



ANNIKE BYE HANSEN
Racehorse Trainer
www.annikebyehansen.com

Stabell talk

Annike Bye Hansen's 2021 team

Geir Stabell's in-depth presentation of classic winning trainer Annike Bye Hansen's team of horses for the 2021 season.



Abolish (middle) going close in Goeteborg Stora Pris. Photo: Stefan Olsson

Abolish – consistency has its price

Imported from France ahead of the 2020 season, **Abolish** ran five times in Scandinavia last year – and produced smart form at three different venues. It almost beggars belief that he failed to win under Annike's management but the best horse does not always win in handicaps. Thoroughbreds rated as highly as on 85kg by the handicapper normally visit the winners' enclosure at least once through the campaign. Abolish was unlucky not to win last year and his consistency clearly had its price. When you keep on going close, time after time, you will not be dropped in the handicap list. Abolish is the type to keep up the good work as an older horse, however, and we can hope for success in 2021 with this horse. He ran a cracking good race when runner-up in >>>

www.annikebyehansen.com

Annike Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Abolish**

>>> Goteborg Stora Pris in Sweden in August, going down by just a neck to the smart filly Ramone, who carried 3kg less than Abolish. Accomplished horses like Match Maker, Shantou and Fiftyshadesfreed filled the places behind Abolish, making the form of the 1400-metres contest look particularly strong.

Abolish's next task was the Herbert Sachs Memorial over 1600 metres at Bro Park the following month, and he was once more game in defeat, finishing third behind Rapidash and Lush Lashes, beaten 2 lengths and a neck while giving weight to both of these rivals. His season was then rounded off with another third place finish back home at Øvrevoll in October. The competitive Advance Party Handicap, run over 1370 metres, was won by Sir Leo, with stable companions We Got the Boss and Abolish close up in second and third – and Abolish was once more the one who carried the highest weight of the principals. Abolish has been a sort of an 'in between horse'. The form he has shown is a few lengths below what is required to have crack at the Scandinavian elite, while it is so good that he will always end up with tough weights in strong handicap races. All of his 2021 starts came on turf, and he has proved effective from 1370 metres to 1600 metres.

A well bred Juddmonte gelding from the same family as champions Zafonic, Zamindar and Announce, Abolish joined Annike's team after being purchased on behalf of C J Thoroughbreds at the Tattersalls Sales in Newmarket in 2019. He had gained one win and been placed second or third four times in France that year, being successful in what looked a decent maiden heat over 1400 metres at Fontainebleau. Abolish progressed to take third twice when tried at the premier venues Saint-Cloud and Chantilly later on, both times tackling 1600 metres. His career record going into the new season stands at one win and seven placed efforts from just twelve starts to date. That's a healthy 66% top three record, and there should be more to come from this five-year-old.



Annikе Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Calcaterre – age no hindrance**

It is not at all unusual for sprinters to keep their form well as older horses. As we saw with our champion Captain America, age is no hindrance in this division. Calcaterre is another good example. Getting ready for this ten-year-old campaign, he is a tough, battle hardened fighter who recorded his 16th career win when landing the Giant Sandman Cup Sprint over 1170 metres on the turf at Øvrevoll last July. Ridden by Elione Chaves, Calcaterre produced a rock solid performance that day, pipping the smart filly Ramone while giving her 3kg. Backcountry finished third, with Martini filling fourth place. The win was worth 62.500 kroner. Calcaterre earned a bit more in the second half of the season and his career total now stands at 1.484.577 kroner. A look at his past two campaigns makes for interesting reading. He won twice in 2019 with 172.419 kroner in earnings and last year he actually picked up 181.698 kroner. Financially measured, he did



Calcaterre (left) winning on turf last summer. Photo: hesteguiden.com

slightly better at nine compared to when he was eight years old. Can he keep up the good work in 2021? Why not? Calcaterre continued to be competitive right to the end of the 2020 season, with three runner-up efforts in the autumn, including two such placings within a week in October / November, when he ran second in two valuable handicaps over 1100 metres on the dirt track, beaten by Shantou and Madi Banja.

Calcaterre, who won six times and was voted Handicapper of The Year back in 2017, stays further than pure sprint distances. One of his wins in 2019 came over 1600 metres. This versatility gives him options, which is obviously a big advantage when Annike picks his races. His consistency, on the other hand, means that Calcaterre will hardly ever be leniently treated in handicaps. His current handicap mark is 83kg, just 1kg lower than his end of season mark in 2019 and 3kg lower than his career high. Pretty remarkable for a horse with his sort of mileage on the clock.

Bred by Storfjord Stutteri, Calcaterre is a son of the well bred Juddmonte stallion Camacho out of the Desert Sun mare Chasing The Dream. Chasing The Dream won over 6 furlongs and a mile in Ireland. Her dam, Dream Of Jenny, was a fine broodmare who produced six winners, most notably Jack Dawson, who won 9 times (including twice in smart company over jumps) and Destinys Dream, a winner of 6 races. It's no big surprise to discover that Calcaterre comes from a family of strong and durable performers. With 53 top three finishes from 107 runs, he is a true credit to his trainer.

Annikie Bye Hansen's 2021 team

General de Vega breaking his maiden at Bro Park. Photo: Stefan Uppstroem

General de Vega – lightly raced talent

General de Vega is a lightly raced four-year-old, formerly trained in Sweden, who was sent to Annike Bye Hansen's stable last year. He made just the one start at Øvrevoll, finishing a game third behind Backcountry and Match Maker in the highly competitive New Options Handicap in late July. Eight runners went to post for this turf contest, staged over 1370 metres on soft ground, and General de Vega was a slight favourite, taking a little bit more money than Match Maker, a winner over the same trip on his preceding start. Backcountry beat them both, however, coming home 1 ¼ lengths in front of Match Maker, with General de Vega a length further adrift. London Rock, a winner of four races in 2020, was almost four lengths behind him in fourth place. Backcountry franked the form by beating Dardenne in an Eliteløp two weeks later. The reason for General de Vega's subsequent absence from the races was that he underwent successful surgery to remove a bone chip in August.

Norwegian racing fans have yet to witness the absolute best of General de Vega. He had produced some taking performances previously, winning in a canter at Klampenborg in May after having been placed behind a black type runner at Meydan racecourse in Dubai during the winter.

We might as well deal with the Meydan race first; the Dubai Trophy, a three-year-old conditions contest over 1200 metres on turf. It was won by one of the race favourites, Godolphin's Listed winner Platinum Star, who beat the 66-1 shot Hamama, while General de Vega was third at 14-1, passing the winning post 2 lengths behind the winner. Hamama was the big surprise but it's well worth noting that he ran third in a minor event at Jebel Ali next time out. Unfortunately, General de Vega became very ill afterwards, and he ended up in an equine hospital in Dubai, rather than in another race at Meydan. His previous trainer Lars Kelp later told *galopsport.dk* that General de Vega's illness had in fact been life threatening. His next outing came four months later, a visually impressive performance over 1400 metres at Klampenborg in May, when he beat Billy Byrnes comfortably by 2 ½ lengths.

General de Vega has two wins to date, from just five racecourse appearances. Back in 2019, the well bred son of Lope de Vega gained an easy 5-length win in a maiden race over 1200 metres on dirt at Bro Park, beating Never Think Twice in the style of a really talented runner. Dragonfly finished third on the day, beaten 12 lengths by General de Vega. He has had an interrupted career thus far, but what we have seen from him has mostly been positive, and General de Vega could well be a horse to follow in 2021.

Annike Bye Hansen's 2021 team**I Rest My Case – related to Al Buraq**

I Rest My Case, a juvenile filly by Deceptor out of the Special Quest daughter Sweetie, is bred to be good. Out of a mare that was fast and precocious, I Rest My Case comes from the same family as the highly successful handicapper Al Buraq. It will be interesting to see how she gets on when her racing career gets underway. Her sire Deceptor enjoyed success with a number of good runners, amongst them high earners like Vortex, Working Class Hero and Dickie Dickens.

Deceptor, a beautifully bred Darley product, ran just twice, winning a Doncaster maiden before finishing fifth in Listed company at Newbury – both these outings were made when he was a juvenile. He was a son of top class miler and excellent stallion Machiavellian out of Satin Flower, whose finest moment came with a win against colts in the Jersey Stakes (G3) at Royal Ascot. She went on to be a successful broodmare. Her best son, Lujain, was a top class juvenile who won the Middle Park Stakes (G1).



Deceptor, a beautifully bred Darley product, ran just twice, winning a Doncaster maiden before finishing fifth in Listed company at Newbury – both these outings were made when he was a juvenile. He was a son of top class miler and excellent stallion Machiavellian out of Satin Flower, whose finest moment came with a win against colts in the Jersey Stakes (G3) at Royal Ascot. She went on to be a successful broodmare. Her best son, Lujain, was a top class juvenile who won the Middle Park Stakes (G1).

I Rest My Case's dam Sweetie was a fast and precocious lady who enjoyed a fine career with five wins and 710.794 kroner in total earnings. She was an instant hit in her first season, as she won two of her five races at two, both of them were valuable events. Sweetie made an impressive debut when proving much too good for her 14 rivals in Norsk Rikstots Rekrutteringsløp over 1170 metres on turf. Her lack of experience was no problem and she captured the race easily by 3 lengths, chased home by Fredde and Rock The Boat. Sweetie was made favourite for Skandinavisk Mesterskap for 2-åringer next time out, but she had to settle for fifth place in that event, staged over 1370 metres. Dropped back down to 1170 metres, she regained winning form in Norsk Rikstots Oppdrettsløp, this time securing the prize by the narrowest of margins, getting her nose in front of Daydream Believer. Twelve others were stretched out behind these two rivals. Sweetie's next two wins came on her first two starts as a three-year-old. She beat Rock The Boat in Norsk Rikstots 3-Årsløp over 1100 metres on the dirt track, and followed up with a nice 6-length win in Forsommerløp For 3-Åringer, staged over 1170 metres on turf. Sweet as Candy ran second, while Daydream Believer filled third and Rock The Boat came home in fourth place. It was never going to be easy for Sweetie to follow up on such good results as an older horse but she timed it well when gaining her fifth success. It happened in the Mini Cooper Sprint, a well paid minor event on dirt in Sweden. Out of Vista Hermosa, Sweetie is a half-sister to win machine Al Buraq and Peer Gynt, both handled by Annike.

Annikie Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Madame Krug – bred for speed**

This two-year-old daughter of Intrinsic was purchased at the Tattersalls February Sale in Newmarket. Her sire, a son of top class sprinter Oasis Dream out of Nell Gwyn Stakes winner Infallible, won the Stewards Cup at Glorious Goodwood – one of the most valuable sprint handicaps in England. That was one of Intrinsic's four wins from ten runs. Intrinsic has sired a handful of nice winners, including the speedy duo Intrinsic Bond and Topper Bill, both of whom have won three races and achieved handicap ratings in the mid 90's in England. Intrinsic Bond ran third on his seasonal debut at Redcar this April. Topper Bill is also still in training, having won two good sprint races at Meydan in Dubai early in the year. Madame Krug's dam, Sun'aq, was trained by Sir Mark Prescott in Newmarket. A daughter of Kodiak, she was a very useful handicapper, winning three times and finishing second twice in a nine-race career. Sun'aq began her career perfectly with wins over 6 furlongs at Wolverhampton and Ffos Las in August of her juvenile season. Her third win came over 5 furlongs at Chelmsford the following year. Wolverhampton and Chelmsford both have an all-weather track (artificial surface), while Ffos Las is racing on turf. Interestingly, Sun'aq was favourite for all of her three wins.



Her dam, Zingeeyah (Singspiel) was a maiden but she is well known as the dam of ten-time winner Reckless Lad, who was successful at up to 10.5 furlongs. Nine of his wins were gained on the all-weather circuit. Further down in this pedigree we find a number of black type performers, most notably Shy Lady, a Listed winning mare who produced top class miler Zafeen and other smart performers. Madame Krug's closest relatives' results suggest that she will become a sprinter – though the family has also produced horses with some stamina.

**GALOPPTRENER ANNIKE BYE HANSEN**

Annikie Bye Hansen's 2021 team

Mestre dos Magos with Jan Einar Thorsen, Pascolina Pinto and Isabel Lund. Jockey: Alan Wallace.

Photo: hesteguiden.com

Mestre dos Magos, 54% top three

Mestre dos Magos was a winner also in 2020, having managed three visits to the winners' enclosure back in 2019. Representing Norwegian breeding, this tough and durable son of Academy Award has raced 74 times for 9 wins in his career – a career that will continue in 2021. Like Calcaterre, Mestre dos Magos is a runner that has been able to keep his form well with age. He is nine years old now and, with 909.107 kroner in earnings, Stall Isabel's pride and joy is within reach of becoming a millionaire this season.

He found winning form as early as on May 7 last year, when he gained a solid 2 1/2-length win in Court Circle Løp, a seven-runner contest over 1750 metres on the dirt track. Ridden by Alan Wallace, Mestre dos Magos went off 2-1 favourite and his market rival proved to be his closest rival also out on the course; Kildare, who went on to win Øvrevoll Hesteierforenings Handicap four weeks later, finished second without posing a serious threat, while The Kid was a well beaten third ahead of Erasmus.

Mestre dos Magos did not win again but he finished third in five of his eleven subsequent races in 2020, and it's well worth noting that he ran second Zahara on his seasonal debut. In other words, Mestre dos Magos was in the top three in seven of his 13 races last year, giving him an impressive 54% 'trippel' strike rate). These results spell it out; Mestre dos Magos is a game runner with plenty of appetite for the racing game. His third-placed efforts came behind Anachronist (1600 m / dirt), Two Times (1750 m / dirt), stable companion Mudjima (1750 m / dirt), and twice behind Buckybabe (1600 and 1750 m / dirt).

His three consecutive wins in 2019 came in August / September, when Mestre dos Magos was in excellent form. The win streak was completed as he captured a competitive handicap over 1750 metres on the dirt track. Ridden by Carlos Lopez, he was quite prominent throughout the contest, and he outstayed another prolific winner, Crossroad Blues, to take the race by a length. It was a fine performance, pushing his handicap mark up to 82kg. His career high is 83kg and Mestre dos Magos was dropped a bit by the handicapper towards the end of last season. His current handicap mark is 76kg, 4kg lower than the mark he won off last May.

Annike Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Mudjimba – one explosive performance**

Mudjimba joined Annike's team last summer, after having won one of his four races while trained by Lars Kelp in Sweden, and he revealed his talent when successful at Øvrevoll Galopp in early October. The son of Kodiak captured the Zimoni Handicap by almost seven lengths - while also clocking what appeared to be a very good time for the 1750 metres over the dirt track. Mudjimba looked a progressive type on the day and there's every reason to hope that he can build on this form in 2021 – though he did disappoint next time out, when finishing fourth in similar company over 1600 metres, well beaten by the winner, Buckybabe. We Got the Boss and Mestre dos Magos filled second and third in the same contest. Mudjimba was so much better in his winning race. He broke perfectly, and jockey Maikel Narveaz Bravo sent him straight into a prominent role, chasing habitual front-runner Dickie Dickens. Mudjimba was travelling strongly just off the leader and he swooped past as they negotiated the home turn. Quickening right away, he opened up a clear lead and the result was never in doubt as he powered down the home straight. Mudjimba won by 6 3/4 lengths from Beau Nuage, a contender with good recent form behind winners like We Got The Boss, Our Boy John and Cockney Cracker.

Mudjimba stopped the clocks in 1.50.5, while having more up his sleeve. It's well worth noting that Buffalo Soldier's time as he won over the same trip half an hour later was 1.54.2. The latter was 8kg below Mudjimba on the handicap list prior to this raceday so perhaps one should not read too much into these times. Then again, 3.7 seconds equals about 18-19 lengths, and, whichever way you look at it, Mudjimba has one explosive performance in the book now.

Mudjimba is a half-brother to three winners in England, including the smart filly Lilly Rules, who was second in the Musidora Stakes (G3) at York a few years ago - beaten only by Kirsten Rausing's subsequent Group One winner Madame Chiang.



Mudjimba's impressive win at Øvrevoll last year. Photo: hesteguiden.com

Annikie Bye Hansen's 2021 team

Noosa Prince winning in Sweden. Photo: Stefan Olsson / Svensk Galopp

Noosa Prince – solid and versatile

A son of high profile stallion Kodiak from the family of a Breeders' Cup winner, Noosa Prince has already won six races in his career; four at Bro Park, one at Jägersro and one at Øvrevoll – where he was successful over 1600 metres in 2019. A new member on the team, he will be getting his first runs for Annike this season.

He broke his maiden racing over 1400 metres / dirt at Bro Park as a juvenile back in 2018, when he beat Approach by a neck in what developed into a two horse tussle at the finish. Lana Montana was 3 lengths further back in third place and the seven-runner field was strung out to the tune of almost fifteen lengths. This was Noosa Prince's second outing and he went off favourite. Two third placed efforts and an unplaced run in the valuable Vinterfavoriternas Pris (all on turf), were to follow before he found his way back to the winners' circle once more. It happened when he switched back to the dirt track, and it happened in some style. Noosa Prince was odds-on to beat three rivals over 1600 metres towards the end of the season, so the win was no big surprise, but he could hardly have been more impressive. Ridden by Shane Karlsson, he cruised home by 7 lengths from Romeo Bloom, with We Got the Boss back in third place. It was a nice way to wrap up a juvenile campaign that yielded two wins and two placings from six races.

Noosa Prince continued to do well at three. He beat the well known London Rock (who has 7 wins to date) easily by 3 ½ lengths in a three-year-old contest over 1600 metres / dirt at Jägersro in June 2019, and he was successful over the same distance at Bro Park in September, when he passed the winning post 3 lengths >>>

Annike Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Noosa Prince**

>>> in front of another multiple winner, Bear Wells. A trip to Norway the following month proved lucrative. Noosa Prince lined up for Thon Hotel Oslofjord Sølvdivisjon, a hotly contested race over 1600 metres on turf. Horses that perform well with give underfoot on turf often take to the dirt, and the soft ground on the day probably suited Noosa Prince. His best previous form had come on dirt though he looked every bit as good on the lawn, and ran out a solid winner, beating Pirlo by 2 lengths, with We Got the Boss third home.

That Noosa Prince is efficient over different surfaces and courses was demonstrated once more when he captured a Guldhandicap over 1750 metres over a turf course described as good to firm at Bro Park in August last year. He was a comfortable 5-length winner, giving his runner-up Manassas no chance. Grimeford Lane was third and the Wido Neuroth trained visitor Delacroix filled fourth place. Manassas was coming off a win at the same level and went on to run second at the same level next time out, giving the form quite a strong look.

Although he has not been able to make the grade into stakes company, one has to say that Noosa Prince's record is quite impressive – and his versatility is a big plus. His dam, Something Magic (a daughter of high class dirt performer Proud Citizen), raced ten times without success in England. Her best runs came over 6 and 7 furlongs. Something Magic is a daughter of Comeback Queen, who was a Listed placed mile winner and became a useful broodmare. Her half-brother Donativum won the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf for top UK trainer John Gosden.

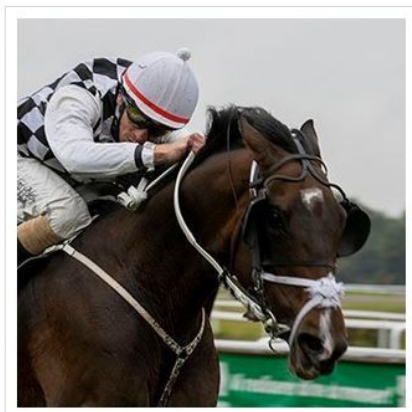


GALOPPTRENER ANNIKE BYE HANSEN

Our Boy John – tough as nails

Our Boy John enjoyed an excellent campaign in 2020, winning three of his twelve races and running placed four times. Having a horse with such consistency and an appetite for the game is any racehorse owner's dream. Our Boy John certainly brought a lot of fun to his connections. His first success of the season was in a handicap over 1600 metres on turf in late July, when he overcame a far from ideal trip to get up for a narrow win over My Cup Of Tea, who beat Sonriente for second place. Stable companion Karen From Finance finished fourth. Just over three weeks later, on Norwegian Derby day, Our Boy John was once more in action over the same course and distance. The task looked quite a bit tougher on paper but he was more than up for it. Earning 51.800 kroner, Our Boy John won the Energima sponsored event by 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths from Sunbreak, with Seraphine third and the race favourite Alsimsaam back in fourth.

Fast forward one month exactly, from Derby day on August 23 to September 23, and we find Our Boy John's third win as a six-year-old, and his eighth in total. Sticking to 1600 metres on the lawn, he beat Ocho Rios by a head. Hope And Glory was three parts of a length behind in third. Our Boy John had finished second to Sonriente on an outing in between these winning runs and he was clearly in great heart at the time. Like for his two previous wins, he was partnered by Jacob Johansen, who gets on well with Troy Durant's fine runner. Our Boy John improved steadily throughout last year. His handicap mark at the end of 2019 was 69kg and he has now been raised all the way up to 79kg. This means a much stiffer starting point as we head into a new season. Then again, Our Boy John is as tough as nails and a horse that takes his racing well.



Our Boy John's three wins in 2020

Photos: Roger Svalsrød / hesteguiden

Annikie Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Possession – potential to improve**

Possession, who moved across to Annike's stable after two runs for Niels Petersen last year, is a lightly raced four-year-old with potential to improve. He has made just four starts to date, all at Øvrevoll in 2020. Possession was third to Raspberry Beret over 1980 metres last July and fifth to Macjack over 1730 metres the following month. Both these races were on turf.

He is a half-brother to Privilegiado, one of the best horses in Scandinavia in recent years. Privilegiado won the Norwegian Triple Crown in 2019, having been one of the best juveniles in Scandinavia the preceding year. He went on to win the Oslo Cup (G3) last season. Privilegiado is a son of Sea The Moon, while Possession is by the more speedy sire Iffraaj.

Iffraaj – who is a son of champion miler Zafonic – was a high class performer who did his best work over 6 and 7 furlongs, the distance he tackled when winning the Lennox Stakes (G2) at Glorious Goodwood and the Park Stakes (G2) at York as a five-year-old. Out of the Nureyev daughter Pastorale, Iffraaj has a world class pedigree and he has been very successful at stud, with Group 1 winners like Ribchester, Wootton Bassett, Rizeena, Chriselliam and Jungle Cat flying his flag.

Possession's dam, Scarlett's Pride, won twice in France and once in Canada. She was successful over 1200 and 1400 metres at home, and she gained black type as runner-up in the Grosser Preis der Sparda Bank Hannover (LR) over 1200 metres in Germany. Scarlett's Pride's win in Canada came over 6.5 furlongs at Woodbine. She is also the dam of Libello (Archipenko), a strong stayer with eight wins to date. This is also the family of Whakilyric, an excellent mare who produced French Derby winner Hernando as well as Johann Quatz.



Possession with Ulrika Holmquist. Photo: hesteguiden.com

Annikе Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Seeyouincourt – from international family of winners**

Seeyouincourt, an unraced three-year-old filly bred by Christer Svanholm AB in Sweden, came to Annike's stable after being bought at the yearling sales at Bro Park in 2019. Seeyouincourt is by Juniper Tree (Galileo) out of the highly successful Fraam daughter Blusher (GB), who won 8 races in England and Sweden. Blusher developed into a serious runner in Scandinavia, blossoming after joining Claes Björling. Blusher began her career in England, where she was trained by Mick Channon and won over 7.5 furlongs at Beverley. That was useful form but Björling improved her no end in Sweden. He made her successful in the Amacitalöpning, Svelanadlöpning and Scania Sprint, and she was also placed 15 times, including when fourth in the Rosengårdlöpning. Her earnings grew to an impressive 750,164 SEK., and Blusher has done well also as a broodmare. She is the dam of the hardy runner Label, a gelded son of Layman who has 7 wins and 30 placings on his cv.

Blusher's dam, Quickstyx (Night Shift), was a winner at three and she enjoyed an incredible run at stud, producing nine winners. Amongst them is Medievel, who won three times and ran second in the Prix Francois Boutin (LR) at Deauville. Another half-brother worth a mention is the Singspiel son Haymarket, who picked up five wins on the flat and also won over hurdles, while Blusher is also a half-sister to the useful mare Hairspray – a winner of four races and better known as the dam of Epsom Icon, who captured the Princess Elizabeth Stakes (G3) at the Epsom Derby meeting. Epsom Icon was also trained by Mick Channon. Digging a bit deeper in this pedigree, it's impossible not to notice the name Red Fort, a very smart performer who was a half-brother to Blusher's second dam. Red Fort won the prestigious Wolferton Stakes (LR) at Royal Ascot as a three-year-old and he was later on placed twice in the Charles Whittingham Memorial Handicap (G1) at Hollywood Park in California. He was also twice runner-up in the Inglewood Handicap (G3).

It is safe to say that Seeyouincourt comes from an international family full of winners, so she has a fair bit to live up to. Bred to possess a mix of speed and stamina, she is a fascinating thoroughbred. Her sire, the fashionably bred Juniper Tree, ran just three times while trained by Ireland's champion handler Aidan O'Brien. He thus never got the chance to give a return on his hefty 950,000 guineas yearling price, but his stallion career in Sweden has shown promise. His daughter Ascot Brass was one of the best juveniles in Scandinavia in 2019, earning 1.2 million kroner in her first season. Juniper Tree has also sired Powerpoint, a mare with five wins and over a million kroner in earnings.



Swedish Dream – keeping top company



Swedish Dream in full control. Photo: hesteguiden.com

Swedish Dream, who won the 2019 edition of Arnfinn Lunds Minneløp (LR), was mixing it with the very best again in 2020, when he produced two excellent performances to be placed behind Kick On; finishing second to him in Marit Sveaas Minneløp (G3) over 1800 metres at Øvrevoll in August, and third to him in Arnfinn Lunds Minneløp (LR), run over 1600 metres in early October. Swedish Dream was the 'forgotten horse' in the 2020 Marit Sveaas Minneløp. Going off at 47-1, he reminded us all of his talent by being beaten just 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths by Kick On, with Square de Luynes 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lengths behind him in third placed and Privilegiado filling fourth spot. These horses are in the absolute elite in Scandinavia. Square de Luynes went on to win his second Stockholm Cup International (G3)

next time out, while Kick On took Arnfinn Lunds Minneløp (LR) by a length from Valence, when Swedish Dream was 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lengths off the winner in third place.

Prior to these big races, Swedish Dream's season had got off to a good start with a win first time out, comfortably beating Backcountry under top weight in a handicap over 1600 metres in late May. Whether to use the word frustrating is appropriate or not, it does feel a bit that way to see such a classy horse finishing second or third in four of his seven runs during a campaign. Swedish Dream keeps himself in very good company, however, and he keeps on proving that he belongs in the most valuable events. His 2019 season yielded three wins from eight starts, with the 'Arnfinn Lund' success as the highlight. He blew any chance by getting upset in the preliminaries for the Marit Sveaas that year, but came back to reverse the form with top rivals in the Listed contest; beating Buddy Bob (who had filled second in the Sveaas), with Victor Kalejs third and Learn By Heart fourth. The latter had previously captured the Stockholm Stora Pris (G3), a race Swedish Dream finished fourth in.

This son of Helmet has compiled a really solid record and let's hope there's big win in him this season. Swedish Dream's dam, the Giant's Causeway daughter Demeanour, won Jockeyklubbens Avelsloepning (LR) and two other races in Sweden. She is also the dam of the good filly Moravia (Siyouni), a G3-placed winner in Ireland. Looking further back in this family, it's interesting to note that Swedish Dream's third dam, the famous Dark Lomond, an Irish St. Leger (G1) winner trained by the legendary Vincent O'Brien.

Demeanour has two representative in Norway these days. Her promising three-year-old son My French Dream (Myboycharlie) is in training with Are Hyldmo. My French Dream was a good second on his third and final start as a juvenile. While he will be going for a maiden win as his next step forward, Swedish Dream will be embarking on a new season with handicap 91 and just over 1.1 million kroner in total earnings. His handicap mark is just 1kg lower than his career high. So obviously he must continue to compete with the best – as we know he can.

Annikie Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Takeko – interesting young filly**

Annikie secured an interesting young filly at the 2020 Tattersalls December Sales as her agent Walter Buick got the final bid for Takeko on behalf of a racing partnership. Takeko, formerly trained by Henry de Bromhead in Ireland, she is a maiden but she has good form in the book - something her Irish handicap mark of 80 confirms. She ran third in maiden races over 6 furlongs at The Curragh and Dundalk. Her good run at The Curragh came in June, while the Dundalk performance happened in October. Takeko has run well when sent to the lead and when held up, and she seems versatile. A well bred daughter of Mehmas, she is out of Ahd (Elusive Quality) - an unraced mare that has also produced Hot Team (Zoffany), a smart gelding whose finest hour came when he captured the one-mile Grand Criterium de Bordreaux (LR) as a juvenile. He had previously won a 7-furlong Novice Stakes at Newbury. Takeko's second dam, Abby Boad (Danehill), was a fast 2yo filly for trainer Brian Meehan. Ridden by Frankie Dettori, Abby Road won the St. Hugh's Stakes (LR) at Newbury.

This is a family with a fair bit of speed, but it is also the family of Ballagh Rocks, a Grade 3 winning miler for top trainer Bill Mott in the USA. Ballagh Rocks has also finished second in the Maker's Mark Mile (G1) at Keeneland and third in the Fourstardave (G1) at Saratoga. He is still in training. With good results and a decent pedigree, it's reasonable to assume that Takeko will make her mark this year. She must be one of the best maidens in Scandinavia.

Annikе Bye Hansen's 2021 team**Tambora Queen – untapped potential**

A half-sister to Nathless, a winning miler who ran third in the Norwegian 2,000 Guineas, Tambora Queen raced three times as a juvenile last year, when she was trained by Tina Smith. All of her races came on turf, while she shortened up in distance each time. After a third behind Zeraphine and Ravallac over 1370 metres in July, Tambora Queen ran fourth to Zeraphine in the prestigious Eivind Eckbo Legats Vandrepokal over 1170 metres the following month. Likeable performers No Lie and Yellow Submarine filled second and third that day. Tambora Queen's final outing at two, a maiden event over 900 metres, saw her taking fourth place behind Noble Justice, who passed the winning post three lengths in front of her. Given her breeding, it was quite interesting that she displayed sufficient speed to be competitive over such a short distance. While Nathless is a son of top class middle distance performer Nathaniel, Tambora Queen is by Outstrip, who won the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1) over a sharp mile at Santa Anita Park.

Tambora Queen's dam, Dudley Queen (Excellent Art), never raced. She is well related though, being a sister to Lucy The Painter, a Listed placed winner of five races, and a half-sister to Harvest Queen (Spinning World), who won two Listed event and became the dam of Helene Happy Star, a high class performer in Hong Kong after being exported from England. Further down the page of this family we find the third dam Queen Helen, a Listed winner who was placed both in the Sun Chariot Stakes (G2) at Newmarket (now a G1 event) and the St. Simon Stakes (G3) at Newbury. Queen Helen was a half-sister to the top class stayer Sought Out, a mare that is best known as the dam of Epsom Derby (G1) winner North Light and Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud (G1) winner Gamut. This is an excellent family. It has also produced top class performers like Golan and Tartan Bearer.



Tambora Queen's sire **Outstrip** winning the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. Photo: Breeders' Cup Inc.

Annikie Bye Hansens's 2021 team

We Got The Boss winning last June. Photo: hesteguiden.com

We Got The Boss – keeps on delivering

We Got The Boss won twice at Øvrevoll in 2019 and he repeated the feat in 2020. Keeping busy through the season, he raced 12 times, won two races, finished runner-up four times and ran third once. This is the sort of consistency everyone connected with thoroughbred racehorses hope to experience. Every time We Got The Boss went to post one could expect a good effort. His first win of the season came when Ulrika Holmquist – who rode him to victory also in 2019 – guided We Got The Boss to a solid half-length win in a good handicap contest over 1600 metres / turf in June. Cockney Cracker, a winner on his subsequent outing, chased him home, while future stakes winner Match Maker finished third.

Match Maker gained revenge when meeting We Got The Boss again over 1370 metres over the same course a week and a half later. We Got The Boss ran another sound race though, to be beaten just 1 ½ lengths. Ulrika Holmquist was again in the saddle, as she was when We Got The Boss was ready for another visit to the winners' circle next time out. He was being stretched successfully out to 1800 metres, a distance that poses quite a test of stamina at Øvrevoll. Sent straight to the lead, the son of Street Boss was always travelling sweetly while controlling the pace, and he finished the race off in style to win by 1 ¾ lengths from C'est la Vie. It's quite unusual to see a horse going from a strong performance in a sprint to winning over this distance, and We Got The Boss is clearly versatile. Annike decided to try him over 2160 metres two weeks later but he had to settle for fifth place that day, passing the winning post five lengths behind the high class winner Master Bloom. >>>

Annikie Bye Hansens's 2021 team

>>> We Got The Boss came home in fifth place also on his subsequent start, before running four honest efforts in defeat in the autumn. He was third behind Valence and **Swedish Dream** in an Elitehandicap over 1600 metres on turf, then checked in second three times on the trot; half a length behind Wishformore over the same trip, a neck behind Sir Leo when dropped back down to 1370 metres on the turf, and finally he was second to Buckybabe over 1600 metres on the dirt track in late October, beaten a little over two lengths as the pair drew way clear of the rest of the field. We Got The Boss thus achieved these results in 2020: 574121553222.

He has certainly been a good friend of everyone who likes to get involved in 'Trippel' betting at Øvrevoll, and that was the case also back in 2019. His two wins that year were gained on Derby day in August, when he captured the valuable Nordpool Spa Handicap over 1600 metres / turf (beating Good Eye comfortably by 3 ¼ lengths), and in September, when he tackled the same distance again to beat Rue d'Argent by 2 lengths.

Reading this on your PC, laptop, ipad or phone? Then you can click on the image below to visit our Horses In Training page on the website and get more info on each horse, such as their breeders, pedigrees, links to sires and dams and other relatives etc.



Annikе Bye Hansens's 2021 team

Annikе with Captain America

Annikе Bye Hansen

Annikе comes from a racing family. Her father Ingvar and her uncle Herluf were both highly successful trainers at Øvrevoll. Annikе, who has also partnered winners as an amateur rider, took out her license in 1996, and she has been based at Skoganstallen since 2012.

"I prefer to work with a relatively small team of good quality horses", she says, "as I like to be hands on, working hard to get the very best out of each individual. I'm lucky to have excellent staff, and I am pleased to say that we are all thriving here, two legged team members as well as those on four legs are enjoying their work - which is crucial to achieve good results."

Annikе won Norsk 1000 Guineas 2019 with the filly Unwanted Beauty, a smart performer bought cheaply at the Tattersalls sales in Newmarket.

Annikе was runner-up in the trainers' championship in 2017, beaten only by Niels Petersen, who had three times as many horses in his care. This championship is decided in terms of prize money.

Annikе selected Ragazzo for just 75,000 kroner as a yearling, and developed him into a true champion who won 2.5 million kroner for his owners, Jan Andersen, Marina Lie and Ida Large.

Annikе trained "Handicapper of The Year" in 2017, Calcaterre, a winner of six races that season, and the stable's top sprinter Captain America has captured the Bro Park Vårsprint (LR) twice (2017 and 2019). He was voted "Sprinter of The Year in 2019", while the win machine Al Buraq took the title as "Handicapper of The Year".