



LADY JOCKEYS' THOROUGHBRED WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Bro Park – Tuesday, 4 July 2017

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The Venue

Bro Park

Bro Park, Europe's newest racecourse, officially opened on 16 June, 2016 with a day featuring international competition. In the twelve months since, 42 race meetings staged on both turf and dirt have been held at the state-of-the-art-facility that is owned by the Swedish Racing Association and replaced Taby Racecourse as the home of racing in the Swedish capital.

The 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.

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 a 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 race days.

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.



The Jockeys

Each of the nine jockeys has been selected for their talent in the saddle and international profile.

Sammy Jo Bell (UK)
Ka Kei Chiong (Hong Kong)
Maryline Eon (France)
Stefanie Hofer (Germany)
Danielle Johnson (New Zealand)
Ana O'Brien (Ireland)
Fanny Olsson (Sweden)
Sara Slot (Denmark)
Hayley Turner OBE (UK)

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Sammy Jo Bell

Age: 26

Nationality: Northern Irish

Number of rides: 649

Career wins: 70

Total UK prize money won: £629,841 (€714,778)

Lowest riding weight: 51 kg



Sammy Jo Bell was raised in Ballyclare, County Antrim. Working with trainers Jim Bolger and Kevin Prendergast early in her career, she was clearly set for success when riding her first win on Prendergast-trained Celtic Dane in only her third race.

Bell rode 10 winners in Ireland before moving to the UK at the start of 2013 to ride for North Yorkshire trainer Richard Fahey, riding her first winner in Britain aboard Shot In The Sun at Beverley on July 6th 2013.

After a successful start to the season in 2015, she was drafted in as a late replacement for the injured Cathy Cannon in the Dubai Duty Free Shergar Cup - the International Jockeys competition at Ascot Racecourse in which she rode two winners, helping secure The Girls team their first victory and in doing so won The Silver Saddle, an award presented to the leading rider at the meeting.

After riding 28 winners during her breakthrough 2015 season, her 2016 campaign ended prematurely after she was thrown and rolled on by a horse in a horrific incident at Carlisle.

After a long rehabilitation, she has started where she left off and has been back in the winner's enclosure on a number of occasions already in 2017.



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Kei Chiong

Age: 24

Nationality: Chinese (Hong Kong)

Number of rides: 1149

Career Wins: 111

Total prize money: HK\$5,902,693 (€677,619.50)

Most important win: 2015/16 Tony Cruz Award, presented to the season's most successful rider; 2015/16 Most Popular Jockey award

Lowest riding weight: 49 kg

Kei Chiong was indentured as an apprentice jockey in 2012, and has already gained international experience, working in New Zealand with Matamata trainer Graham Richardson and Plymouth handler Allan Sharrock. At the end of her time in New Zealand she had a 44 wins from 453 rides.

Chiong was apprenticed to trainer Francis Lui at the start of the 2015/16 season in Hong Kong, making her the first female apprentice jockey to be licensed in Hong Kong since the retirement of Carol Yu in May, 2000. Her first win in Hong Kong came atop the Me Tsui-trained Hearts Keeper on 10 October, 2015.

At Sha Tin on 10 April 2016 she became the first female jockey to ride a four-timer in Hong Kong.



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Maryline Eon

Age: 22

Nationality: French

Number of rides: 801

Winners: 108

Total prize money won: €1,213,178

Most important wins: Her win on Yellow Storm that gave her the opportunity to ride in the Prix de Diane.

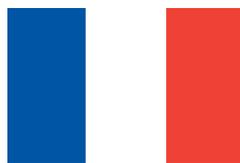
Lowest riding weight: 53 kg



Photo credit: Scoopdyga

Maryline Eon joined French trainer Serge Foucher, the man responsible for jump legend Kauto Star's early career, as an apprentice at the age of 16 in 2011 and had her first win in March 2012 aboard Ridge Opal. Now attached to the stable of former Andre Fabre assistant, Alain Couétil, at his base in Senonnes, in the north west of the country, Eon has notched up 21 jump and 14 flat race victories and remains licenced under both codes.

Eon is current holder of the women's Cravache d'Or, the award presented to the leading apprentice in France, and entered the history books recently by becoming the first female to ride in the Group 1 Prix de Diane at Chantilly in June when she finished outsider Yellow Storm in the French Classic.



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Stefanie Hofer

Age: 29

Nationality: German

Rides: 3785

Career Wins: 412

Total prize money won: € 3,027,176

Most important win: Smooth Operator in the Silberne Peitsche (Gr.3) in Munich

Lowest riding weight: 55kg



Stefanie Hofer was born into racing, her father being the successful German trainer Mario Hofer. She started her career as an amateur rider and won the championship for amateurs in Germany in both 2005 and 2007, before going on to win three apprentice championships.

Throughout her career, Hofer has been the leading female rider in Germany, and was the first female to win a Group race in her country when in 2012 she rode Smooth Operator in the Silberne Peitsche (Gr.3) in Munich, a horse who she also rode to Listed victory in the Mercedes Benz-Sprinterpreis in Baden-Baden.

In 2011 Hofer became only the second woman to ride in the German Derby, steering Andreas Wöhler-trained 100-1 shot Mi Senior to 12th place. Hofer then went on to ride for the Girls Team in the 2014 Shergar Cup, in which Hofer then in 2014 went on to secure herself a spot in the Girls team at the Shergar Cup, in which the Girls team finished in second place.

Hofer has, despite her young age, a huge amount of experience and comes to the Lady Jockey's Thoroughbred World Championship in excellent form and has already had success in Sweden, winning a leg in the HH Sheikha Fatima Bint Mubarak Ladies IFAHR Cup when she was last here.



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Danielle Johnson

Age: 26

Nationality: New Zealand

Number of rides: 6330

Winners: 699

Total prize money won: NZ\$ 12,000,000 (€7,795,000)

Most important wins: The 2016 Karaka Million

Lowest riding weight: 50 kg



Despite her young age Danielle Johnson is a highly experienced jockey. She smashed all records as an apprentice and became one of the few apprentice jockeys in New Zealand to ride more than 200 winners before riding out her claim. With four Group One victories and 46 wins in Group and Listed races, she is looking to add 'Lady Jockey Thoroughbred World Champion' to her list of accolades that include being the first female jockey to win New Zealand's richest race, the Karaka Million.

Johnson rides for one of New Zealand's top trainers, Stephen Marsh, who has been a keen supporter of her career so far. Johnson has ridden in Australia and Singapore, and visited Sweden last year for the team event at Bro Park's opening day in 2016.



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Ana O'Brien

Age: 21

Nationality: Irish

Number of rides: 739

Winners: 61

Total prize money won: €840,061

Most important wins: Stanerra Stakes (L) with Joseph O'Brien trained Arya Tara.

Lowest riding weight: 55 kg



Ana O'Brien was only 16 years old when she rode her first winner at Dundalk on Fairylike, a horse trained by the leading trainer and Ana's father, Aiden O'Brien. Since then O'Brien has gone on to win her first Listed race on Arya Tara in the Stanerra Stakes (L), trained by her brother the two-time Irish Champion Jockey, Joseph O'Brien. O'Brien was also the first female jockey to ride in the Darley Irish Oaks when she finished fourth on Beyond Brilliance.

She was only the third female jockey to ride in the Epsom Derby last month, when finishing unplaced on The Anvil. More recently O'Brien was also in action at Royal Ascot, riding Asking to 6th place in the Sandringham Handicap.

O'Brien had her first international victory at Bro Park on its opening day last year, with a hard-won race on Wido Neuroth-trained Hi Finn, a feat she will be looking to replicate when she returns to Bro Park this year.



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Fanny Olsson

Age: 23

Nationality: Swedish

Number of rides: 888

Career Wins: 66

Total prize money won: SEK 5,239,903 (€537,709)

Most important win: The Wathba Stud Farm Cup (Gr.3 PA)

Lowest riding weight: 53

Fanny Olsson is one of the many young talented Swedish female riders who started their careers in the pony races. Winning her first ride as an amateur, first ride as an apprentice and her first ride as a jockey Olsson has gone from strength to strength. Working with the Swedish jockey coach Fredrik Johansson to improve, Olsson has gone on to win her first Arabian Group 3 race, riding Mad Makz to a tight finish in the Wathba Stud Farm Cup (Gr. 3).

Olsson was part of the victorious Swedish team on the opening day of Bro Park last year, competing against Chantal Sutherland, Ana O'Brien, Josephine Gordon, Danielle Johnson and Maija Vance – many of whom will be riding against her for the title of world champion.



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Sara Slot

Age: 39

Nationality: Danish

Rides: 2193

Career Wins: 241

Prize money: DKK 10,676,000 (€1,435,754)

Most important win: Scandinavian Open Championship (Gr.3) with Halfsong

Lowest riding weight: 55 kg



Sara Slot began her racing career in 1998 as an apprentice with leading trainer Flemming Poulsen, when the stable had the Danish globetrotter Dano-Mast who finished third in the Hong Kong Cup (Gr.1) 2002. Slot won eight races in 1999, but gained considerable momentum in 2000 with a massive 58 winners, enough to score fourth place in the Scandinavian Jockeys Championship.

Slot has been an eager traveler all her career and has spent winters in Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom and USA. She has ridden in seven countries outside Scandinavia and rode in a female jockeys challenge in Chile where she was victorious in one of the races.

Slot was the first Danish female rider to win a Group race, when she won Denmark's most prestigious event, The Scandinavian Open Championship (Gr.3), aboard the high-class mare Halfsong on whom she also rode two listed winners.

Sara is no stranger to event patron Benny Andersson for whom she has ridden a number of times, including winning the Breeders Cup Trial at Klampenborg aboard Anderssons high profile mare Vigelegere, who has gone on to a successful breeding career.



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Hayley Turner OBE

Age: 34

Nationality: British

Number of rides: 7935

Career Wins: 767

Total prize money won: £3,922,546 (€4,467,779)

Most important win: The Darley July Cup (Gr. 1)

Lowest riding weight:

Born in Nottingham, England, Hayley Turner is the most successful female jockey in British racing history. She was the first woman to be crowned champion apprentice when riding 44 winners in the 2005 Flat (turf) season, sharing the title with Saleem Golam. Turner's success that year led to her being awarded a Lester for apprentice jockey of the year, the first woman to ever be given that accolade. In 2008 she became the first female jockey to partner 100 winners in a calendar year, and in 2016 was awarded an OBE in The Queen's birthday honours list.

Turner was also the first outright female Group One winner when in 2011 she rode Dream Ahead to victory in the Darley July Cup at Newmarket. Success followed success as she went on to ride Margot Did in the Coolmore Nunthorpe Stakes at York, before her first international Group One on I'm A Dreamer at Arlington.

Retired since 2015, Hayley returns to the saddle for her shot at the title of Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Champion.



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Points System

The Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship presented by Chess Racing, will be decided on a points basis over five nine-runner races with the rider amassing the most points crowned champion.

Four independent experts will assess each race and rank the runners 1-9. The runners will be divided into three groups – A ranked (top category), B ranked and C ranked.

Each rider will be drawn to ride 1 x A, 2 x B, 2 x C during the five races. Points will be awarded as follows:

1st place – 15 points

2nd place – 12 points

3rd place – 10 points

4th place – 7 points

5th place – 4 points

Unplaced – 2 points

Non-runner: 5 points

Any offence judged by the stewards will result in a **five points deduction** from the rider's total.



Race Times & Order of Running

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 18.10 | Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship Race 1 |
| 18.40 | Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship Race 2 |
| 19.10 | Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship Race 3 |
| 19.40 | Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship Race 4 |
| 20.10 | Amateur Race |
| 20.40 | Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship Final |



Event Patron, Benny Andersson (Chess Racing AB)

The Lady Jockeys' Thoroughbred World Championship is presented by Chess Racing, the Swedish racing and breeding operation founded by Benny Andersson.

Benny Andersson's introduction to horse racing came in the mid-1980s with a visit to a family-run yard on the outskirts of Malmo in the South West of the country when Caroline Stromberg, who purchased Andersson's first ever horse, Secret Army, was at the helm.

Caroline's daughter, Jessica Long took over the running of the operation with her husband Pdraig in 2009, returning to her native Sweden following stints at various stud farms in Britain and Ireland which included three seasons at Coolmore Stud,.

Of Chess Racing's six horses currently in training the most successful is Berling, still competing in the top tier of Scandinavian racing at ten years old, although Long has said this will likely be his last season.

Beatrice Aurore, who trained by John Dunlop OBE won Goodwood's Listed Height of Fashion Stakes en route to taking her place in the line-up for the 2011 Oaks, and Vigelegere have both been prolific in their breeding careers.

Sing A Rainbow, a Frankel filly out of Beatrice Aurore and currently in training with Amanda Perrett in West Sussex, is among the exciting prospects for the future for the distinctive black and silver colours of Chess Racing.