

2015 WTBOA Summer Yearling Sale Average Up 17 Percent

The 59th annual Washington Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association Summer Yearling and Mixed Sale brought forth increases in both gross and average for the fourth straight year, while the median slipped slightly.

Held at the Morris J. Alhadeff Sales Pavilion located at Emerald Downs in Auburn, Washington, this year's August 18 sale cataloged 105 summer session yearlings, as well as a dozen mixed and paddock session horses.

The energy level – and in fact the whole racing atmosphere in Washington – has been buoyant this year with the many positive changes seen at Emerald Downs this season and the recent boosts in the overall Thoroughbred industry. And the proverbial “cherry on top” was the not first, but second exciting victory of WTBOA Sale poster boy Stryker Phd in the Northwest's marquee race – the \$200,000 Longacres Mile (G3) – held just two days prior to the sale.

Topping the venue was a filly (Hip 75) sired by top North American sire Into Mischief which was purchased by John Brocklebank, as agent, for \$80,000. The striking dark bay, a daughter of multiple stakes producer Campanita, a half-sister to Grade 1 winner and Grade 1 producer Rings a Chime, was bred and consigned by Terry and Mary Lou Griffin's Griffin Place LLC. Brocklebank also purchased Hip 12 from Griffin Place, a filly from the first crop of 2011 Haskell Invitational Handicap (G1) winner Coil and out of the Tough Knight mare Mia F Eighteen, who has already produced \$574,849 Grade 3 stakes winner Summer Hit and \$198,697 stakes winner and Emerald Downs champion Starbird Road.

Brocklebank, who was the sale's leading buyer, purchased a total of ten yearlings – ranging from \$5,000 to the sale topper – for a total of \$383,000. The Utah horseman also paid \$75,000 for the sale's third highest offering (Hip 82), a Stormin Fever filly out of Washington champion racemare Clair Annette consigned by Stormy Hull and Ginger Samples' Critter Creek Farm.

Fourteen other yearlings brought a \$30,000 or higher price, including the \$77,000 that nationally prominent Ten Broeck Farm – the nom de course for Woodinville resident and longtime Washington horseman David Mowat – paid for the Tiz Wonderful—Witchy Meeting filly (Hip 59) consigned by Blue Ribbon Farm, as agent for Patricia Murphy and Rick and Debbie Pabst. The filly is bred on the same lines as Grade 1 winner Condo Commando (by Tiz Wonderful out of a General Meeting mare).

Also bringing a \$65,000 bid was a filly (Hip 37) from the first crop of 2012 Wood Memorial (G1) winner Gemologist. Consigned by Dr. Duane and Susan Hopp's Castlegate Farm, the half-sister to Grade 2 \$683,263 stakes winner Briecat was purchased by trainer Mark Glatt of Monrovia, California.

After eight withdrawals, 97 summer session yearlings went through the ring with 74 selling for a \$1,389,900 total (up nearly seven percent from the 2014 total), a \$18,782 average (up 17 percent from 2014's \$16,056 figure) and a \$10,000 median (down 4.8 percent from last year's \$10,500). There were 23 RNAs (reserve not attained) this sale (23.7 percent), which was a 27.8 percent increase from the 18 or 18.2 percent in 2014.

Top Selling Yearlings

Hip	Name, Sex, Sire –Dam (Consignor) ... Buyer, Price
75	unnamed, filly, Into Mischief—Campanita (Griffin Place LLC) ... John Brocklebank, Agt, \$80,000
59	unnamed, filly, Tiz Wonderful—Witchy Meeting (Blue Ribbon Farm, Agt for Pat Murphy & M/M F. L. Pabst) ... Ten Broeck Farm \$77,000

- 82 Barbara Jo, filly, Stormin Fever—Clair Annette (Crittter Creek Farm, Stormy Hull & Ginger Samples) ... John Brocklebank, Agt, \$75,000
- 12 unnamed, filly, Coil—Mia F Eighteen (Griffin Place LLC) ... John Brocklebank, \$65,000
- 37 unnamed, filly, Gemologist—Silk Briefcase (Dr. & Mrs. Duane Hopp, Castlegate Farm) ... Mark Glatt, \$65,000
- 33 Flood Watch, colt, Forestry—Rewritten (Griffin Place, Agt for Carnation Racing Stable) ... Glen Todd, \$52,000
- 86 unnamed, filly, Atta Boy Roy—Crafty Diva (Tall Cedars Farm LLC) ... River Ridge Ranch, \$50,000
- 93 unnamed, colt, Sixthirteen—Felice the Cat (Bar C Racing Stables Inc., Pam & Neal Christopherson) ... John Brocklebank, Agt, \$50,000

To review the complete preliminary sale results, go to www.wtboa.com. Final results will also be published in the Fall issue of the *Washington Thoroughbred* and will be added to the online WTBOA Sales Archives.