



French jockey Gaetan Faucon guides Majeed to a victory in the feature race at Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club in Doha yesterday. RIGHT: The owner of Sejalaat, Hamad bin Abdul Rahman Al Attiyah, receives his trophy from Dr Thani Al Kuwari, Secretary General of the Qatar Olympic Committee, yesterday.

Majeed wins as Emir's Sword festival starts

The Peninsula

DOHA: Frenchman Gaetan Faucon yesterday guided Majeed to a spectacular win in the feature race on day one of the Emir's Sword Meet at Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC).

Trained by A de Mieuille, Majeed eased past the winning post in a time of 2 minutes 13.10 seconds as Faucon celebrated Qatar Local Purebred Arabian Trophy win under lights at QREC.

The top prize was worth QR85,500. Julian Smart-trained Reda, ridden by popular jockey Harry Bentley, finished in second spot while Aln Jalout, who had Adrie De Vries in the saddle, ended the 2000m turf race in third spot.

Earlier in Thoroughbred Handicap (Class 3) race, Sejalaat brought delight in the Bentley camp by winning race 7. All three top entries were trained by popular Qatari owner Jassem Mohammed Ghazali.

Sejalaat clocked a time of 1 minute 10.43 seconds in the 1200m race.

Thahab, ridden by Frankie Detorri, finished second while Under The Radar, who had Stephan Laajaj, ended in third spot.

In the Thoroughbred Handicap

Today's schedule at QREC

DOHA: Here's the list of races pencilled in by the organisers on day two of the Emir's Sword Meet.

4:30pm: Thoroughbred fillies and mares (Class 2)

5:00pm: Local Thoroughbred Graduation Trophy

5:35pm: Purebred Arabian Handicap Trophy

6:05pm: Thoroughbred Handicap Trophy (Class 3)

6:40pm: Purebred Arabian Sprint Cup

7:10pm: Gulf Cup

7:45pm: Irish Thoroughbred Marketing Cup (Gr 2)

(Class 5) race, jockey Adrie De Vries guided Dark Light to win in the 1400m race. Dark Light, trained by Zuhair Mohsen, clocked a time of 1 minutes 23.37 seconds.

Ibrahim Malik-trained Fadak, ridden by Alan Munro, finished in second spot while Stevie's Wonder, who had experienced Alberto Sanna in the saddle, grabbed the third spot.

Stevie's Wonder was trained by Ghazali.

Amid (Jean Baptiste Hamel) clinched the Purebred Arabian Maiden Plate while Munira Eyes (Munro) topped the field in the Thoroughbred Maiden Plate (Class 5).

AJS Fath Elkhedr (Gerald Avranche) won the Purebred Arabian Cup in what was race 2 yesterday.

In the opening race - the Longines World Fegentri Championship - Hana Jarankova guided Saakhen to victory in a time of 1 minute 36.94 seconds.

Northern Water, ridden by Celina Weber, finished the 1600m race in second spot.

Crosscross, ridden by Virginia Drexler, finished third.

A large crowd had turned up for the day's proceedings at QREC that has been decked by the organisers for the three-day Emir's Sword gala. The organisers have also arranged for a symphony inside the premises besides lighting up the club house with neon and laser lights.

The races continue today at QREC. Tomorrow, the final day of the festival, the feature races will see entries competing for glory in the 2016 H H the Emir's Trophy (Gr I) Thoroughbred and H H the Emir's Sword.

Both the much-sought after title races will be run over 12 furlongs.



The riders who featured in the opening race of the day, the Longines World Fegentri Championship competition, pose for a group photograph at QREC yesterday. BELOW: Horse racing fans who turned up to watch the races yesterday. PICS: JUHAIM

