

## **The Racing Scene - 3 July 2008**

**By Ken Gentles.**

Its John L Fisher Plumbing Supplies race day at Port Macquarie this Saturday afternoon. The annual Non TAB program is always one of the race clubs highlights of the season and a great crowd is expected to roll through the gates. There are six races on the card with the first race due to kick off at 12 .45pm. Very healthy field sizes are the order of the day and with plenty of TAB class horses engaged at the meeting, betting on all of the races will be very spirited indeed. Below is a guide to help you try and find a winner on what is promising to be a great afternoon of country racing.

### **Track**

The track a slow 6 with the rail out 3m which increases each advertised racing distance by 18m

### **Race 1**

After a major flop as a very well backed favorite last start at Port Macquarie you would have to give All Valour another chance in the opening event. He missed the start and then got cluttered up back the field in leader dominated race. His form in the southern districts was good enough to win this race and his track work was exceptional leading into his last run by all reports. Danger looks to be Kalmagne that was only beaten six lengths in a very strong maiden at Wyong last start behind Regal Dane. The query with it is, it does not seem to handle wet tracks at all. Sir Volidor has been very disappointing since a good second to Lord Bling at Grafton three starts ago and based on that run he could really figure in the finish - if you based his chances on his last two runs he can't figure in the finish -so go figure.

### **Race 2**

Top weight Agent White would not have to improve much on his fair debut run to go close to winning here. The 4 year old ran eighth beaten five lengths to Canny Rock in a much stronger race on Wauchope Cup day and with a bit of natural improvement he will be right up there. Danny Done It has been consistent and resumes after a 3 month break. He ran some nice races last preparation and he has a hope. Chiefs Command is finding it hard to win but has been placed four times in twelve starts which is more than most of his opposition have managed.

### **Race 3**

Good race. Top weight Glenrock Mathew looks the one to beat here. He ran a terrific race first up on heavy going when fourth at Newcastle last start and is a horse on the rise. Back to Country Non Tab class with Peter Graham to ride he can win despite his wide barrier. Majories Girls almost brought of a long priced plunge when she battled away hard for second to the speedy Dashinsky last start – she was working the place down prior to that run and she looms as a big threat to the favorite. Nasham is another who will be right in the finish. She is first up after a long spell but was placed twice at Coffs- before being tipped out. The first starter and two year old Great Stookan is an interesting runner. A trial winner by four lengths at Taree, Robert Thompson rides for Neil Godbolt and a group of very tinny owners!

### **Race 4**

Another very good race with plenty of speed engaged and that may suit Worthily. Coming back in distance from 1400m to the 1018m will not be too big a problem with a hot lead time expected. His last three runs have all been very good and Peter Graham will have him perched just off the speedsters Oh Black Betty, Get Adam and Bellbucca just too name a few. The promising three year old could run home right over the top of them. Bellbucca was gallant in defeat when second to the very in form Baby Cino last time out and if he does not get caught up in a real speed

duel up front he can go very close. Zentastic drops in grade after a few fair provincial runs and has some chance.

#### **Race 5**

I don't wear a hat but I will eat Nick the jockey room attendant's hat if Le Rhythm gets beat here. Fair Dinkum if he gets back to anywhere near his old form he would pick this field up and carry it. The former boom gelding has not been himself lately at all but showed signs of improvement when a good fifth in the very hot Silver Ribbon Cup behind Eriemaze last start. He looks a graded certainty even with 60kgs. Sequenjar was backed and beaten last start but he was not the only horse to struggle on the Port surface last meeting- he has some hope. Miss Shayanne was fair last start. This race looks over surely?

#### **Race 6**

Best race of the day where anyone of the numbers 1 to 5 can win. Ports apart may be about to do something. It looked well in the parade last week at Port and only finished 4 lengths off baby Cino. Both Ship It In and Damos Rose finished in front of him but he was only second up from a spell so he might improve a little bit here at good odds. Ship It In was a very short priced favorite in the Baby Cino race and finished third he will once again be one of the top fancies. Allanact has been good in the Grafton area of late and trainer Bruce Swan wouldn't be coming down here for nothing. Make An Impact was sent to town last start and did not get hot. But looked good in winning four runs ago- any hint of leader bias would be in her favour. Damos Rose has got me in too many times to be tipping her but she will probably start favourite after her good second to Bay Cino last time out.

#### **Bookies Best**

All Valour race1 Give another chance after he got too far back over 100m last start. The step up to 1400m should suit and he looks the winner to me in the first race.

#### **Under The Odds**

Worthily in race 4. "I will lay him because of the fact that he is dropping back 400m in distance and his win strike rate is very average with just 1 win from 16 starts." Cook said." Tipping against Peter Graham is dangerous but I will on this occasion - I hope I am right."