

NISREEN BECOMES BLACK-TYPE WINNER TAKING WIN NUMBER 4 IN 7 RACES BARGAIN BUY ROARS HOME TO COP LISTED PRIX DAHLIA AT SAINT-CLOUD YUTAKA TAKE GAVE TRAINER JOHN HAMMOND DREAM RIDE OVER 1¼ MILES



Nisreen, a bargain \$46,000 buy at Tattersalls last autumn, continued her impressive development at Saint-Cloud racecourse in Paris today by making win number 4 in 7 outings count, as she took the Listed Prix Dahlia under an inspired ride from Yutaka Take.

Just like Wednesday, when an international combine from America, Ireland, Germany and Panama accounted for the Group 3 in Germany with Va Bank, today it was more of the same for the International stable, as the Irish-bred winner is owned by 4 Americans, trained by an English-born horseman who trains in France and ridden by a Japanese-born rider.

Powerfully built Nisreen roars home to take Prix Dahlia for jockey Yutaka Take and trainer John Hammond (below).

Last year, when Barry Irwin spent a lot of time in France, his longtime friend and trainer John Hammond, who B. Eye refers to as the Neil Drysdale of France (“the only difference between them is that Hammond is taller!”), touted him on Nisreen as a possible purchase from Tattersalls sale of horses of racing age at Newmarket.

“She has chronically sore shins and I will not get to run her for Sheik Hamdan, her breeder,” said Hammond. “And he won’t race a filly at 4 as his father told him it was a bad practice. So he will put her in the sale. If I train her for you I will have to let the Sheik know so there is no problem later.”

Angus Gold, racing manager for Shadwell (racing name of Sheik Hamdan), also knew about the filly, put a little group together. At the sale Irwin got an English agent to do his bidding and the filly was knocked down for \$46,000, outbidding Gold.

Owned by Barry Irwin, Jonathan Hensley, Ed Barker and Nick Ben-Meir, the hulking chestnut filly had her shins fire above the protestations of old-school trainer Hammond and she has never looked back, being developed brilliantly by Hammond.

Today she rated in third, was produced in the firing line with 1½ furlongs to go by an unflappable Take and was only really asked for her best in the final 50 yards, when she asserted boldly to win by a long neck. B. Irwin said “We are likely to run her once more this season then put her away until 2019. A lot to look forward to here.”



Jonathan Hensley and wife Jodi were on hand to see the triumph. “It was really exciting,” said the Seattle-based health industry executive whose boss is Nisreen partner Ed Barker of Seattle. “She looked absolutely gorgeous, the ride was flawless and John did a great job preparing her. What a great day to be here!”