



**KWPN**  
NORTH AMERICA

## HARNESS HORSE NEWS

**Hello!** We are back with our long format this issue to feature a few of articles from the KWPN-NA website including updates from the 36th National Harness Horse Day and Breeder of the Year for Harness Horse, Marcel Ritsma. Also included are two sections from our extended report on the KWPN National Mare- and Foal Keuring. As always, thank you for your continued support! We hope you enjoy our content.

With thanks,  
KWPN-NA Harness Committee

## Impressive Lindrini Top Sport Mare 2021

The 36th National Harness Horse Day was again a true harness horse party, with the audience as usual sympathetic. Also in the battle for the Greet Bergstra Bokaal, but also nostalgic sections such as single-horse chariots for the farm wagon or the pair-in-hand car could count on much acclaim.

Eight mares competed for the Greet Bergstra Bokaal after the regular classes had been run. In that battle Lindrini (Hertog Jan from Dendrini keur sport) of the Kooyman family was supreme in the hands of Henk Hammers. She performed with a great display of power and had spectacular movements. She just kept going and looked very confident about it. She is a worthy successor to her mother, the Topsportmare Dendrini, who was a Topsportmare in 2018. A great breeding achievement by the Kooyman family to have bred another top sport mare.

### TOP THREE

Lindrini is Dendrini's first foal. Second was Gardenia HBC (keur sport van Victory out of Carina ster prok van Vodka HBC) of the HBC stable with Harry van Middelaar. This distinguished mare certainly played well and fought for what she was worth. These two toppers had to walk past it because it was placed from back to front. After all, Lindrini's overall picture remained just that little bit bigger. Third was the elite mare Icanita (Colonist out of Caunita ster pref prok van Starboard). Breeder is Joop van Wessel. Icanita is from Lammert Tel and Linda Boelens rode this well and sharply from the floor-going mare to third place.



# NTD: MANY BEAUTIFUL DRIVEN CLASSES

BY DINI BROUWER

It was a pleasure to enjoy various driven competitions, including the breeding stallion for the Manno Trophy, the Westfort Stallion Competition and the honorary class for the Renovo scale. But the Young Riders and the juniors also brought a lot of atmosphere to the track.

The Westfort Stallion Competition was particularly exciting because the front runners were quite evenly matched. But in the end most points convincingly went to the very natural and with great allure Macho of Willam Duffy in America. The fox showed very freely and happily in the hands of Robbie van Dijk, where it was noticeable that he walks up from only one. In addition, he shows a lot of balance and tact: every step is pure. Lambertus Huckriede showed up for his Magnificent and his show was characterized by spacious, powerful movements with a lot of expressiveness, whereby the fungus takes a lot of soil and also looks over it well. Harry van Middelaar went from the HBC stable to third place with Lanto HBC.

## RENOVO SCALE

In the battle for the Renovo scale, national and regional horses of honor compete against each other. The KWPN stallion Fantijn van Lammert Tel with Harry van Middelaar also took part in that battle. Fantijn showed in his well-known way with a lot of panache through his body and climbing into it great. After that, Leendert Veerman and his daughter Manon had to fight it out. Leendert passed Manon in the rematch with Action Quality Amadeus (by Saffron), who came in second with Emerson (by Manno) from Niek Alting. Two best horses who didn't differ much from each other.

## MANNO TROPHY

The section for the Manno Trophy was not big, but it was very exciting. In the final it was between Fantijn who was first called in and Dylano with

Mark de Groot. The rematch brought Dylano the win. The black stallion performed wonderfully and Fantijn had to give up against such a great Dylano.

## CRAFTSMANSHIP

Nick Raeven sent his father Etienne Raeven to the Championship with great craftsmanship in the Junior Championship Cilardo (by Ulandro). His father sat next to him but he didn't need his help, Nick took care of it all alone and let Cilardo show great. The show of 'the Mekkes children' was also wonderful. Hanneke Mekkes accompanied her nephew twelve-year-old Derek Mekkes who came to show Roelofsen Horse Trucks Bentley (by Larix) and Derk Jan had harnessed the harness for eleven-year-old Bart Roelofsen Horse Trucks Hugo. It was beautiful, Derek beat Bart, they were second and third.

## HORSE OF THE YEAR

In the Young Riders for the Future Cup, the championship went to the fantastic performing Renvyle Imondro (by Cizandro) ridden by F. Fritspatrick with Kevin Huckriede. This horse was named Horse of the Year 2021 on this day. Mieke ter Schure with the elegantly showing Roelofsen Horse Trucks Hugo and the well-showing Jericho (by Dylano) with Roy Brand followed.

Band wagon and harvest wagon they were again, the farmers in the car tires and the harvest wagon. Great was the performance of Any Time (by Patijn) in front of the flat car with Richard Hofstra on the reins. Any Time has had a very good season, but so far this has not always been reflected in the placement. Now no one could get around them. He won by force. For the harvest wagon, the team Mardenia (Delviro from Gardenia HBC) owned by Toon van Doorn and Action Quality Kroonjuweel by Leendert Veerman in the hands of Wito Mink was the winning team. •







## Marcel Ritsma

### BREEDER OF THE YEAR HARNESS HORSE

BY DINI BROUWER

On Saturday he was honored with the honorary title Breeder of the Year 2021: Marcel Ritsma, the Frisian gentleman from Wijnjewoude, as he was so beautifully announced in the protocol. That protocol was concluded with the telling sentence: innovative breeder within harness horse breeding in 2021.

A breeder of the year should clearly distinguish himself in terms of breeding results and have the highest goal, breeding a competition horse, as his starting point. There's also bloodline. The committee came up with very good arguments with the relatively young breeder Marcel Ritsma, who as a small boy was already captivated by the movements of a harness horse. Especially by extremely moving and extremely noble harness horses. Marcel was eventually able to turn his passion for harness horses into his work. In 1999 he bought the foal Saffron and in 2002 the highly noble and very sharp moving Saffron was approved. Marcel sold his champion stallion Saffron to America in 2016.

#### DIFFERENT BLOOD

Marcel Ritsma experimented a lot with foreign frozen semen from Hackneys and Saddlebreds, but the value will only become clear when the genes are in the third generation of a breeding product. We saw such a product in the four-year-old Miss Elegant RSH (Cizandro x Saffron x Harlem Spats Walker). Last year the stallion Leffe Blond (Dylano x Patijn) was registered from his breeding farm and the second viewing stallion Jack Daniëls RSH (by Manno) bred by Ritsma is doing well in the sport. •

## RESULTS FOR THE KWPV EVENT AT ROCKY RIDGE STABLES

BY AARON FISHER

Due to travel restrictions the judges were once again unable to come over for the keuring. I decided to open the barn and welcome people to come and see horses and also bring their own along to show off. Then KWPV-NA decided they will have the virtual foal futurity, and they also said if anyone wants to have an event they will help sponsor it. So I teamed up with the office and decided to put the sponsorship towards a photographer for the foals if they come to the event, and added some fine harness and in hand classes (with unofficial judges) for some added fun.

It turned out to be a great event with horses showing up and also spectators to watch them perform. You can see the schedule for the horses that showed up and their pedigree, and here are the results of the classes. The foals will be judged off the videos so there was no judging of the foals on site. Those results will be announced in the beginning of October.

The Hackney stallion Woodbridge Denver presented himself very well in hand, with his pedigree (Plain's Liberator x Plain's Superstition) it has crossed very well with the DHH in the past and is an outcross as well.

#### IN HAND CLASS – Judged by Erin Shea

- |             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1 Kiralonda | 5 Imperial     |
| 2 Nedaperty | 6 Natalianne   |
| 3 Alonda    | 7 Heartbreaker |
| 4 Lamone    |                |

#### FINE HARNESS STALLIONS – Judged by Raymond Stoltzfus

- 1 Atleet
- 2 Globetrotter
- 3 Nedaperty

#### FINE HARNESS MARES – Judged by David Fisher

- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| 1 Kiralonda      | 4 Imperial   |
| 2 Magnalidee GFF | 5 Lamone     |
| 3 Jasmine        | 6 Natalianne |

#### HORSEMAN OF THE YEAR – Awarded to Raymond Stoltzfus

The harness committee decides this every year and based the decision on his very successful breeding program.

Congratulations on the parties involved on the sales of a few foals. Thanks to everyone for the help in making this a great day!

## Gelders Mares and Foals

Whoever says 'Gelders horses,' will say 'Hekkert family.' The successes of brother and sister Henk and Ria Hekkert are built on the successful breeding of their father Gait. 'De Tikkeler' Stables in Wijhe has produced many Gelders champions and added two more during these KWPN Championships.

### GOLDFINCH AMANDA II

Participation at the Keurings was not self-evident this year. Ria: "My brother Henk has a possibly hereditary eye condition, which causes his vision to deteriorate rapidly. I actually didn't want to take Robinetty II with me at all, because I already sold her mother pregnant by Markant, and I didn't want to run any unnecessary risk with that. But Henk said: 'We want to sell the foals, so you have to show them together with their mothers. Don't whine, get some auxiliaries for the lame and the blind. Besides, this may be the last year that I can see the foals at the inspection, so I want to take them all with me!'"

Three of the presented Hekkert foals received an invitation for the NVK. Robinetty II became champion of these. She has an appealing type, a beautiful front and strong topline. In her powerful way of moving, she can switch gears very easily. Her sire Henkie (by Alexandro P) was also born at De Tikkeler. The keur eligible mare Zusinetty (by Sam R) is her dam. Henk Hekkert's filly Rosa-Amanda (by Alexandro P.) placed second. According

to the judges: "A clear Gelders type filly with a very nice body type. She presented herself with a lot of charisma and good use of the hind leg."

Rosa-Amanda comes out of champion maker Amanda II (Ster Keur eligible preferent by Farrington x Zep) and therefore she is the full sister of Nina-Amanda, who a little later in the day was declared champion of the three-year-old mares in the Van Santvoort class. Ria: "Amanda is my brother's goldfinch. After our father passed away, the three of us decided that Henk would be given his horses, and so Amanda went to him. Everything that comes out of her is top notch and has performed well at the Championships."

"Nina-Amanda is already saddle broken and is being prepared for the sport by her owner Coco Soffers," Ria continues, "She rides for the Young Riders herself, so we have a lot of confidence in her. She bought Nina-Amanda almost three years ago, on Boxing Day. She came to see us for another foal but fell in love with Nina immediately. We only had those two foals at that time and said: 'You can buy them both or none, because you can't just leave one here alone.' After both foals moved, we kept in touch. We don't have the opportunity at home to compete the horses, so we are always very happy when other people compete with our horses. Nina-Amanda is a very alert, but super honest mare in handling. And 'halt' means 'halt.' We teach them that from an early age."

### 3-YEAR-OLD GELDERS MARES

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Nina-Amanda	Alexandro P. out of Amanda II ster Keur elig. preferent by Farrington	Henk Hekkert / CocoSoffers
2	Ninkie	Henkie out of Blitz ster preferent by Voice	Henk Ermens
3	Nadien MC	Alexandro P. out of Ursa elite sport Prok by Zichem	M.C. van der Spek

### GELDERS KEUR & ELITE MARES

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Miss Montreal	Edmundo out of Elite Ibop Prok Tuwalda ster by Fabricius	Marcel van Bruggen
2	Martine Rona Keur Ibop	Wilson out of Rona Keur preferent by Factor	J. Vonk
3	Kiky-Rona B Elite Sport (dressage), Prok	Everdale out of Gyrona- B by RubusB	G.S.W. te Bokkel / B.M.Mulder

### GELDERS FILLIES

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion & Overall Champion	Robinetty II	Henkie out of Zusinetty keur eligible by Sam R	Ria Hekkert
2	Rosa-Amanda	Alexandro P. out of Amanda II sterKeur elig. preferent by Farrington	Henk Hekkert
3	Robine Rona	Jupiler S. out of Joanne Rona sterKeur elig. by Alexandro P.	J. Vonk

### GELDERS COLTS

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Royal Air	Alexandro P. out of Lione Air Keur by Edmundo	P. Brand
2	Ruysdael van Ruynen	Kardieno out of Jamila elite sport-dressage by Chippendale	Barbara Brugge
3	Rolex	Mexpression out of Mirona by Hitmaker	J.D. Donker

This year, Ria and Henk have eleven foals, four of which were sold abroad. Ten mares are in foal for next year by the stallions Alexandro P, Floriscount, Henkie, Hermès, In Style, Jupiler S and Kjento. "Amanda II is of course in foal to Alexandro P again because that is now a proven combination," Ria says. "We have things well organized on the farm now, which is why Henk's deteriorating vision is extra painful: after thirty years of struggling and building up, you want to sit back and enjoy it... but now you get something like this!"

### EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD COLLECTION OF FOALS

Six colts and four fillies battled for the Virbac Foal Cup for Gelders foals. Royal Air became champion of the colts. "A long-lined son of Alexandro P with a beautiful front. A clear Gelders type with a lot of 'schwung' and balance in movement," commented the judges. He comes out of keur mare Lione Air (by Edmundo). The bay colt is bred and owned by P. Brand from Ridderkerk. The reserve champion in this section was Ruysdael van Ruijnen, bred and owned by Barbara Brugge from Ruinen. "This son of Kardieno has a good Gelders type, shows an expressive leg technique in movement and canters with power and balance." Ruysdael comes out of the elite sports mare Jamila (by Chippendale). She is a daughter of the preferent ster mare Vodina (by Elegant).

### BEAUTIFUL 3-YEAR-OLD MARES FOR THE FUTURE

In the three-year-old mares- class, forementioned Nina- Amanda thus grabbed the NMK Champions- title. The reserve title went to the champion of the National Day of the Gelders Horse (Central Keuring for Gelders horses), Ninkie. The beautifully modeled and long-lined daughter of Henkie out of the preferent ster mare Blitz (by Voice) moved uphill and powerfully, but slightly less pronounced than a few weeks earlier. This modern Gelders mare is bred and registered by Henk Ermens from Sint Anthonis. Third place went to Nadien MC (Alexandro P out of Ursa elite sport PROK by Zichem), bred and owned by M.C. van der Spek from Moerkapelle. A charming and well- modeled chestnut with length in her body that makes a lot of front and posture in movement.

### CHAMPION OF 2020 KEEPS HER TITLE

The Onori class for 4 to 7-year-old ster, keur and elite Gelders mares was not a huge class with only three participants, but one with a lot of quality. Wim Versteeg rightly stated that the mares formed very strong competition between them. The Championship title went to Miss Montreal. This dark chestnut mare by Edmundo, bred and owned by Marcel van Bruggen, showed a formidable appearance, with a lot of lift in the front leg and power from the hind leg. This extra strong moving dark chestnut is a real powerhouse. She was the National Champion of the three-year-old Gelders mares last year and has not lost any of her charm and appearance. Miss Montreal was born out of ster mare Tuwalda by Fabricius. •





## Harness Horse Mares and Foals

All three-year-old Harness mares invited for the NMK, had come to Ermelo. Many talents had already been seen at the four Central Inspections and of course every region wants to deliver the champion. It was the East region that won the title: champion Nalanita was bred in Zwartebroek.

### HARNESS HORSE CHAMPIONS WITH X FACTOR

Twenty mares divided in two groups, appeared in front of the jury in the three-year-old queen class. This section was sponsored by Catering Culinaire. Nine mares were invited to the final round. Inspector Viggon van Beest: "Overall, it was a nice final group with three very striking mares in the lead." The jury found that the consistently strong performing Nalanita (Eebert out of Caunita ster pref PROK by Stuurboord), bred by Joop van Wessel from Zwartebroek, was the best. Joop van Wessel has already bred a very large number of well-performing harness horses from this mareline. Icanita, the elite daughter of Colonist who is now owned by Stal Tel and who finished third in the 'Finale der Nationale' with Linda Boelens, also comes out of Caunita. "Nalanita is a sharp Harness type mare with a nice upward conformation and a strong topline. In movement, she goes nicely with the withers up. She has a dignified front and a strong use of the hind leg."

Nalanita also took the lead at the Central Keuring in East. She became ster there with the points 77-83-80. Mother Caunita produced ten foals. Of these, Icanita (by Colonist) and Hunita (by Manno) are her most famous children. The youngest is a son of Fantijn, born this year. After Taunita, born in 2000, Stal Van Wessel didn't have a three-year old National champion for a long time, so the entire family was very happy this year in Ermelo. Joop van Wessel: "A three-year old National champion, that was a while ago. That was Taunita, who was also champion several times as a keur mare. Did I fear the competition? Well, I did hear about stiff competition from the south and from the north, but I had faith in my horse."

"We started with Nalanita at the beginning of March," Joop continues. "That's what the girls do here. One trains the riding horses, the other the harness horses. You must put in quite a few months if you want to get them in optimal condition. And then the question is: are they going to do it or not at the keuring? This mare got better every day. You know, it's not that the training is so good, it's that the horse is so good: only then you make progress. You can't train everything on it, it also must be there naturally. Sometimes I load them in the truck and take them somewhere just to teach them how to travel, that's so important. If they do not want to travel, that shows in the performance at the inspection. They should enjoy it and keep enjoying it. Caunita is a great broodmare who breeds well. She's a Stuurboord and I think that's a plus.

There is a good line behind it and that means everything," says Joop, who wants to keep this mare for a while.



### TRIANTHA LINE

Niantha (Cizandro out of Fijantha ster by Larix), bred and owned by J.P.C. Ermens from Oploo, became reserve champion. She comes out of the Triantha line, also a renowned breeding line. "A very harness-typical mare with a lot of front, allure and appearance. She has a long neck and her ears always forward, reminding me of multiple time champion Brandy. She has a lot of suspension, and she is strong behind," says Viggon van Beest. Her score at the Central Inspection was 80-82-81. In third place came the champion of the three-year-olds from the North region, Nikita (Icellie out of Juliea by Stuurboord), ridden by breeder and owner Rein Bosch from Hellendoorn. Granddam Zinnia used to be a successful competition mare at Stal Bosch. "A harness-typical mare with size that trots powerful with a very active use of the hindleg and who carries her neck well." She scored 78-84-81 at the Central Inspection.

### TWO-YEAR-OLD MARES

The two-year-old mares championship class, offered by Onori, was won by the very best and with a lot of technique trotting Owandra (Kordaat out of Uwandra keur pref by Fabricius) bred by Gebr. den Otter of Bruchem. Odessa K (Dylano out of Scodessa keur pref sport of Nando), bred and owned by Egbert Kruiswijk from Loenen aan de Vecht, came in second place. The third place was for Oreda (Atleet out of Fureda elite by Unieko), bred and owned by Erik and Sander Daniëls.

### EXTRA SECTION FOUR-YEAR-OLD MARES

This year there was an extra category for four-year-old ster mares. This class was sponsored by Knegt. The championship title went to the extra performing Miantha H (Cizandro out of Biantha V elite pref by Manno), bred and owned by Gerrie Hermanussen from Beers. Subsequently, Miss

### 3-YEAR-OLD HARNESS HORSE MARES

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Nalantina	Eebert out of Caunita Ster Preferent PROK by Stuurboord	J.W. van Wessel
2	Niantha	Cizandro out of Fijanthe ster by Larix	J.P.C. Ermens
3	Nikita	Icellie out of Juliea by Stuurboord	J.R. Bosch

### 4-YEAR-OLD HARNESS HORSE MARES

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Miantha H	Cizandro out of Biantha V Elite Preferent PROK by Manno	G. Hermanussen
2	Miss Jerina YBP	Hertog Jan out of Viva Jerina Elite Preferent PROK by Marvel	G.J.H. Markhorst- vd Velde / Black Horses B.V.
3	Miss Cerona VS	Atleet out of Cerona Elite PROK by Victory	M.E. de Wild

### KEUR & ELITE HARNESS HORSE MARES

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Lendoline Elite Ibop (harness)	Eebert out of Gwendoline Ster Preferent PROK by Manno	W.G. Cazemier / W. Liezen
2	Jara Keur Ibop (harness)	Cizandro out of Trijnie Ster by Manno	C.J.M. Boots / J. Kramer
3	Lidia Keur Ibop (harness)	Cizandro out of Zilvia Keur by Ranno	Henk Reurink / H. Pos

### HARNESS HORSE FOALS

PLACING	NAME	BREEDING	BREEDER/OWNER
Champion	Ruwaldo	Atleet out of Juwalda ster by Cizandro	F. Raaijmakers
2	Relatief	Idol out of Kureda Keur Ibop (harness) by Unieko	E. Daniels & S. Daniels
3	Ravensgoed W	Dylano out of Indinita Elite Ibop (harness) PROK by Eebert	J.W. van Wessel

Jerina YBP (Hertog Jan out of Viva Jerina elite pref by Marvel), bred by Dinie Markhorst from Brucht and owned by Black Horse BV became reserve champion. A great success for the Young Breeders (YPB stands for Young Breeders Program), because the choice of stallion was determined

by them, together with breeder Dinie Markhorst. It turned out well, it was 'their' first National mare. Place three went to Miss Cerona VS (Atleet out of Cerona elite by Victory), bred by Wim Veneklaas Slots from Zijerveld and owned by ME de Wild of Geffen, who had already won her class that morning in harness.

#### KEUR & ELITE MARES AND FOALS

Thirteen outstanding keur/elite mares presented themselves in the next class. Champion in this class, that was sponsored by Catering Culinair, was the exceptionally spectacular showing Lendoline (Eebert out of Gwendoline ster pref by Manno), bred by Wim Cazemier from Indiana and owned by Wout Liezen. She beat all the others with ease and scored 180 points. The second placed mare Jara (Cizandro out of Trijnie ster by Manno), bred by f. C.J.M. Boots from Spanbroek and ridden by Johan Kramer, scored 163 points. With 161 points, Lidia (Cizandro out of Zilvia keur by Ranno), bred by Henk Reurink from 't Harde and owned by the Pos family, won third place.

The foal section, awarded with the Virbac Foal Cup, was won by the colt Ruwaldo (Atleet out of Juwalda ster by Cizandro), bred and owned by F. Raaymakers from Nistelrode. He was a strong champion. Relatief (Idol out



of Kureda keur by Unieko), bred and owned by Erik and Sander Daniëls from Wageningen, came in second. The third place was for Ravensgoed W (Dylano out of Indinita elite by Eebert), bred and owned by Joop van Wessel from Zwartebroek. •

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