

**FACTEUR CHEVAL LEAVES THE BEST FOR LAST IN GROUP 3 PRIX PERTH
BENEFITS FROM SOLID PACE, ENTERPRISING RIDE FOR 1 1/2-LENGTH SCORE
GERALD MOSSE PREDICTS GELDING WILL BE GROUP 1 RUNNER NEXT YEAR**



Retiring reinsman Gerald Mosse absolutely delights in partnering 3-year-old gelding FACTEUR CHEVAL for trainer Jerome Reynier

In what was the final French Group win of his fabled career, retiring Champion jockey Gerald Mosse delivered a brilliant ride to score a first Group win aboard Team Valor International and Gary Barber's Facteur Cheval in the Group 3 Prix Perth going a mile on heavy going at Saint-Cloud on Saturday. When Facteur Cheval made the Listed Prix Saint-Patrick in July at Chantilly his fourth win from as many starts to remain unbeaten for trainer Jerome Reynier, Mosse clutched Barry Irwin hands in the post-race ceremonies and told him that the 3-year-old was an absolute "superstar."

In the Prix Perth, Mosse soon realized the pace was solid, so he allowed his mount to drop back through the field, with only double French Group-winning filly Rosacea in his wake. Just before the field angled off the stretch curve at Saint-Cloud, Mosse enterprisingly steered the big gelding towards the rail in a brilliant move that went a long way in determining his mount's victory.

The gambit looked promising, as long as Facteur Cheval could generate the speed to get to the outside rail without getting shut off and shuffled back. It was a close call, but the horse was game and well up to the task.

Mosse had the 2 to 1 second choice, to newly-minted King Charles' favored Reach for the Moon, rolling but he was not out of the woods yet, as Mickael Barzalona had Godolphin's last-out Listed hero Tribalist trying to pin Facteur Cheval as close to the fence as possible.

Irwin said "It was scary as hell there for a few seconds and my heart sank when we looked beaten and about to lose contact with Tribalist, but Gerald never lost confidence and did not panic. In fact, other

than to tap him once lightly on the shoulder and another time on the flank to signal it was time to skedaddle, he confidently rode the horse only with hands and heels.”



Once Facteur Cheval came back on, he asserted control and put matters to rest inside the final furlong to win drawing away by a length and a half. It was the same distance between the Andre Fabre-trained runner-up and third-placed Rosacea. [LINK](#)

“Rarely have I seen a jockey more enjoy riding a horse than Mosse on board Facteur Cheval,” Irwin noted. “He has broken out into a big smile more than once on the horse and he did so again this time. He allowed the big guy to ease down near the wire, as he patted him admiringly on the neck. It was a beautiful sight to see. I know Gerald is

hanging ‘em up and I am sure he will miss riding our guy. He reiterated his conviction that Facteur Cheval was a Group 1 horse in the making.”

“He could have gone another thousand meters and nobody was going to catch him today,” Mosse told the press. “He is a special horse with a huge future.”