

## Umm Qarn's TM Thunder Struck wins Qatar National Day Cup & Trophy

**16 December 2017, Doha, Qatar ~ After having settled for a runner-up finish twice this season, Umm Qarn's TM Thunder Struck (Majd al Arab x Bonnett) snatched a victory in the 2000m turf feature on Saturday. The Alban E de Mieulle ward had won this race in 2015 while he was fourth in the last year's edition.**

However, on Saturday, 16 December 2017, **Jean Baptiste Hamel** put the 7yo's turn of foot to good use moving from back of the pack to challenge H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **Reda** (Burning Sand x Ba'scherit) up front on the home stretch. In the last 100m, **TM Thunder Struck** had a slight advantage in the duel and held on as Theo Bachelot's **Reda** finished second. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **Mahess Du Soleil** (Dahess x Dormah De Brugere) was third under Carlo Fiocchi.

### LOCAL PUREBRED ARABIAN CONDITIONS

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's **She'ris** (Mared Al Sahra x Kerbelle Du Loup) had been on an upward swing this season, which he continued with when Theo Bachelot did well to guide the 5yo to a thrilling victory on Saturday. Early on in the seven-furlong run, Julian Colin Smart's charge stayed midfield on the rails. Half a furlong out, as the Jassim Mohammed Ghazali Jahromi-schooled **Rassan** (Amer x Sandytiki) held a slight advantage under Harry Bentley, Bachelot got his mount moving just at the right time and the 5yo surged forward on the inside to win by a head. Al Jeryan Stud's **AJS Intifadah** (AF Albahar x Karreema) was third under Faleh Bughanaim.

### PUREBRED ARABIAN HANDICAP (95 and Below)

Trainer Hossin Mohammad Ashour celebrated his second straight win on the day when Nasser Abdulla Al Attiyah's **AL Mirzem** (Af Albahar x Zeralda Josniere) won handsomely in the miler. Al Shahania Stud's **Zahwah** (Amer x Djamour Des Forges) had set the pace early on under Theo Bachelot with the Marvin Suerland-helmed **AL Mirzem** not too far behind. Coming on the home stretch, **AL Mirzem** picked up the pace and created a healthy gap, which proved too much for his rivals to overcome. The 6yo won by a little under four lengths with the Mohamed Rashid Saif Al Kuwari-trained and Saleem Golam-ridden **Yatzakhan** (Mared Al Sahra x Cantal Du Brieu) edging out Julian Colin Smart's ward, **Zahwah**, for the second spot.

### PUREBRED ARABIAN MAIDEN PLATE (4 YEAR OLDS)

Al Shaqab Racing's **AL Mouzhaer** (General x Al Zahrah) made a winning Qatar debut winning

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the mile long opener on Saturday. Ridden by talented Qatari jockey Faleh Bughanaim for trainer Hossin Mohammad Ashour, the 4yo, recruited from France, finished a length ahead of the Alban de Mieulle-trained **Diese** (General x Divana) to shed his maiden status. Diese, ridden by Jean Baptiste Hamel in the colours of Olivier Materne, finished ahead of the Theo Bachelot-ridden **Deebaj** (Amer x Obe De Ghazal), having raced to his best finish yet in Qatar, for Julian Colin Smart.

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