

# Godolphin strike gold in Bahrain!

Charlie Appleby and Richard Mullen team up to give Godolphin a big race double, winning both the Listed Crown Prince's Cup and the Anchorman Cup of the Bahrain Turf Series

● **Warren Point emerges as comprehensive winner of one of Bahrain's most prestigious horseraces**

● **King Of Conquest triumphs in Anchorman Cup, Deep Intrigue wins Hawar Cup in Bahrain Turf Series**

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Charlie Appleby and Richard Mullen teamed up to give Godolphin a big race double on a wind-swept afternoon at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club in Sakhr yesterday.

In the Listed Crown Prince's Cup (sponsored by Howden), a strong field of 15 went to post, but Warren Point spread-eagled the field to run out a comprehensive winner of one of Bahrain's most prestigious races.

Warren Point didn't run at two but made fast progress as a three-year-old, winning a valuable handicap at the 2022 Goodwood Festival before stepping



HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, presents The Crown Prince's Cup (sponsored by Howden)

up to Listed company to win the Floodlit Stakes at Kempton at the end of October.

Carrying a three-lb penalty for that success, Mullen positioned the son of Dubawi just off the pace and after traveling powerfully into the race, he quickened clear of his rivals.

Last year's second Tawaareq filled the same position this time round, with Byline back in third.

Appleby said following the race: "It has been a good day for the team and delighted to come

home with two horses that we hoped would be competitive.

"Warren Point was a horse I had always hoped would turn into a nice horse and he is building up the profile into a nice horse now. They went a good gallop and

that pleased me as that was one thing we've seen is that he is effective over 10 and 12 furlongs so stamina wasn't going to be a concern."

Richard Mullen last rode in Bahrain three years ago and flew in from Dubai for the day to ride both Godolphin-owned horses. Following success on Warren Point he said: "He's a talented horse, he's got low mileage and he is coming off the back of a Listed win in the UK. He had all



HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, at yesterday's races with REHC High Committee chairman His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa

the form in the book to come here but they've got to come and do it. The main thing with him is that he just got into a nice rhythm as he can be quite gassy in his races but they went a nice pace and I was able to just track them.

"He'll be an exciting horse going forward for some of these races around the GCC or he could

get some more black type in Europe over the summer."

## Double

In the £60,000 Anchorman Cup, King Of Conquest was the first leg of a Godolphin double.

The four-year-old broke the existing track record to give Godolphin and Appleby a first victory in this season's Bahrain Turf Series.

Mullen settled King Of Conquest just off the pace but pulled the son of Lope De Vega out as they turned for home and he found plenty for Mullen's urgings to win by one-length.

Classical Wave, who won this race last year, stayed on to be second with Keith Dagleish's What's The Story running his best race in Bahrain to date, finishing third under Callum Rodriguez.

After the race, Appleby said:

I would also like to thank the Bahrain Turf Club for putting on a good event. For us to be able to come over and participate is great and to have a couple of winners is even better

CHARLIE APPLEBY

"We hoped stepping up King of Conquest to nine-furlongs would suit him and bring about further improvement which it did. The ground was quick enough for him so it was a brave performance.

"They were two great rides by Richard today and I would also like to thank the Bahrain Turf Club for putting on a good event. For us to be able to come over and participate is great and to have a couple of winners is even better!"

Mullen added: "It was a very good performance. He broke very well and I was always in a nice position and always happy. Just as the race started to develop down the hill I was mindful that I didn't want to ask him too many serious questions early on.

"Once I swung into the straight, you have another element which is the headwind. He then quickened away, and I think he's broken the track record so it was an impressive performance."

In the second Bahrain Turf Series race of the day, The Hawar Cup run over six furlongs (1200m), Deep Intrigue bounced back to the form which saw him win Al Wasmiya Cup as part of the 2021/22 Turf Series by seeing off the challenge of Dairerin.

The seven-year-old, formerly trained in England by Mark Johnston, was having his first run for trainer Hesham Al Haddad in 350 days and it was a significant winner for young Omani jockey Anas bin Salim Al Siyabi.



Richard Mullen rides Warren Point to the victory in the Listed Crown Prince's Cup yesterday

## Final finishing positions

**The Crown Prince's Cup, 1m 2f:** 1 Warren Point, 2 Tawaareq, 3 Byline, 4 Lucander, 5 The Covex Kid, 6 Goemon, 7 Encourage, 8 Zagato, 9 Port Lions, 10 Marie's Diamond, 11 Glen Savage, 12 Recovery Run, 13 Prince Elzaam, 14 Taqaareer, 15 Forbidden Land

**Anchorman Cup, 1m 1f:** 1 King Of Conquest, 2 Classical Wave, 3 What's The Story, 4 Mark Of Respect, 5 Dark Lion, 6 Grigadale, 7 Arctic Emperor, 8 Inigo Jones, 9 Merlin's Beard, 10 Knight Of Honour, 11 What A Welcome, 12 Mr Professor, 13 Coolagh Forest, 14 Zymyran, 15 Pensiero D'Amore, 16 Longbourn

**Hawar Cup, 6f:** 1 Deep Intrigue, 2 Dairerin, 3 Pure Dreamer, 4 Ocean Star, 5 Fighter Pilot, 6 Amaan, 7 Neptunian, 8 Devaste, 9 Kinks, 10 Watchya, 11 Teenar, 12 Wowzers, 13 Inveigle, 14 First Edition, 15 Nomadic Empire, 16 Khunan, 17 Laieth, 18 Soldier's Minute

## Bahrain Victorious' Buitrago third overall, best young rider in Saudi Tour

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Team Bahrain Victorious rider Santiago Buitrago from Colombia was yesterday third overall on the final general rankings of the Saudi Tour while also winning the white jersey for best young rider.

The five-stage event wrapped up yesterday with the 143km concluding leg.

Buitrago finished 24th in the stage but did enough to seal his final classification on the overall podium, where he joined winner Ruben Almeida Guerreiro of Movistar Team and Davide Formolo of UAE Team Emirates.

Teammate Jonathan Milan, who was the leader early in the tour, was fifth overall on the general ranking.

Meanwhile, Buitrago was able to claim first place in the youth category, with Milan finishing right behind him.

Milan narrowly missed out on taking the red jersey for winning the points classification, where he finished second just six points behind Dylan Groenewegen of Team Jayco AlUla.

Bahrain Victorious' seven-rider squad



Santiago Buitrago celebrates with his bronze medal and white jersey at the end of the race

also missed out on a top-three finish in the teams category, going fourth amongst the 16 squads that participated.

The Saudi Tour is part of this year's Un-

It's been a great start to the season. I'm super happy with how it went; the team has performed very well, and we have been on the podium almost every day

AHMED MADAN

ion Cycliste Internationale (UCI) Asia circuit. Bahrain Victorious competed with seven riders. Bahraini Ahmed Madan was a part of the squad, as were Filip Maciejuk, Rainer Kepplinger, Andrea Pasqualon and Dusan Rajovic.

Madan commented: "It's a great atmosphere here to be racing in the Gulf, it's like racing at home with all of the fans here. I'm happy to be here, nice roads, nice racing.

"It's been a great start to the season. I'm super happy with how it went; the team has performed very well, and we have been on the podium almost every day."

## BBK juniors tennis gets underway today at BTC

● **More than 200 players from around the world set to compete in tournament's various age-categories**

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The 27th BBK Juniors Open Tennis Championships get underway today at Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) in Juffair.

The tournament is being held under the patronage of Dr Abdulrahman Ali Saif, group chief executive of BBK.

BTC president Khamis Al Muqla will be on hand at the opening ceremony of Bahrain's

longest-running juniors' tennis championships, which has produced top national players from the Kingdom and from Saudi Arabia since 1996.

There are a total of 210 juniors geared up and ready for the event, including players from Bahrain, Saudi, France, the Philippines and from different parts of the world who are ready to showcase their skills in tennis within their respective age categories.

There will be a total of 15 matches on the first day today, including in the under-12 boys' singles and under-18 girls' singles. Action will start at 4pm.

Spectators are welcome to watch the prestigious juniors event, which is scheduled to continue until 16 February.