stress was what the judge was looking for as her assumption was that she presumed all horses were novices and did not base her decision on a perfect workout, but a horse that displayed glimpses of nice forward movement and with that in hindsight I will personally dispute anyone who thinks this mare did not deserve this award. The gelding Paid In Cash also gave his rider Amber Kitson some hair raising moments on the left rein but worked much better on the right to take Reserve. Weona Delight worked faultlessly throughout but lacked the big forward movement that the first two displayed and was duly placed third. As stated previously the judge commented that she presumed all these horses were novices and had taken this into account when making her decisions, as a Royal Show atmosphere can be a bit daunting for any horse. She was very impressed with the general condition and presentation of all horses and congratulated the breed.

Congratulations and well done to all the winners at this years Royal. Go home and bask in your glory, as next year is another event with different contestants, judges and more than likely results.

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## **RESULTS**

### **LED CLASSES**

#### **Best Presented Exhibit**

- 1st: Pazam (K Padberg)
- 2nd: Nikki (L Morrone)
- 3rd: Admiral's Christmas (K Morrone)
- 4th: Striking Storm
- 5th: Admiral Abernethy
- 6th: Supermart

#### **Stallion 4yrs & Over (3 Entries)**

- 1st: Admiral's Christmas
- 2nd: Pazam
- 3rd: Salvation Son

***Champion: Admiral's Christmas (K Morrone)***

***Reserve: Pazam (K Padberg)***

#### **Colt 3yrs & Under**

No Entries

#### **Mare 4yrs & Over (5 Entries)**

- 1st: Take On Me
- 2nd: Lady O'Tara
- 3rd: Weona Delight
- 4th: Striking Storm
- 5th: Junee Dee

***Champion: Take On Me (J Searies)***

***Reserve: Nikki (L Morrone)***

#### **Filly 3yrs & Under (1 Entry)**

1st: Nikki

**SUPREME CHAMPION: ADMIRAL'S CHRISTMAS**

#### **Gelding Any Age (3 Entries)**

- 1st: Supermart
- 2nd: Admiral Abernethy
- 3rd: Paid In Cash

### **RIDDEN CLASSES**

#### **Ridden 15hh & Under (4 Entries)**

- 1st: Lady O'Tara
- 2nd: Paid In Cash
- 3rd: Weona Delight
- 4th: Striking Storm

***Champion: Lady O'Tara (J Searies)***

***Reserve: Paid In Cash (A Kittson)***

#### **Ridden 15hh & Over**

No Entries