

**WAKANAKA OVERCOMES TROUBLE TO PROVE MUCH THE BEST IN GROUP 3
FAVE MISSES BREAK, BLOCKED TO MID-STRETCH, WINS AS MUCH THE BEST
FOUR-TIME BLACK-TYPE HERO RUNS FOUR-FIFTHS FASTER THAN THE BOYS**



Wakanaka wins Classic Italian One Thousand Guineas equivalent Sunday at Capannelle Racecourse in Rome.

Wakanaka proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that over the Italian Guineas distance of a mile that she is the queen of the Classic generation among both fillies and colts, as she dominated Sunday's renewal of the Group 3 Regina Elena, Italy's equivalent of the One Thousand Guineas.

In running four-fifths of a second faster than the males in the Two Thousand Guineas equivalent, she earned a *Timeform* rating of 105, which was 4 pounds superior to the winning colt.

The power-packed filly proved her superiority while overcoming a poor start and traffic woes. Last to be loaded into the number 1 stall, the Irish-bred filly was moving backwards when the gates sprung open and she missed the break.

She was able to make up some ground quickly, but spent most of the race mired down along the rail as far back as 8 lengths. To his credit, jockey Luca Maniezzi did not panic and waited for room, which opened up with little more than 2 furlongs remaining in the contest.

Maniezzi maneuvered his filly between horses and into the clear. Once he managed to balance the bay filly, he went to work on her. The 6-to-5 favorite immediately quickened on the good ground, was able

to reel in the embattled leaders with less than a furlong left and rapidly drew away. She went clear of her rivals and was taken in hand before the wire, reducing her margin of victory to just a length. It could have been at least double the winning margin. Race [VIDEO](#)

The race caller was nothing if not enthusiastic about Wakanaka and the Regina Elena. Here is what he said down the lane and through the gallop out.

“Wakanaka who is accelerating impressively. Wakanaka who leaves Italy has won the Regina Elena in a truly devastating fashion. What an impressive performance by Wakanaka, a well-deserved result for the team of Diego Dettori and Luca Maniezzi.

“Ciao ciao to Italy. Wakanaka who passed them all in the center of the track and was in total control. So it's a win for the filly purchased by Team Valor.”

Final time of 1:37 1/5 was nearly a second faster than had been required by the males earlier on the card in the Group 3 Premio Parioli.

Full replay and award ceremonies [LINK](#)