



For immediate release

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Europe's newest racecourse opens in Stockholm

Bro Park in Stockholm, Europe's newest racecourse, officially opens on Sunday, 19th June with a high-quality program featuring the Swedish 2,000 and 1,000 Guineas and an all-female international jockeys' challenge.

The state-of-the-art facility owned by the Swedish Racing Association will stage racing on turf and dirt, and replaces Taby Racecourse as the home of racing in the Swedish capital.

Bo Gillborg Director of Planning and Development said, "The price of land in the region has rocketed and Taby Racecourse was rapidly becoming a 'goldmine'. The facilities were in need of major renovation and it was obvious that the best value option was to realise the capital from the land and build a brand new facility from scratch.

"We were delighted to be able to negotiate a very advantageous deal with the new owners who include Skanska, the multi-national construction company, which could be worth more than €240 million to racing over the next 20 years.

"We are working with the local community in Bro who are very keen to establish an 'equine community' and encourage related businesses to the area."

The new Racecourse is located in Bro which is approximately 30-40 minutes from the centre of Stockholm by car and a similar distance from Arlanda Airport, with public transport links on a par with Taby. In the autumn, Bro Park will play host to Scandinavia's most important fixture the three-day Swedish Festival of Racing which begins on Friday, 9th September.

The racing surfaces

Bro Park has an impressive 2100m turf course and a 1900m dirt track on the inside. There are chutes on the turf course to optimise variety in distances. The course has been designed as a fair galloping track with the turf course, where the majority of the major races will be run, closest to the viewing public.

The course is 30 meters wide and has very level surface which enables the rails to be moved easily and effectively provides the option to create three 'different tracks'. Separate courses for steeplechase and hurdling are planned on the inside of the flat courses.

Technology and innovation

High quality floodlighting has been installed which will enable evening racing on the both the turf course and the dirt track all year round. Digital cameras and broadcast equipment will ensure the best possible racegoer experience. ATG, the Swedish equivalent to PMU, is working closely with the management to guarantee first class betting opportunities.

The main stand is an attractive high-quality construction which blends modern and classical design to create a welcoming atmosphere while retaining an air of exclusivity. Designed to cater for an average raceday attendance comfortably the facility will be supplemented on Premium days with the installation of marquees and temporary structures.

Stabling and training at Bro Park

Bro Park covers an area of approximately 500 acres and has permanent stabling and training facilities for 300 horses with the capacity to accommodate a further 100 on racedays.

The facilities have been designed in consultation with a team of vets and racing experts to create the best possible environment for the horses and the people working with them. Training tracks are currently under construction and the site provides scope for further innovation and development.

Opening day feature races

The Group 3 Stockholms Stora Pris, Zawawi Bro Park Varsprint (Listed), Bloomers' Vase (Listed), Swedish 2,000 Guineas and the Swedish 1,000 Guineas highlight the opening day, and are supported by four races, two each on turf and dirt over distances ranging from 1200m to 2200m, which will comprise the female jockeys' challenge.

Prize money for feature events

Stockholm Stora Pris Turf (Gr 3) 1800m	- 1 200 000 SEK (<u>€129,226</u>)
Zawawi Bro Park Varsprint Turf (L) 1200m	- 400 000 SEK (<u>€43,075</u>)
Bloomers Vase Turf (L) 1600m	- 500 000 SEK (<u>€53,845</u>)
Swedish 1000 GNS Turf 1600m	- 800 000 SEK (<u>€86,150</u>)
Swedish 2000 GNS Turf 1600m	- 600 000 SEK (<u>€64,613</u>)

ENDS.

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