



By  
**Hollie Roberts**

## Ganderton plays triple role in history

Young Sydney jockey Daniel Ganderton had a successful day out at the historical first Brisbane Racing Club meeting on Saturday, July 4.

The 20-year-old hoop took out the Play, Gather, Compete, Belong QTIS 2YO Handicap 1400m aboard the Paul Messara-trained Savoia plus two feature races on the day.

Ganderton's second win was aboard racing's latest "pretty boy", Battlefield, in the Listed Moreton Hire Ascot Handicap 1200m.

Also trained by Paul Messara, the chestnut with the flaxen mane and tail is gaining a following thanks to his stunning looks and impressive form.

Battlefield (G3 Choisir-Charming Charge) went into the race as \$3.10 favourite and the win gave him three from three this preparation with a total of four wins from six starts.

Ganderton guided Battlefield from barrier five at Eagle Farm and they started behind the pack and raced wide.

Wasted Emotions (Michael Cahill) got to the front quickly and led the field.

In the straight, Battlefield hung and disadvantaged the jockey, but Ganderton regathered to find a gap in the straight and burst through to beat the leader by one and a quarter lengths.

Mitanni (Brent Evans) put in a strong run in the straight to run on for third place by a short half head.

Despite the less-than-perfect run, the horse and jockey both displayed great talent for a strong future and Ganderton is excited about Battlefield's prospects.

"He's a real talent but he's still very raw," he said.

"He was a fraction slower away and a bit hesitant between horses.

"I made the decision to go back inside because I felt if I got him out to the outside he'd probably get a little bit lost by himself. So I went between horses and he was probably a bit hesitant going there and a bit reluctant, but when he got through he really burst to the line.

"It was a terrific race. Gee whiz he's got a bright future. Try and peel me away from him."



Cape Breton gives Ganderton his final win of the day in the Queensland Cup Noel Pascoe photos

Ganderton's treble was completed in the IPG Print Queensland Cup 3200m.

He put in a well-judged ride to give Cape Breton (NZ) his first Queensland win for trainer Danny Williams.

Cape Breton (G6 Peintre Celebre USA-Lihir NZ) got a great jump from barrier one but Ganderton didn't push the gelding and let him travel towards the back of the field.

He went to the outside at the turn and wound up in the last few hundred metres to take the win off Petushki (Christian Reith) by a length.

It was a close finish for third but Kerdem (Michael Cahill) got the bronze by two and a quarter lengths in front of Alexandra of Hales (Scott Seamer) and Glistening (Stathi Katsidis).

Racing over the two miles was a first for both the rider and the horse but they passed the challenge with flying colours.

"I think the furthest I've ever ridden is 2600m so it was a new test but it was good to get the win," said Ganderton.

"We got a perfect run from the one alley and he travelled like the winner a long way out.

"He was untried at the distance so you always, in the back of your mind, just want to hold on to him a little bit extra, which I was



Daniel Ganderton returns to scale aboard Battlefield for win number two of his BRC treble

able to do with a nice card into the race and really went on with it."

It was a race filled with international flavour welcoming runners from Ireland, Great Britain, New Zealand and the USA.

The best finisher of the Australian-bred horses was \$3.20 race favourite Phaze Action (Damian Browne) who managed sixth place.

The apprentice was pleased to pick up the treble at his first Eagle Farm outing and it provided an exciting element to the historical day.

"I thought on paper I had some very good rides and you just had to have a bit of luck fall your way," said Ganderton. ●

# Perchance definitely a winner

By **Ross Dowd**

They say memories fade, however the manner in which Perchance took the \$100,000 Brisbane Town Plate 1400m will leave a lasting impression on many people at Eagle Farm on Saturday, July 4.

Queensland Racing scheduled the maiden race to be run as the Brisbane Town Plate, commemorating the first feature race of the same name conducted in Queensland by the Moreton Bay Race Club on July 17, 1843 at Coopers Plains.

A large crowd was on-hand to enjoy celebrations marking the historical first race meeting of the Brisbane Racing Club after the amalgamation of the Queensland Turf Club and Brisbane Turf Club.

By his own admission, Glen Colless onboard the winner did not give the four-year-old gelding by Falvelon out of Quizas the smoothest of rides, and also had the hindrance of jumping from barrier 16 in a large field.

"I rode him pretty ordinary," he said.

"I was four-deep for the trip, but that may have come to his advantage. Horses seemed to be travelling (strongly) a bit wide. He travelled wide throughout, but always travelled well."

Perchance was never on the track, however at the top of the straight showed a blistering turn of foot to gap the field and hand Randwick-based trainer Kevin Moses the win.

Alberton Park (Chris McIver) rallied to take second place two and a quarter lengths behind and Sir Mossman (Owen Turpin) finished third a further long neck back.

The race favourite, Namsarai (Shane Scriven), also raced well wide of the inside rail and then struck trouble in the straight to end the promising three-year-old's chances of winning in only his third start.

The stunning acceleration from Perchance left punters a little baffled after his last start failure as \$2.70 race favourite to Just Hilda over 1350 metres at Doomben on Monday, June 8.

Without looking to fuel an inquisition, this looked like a completely different horse, and Colless, similarly puzzled, admitted that he had every chance to win in his last start.

Brisbane racing possibly had a showman on its hands as Perchance waited to appear on the big stage to post win number one in the richest maiden race in Australia, alongside the maiden conducted on Magic Millions day.

After 10 starts he has finished second on five occasions which includes, frustratingly for connections, the bridesmaid's tag in his last four starts leading into Brisbane Racing Club's day of days.

Now that Moses has claimed the breakthrough win with Perchance, there could be many more on the horizon if he can convince his four-year-old to produce the blistering speed that lit up Eagle Farm on a memorable day for Brisbane racing. ●



Perchance has that winning feeling after a dominant performance in the \$100,000 Brisbane Town Plate at Eagle Farm Noel Pascoe photo

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