

Soldier's Tale Served His First Book In 2008

2008 was the first season for Soldier's Tale at stud after he was fairly rushed out of training at Newmarket arriving 3 days before the season started. This horse was tough enough to be Australian and his efforts to overcome adversity before triumphing over champion sprinter Takeover Target are testimony to his character.

Soldier's Tale was extremely well regarded from his first serious gallop at Newmarket. Jeremy Nosedo rated him his best 2YO; not a bad feat when that crop included Balmont, a Grp 1 and Grp 2 winning 2YO and Carry on Katie, also a Grp 1 and 2 winning 2YO, albeit against the fillies. Before considering booking to Soldier's Tale every breeder should listen to the interview with Jeremy on the website.

A serious fracture of the cannon requiring 5 screws stopped his 2YO career. He eventually race as a late 3YO after suffering a serious bout of colic when undergoing surgery to remove the screws. A fractured pelvis after running 4th in the July Cup Group 1 at only his fifth start as a 4YO saw him off the scene for 22 months including another near fatal colic attack.

His return was heroic. Running first up in the Group 2 York Stakes and run off his legs he was back in the last three runners at the 400m mark before bursting between horses to run a fast closing third. One more run and then he tackled the Group 1 Royal Ascot Golden Jubilee Stakes against Takeover Target, Red Clubs, Amadeus Wolf, Miss Andretti, Asset, Magnus, etc and clearly Soldier's Tale and Takeover Target dominated the opposition, before Soldier's Tale prevailed in a stirring victory.

Rated the second highest entire on the 2007 World Sprint Rankings in 2007 ensured the smart breeders would vote with their feet and despite most breeders not getting to see him before they booked, he ended up with 79 blue blood mares in foal.

Most mares were extremely well related, but just concentrating on Group 1 and 2 close associations the following mares (in alphabetical order) deserve some recognition:

- Aflica - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winner Quick Flick.
- Alpine Morn - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winner She's Archie.
- Amber Shimmer - is a half-sister to Grp 2 winner Amberino.
- Antietam - is a half-sister to Grp 2 winner Ubiquity.
- Arabian Lass - is a Grp 1 winner (4 times).
- Ballymoon - is a half-sister to Grp 2 winner Happy Star.
- Bracken Bank - is a Grp 2 winner.
- Camargue - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winner Bomber Bill.
- Candid Smile - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winner Hold That Smile.
- Fjall - is a half-sister to Grp 2 winner La Sizeranne.
- Great Tradition - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winners Blackfriars and Larrocha.
- In The Mist - is the dam of Grp 2 winner De Lago Mist.
- Kensington Gardens - is Grp 1 placed and dam of Grp 1 winners Blackfriars and Larrocha.
- Leica Smile - is a Grp 1 winner.
- Miss Davinci - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winner Racers Edge.
- Musical Note - is the dam of Grp 1 winner Packing Winner.
- Nancy Eleanor - is the dam of Grp 1 winner Phelan Ready.
- Panthere - is a half-sister to Grp 1 winners Billion Win and Nadeem.
- Sorority - is ¾ sister to Pure of Heart and is the dam of Grp 2 winner Happy Giggle.
- Subtle Breeze - is a full sister to dual Grp 1 winner Ballanchine.

Over 30 more mares are full or half relations to the dams of Group 1 or 2 winners or from Group winning mares. He has now let down into a magnificent stallion, so he should enjoy a great 2009 season.