The Ever Improving… Stallion

In the 2012 / 2013 season, Sebring sired 16 individual winners that won a total of 23 races and in turn these 16 horses pocketed in total $1.3 million dollars. The following season (2013 / 2014) the 2008 Golden Slipper winner produced 70 individual winners that won 99 races and grossed $6.7 million dollars. This is a remarkable rise to stardom in just one season! The following year (2014 / 2015), Sebring sired 97 individual winners that won a total of 151 races for a sum of $10 million dollars for their respective connections. Another astonishing rise up the stallion ladder. This season (to date) Sebring has produced 123 individual winners that have won a total of 184 races and picked up upwards of $11 million dollars in Stakes money.

How can a stallion go from producing 23 individual winners to 70, then 97, to this year 123? The answer is simple. Sebring is improving every year, because the word is out… he is a star in the breeding barn, and as such he is being served with the best of the best broodmares which are now in turn producing some of the best and most sort after yearlings in Australia. In September last year, a certain unbeaten champion mare gave birth to a Sebring foal. Black Caviar could have been served by an stallion on earth, and Sebring was chosen. Enough said.

Sebring’s numbers are going up every year – this is somewhat unusual, albeit very good for owners of horses by the champion colt as well as future owners of his progeny. Last season, the last completed season we have to use for statistical purposes, Sebring banked $10 million dollars in total Stakes money. Divide $10 million by the number of total wins which was 151 and you get a number of about $66,000. This means every time a Sebring horse won a race in 2014 / 2015, they pocketed on average $66,000. This stat demonstrates that this stallion as well as being on the continual ‘up,’ is producing horses that are winning most of the time in city class races at a minimum.
An argument can be made that Sebring is the best ‘all-round’ stallion in Australia. His progeny have won races from distances between 850m to 2400m on all manner of racetracks. In fact on the Geelong synthetic track, Sebring has a 25% strike rate. This might not sound like much, but it is a fascinating (and remarkable) stat and a good indication of this stallion’s versatility. At most racetracks, a top stallion might be expected to have a strike rate of somewhere between 10% and 15%. On a synthetic track in Victoria, Sebring has a strike rate of 25%. This really is indicative of what this stallion can produce. Sebring seems to sire horses that are very professional and simply turn up and run, then eat up, gallop of a morning and run again 7 or 14 days later. Sebring’s progeny are a real ‘no fuss’ breed and handle any track they are asked to race on, even synthetic ones! Take Criterion for example. This now stallion won the Black Opal and the Todman as a two-year-old in the autumn of 2013. He then ran 4th in the VRC Derby as a spring three-year-old before winning the Rosehill Guineas and the Australian Derby in Sydney in the autumn of his three-year-old season. In 12 months Criterion went from winning the 1200m Todman to the 2400m Australian Derby. The following year, after a trip to Hong Kong, Criterion won the Queen Elizabeth Stakes – the richest race ever run in NSW. He then went back to Hong Kong and finished 3rd in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes before venturing to England for two good runs during their summer. Criterion then arrived back in Australia, won the Group 1 Caulfield Stakes over 2000m 1st up before just about winning the Cox Plate and Melbourne Cup. He was horribly unlucky in both. From the time Criterion won the Todman to the day he raced for the last time was only three years. In these three years he banked over $7 million for his connections.

Lot 100, Sebring ex Tigress Lily
Criterion is of course the best of the Sebring progeny to date, but he demonstrates perfectly just what this breed is capable of. On Sunday at Tulloch Lodge we will be offering a colt by the every improving and versatile sire Sebring, out of the winning Snitzel mare, Tigress Lily. Inglis Ester Lot 110 was knocked down to Gai for $200,000. This seems like the magic number in terms of finding a stallion. $200,000 is relatively cheap – in fact $200,000 or just a little over or a little under has been the range at which Gai has found some absolute bargains that went on to sell for many millions of dollars to stud. Sebring himself cost $140,000. Vancouver was knocked down to Gai for $185,000; Pierro famously sold for just $230,000 and even Dissident, Sebring’s 2nd best son to date, was purchased for $210,000 for his connections.

Come one come all.