

SAROA NEWS

All the latest news from the South Australian
Racehorse Association

Richard Stafford - SAROA secretary reports

OWNER OF THE MONTH



Viddora

We had several nominations for Owner of the Month for July but finally settled on Jennifer Simpson, part owner of the promising filly Viddora.

Jennifer was nominated by Cheree Gask and Jen has provided us with the following details about Viddora.

Viddora was purchased in 2014 from the Adelaide Magic Million Sales by Lloyd Kennewell for \$40,000. She was originally purchased for our girls syndicate, but due to not enough interest at the time from the girls, she became available for the boys (I bet the girls are all kicking themselves that they didn't buy in). I still remember getting my photo with her just after she was purchased and thinking she was going to be something special.

She is by I am Invincible out of Snow

Flight. Viddora was bred by part owner Dr Terry Hodgson, and he also owns the dam Snow Flight.

We were unlucky at the beginning as she had breathing problems, the poor thing would hold her breath for the entire 1000m, and still do a great job! We sent her to Ballarat to have throat surgery and that has since helped her breathing. She has now won 5 metro races including a listed win (in the Lightning Stakes at Morphettville).

She was unlucky last start in the Listed Norman Carlyon race at Moonee Valley as she simply didn't handle the tight turn, but still powered home to nearly grab the winner - an impressive horse called Heatherly.

Viddora has also been unlucky in

some of her other starts, but she always tries her best. She is extremely tough, showing us she can handle all sorts of tracks and can win from outside barriers.

I named her - Viddora which in Spanish means - good life, easy life.... the funny thing is, I accidentally spelt it wrong when I sent it through to Lloyd! It's meant to be spelt Vidorra. Being an educator they have not let me live it down! We think now the misspelling has turned out to be lucky!

Viddora is an absolutely beautiful natured horse, loves a pat and a cuddle but when she's on the track she is the complete professional. One of the best things about part owning her is the lifelong friendships that have formed with the other owners. We have wonderful people from SA and Melbourne in the horse who love a drink and social day at the races as much as I do!

We leave everything up to Lloyd with her training and racing plan. He does a wonderful job with her, knows exactly what to do and where to place her. The Kennewell stable has a real social vibe, it's more than simply owning a horse - we have many get-togethers and are treated as family, rather than clients. We always know that our (the owners) best interests are always put first.

We are also blessed that my husband to be Joe Bowditch is her jockey! He knows her inside out and we always have so much confidence when he's on her back. He wasn't able to ride her

**OWNER OF
THE MONTH**

**JULY
WINNER:
JENNIFER SIMPSON**

**OWNER OF
VIDDORA**

on 2 occasions due to injury (one missing a black type win when she was ridden by Matthew Neilson) while apprentice Zac Spain has also won on her at Oakbank.

She has won us \$246,300 with \$58,500 of that being in SABOIS bonuses.

Viddora has also been named the 3 year old SABOIS Horse of the Year.

The fact that Viddora has won over fifty thousand dollars in SABOIS bonuses really demonstrates the value of this scheme to those of us prepared to support South Australian bred horses.

Viddora's sire I Am Invincible needs little introduction as the sire of 14 stakes winners of 21 stakes races after a successful race career winning to Group 3 level. His best progeny to date being the multiple Group 1 winner and Royal Ascot placed Brazen Beau. I Am Invincible is of course by Invincible Spirit who is also the sire of Zebedee, already a great success in the northern hemisphere and now with the first foals of his initial Australian crop on the ground at Cornerstone Stud where he has returned for his second season in Australia.

Snow Flight, the dam of Viddora is by the Zabeel stallion Colombia out of Zed Du Jour, a Zedative mare. Viddora is her second foal and so far her best. Colombia, the dam sire, is out of the amazing blue hen Eight Carat who has left 5 stakes winners of a massive 28 stakes races. She is of course the dam of the mighty Octagonal.

Jennifer Simpson owns shares in several other horses, some with her "girls syndicate" and has recently joined the committee of SAROA. We wish Jennifer further success with Viddora and with her other racing projects.

ANOTHER HORSE STORY

From time to time I receive emails or letters from people associated with this industry wanting to talk about their horses. I often like to share these stories as they can give a better perspective of the ups and downs of

horse racing. We recently received this email from trainer Leah Conlon and we pass it on to you.

"Hi Richard, I would like to share a story about my owner Mark Minuzzo.

4 years ago we purchased, from the Adelaide Magic Millions Sale, a filly by Court Command who now races as Just Demanding for \$1,000. She is a touch unsound but to date has given us a pretty good ride with a lot of placings.

After this purchase Mark saw her mum for sale, All Force (Fusaichi Pegasus) in foal to Keano and he ended up paying only \$1,100. Along came a little colt who at his second start won his first race by two lengths at Gawler, his name is Vieira and he is SABOIS qualified.

It was a great thrill for all involved, the other owners are neighbours and customers of Mark at the butcher shop he works in. Some of these owners have never raced a horse before but Mark and his brothers were involved in racing a long time ago through their uncle and father, they have kept their dad's colours (orange with black sleeves and a black cap) registered and Vieira carries them.

Mark has also since bred an Ambidexter filly out of All Force who has just turned two, unfortunately a few weeks ago we lost All Force due to a horrific paddock injury so the intention is to breed from Just Demanding when her racing career is over." Leah Conlon

At the time of writing Vieira was headed for the Listed Morphettville Guineas so we wish the connections the best of luck with him.

Vieira's sire Keano is by Pins and stood three seasons in Australia where he was only lightly used before being exported to New Zealand in 2015.

OWNER OF THE MONTH

Owner of the month nominations can be made by email or letter or even by a phone call to me; nominations should be received by 10th day of the following month. Nominations can come from the owner or a friend, acquaintance or family member but the nominee must be a SAROA member. We also prefer that the application is combined with a good story about the horse involved, as this award is just as applicable to lowly maiden winners as it is to winners of feature races.

Our committee review all nominations then select the monthly winner, who will receive a \$100 voucher, kindly donated by SAROA members Jenny and Wayne Francis to be used at any of the Francis group of hotels – namely the Elephant and Castle, The Port Noarlunga, the OG and the German Arms hotels.

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