

October 3, 2015

TUTTIPAESI INSPIRES WITH NEW PEAK IN SUFFOLK DOWNS STAKES WIN MARE HAS CONTINUED TO REWARD VALOR LADIES' PERSEVERANCE STAKES WINNER AT 2, 3 AND 5 IS AN EXCITING MATE FOR ANIMAL KINGDOM

Tuttipaesi rewarded the patience and perseverance of her Valor Ladies connections with a dominant stakes victory in the \$75,000 Suffolk Downs Distaff Turf on October 3, more than two years since her career was sidetracked by injury and serious illness.



Tuttipaesi in the paddock at Suffolk before she scored her first stakes win in more than 2 1/2 years.

After winning the Ginger Brew Stakes at Gulfstream Park and finishing second in the Grade 1 Ashland Stakes at Keeneland in early 2013, Tuttipaesi went to the sidelines with a leg fracture and eventually wound up in critical condition with a bout of colitis, triggered by Potomac Horse Fever. She battled back to good health and was able to return to the races in late 2014. By August, she showed she was fully revived in a second-place finish in the De La Rose Stakes at Saratoga.

Her next start appeared to be a case of "two steps back," though, as she was rank and went too fast early, only to fade and finish last in the Grade 3 Noble Damsel Stakes at Belmont. The confusion over her unexpected behavior was compounded when the mare came back with a horse shoe-not hers - that had somehow become ensnared in her tail during the race. "Tutti" was a tempest afterward, lit up and angry from the incident, none too happy while the crew untangled the shoe.

The typically spirited mare bounced right back two weeks later in the Suffolk Downs Distaff, the feature in one of the three "festival" days at the Boston area track this year. Bet down to 3 to 1 on turf rated good, Tuttipaesi meshed well with veteran jockey Chris DeCarlo, who was given a leg up on the grey Irish-bred for the first time.

Valor Ladies principal Megan Jones had reached out to DeCarlo the day before and said "Regardless of where you place her, if you can get her to relax underneath you going into the first turn without using your hands, that is how she runs best."

DeCarlo obviously took the message to heart as he sat chilly while Tuttipaesi dashed out to the early lead and settled into a nice, steady rhythm out in front. She opened up a 2-length advantage along the backstretch and had plenty left in the tank as she drew off in the stretch to win by 3 1/4 lengths. Her 95 Beyer Speed Figure is far and away the best of her career.

"Megan has showed a lot of perseverance with this mare, from day one," said Barry Irwin, the Team Valor CEO who has entrusted Jones with managing the Valor Ladies offshoot. "Her last race was discouraging but Megan always thought there was something more there and she was proven correct."

"This horse was a very precocious 2-year-old in Italy, the best filly of her juvenile season there, and she was taken out of there early in the year. With most of those horses, the question is whether they will train on. She is now 5 years and probably at the top of her game. That is very unusual."



Tuttipaesi will return to Fair Hill Training Center in Maryland to prepare for an undetermined race in November. The first horse to run under the banner of the all-female Valor Ladies partnership, she now owns 5 wins in 14 career starts and \$302,690 in earnings. She is viewed as an exciting broodmare prospect for the court of Animal Kingdom in the 2016 Northern Hemisphere season. Animal Kingdom and Tuttipaesi are both out of Acatenango mares.

From *Daily Racing Form* comes the following:

TUTTIPAESI WINS INAUGURAL SUFFOLK DOWNS DISTAFF TURF

Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott, who enjoyed success at Suffolk Downs with Cigar in the 1995 and 1996 runnings of the Massachusetts Handicap, captured the inaugural running of the featured \$75,000 Suffolk Downs Distaff Turf on Saturday with the Irish-bred Tuttipaesi.

Valor Ladies' 5-year-old gray mare made every pole a winning one under Chris DeCarlo as she covered about 1 1/16 miles over a course rated good in 1:47.40 to win by 3 1/4 lengths. Calumet Farm's Hellenistic was second for trainer Chad Brown and Maximova took third for Gallagher's Stud and Christophe Clement.

The win was the second on the day for the Mott-DeCarlo tandem, which won a \$45,000 optional-claiming race with Divine Praises for Three Chimneys Farm and Besilu Stables earlier.

"They said to break and let her tell me what she wanted to do," said DeCarlo. "It was better not to fight her, so I did just what they said. I've never ridden here before. It's cold, but I had a good day."

Tuttipaesi, who now has won 5 of 14 starts and upped her earnings to \$317,629, returned \$7.80 as the 5-2 favorite in the field of six. Means Well, Red Hot Tweet, Keystone Kelly, and Montana Native, entered for the main track only, scratched.

The morning rains and windy, raw, and cool conditions couldn't keep the crowd away, with 8,554 fans turning out for the second of the 80-year-old track's three live racing and food truck and craft beer festival days in 2015.