

2011 President's Report

CANADIAN THOROUGHBRED HORSE SOCIETY
BRITISH COLUMBIA DIVISION



Leif Nordahl

The CTHS of British Columbia is proud to publish our 61st edition of the popular statistical review highlighting the 2011 Racing Season in British Columbia.

2011 provided another interesting season with spring rains, a determined local hockey team playing their lives off downtown and a new Vancouver Whitecaps team that played adjacent to the track at the old Empire Field.

Even with this multitude of challenges the horsemen faced going into the 2011 season, the reported attendance was up along with all other significant factors in the business.

Horse-owners of BC-breds raced for an unprecedented incentive raise to 25% from 13% the previous season. Another new feature instituted at the local track was an appearance fee that provided every entrant in a race finishing sixth through twelfth (if necessary) received a significant award of \$600.

This brings us to British Columbia's biggest race day - BC Cup Day, held this season on August 1st, BC Day in British Columbia. Once again the 10-race card produced the most lucrative handle of the season and was 10% up from last year's total handle.

This year's annual yearling and mixed sale was held again at Thunderbird Show Park on September 13th. The sale averages were up modestly across the board with a sharp rise in the average yearling price that skyrocketed to \$15,197.

Congratulations to Ron Fawcett and his Tod Mtn. Thoroughbreds for once again leading the sale. Tod Mtn. sold 15 lots grossing \$253,400 with an average of approximately \$17,000. The highest sale price was \$64,000.

Perennial buyers Nick and Pauline Felicella led the way in 2011 spending a gross of \$287,000 including \$89,000 on Hip# 29, a daughter of Cherokee Run, sold by Nina Ferguson on behalf of Bill and Susan Stewart's Black Canyon Thoroughbreds Ltd.

Kudos to all the BC-breds and their connections who received awards and trophies at the annual Industry Awards Gala, held on November 26th at Hastings. Bob and Lillian Talbot's Red Rock Farm were major winners at this year's prestigious awards. The Talbot's were represented by Jack Diamond Futurity winner Sartorialist and Sadie Diamond winner Sunnyside Gal as well as receiving the leading broodmare award to their foundation mare Remarkable Gal, who was nothing short of remarkable with her stakes production to this point in her career.

We can not go any further without mentioning the 2011 BC-bred of the year Almost Time. Bred by Suzanne Anderson in partnership with D. Deyagher and racing for Swift Thoroughbred's Inc. the classy chestnut gelding continued his winning ways in 2011 and managed to take the prestigious Redekop BC Cup Classic on the season's biggest day. A deserving champion.

Distinguished Hall of Fame inductees in 2011 were R.W. "Bobby" Hall, breeder of British Columbia's greatest thoroughbred George Royal and the consistent handicap horse and BC-bred Lord Nelson.

The CTHS Board for the years 2012-2014 was elected by acclamation with a few changes. Executive Directors include: Leif Nordahl, Ralph Jesiak, and Shane Gumprich. Returning members are: Jim Alendal, Mike Anderson, Ernie Braithwaite and Dave Forster. The Board would like to welcome Cathy Reggelsen, the only new member on the new board.

A big thank you goes to a deserving group of out-going members. Suzanne Anderson, who's work in the industry has been endless, serving as vice-president and a national director, Doug Hoggard, Deborah Holmes and Robert White.

At January's first meeting of the board, Leif Nordahl was re-elected president, Ralph Jesiak and Shane Gumprich were-elected vice-presidents and the national directors will be Shane Gumprich, Leif Nordahl and Ralph Jesiak.

The 2011 editions of the CTHS \$50,000 Sale Stakes went to some talented prospects.

The three-year-old colt and gelding division went to George Robbins' champion Herbie D. The three-year-old filly division went to Corsair Holding's sale purchase La Belle Rose, bred in B.C. by E.M. Braithwaite, M.A. Braithwaite and I.M. Gorasht.

The two-year-old divisions produced some champions also. Glen Todd and Patrick Kinsella's sale buy, Herescomelucky, bred in B.C. by Agnes Jackson, dominated the early part of the meet and James Redekop's homebred Gabigothorway came on late in the year to capture champion two-year-old filly honours.

British Columbia horsemen are continuing to have a successful winter in Turf Paradise, accounting for several black-type victories and some highly ranked local horsemen in the various standings.

2011 Annual Review statistics will be posted on the website shortly. All stallion information for 2012 including updated lists through 2011 are posted now. For more information, contact the CTHS office or www.ctsbc.org

Not for a long time have the local horsemen been so anxious to get a meet started.

