

Super Record

Snowbound Superstar sets a record in the Challenge.

By Amy Owens

OVERCOMING ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE, TWO-TIME AQHA DISTANCE champion Snowbound Superstar scored his record 15th consecutive victory when he nosed out Bad Act to win the \$17,280 Red Cell California Distance Challenge on September 27 at Los Alamitos. The race, which marked Snowbound Superstar's first start since May 10, was conducted as a nonwagering event and was run a half-hour before the first race of the evening.

With Cody Jensen aboard, Snowbound Superstar broke slowly from post 2 in the field of five 3-year-olds and older horses going 870 yards. He was shuffled back at the start as Bad Act and jockey Cesar DeAlba took the early lead. Snowbound Superstar then moved to the rail, racing in tight quarters and facing the task of coming from off the pace.

Around the turn, Bad Act opened up a two-length lead while Snowbound Superstar moved off the rail, then lugged out badly. Bad Act took the turn efficiently and began pulling away, seemingly en route to a comfortable victory before

Snowbound Superstar began to reel him in from the outside with every stride. The two were inseparable at the finish.

"Unbelievable, if he got up after that kind of trip with Bad Act right there!" Los Alamitos announcer Ed Burgart said about Snowbound Superstar after the horses crossed the finish together. "A huge run from Snowbound Superstar in the final strides!"

Snowbound Superstar covered 870 yards on a fast track in :44.519. Victorysgotalotahope was third, and was followed by Legal Runaway and Gold Lone Star.

Snowbound Superstar, who races for Tom and Brenda Brinkley of Hollister, California, is a 6-year-old gelding by Snowbound (TB) who was bred in Washington by Robert F. Pulse. Trained by AQHA Champion Trainer Paul Jones, he has never lost while racing at 870 yards. The gelding now has 15 wins in 18 starts with career earnings of \$236,088. He earned \$8,985 for his latest victory.

Snowbound Superstar was scheduled to make his next start

in the \$125,000 Red Cell Racing Challenge Distance Championship (G1) during the 17th Bank of America Challenge Championships at Los Alamitos on October 31. The gelding won the race in 2007 when it also was at Los Alamitos. He was expected to rematch with world record-setter Gone To The Mountain. The two on May 10 provided a thrilling match, dueling from gate to wire in the Red Cell Oklahoma Distance Challenge, with Snowbound Superstar finishing a narrow neck ahead while setting a track record of :44.288. Gone To The Mountain next won the Master Salls Handicap at Ruidoso Downs and an allowance at Zia Park to prep for the Challenge Championships.

Now tied for second place behind Snowbound Superstar on the list of horses with the longest consecutive win streaks are Josie's Bar, a world

SCOTT MARTINEZ



Snowbound Superstar edges Bad Act in the final stride of the Red Cell California Distance Challenge.

champion who first accomplished the feat in 1953-1954; Destiny Drummer, a star in the Northwest who equaled the record in 1980-1982; and Pies Royal Request, who put together his streak in Arizona and New Mexico in 1994-1995 and became a Grade 1 winner at Los Alamitos.

Rule Change

BEGINNING NEXT YEAR, OWNERS OR NOMINATORS OF CHALLENGE horses must be AQHA members.

The new rule states: "Effective January 1, 2010, the following additional AQHA Racing Challenge Program requirements apply:

"(1) in order for a person to be eligible to enroll a horse in the AQHA Racing Challenge Program, such person must

be a current AQHA Member;
"(2) in order for an owner to be eligible to nominate a horse to race in a Challenge race, such owner must be a current AQHA Member; and
"(3) if the owner of horse run in a Challenge race is different than the owner referenced in subsection (2) above, such new owner, if not already an AQHA member, must become an AQHA Member within time period specified by AQHA."

"The Challenge program is paid for by AQHA – administration, promotion, advertising and awards," explained Director of Racing Challenge Darrell Hare, "So the Racing Council members felt it was only reasonable to require that owners be members of AQHA." ■

BANK OF AMERICA RACING CHALLENGE LEADERS



JOHN DEERE CHAMPION OWNER

OWNER	POINTS
S Bar S	120
Shauna Edwards and Mark Loebner	56
Anjora Corp	39
Dennis and Gerri Cain	38
Tom and Brenda Brinkley	34
Gabriel Cue Sacre	32
Donalda M. Cochrane	31
Javier Rosique	31
Denny and Sandy Weigt	31
Caroline Sanders and Sammy Dunlap	27



NUTRENA CHAMPION BREEDER

BREEDER	POINTS
Vessels Stallion Farm LLC	70
Jerry Windham	60
Bobby D. Cox	60
J E III/D C/C T Jumonville	45
D. and L. Nelson/The Victory Group	38
Abigail K. Kawanakoa	37
Michael S. McKay	36
Double Bar S Ranch LLC	36
Anjora Corp	35
Bollenbach Farms	34



VETROLIN CHAMPION TRAINER

TRAINER	POINTS
K. C. Carden	158
Paul C. Jones	142
Bill C. Hoburg	105
C. Dwayne Gilbreath	75
John R. Harris	63
Scott Raley	54
Bret Vickery	53
Alberto Pasten Fernandez	53
Janet VanBebber	51
Jose Valdivia	50



WRANGLER CHAMPION JOCKEY

JOCKEY	POINTS
Berkley Packer	104
William E. Ives	97
Ricky Ramirez	81
Cody Jensen	74
Santos Carrizales	63
Gilbert B. Ortiz	61
G. R. Carter Jr.	57
Larry Payne	48
David A. Alvarez	47
Santiago Mendez	47