

# **GLOBEFORMN**EWS

March 11, 2015

DUBAI WORLD CUP DAY SPECIAL PACKED WITH INFO		
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## Japanese World Cup contender HOKKO TARUMAE – HAS ANOTHER CRACK

He finished last in the Dubai World Cup twelve months ago, but anyone judging Hokko Tarumae purely on that effort is making a mistake. This Japanese contender is way better than what he was able to show on his first visit to Meydan. One of the top dirt track performers in Japan, he is the winner of three international Group One events in his homeland, and he ran an sound race on his most recent start, convincing his connections to have a second crack at the World Cup.

Hokko Tarumae won the Kawasaki Kinen (Local G1) over 2100 metres over a muddy track in late January, thus becoming back-to-back winner of this valuable event. As always ridden by Hidyaki Miyuki, he justified heavy favouritism to beat Kazenoko easily by three parts of a length. Hokko Tarumae was by far the best horse going into the race, and fully expected to succeed. The winning margin did not reflect his superiority on the day. His finest hour of 2014 came when he beat 15 rivals in the Champions Cup (G1), formerly called the Japan Cup Dirt, at Chukyo in December. Hokko Tarumae had finished third in the corresponding race both in 2012 and 2013, and it was a case of third time lucky as he defeated Namura Victor and Roman Legend to finally get to the top of the podium. Hokko Tarumae raced prominently from the outset, went ahead 400 metres from the winning post, and prevailed by half a length in a tough finish to the 1800-metres contest.

It was a very taking performance but Hokko Taramue was even more impressive when winning the Tokyo Daishoten by 4 lengths three weeks later. The trip was 2000 metres, the Ohi racecourse was muddy, and Hokko Taramue was in top form. He was positioned in the first three throughout, went smoothly to the lead coming into the 400-metres stretch and won unchallenged. The further he went the better he looked and he won with a bit in hand. His runner-up, Copano Rickey, has advertised the form by winning both of his subsequent races, most recently landing a the important February Stakes (G1) at Chukyo in February. It is also worth noting that Summit Stone, who was third to Hokko Tarumae in the Tokyo Daishoten, filled the same place also when he won the Kawasaki Kinen. His form is hard to assess but it has been working out well, and Hokko Tarumae is a bit of a dark horse in this World Cup field.



DUBAI WORLD CUP

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### Dubai Golden Shaheen contender SALUTOS AMIGOS – AT THE TOP OF HIS FORM

This New York based sprinter must be one of the big favourites for the Golden Shaheen. He won impressively at Aqueduct on March 7, taking his fourth straight win and his ninth overall, and he has solid form in top company. Trained by David Jacobsen, a horseman who is showing a 24% strike rate and is boasting an even better record in stakes races, Salutos Amigos won the Tom Fool Handicap (G3) over 6 furlongs (1200 metres) with a strong performance. He had missed some training leading up to the event, and he was burdened with top weight, but overcame these circumstances without breaking too much sweat. After racing with great zest in third spot until turning for home, he went smoothly past the second favourite Dads Caps at the finish and beat him by 4 lengths. Jockey Cornelious Velasquez never had to resort to the whip to get his mount into top flight. Salutos Amigos won with plenty in hand, stopping the clocks in 1.09.6, a good time when it comes to winter racing around this track.

All of his four recent wins have come at Aqueduct, though a win in the Bold Ruler Handicap (G3) at Belmont Park, and a fine race in defeat in the Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) at Santa Anita, shows that he handles various tracks. His win streak started three weeks after he had finished seventh, beaten just 3 lengths, to Work All Week at the Breeders' Cup last November. Salutos Amigos came back home to carry a massive top weight to victory in the Fall Highweight Handicap (G3) - beating Mewannarose by almost two lengths while carrying nine pounds more than the runner-up. Mewannarose was second again when Salutos Amigos followed up in the Gravesend Stakes during the Christmas racing at Aqueduct, and Dads Caps was second best as he took the Toboggan Stakes (G3) in January.

Salutos Amigos has been beating mainly the same rivals when enjoying such a fine winter in the Big Apple, but make no mistake about it, this is a highly efficient and classy sprinter. He comes to Dubai right at the top of his form.

## Dubai Sheema Classic contender FLINTSHIRE – SO RELIABLE



Flintshire at Santa Anita. Photo: Breeders' Cup Inc.



Flintshire was a Group One winner in France as a three-year-old and in Hong Kong last year, but he has often been a bit of a 'nearly horse'. Runner-up efforts in three championship events, in three different countries last year confirms what a good horse he is, and Flintshire certainly deserved it when landing the Hong Kong Vase (G1) at Sha Tin in December.

He had run second to Cirrus des Aigles in the Coronation Cup (G1) at Epsom Downs in England in June, played the same role behind Treve in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1) at Longchamp at home in France in October, and again behind Main Sequence in the Breeders' Cup Turf (G1) at Santa Anita Park in California in November. It was a demanding campaign, but trainer Andre Fabre, arguably one of the world's finest horsemen, gave Flintshire a bit of a break after the 'Arc' and brought him fresh to Sha Tin, where he won decisively by half a length from the locally trained Willie Cazals. All these races were run over 2400 metres, the distance of the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1), where Flintshire is expected to be one of the leading players. Passing the winning post two 2 behind of the likes of Treve and Cirrus des Aigles is something not many turf runners are capable of, and the Sheema looks a good opportunity for Flintshire. It also presents him with a chance of revenge on Main Sequence, who beat him by half a length at the Breeders' Cup. Flintshire was a close second to Dolniya when reappearing over 1900 metres at Chantilly on March 3. He is an unusually reliable runner, who has finished in the top two in 10 of his 13 races to date.

#### **Godolphin Mile contender**

## **GRAPHIC – TOUGH AND STREETWISE**

Trained by William Haggas, who came close to lifting the World Cup with Mukhadram twelve months ago, Graphic booked his ticket to the Godolphin Mile (G2) when going to the winners' circle at Wolverhampton in England last month.

This tough and streetwise six-year-old was winning for a ninth time from 31 career outings as he got home a length in front of Diescentric with subsequent winner Chookie Royal back in third place. Graphic was racing just behind the early leader early on, took command with less a furlong to go, and kept on for a game win. The distance was 8.5 furlongs, a bit further than the Godolphin Mile, but possessing a bit of stamina is never a bad thing in this contest. Graphic has good form over a mile, having gained five of his wins over this distance, most notably the Prix Messidor (G3) at MaisonsLaffitte outside Paris last summer. Frankie Dettori rode him on this occasion, and sent him straight to the lead from the outset. Pilot, who has run some fine races in defeat at this Carnival, finished second and Line Drummer, who had won over the same course on his previous start, was third. Graphic put up another good performance in November, when finishing third behind Sloane Avenue and the well known filly Cladocera at Kempton Park. He tried to make all once more and went down fighting, passing the winning post only three parts of a length behind the winner. Graphic is a versatile runner with form over a variety of tracks, and he could well play a leading role in this event.



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## Geir Stabell's Kentucky Derby fancies



## "Ten is enough at this stage"

TEXAS RED	His off-the-pace finish at the Breeders' Cup was most impressive, and his close second to Lord Nelson over 7 furlongs on seasonal debut (when conceding weight) confirmed he has trained on. Reminds me of Street Sense – so he's my number one - but recent setback must be a worry. Back at Santa Anita. Can't wait to see him again.
AMERICAN	Not raced since proving much too sharp for Texas Red
PHAROAH	in the FrontRunner last fall, but back on track now and goes for the Rebel at Oaklawn on March 14. Undoubtedly all class – though has also looked all speed. Will he stay the gruelling 1 ¼ miles as Churchill Downs?
UPSTART	He has got off to a great start to his 3yo campaign and, but for that rather harsh DQ in the Fountain of Youth, his voyage heading to Churchill appears to be a smooth one. With two '15 races out of the way, he has an advantage at the moment – and his 'FOY' performance was better than most seem to realize. Much better (but also a hard race).
DORTMUND	Not so sure what he beat last time but he keeps on winning, and he is just the type to improve – so at this stage he is a leading contender. Built like Will Take Charge, he is the type to need more time before hitting his peak level.

#### **COUNTDOWN TO THE US TRIPLE CROWN**

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## Geir Stabell's Kentucky Derby fancies



- CARPE DIEMWide margin winner from Mr. Z. in the Breeders' Futurity,<br/>then runner-up to Texas Red in the BC Juvenile, a race that<br/>has worked out so wonderfully well; and a smooth winner<br/>at Tampa Bay last weekend; this colt must be considered,
- DAREDEVILHe proved too good for Upstart in last year's Champagne, but<br/>flopped at the Breeders' Cup. His run in the Swaps Stakes at<br/>Gulfstream was below par but it was just a starting point.
- **FAR FROM OVER** Either he is very, very good or those he swept by to win the Withers at Aqueduct are very, very ordinary. He made up an incredible amount of ground, and won by almost two lengths from Kentucky Jockey Club / Jerome / Gotham winner El Kabeir, though it needs mentioning that he had a 6lbs pull at the weights.
- **GORGEOUS BIRD** Impressed me when winning his allowance race by 7 lengths, and disappointed when managing only fifth in the Fountain Of Youth. Perhaps it was an off-day. He gets another chance in the Florida Derby. Stubborn as I am, I'll throw a few dollars on his number once more. Just in case I wasn't wrong.
- **PROSPECT PARK** Stayed on well to snatch second in the San Felipe, looking like a horse who wants 1 ¼ miles already. Closely matched with Bolo on that form and is building a solid profile.
- **BOLO** Took a big step up in class when third behind Dortmund and Prospect Park in his dirt debut last weekend – most likeable sort, may well improve past the runner-up next time and seems one of the best longshots.

Dodging Bullets unstoppable

## DETTORI BREEDS CHAMPION CHASER

That Frankie Dettori can ride top class winners in championship races on the flat is nothing new, but the Italian super jockey is breaking new ground in England these days. Dettori has been a small time breeder for a few years, though admitting "I haven't got a clue about pedigrees".



On Wednesday the steeplechaser Dodging Bullets, bred by Dettori back in 2008, won the Queen Mother Champion Chase (G1), one of the most prestigious races at the Cheltenham Festival - widely acknowledged as the world's best jump race meeting. Trained by Paul Nicholls and ridden by young Sam Twiston-Davies, Dodging Bullets was going better than any other horse every step of the way in the two-mile contest, which is worth £199,325 to the winner. This was his third big race success on the bounce, following wins in the Tingle Creek Chase (G1) at Sandown Park in December and Clarence House Chase (G1) at Ascot in January.

Dodging Bullets is a son of Godolphin's champion miler Dubawi, who Dettori partnered to win Group races in England, Ireland and France. The dam Nova Cyngi is a US bred daughter of successful stallion Kris S. She was bred by Flaxman Holdings Ltd., the breeders and owners of Main Sequence - who goes for the Dubai Sheema Classic (G1) at Meydan on World Cup night.

Dettori, present at Cheltenham and the first to give trainer a Nicholls a big hug after the contest, was quite ecstatic: "I must admit my legs were shaking as I was walking down the steps from the stands. This was so exciting, it's completely different to riding a winner", Dettori said, "this is great. I was hoping to breed a Derby winner but this is second best, winning the Queen Mother Champion Chase, it's like the equivalent of the 100 metres final at the Olympics. Sam rode a fantastic race, the horse jumped like a stag and he gutted it out to the line. "

Dodging Bullet was winning for the tenth time in 27 career starts.

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#### **COMING SOON - UNMISSABLE**

# **Globeform's 50 to Follow**



FROM LAST YEAR'S 50 TO FOLLOW

ALMERZEM - WON 13-2 (3 runs) ARAB DAWN - 3 WINS, 11-2, 3-1 and 9-4 CHATEZ - 2 WINS, 10-1 and 7-2 CANNOCK CHASE - 3-for-3; 3-1, 7-4, 6-4 KARAKONTIE - 30-1 Breeders' Cup winner KINGSTON HILL - St Leger winner 10-1 a/post MANGE ALL - WON 10-1, Ascot handicap MISS FRANCE - 1,000 Guineas winner 10-1 REEDCUTTER - 2 WINS, 7-1 and 9-2 SUDDEN WONDER - 2 WINS, 8-1 and 7-1 TERCEL - WON 9-2 first time out VENT DE FORCE - 3 WINS, 16-1, 4-1 and 2-1 VOLUME - WON 4-1, 2nd Oaks 40-1 a/post WAHGAH - 2 WINS, 8-1 and 6-1 plus several other winners through the season



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Breeders' Cup Mile: Globeform's Notebook horse Karakontie vins at 30-1 Photo: Breeders' Cup Inc.

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14 KARAKONTIE (JPN)	\$62.00	\$33.00	\$19.40
9 ANODIN (IRE)		\$12.60	\$7.20
8 TRADE STORM (GB)			\$12.80



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