

POSTER BOY 1.49.1 \$803,310

HE IS THE POSTER
BOY OF HARNESS
RACING IN
AUSTRALIA

AND

HE IS THE ONLY
HORSE TO EVER
DEFEAT THE NEW
STAR RIDE HIGH.



HIS NAME well known Victorian photographer and current Harness Racing Victoria employee Nikkita Ross is responsible for his name... which by the way fits him perfectly.

In October 2014 Nikkita took his photo as a young foal and the hierarchy at Harness Breeders Victoria were so impressed with that photo that they used it on promotional material including some posters. So when Nikkita saw the results of her work she immediately informed his owners and breeders Anne and Bill Anderson that their little gem of a foal was now a **Poster Boy**.

The name stuck and now every follower of Harness Racing in Australia is aware that he isn't just Handsome... He is blistering Fast.

RACE RECORD are there many horses in Australia in this modern era to match the win to start ratio of **Poster Boy's** - yes Ride High's is impeccable and Lazarus's at 77% [in Australia and New Zealand] was pretty impressive as well.

Just to recall - 30 starts, 22 wins, five seconds and thirds in the 2019 Miracle Mile and 2018 Breeders Crown Final.

His only unplaced race start was his first - in the Group Two Sapling Stakes at Menangle in February 2017. That day was a brutal introduction to racing as the winner Divine State shattered the Australian record for a 2 year old when he sizzled the Menangle circuit in 1.51.6.

Following this race **Poster Boy** competed at the highest level as a 2, 3 and 4 year old contesting another nine Group One events, winning five of them.

Opinion is divided between his owners Bill and Anne Anderson as to which were the best of those victories.

“My favourite was the **Chariots of Fire**” said Bill. “He competed against the best 4 year olds in Australasia. He made a searching run from second last at the 400 to win in his fastest time of 1.49.1.

Anne's decision involved the same track [Menangle] but a different race - the NSW Derby.

“Poster Boy was locked in a zip fastener pocket at the 300. Pulled to the outside he flew with a wing on every foot to win the Derby. He's gone from no hope to a Group One winner in 26.3 seconds.



WHAT DOES CHRIS ALFORD ADMIRE ABOUT POSTER BOY

Victorian reinsman was labelled the GOAT in one of those wins by Sydney racecaller Fred Hastings. However it wasn't a detrimental comment but one of praise as he qualified it with the "Greatest Of All Time".

Chris drove **Poster Boy** in all but four of his lifetime starts and he does agree that **The Chariots**, **The NSW Derby** and the **Victorian 4 Year Old Bonanza** were all outstanding victories but he saved his highest praise for the win in a Semi Final of the **3 Year Old Breeders Crown** at Bendigo in August 2018. **Poster Boy** tramped three wide for the last 1,000 metres of that race to defeat the equal favourite **Ignatius**... And set a Track Record to go with the inspirational victory.

We recently spoke to Chris about his thoughts and impressions of **Poster Boy**.

QUESTION What were your first impressions about driving **Poster Boy** as a 2 year old.

CHRIS He felt really good to drive from day one, in fact he was pretty much perfect which said a lot about his manners and attitude.

QUESTION Did he develop and get stronger as a 3 year old and then a 4 year old.

CHRIS He was always such a perfect horse to drive with his fluent gait and speed. That run at Bendigo in a Semi of the **Breeders Crown** as a 3 year old left me in awe at his desire to win and his stamina. He was just like driving a **Rolls Royce**.

QUESTION Was he best on the front end or coming from behind.

CHRIS Speed was his best weapon but it didn't matter when you used it. He was so versatile out of the gate. The best racehorses can handle whatever you want to do with them and **Poster Boy** was certainly like that.

QUESTION Best Wins?

CHRIS The **NSW Derby** and then the **Chariots** as a 4 year old were both special as he gave me such a great feeling with his acceleration coming from behind at **Menangle**. He can sprint so fast, but then sometimes can knock off once he has passed everyone.

The 4 year old **Bonanza** at **Melton** when he beat **Spankem** was also great especially as he was first up for 5 months. However that win at **Bendigo** just blew me away.

QUESTION If you describe him in just one word - what would that be?

CHRIS "Perfect" "he was the perfect racehorse in all ways".





POSTER BOY AND CAPTAINTRACHEROUS

Both **Poster Boy** and **Captaintreacheros** are sired by the mighty **Somebeachsomewhere** and both are from **Artsplace** mares.

The similarity doesn't end there as their race records are

comparable as well, albeit that **Captaintreacheros** had much more prizemoney to race for in North America.

POSTER BOY - 30 starts, 22 wins, 5 seconds, 2 thirds.

CAPTAINTRACHEROUS - 33 starts, 23 wins, 5 seconds, 2 thirds.

In those 22 wins, **Poster Boy** on seven occasions ran his closing quarter in sub 27 seconds - mostly on 1,000 meter tracks.

By comparison **Captaintreacheros** finished 11 of his 23 wins in sub 27 seconds - mostly on mile tracks.

PEDIGREE MATCHES FOR POSTER BOY

The sire of **Poster Boy** in **Somebeachsomewhere** has had enormous success in North America when bred to **Western Hanover** / **Western Ideal** line mares. Six of his top Ten leading earners are from mares of this line whilst the recently retired [because of injury] and some may argue his best ever son in **Papi Rob Hanover** follows this pattern, being from a mare by **Rocknroll Hanover**.

In Australia, **Somebeachsomewhere** sired the brilliant filly **Petacular** from a **Western Ideal** mare whilst **Soho Lanikai** who created a massive impression when winning the **Vic Premiere Stakes** in February by 65 meters is from an **American Ideal** mare.

It would make sense that mares by Sires such as **American Ideal**, **Western Terror**, **Badlands Hanover**, **Jeremes Jet**, **Rocknroll Hanover**, **Red River Hanover**, **Rock N Roll Heaven** and **Well Said** etc. would be perfect to be bred to **Poster Boy**.

Doubling the **Artsplace** blood by breeding mares by any of the sons and grandsons of **Artsplace** to **Poster Boy** could be recommended as well based on recent results from North America. Horses such as **Captain Crunch** 1.47.4, **Hickfromfrenchlick** 1.48.8 \$638,670 and the current unbeaten 3 year old filly **Party Girl Hill** 1.50 are all early examples of breeding **Artsplace** line mares to sons of **Somebeachsomewhere**.

It would also be wise to consider **Cam Fella** line mares for **Poster**

Boy as well.

Three of the Top Ten performers in North America by **Captaintreacheros** are from **Cam Fella** line mares, whilst in the Southern Hemisphere **Somebeachsomewhere** has sired horses such as **Our Waikiki Beach**, **Whereibylong**, **Sicario** and **Nostra Beach** from **Cam Fella** line matrons.

Poster Boy is receiving Bookings from Breeders in all States of Australia and his Book is filling nicely.

To ensure your Booking to this "PERFECT " horse call us at **Northern Rivers Equine**.

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