

## Your essential sales digest

**W**ELCOME to the second of our 2016 yearling sales guides, covering everything you need to know about the upcoming Tattersalls Ireland, Goffs and Tattersalls auctions, including features with some of bloodstock's most recognisable names, sales news and all the essential statistics and pinhooking tables.

The first port of call is Fairyhouse, where Tattersalls Ireland has compiled another catalogue brimming with potential future stars. Next up comes Goffs, where the usual mix of blueblooded lots will be joined by yearlings from the Wildenstein Stables dispersal. Tattersalls' October Sales bring the curtain down on the autumn schedule, and among a plethora of regally bred lots are 17 yearlings from the second crop of dual world champion Frankel.

Tally-Ho Stud ranks as a titan of the breeding and consigning world, and the brains behind the business Tony and Roger O'Callaghan shed light on how they operate. The Castlebridge Consignment has been entrusted with the Wildenstein dispersal lots and Bill Dwan talks us through the pressures that come with consigning such high-profile drafts, while Derek Brugman, racing manager to Markus Jooste, gives us an insight into what makes the big-spending owner tick.

**James Thomas**

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*Under inspection: below our experts discuss what they forgive, and what they don't, in a sales yearling*

#### By an unfashionable sire?

**Richard Fahey, trainer**

Most definitely, depending on the price. We've had a lot of success using unfashionable stallions. We used to buy Dark Angels when nobody wanted them but now we can't afford them!

**Alastair Donald of SackvilleDonald, bloodstock agent**

Yes I would, but he'd have to be a very good individual and the dam would have to have produced more than 50 per cent winners-to-runners. I'm rather cautious if it's an obscure American dirt sire and there's no turf form on the dam's side.

**Katie Walsh, jockey and pinhooker/breeze-up consignor**

It depends on what you call unfashionable, but there are definitely a few stallions whose progeny I wouldn't buy.

#### Who is over/back at the knee?

**RF** I'm not so keen on over at the knee, although Eastern Impact is very over at the knee and we bought him, but back of the knee is fine. Peter Easterby once told me that they never break down at the back of the knee.

**AD** Back at the knee, if marginal, I can forgive, but it would have to be for a

# Would you buy a yearling...

smaller-budget order. I'd tend to avoid over at the knee as I like to buy fast-ground horses with resale value in mind, and this would be high risk for an individual who is over at the knee as they're harder to keep sound.

**KW** No, I wouldn't as they can be very difficult to keep sound.

#### Who has no black type under first two dams?

**RF** Yes definitely, especially if I like the horse.

**AD** As long as the mare and granddam are producing lots of winners, although this will limit your valuation of the horse.

**KW** Of course I would. If it was a good individual by a good sire, why not?

#### Who is consigned by an unfamiliar vendor?

**RF** Yes, a horse doesn't know where it's come from.

**AD** Yes definitely, a good one can come from anywhere.

**KW** Definitely, if the horse was nice enough and by a sire I like it wouldn't bother me at all.

#### Who has a low pinhook price?

**RF** The cheaper the better. It's up to you to decide what's cheap and what's expensive.

**AD** Yes, should it be a very nice horse and vet well. I'd just think well bought and 'damn, I should do more pinhooking'!

**KW** It certainly wouldn't stop me if I thought it was good value and I liked the individual.

#### Finally, what's the one thing you would never forgive in an individual?

**RF** Knees, I find it's the first thing that goes wrong.

**AD** There isn't really one thing I'd avoid, it's a case of extremes. You have to think, yes this horse has its faults, but is it very athletic and will it stand training despite them? Again these things are all budget dependant – the more you spend, the more critical you can be. For a large budget, I don't like upright or slack pasterns.

**KW** A bad front leg.



*Eastern Impact: knee issues but that did not stop Richard Fahey buying the future Group 3 winner*