

## **Easter Man, Quick Sand AA Photo Finish in Grade 1 Sheikh Zayed Cup in Houston**

**4 March 2018, Houston, USA ~ The Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan 100 years Cup Grade 1 race at the Sam Houston Racing Park on Saturday, March 3, 2018 will be one to remember.**

In the **Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan 100 years Cup Grade 1**, carrying a prize fund of \$48,500 and run over a distance of seven furlongs, the race ended in a photo finish and even the photo could not separate stablemates **Easter Man under Rodolfo Guerra** and **Quick Sand AA under Quincy Hamilton**. The result was equally memorable for trainer **Jerenesto Torrez** and owners Joseph and Betty Gillis as Easter Man and Quick Sand AA are trained and owned by them respectively while the horse chasing the duo home - **RB Nash under Keiber Coa- is also handled by Torrez**.

After the start **Quick Sand AA** was caught in early traffic even as **RB Nash** and **Easter Man** battled each other further forward. With about a quarter of a mile to go, Easter Man under Guerra looked to hold the edge with RB Nash under Coa in pursuit. Then Quick Sand AA under Hamilton came with a terrific run on the outside and caught Easter Man on the line. The photo-finish declared it as a dead heat between Eastern Man and Quick Sand AA while in third was RB Nash, completing a top three finish for trainer Torrez.

### **Sweden's Henriksson wins HH Sheikha Fatima Ladies Race**

Earlier in the **HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies World Championship** race, it was an easy win for **Uptown Sandy Girl** under **Sweden's Tina Henriksson** with **RB Kinkie Boots under Dutch jockey Cindy Klinkenberg** and **Pams Masquerade under UK's Antonia Peck** finishing in that order.

After her comfortable win, the **jockey Henriksson** said, "*This is like a dream come true, winning the HH Sheikha Fatima Ladies race. I am very excited and looking forward to participate in the final of the world championship to be held in November.*"

**HE Saeed Mubarak Al Muhairi**, Consul of the United Arab Emirates in Houston, **Ms. Lara Sawaya**, Executive Director of the HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival, General Manager of Wathba Stallions, Chairperson of the International Federation of Horse Racing Academies (IFHRA), Chairperson of Ladies & Apprentice Racing Committees in the International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities (IFAHR) and *Dr. Abdulla Al Raisi*, Director General of National Archives gave away the trophies to the winning connections of the two races.

**Ms. Sawaya** said, *“This year the Festival is not only marking its 10th year but we are celebrating the Festival in the 100th year since the birth of Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, who was a passionate supporter of Purebred Arabian racing.”*

*“We will be back in the US for the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak International Awards and the US Darley Awards that will be held on 6 April 2018 at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. This will be followed by the third running of the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Darley Award Stakes- a US\$100,000 Grade 1 Event at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California on 7 April,”* Ms. Sawaya continued.

The HH Sheikh Mansoor Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Global Arabian Horse Flat Racing Festival is sustained by the Abu Dhabi Tourism and Culture Authority and coordinated by Abu Dhabi Sports Council, with National Feed and Flour Production and Marketing Co. LLC as associate sponsors, The National Archives as the official partner and Emirates airline as the official carriers, Al Massood Automobiles and Nissan Middle East as official car partners, in cooperation with Emirates Racing Authority, IFAHR, Emirates Arabian Horse Society, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Abu Dhabi Youth Council, General Authority for Sports and sponsored by Ayadi LLC, Global United Veterinary Services LLC, Nirvana Travels and Tourism LLC, Wathba Stallions, Abu Dhabi Falconers Club, Emirates Falconers Club, Mohamed Bin Zayed Falconry and Desert Physiognomy School, Al Awani General Enterprises, Kabale, Omeir Travels, YAS Channel, Racing Post, Paris Turf, Al Wathba Centre, the UAE's General Women's Union, The Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood, the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies Sports Academy, Abu Dhabi International Hunting and Equestrian Exhibition 2018, Abu Dhabi Equestrian Club, Eastern Mangroves Suites-Abu Dhabi by Jannah, Anantara Eastern Mangroves Spa and Resort.

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