



Officiating Pedigree Analysis - Kristen Manning

One of the 46 stakes winners and 21 Group winners by the high class US stallion Blame, Officiating boasts a pedigree of considerable depth - and one which makes him an exciting prospect for local mares.

In particular Queensland mares, Officiating a lovely option looking for a stallion so suit their Spirit Of Boom and Better Than Ready mares - having nice things in common with both of those prolific stallions.

Blame hails from the best stallion family in the world, his influential third dam Special being the dam of Nureyev and the grandam of Sadler's Wells and Fairy King.

Despite all being American bred stallions, that trio have more influence in the United Kingdom, Europe and Australasia - meaning that Blame has not have a lot of access to those bloodlines.

He has however picked up well with them with Officiating one example - his second dam sire Horse Chestnut being a grandson of Sadler's Wells.

Blame has also sired a Gr.1 winner (Fault) out of a Horse Chestnut mare and he is dam sire of a Gr.1 winner (Forte) from the Sadler's Wells sire line... suggesting that he is faring very nicely with the Special cross.

He has had less access to Fairy King - only five runners but amongst those is the US Gr.2 and French Listed winner Mrs Sippy whose dam is by Fairy King's most successful son - the Australian bred Encosta de Lago.

And of his 40 winners out of mares with Nureyev (most easily found in this part of the world as the dam sire of Zabeel) three are stakes winners, another three stakes placed. Starcraft/Star Witness/Star Turn are members of the Nureyev sire line with other nice things in common with Officiating.

There are lots of options in regards to Encosta de Lago in Australia. His daughters are good prospects for Officiating and of particular interest with this line is Northern Meteor who is bred on a 6 X 4 cross of his own fourth dam Rough Shod II - Special's grandam.

Zoustar is that stallion's best son and he is out of a mare by Redoute's Choice whose dam sire Canny Lad shares good Mumtaz Mahal family influence with Officiating. Blame has not served many Danehill line mares but his daughters are doing well with this line - the classy local Switzerland (by Snitzel) one example and the triple Group winner Sacred (by Exceed And Excel) another amongst the five winners.

Also by Zoustar is Deep Field, a descendant of Mumtaz Mahal out of a mare from the Mr Prospector line. Officiating is bred on a 4 X 5 cross of Mr Prospector - and Blame relishes further strains of that stallion with five of his six Gr.1 winners line-bred to him.

Deep Field's strain of Mr Prospector comes from Elusive Quality (who also hails from Mr Prospector's family and who is the grandsire of Officiating's Gr.1 winning half-sister Caledonia Road) with whom Blame has sired ten winners from 12 runners.

Other members of this line of interest for Officiating include Needs Further (Nureyev is his third dam sire), Rubick, Eurozone and Fighting Sun (line-bred to Rough Shod II and to her daughter Thong).

There are other strains of Special and her family to look out for - namely Geiger Counter, Thatch, Thatching, Archipenko, Jade Robbery, Lt Stevens, Lorenzaccio, Stormy Atlantic (dam sire of Switzerland's Gr.3 winning dam Ms Bad Behavior), Ridan, Perugino (sire of Testa Rossa), Yeats, St Jovite (who features in Blame's Gr.1 winner Fault) and Topsider (Blame has combined with him in seven runners, all winners including a dual stakes winner).

Also of interest are daughters of Big Brown who has both Nureyev and Lt Stevens - and he is the dam sire of Blame's dual stakes winner Armando R. And it is worth mentioning a few members of this family to have stood in Australasia in recent times - such as Fiorente, Smart Missile, Headwater and Wrote.

Fiorente and Wrote are of special interest as they both have Green Desert. He is another horse Blame has not had a great deal of exposure to but of the 11 runners combining the two, nine are winners - Blame siring a French Gr.3 winner out of a mare from his line whilst he line has also provided Blame with a stakes winner as a broodmare sire.

It is not surprising to see this cross work with Green Desert's grandam being the star broodmare Courtly Dee - the third dam of Blame's Gr.1 winning sire Arch. And this line is all the more exciting for Officiating whose dam boasts a cross of the Kentucky Derby hero Swaps whose influential third dam Betty Derr is also Courtly Dee's third dam.

And there is certainly no lack of Green Desert in this part of the world - he being the grandsire of I Am Invincible. And there is another reason to like I Am Invincible mares for Officiating - the latter's fourth dam sire Diesis combining exceptionally well with his full brother Kris, the dam sire of Invincible Spirit.

I Am Invincible already has a number of nice sons and grandsons at stud and Officiating is going to appreciate the daughters of Hellbent (bred on a 3 X 3 cross of Green Desert), Kobayashi (his dam sire Hussonet picks up well on Frizette influence) and Tassort.

The latter is a young stallion but his daughters are interesting prospects for the future as he is out of a mare by Exceed And Excel who, as already noted, is the sire of a multiple Group winner out of a Blame mare.

Exceed And Excel is out of a mare by Lomond who loves strains of his half-brother Seattle Slew whose son Capote is the dam sire of Officiating's dam sire Dixie Union. And this is the same prolific Frizette family that produced Mr Prospector.

Members of the Exceed And Excel sire line who match up nicely with Officiating include the already mentioned Headwater as well as Instinction (out of an Encosta de Lago mare), Exceedance (out of a Nureyev line mare) and Excelebration (out of a Lorenzaccio line mare).

And other members of the Green Desert line worth looking at include Cape Cross (he is out of a Lorenzaccio line mare and his son Sea The Stars has sired a stakes winner out of a Blame mare), Shalaa, Territories, Volksraad, Royal Meeting, Captain Gerrard, Power (his dam sire Inchinor has both Lorenzaccio and Lomond), Shinko Forest and Showcasing.

Showcasing is out of a mare by Zafonic whose dam sire The Minstrel is also worth looking out for as he does very nicely when combined with his legendary 3/4 brother Nijinsky - Blame's second dam sire.

Also of interest re The Minstrel is his dam sire Victoria Park - son of Victoriana whose grandson Vice Regent is the sire of Officiating's third dam sire Deputy Minister. The Minstrel and Deputy Minister have combined in the pedigrees of 84 stakes winners.

Officiating's dam is bred on a 5 X 5 cross of the influential mare Change Water - the fourth dam of Dixie Union and the grandam of Fort Wood whose dam is the even more famous mare Fall Aspen.

What a lovely family this is to line-breed to and there are some lovely opportunities to do so with Officiating - such as mares by or with Bianconi (sire of Nicconi), Ribchester (who boasts a Nureyev cross), Timber Country, Hamas, Elnadim, Charnwood Forest, Medaaly, Harbour Watch, Intello and Dubawi.

Members of the Dubawi sire line are of particular interest. Bred on a Seeking The Gold/Roberto cross - the opposite to Blame - he has some nice descendants in Australia, such as daughters of Makfi (his dam is by

Green Desert and his third dam is by Special's relation Val de Loir) and Night Of Thunder (also has Green Desert). Too Darn Hot will be of interest in the future - he hails from the same Frizette family as Mr Prospector and Seattle Slew.

Frizette also appears in Officiating via Djeddah, Tiger and Jet Pilot and others from this family worth looking out for include Darshaan, Roan Rocket (dam sire of Rory's Jester), Bismark, Forestry (dam sire of two Blame stakes winner), Jugah, Bold Native, Bahhare, Heart Of Darkness, Gold And Ivory, Roy, Artie Schiller, Shecky Greene, Daliapour, Baldric, Bahri, Half Iced, Mukaddamah, Distant Relative and Prince True.

Strains of Cozzene are also desirable, he being a descendant of Change Water's dam Portage who has also had a couple of descendants stand locally (though with small books) - Swift Alliance and Rock Sturdy.

Fappiano is a horse Blame has fared well with (eight stakes winners as a sire, another four as a broodmare sire) - and he is the dam sire of the already mentioned Northern Meteor. Blame has strong (and there is more in Officiating's dam) Plucky Liege influence - and that great mares is Fappiano's ancestress.

Another of Plucky Liege's descendants in Ogygian pops up here and there. He is the dam sire of Street Boss whose sire Street Cry is the dam sire of Blame's Gr.1 winner Wet Paint. Street Boss also carries a rare strain of the Kentucky Derby winner Iron Liege whose grandam Betty Derr is Arch's sixth dam. Street Sense is also of interest as his third dam sire Reviewer's stakes winning dam Broadway is the grandam of Blame's dam sire Seeking The Gold.

Another member of the Betty Derr family is Latarmiss who stood in Queensland whilst another is Reverse who features in Spirit Of Boom - a horse who boasts a 4 X 5 cross of Special's full brother Thatch.

The Kentucky Oaks winner Hidden Talent is another nice mare to duplicate. The grandam of Dixie Union's dam sire Capote is not easily found but she is the fourth dam of California Dane, the sire of Rebel Dane. She is also ancestress of Warhorse and Mull Of Kintyre who have stood in Australia - and also worth seeking out are strains of her descendants Exceller, Broad Brush and Baldski.

Officiating is line-bred to the lovely mare Bleebook, third dam of both Roberto (grandsire of Arch) and Delta Judge (dam sire of Dixie Union's sire Dixieland Band). Other Bleebook strains can be found via Mullineaux and Advocator whilst her dam Forteresse also produced the Kentucky Derby winner Brokers Tip whose grandson To Market is the dam sire of Marscay.

Marscay and Roberto have always combined well and the recent Australasian Oaks winner Vibrant Sun is the 50th stakes winner (and fifth Gr.1 winner) bred on this cross - her strain of Marscay coming through Written Tycoon.

With Switzerland - out of a Blame mare - showing so much talent it is well worth looking at his pedigree. He is by Snitzel whose sire Redoute's Choice is bred on the same Danzig/Nijinsky cross as Blame (as are Not A Single Doubt and Fastnet Rock - other Danehill sires of interest). And he is bred on a 5 X 3 cross of Lunchtime whose dam sire Hornbeam hails from the same Third Trick family as Officiating's second dam sire Horse Chestnut.

This is this historic Prunella family from which Officiating himself hails - as do such great stallions as I Am Invincible, Street Cry, Shamardal and More Than Ready as well as the horse with so much influence in Australia - the legendary Star Kingdom.

In regards to Snitzel, he has good numbers of sons and grandsons at stud - those who match up best with Officiating being Invader (out of an Encosta de Lago mare and Topsider is his third dam sire), Russian Revolution (out of a Nureyev line mare), Showtime (out of a Timber Country - son of Fall Aspen - mare), Time For War (out of a Zabeel mare and his second dam sire is Frizette's descendant Mukaddamah) and Spill The Beans (dam is bred on a Fairy King/Lorenzaccio cross).

And re Fastnet Rock - Atlante (out of a More Than Ready - see below - mare with Nureyev), Foxwedge and the already mentioned Smart Missile. And re Not A Single Doubt - Extreme Choice and Squamosa (Exceller is his third dam sire).

More Than Ready hails from the La Troienne branch of the Prunella clan and she is a strong influence in Officiating's pedigree, appearing via Buckpasser, Jet Action, Bimelech and Poker. It is always worth seeking out

further La Troienne via the likes of Woodman, Rhythm, Mr Busher (Redoute's Choice's fifth dam sire), Francis S, Hitting Away (third dam sire of Snitzel's dam sire Snippets), Noble Bijou, Hula Chief, Don't Say Halo, Congrats (dam sire of Blame's triple stakes winner Love The Nest), Yamanin Vital, Belong To Me, Air de France, Hero's Honor (dam sire of Elusive Quality), Cohoes, Polish Navy, Pleasant Tap, Frost Giant, Private Account, Nasty And Bold (second dam sire of Extreme Choice), Caerleon, Boucher, Screen Hero (sire of Maurice), Mogami (second dam sire of Maurice) and The Axe. More Than Ready's Queensland based son Better Than Ready is of interest, having - as Officiating does - both Mr Prospector and Seattle Slew.

There is not much Grand Slam in Australia but mares with a strain are nice for Officiating as his Gr.3 winning fourth dam Plum Cake is the grandam of the US Hall Of Fame member Alydar to whom Officiating is line-bred 5 X 6 - and Blame has sired the Gr.1 winner Abscond out of a Grand Slam mare. Oratorio (by Danehill) stood in Australia and is from this family.

Officiating carries strains of the Livie family (Johnstown, Flares and Omaha) of which Success Express and Lyphard are members. He also has decent Selene influence which brings her descendants Sir Tristram and Star Way into play as good strains for him.

THE TOP BROODMARE SIRES FOR OFFICIATING

- **Northern Meteor**
 - Zoustar, Deep Field
- **Invincible Spirit/I Am Invincible**
 - Hellbent, Tassort, Power, Showcasing
- **Ribchester**
- **Dubawi**
 - Makfi, Night Of Thunder
- **Danehill**
- **Snitzel**
 - Showtime, Spill The Beans, Time For War, Invader
- **Exceed And Excel**
- **Not A Single Doubt**
 - Squamosa, Extreme Choice