

Golas King off to promising start

THIS moderate evening of racing served up a couple of decent efforts with Golas King producing the only open run of the night in the second race, which was a sprint for unraced pups.

Golas (Never Give Up-Valeries Lass), owned by Jason Trotter, came away level with the pack but used his draw on the outside to steal into the lead at the bend from Longrange Art and Daisy Baby.

But the latter pair had an uphill battle as Golas, a 3/1 chance, pulled away on the run in to beat Longrange by four lengths in a very good debut of 18.96.

Billis Renegade was well supported from 5/2 down to 4/6 at the bell in the A6 seventh and Brendan Duggan's young dog made it two wins from two starts.

Billis (Tyrur Ted-Loclar Cia) was soon in command with a nifty start which saw him lead early from Ballymac Louise and Caitlins Boy. Along the far side Billis was six clear of the chasing pair and he stayed on well for a four-and-a-half-lengths success over Caitlins in 29.06, the night's best.

Race 1: Clonregan Mein opened his account for Arthur McLaughlin in this Novice sprint in which the 3/1 chance overcame a sluggish start to score by a half.

Queen Ruby was joined on the dash to the opening bend by Isheup with the pair of them contesting the lead as they turned for home but Clonregan (Tucks Mein-Passage Hill) came with a late surge up the home stretch to beat Ballymac Cherry, who stayed on well for second, with 19.41 on the clock.

Race 2: Won by Golas King.

Race 3: Emilys Dream was well supported in this A7 and the Colin Adamson and Gerard Hamill-owned bitch justified the confidence.

Lady Darkside and Trendy Leo had most early dash and disputed the early part of this with Emilys (Hondo Black-Reflection) following the leaders into the back straight.

It was here that the 4/6 favourite made her move and she took over as they met the third bend and running on well, she beat Get Some Help by two and a quarter lengths in 29.50.

Race 4: Eva Abedi gave Lady Catunda her first race around Lifford in this A6 and it paid off as she lost her maiden tag with a front-running display.

Lady (Tyrur Ted-Daena Catunda) broke best here and took the field into the first bend with Crossbow and Reversethecharge leading the rest. Along the far side Lady was well clear and although Crossbow was closing in the latter stages, Lady had done enough to hold him off by one length in 29.71.

Race 5: This S7/S8 saw five maidens go to traps along with one race winner and it was one of the maidens who prevailed as Rabbits Bodyshop won for the first time in three outings for Niall McDaid.

From a level break Rabbits (Crash-Bodyshop Nikita) had more early pace than her rivals and led at the bend from Springtown Black and Castlegore Blue. Once in front Rabbits, the 6/4 favourite, pulled away nicely to beat Calluke Zeta by three and a half lengths in 19.20.

Race 6: Another sprint, this time for S6 grade, was once again won by the runner from trap one as Lorococos Dream won at Lifford for the first time for the High Stool Ladies Syndicate.

Lorococos, in the hands of Vincent Maguire, didn't hang around at trap rise and flew to the bend which she met ahead of Ballylaw Leo and Gurnacrehy Bolt. Ballylaw and Kiko came to challenge the leader but Lorococos (Nod Mac-Kilmore Beauty) held them

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off to score by one length in 19.21.

Race 7: Won by Bilis Renegade.

Race 8: Frank The Barber gave Vincent Maguire his second winner of the night as the litter brother to Lorococos Dream won for the first time in over a year.

From a level break, Frank edged his way to the front ahead of Lene Bubbles, Lacken Della and Bannroad Happy. Along the back straight Frank was three clear of the pack led by Lacken and he turned into the home stretch just clear and in a blanket finish the 4/1 chance just held on from Lacken by a short head in 29.45.

Race 9: Fastaway Flash, a recent recruit to Kevin O'Kane's kennel, made an instant impact with a nice victory in this S4 in which he was joint favourite at 6/4.

From a level break, Fastaway (Crash-Getaway Jordan) just edged clear at the bend with Rough Cheryl in second spot.

As they turned for home Fastaway was well clear and he made all to beat Rough by two and a half lengths in 19.00.

Race 10: Lifford is a happy hunting ground at the minute for Pauline Quinn and this S5 saw the first of two winners with Knappa Mor Teddy breaking his duck at nearly three years of age.

Lennon Lad and Knappa (Go Wild Teddy-Whitefort Peach) broke well here but

Lennon forged clear at the bend to lead from Knappa and Augustine John. The leading pair Lennon and Augustine seemed to bump each other on the run which allowed Knappa room up the outside to deliver a winning finish, which saw the 5/2 chance a short head in front of Lennon in 19.47.

Race 11: Tiger Paws seemed down a couple of notches in this A4 and it saw a second victory for the Tiger Club Syndicate-owned hound.

Tiger (Droopys Maldini-Arkays Jane) broke well here along with Here To Day with Tiger just clear around the opening bends.

Along the far side Tiger took a two length advantage over Here and from here on the 3/1 chance was never troubled and crossed the line two and a quarter clear of Messan Banker, who stayed on very well for second as Tiger recorded 29.36.

Race 12: The last of the night saw Pauline Quinn complete a good night's work with a seventeenth career success for Drumsna Diplomat. Drumsna (Go Wild Teddy-Drumsna Power) had too much early dash for his rivals and led into the bend ahead of Hungers Wallet.

The latter tried to muster a challenge as they made their way to the third bend but his effort wasn't enough and Drumsna pulled away to score by three and a quarter lengths over Hungers in 29.21.



The Dunlops' Derby A5 525 40th Birthday at Lifford was won from trap 3 by Frank The Barber in a time of 29.46. Ian Dunlop made the presentation to Vincent Maguire from Ballyjamesduff. Michael Lee is holding the dog. The entire Dunlop entourage, from Fivemiletown, were on a special night out.

Picture: J. Killen