

## MICHAEL HALFORD ENTERS TRAINING PARTNERSHIP WITH TRACEY COLLINS



Michael Halford | Tattersalls

By Brian Sheerin

Group 1-winning trainer Michael Halford has revealed that he is set to join forces with Tracey Collins and take out a joint licence ahead of the new Flat season in March.

Halford, whose Group 1 win was achieved with Casamento (Ire) (Shamardal) in the Racing Post Trophy in 2010, has also enjoyed international success in Dubai as well as Royal Ascot glory in recent years from his Copper Beech Stables.

However, he is set to relocate from that purpose-built facility to Collins' Conyngham Lodge yard on The Curragh, where the pair will become just the second joint-licence holders in Ireland.

Speaking about the move, Halford, who sent out 24 Flat winners last term, said, "The association between the Collins family and Irish racing goes back close to a century and is one of the proudest in our sport. I'm grateful, humbled and excited by the chance to train alongside Tracey at one of the most famous yards on The Curragh and look forward to starting this new chapter next month."

Halford is one of the few trainers in Ireland to have sent out more than 1,000 winners. He has trained for some of the biggest owners in racing, including Godolphin and the Aga Khan, and his seasonal tally of winners has hit double figures every year since 1998. [Cont. p3](#)

## BRITISH EBF SUPPORT TOPS £2 MILLION

Edited Press Release

For the first time in the 40-year history of the organisation, the British European Breeders' Fund will increase its contribution to prize money to £2 million.

"Britain continues to be recognised for the quality of its stallion market: we stand promising young sires and established producers of Champions," said British EBF Chairman Simon Sweeting. "The support of all our stallion owners to the British EBF means we can support well over 700 flat races in 2023 with £1.9million, our biggest commitment to date. With our National Hunt programmes considered too, the British EBF contribution is over £2 million, directly to racing's prize money. It is a genuine enhancement of the value of the race programme, with a particular focus on developmental races and projects that protect the diversity of the race programme and, ultimately, the Thoroughbred." [Cont. p3](#)

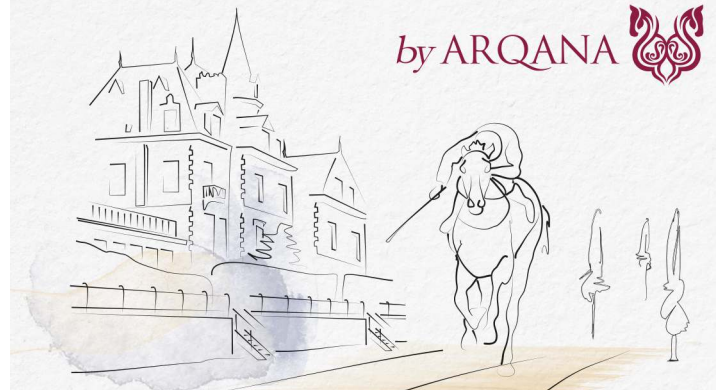
## IN TDN AMERICA TODAY

### ASMUSSEN RECORDS 10,000TH WINNER

Hall of Fame Steve Asmussen, the winningest North American trainer in history, was represented by his 10,000th winner Monday at Oaklawn Park in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

## DISCOVER THE 2023 SALES CALENDAR

by ARQANA 



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Michael Halford pictured with Frankie Dettori after winning the G1 Racing Post Trophy at Doncaster in 2010 with Sheikh Mohammed's Casamento. Halford will train in partnership with Tracey Collins starting in March. | [racingfotos.com](http://racingfotos.com)

**GUEST NAMED TIEA EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR 4**

Sarah Guest, yard manager for trainer John O'Shea, was named the Employee of the Year at the TIE Awards Monday at York Racecourse.

**WHAT'S IN A NAME 5**

In another installment of 'What's In a Name?', Andrea Branchini looks at French winners Mr Moliere (Fr) and Mon Ouragan (Fr).

**PURTON TO RIDE ARTORIUS IN SYDNEY 7**

Leading Hong Kong jockey Zac Purton will ride Artorius (Aus) (Flying Artie {Aus}) in the G1 Canterbury S. Mar. 4, his first visit to Australia since 2018.

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**Halford/Collins Partnership cont.**

Collins has enjoyed notable success in her own right, notably with stable star Captain Joy (Ire) (Dark Angel {Ire}), and hails from a family steeped in Irish racing history. Her grandfather, M.C. Collins, sent out Windsor Slipper to win the Irish Triple Crown in 1942 and trained five Classic winners from Conyngham Lodge. Her father, Con, will forever be associated with Sandy Creek, the Classic-winning Princess Pati (Ire) (Top Ville {Ire}) and the Moyglare S. heroine Chelsea Rose (Ire) (Desert King {ire}).



Tracey Collins | *Racingfotos.com*

Collins, who sent out two winners last term, commented, “There is a long and proud tradition here at Conyngham Lodge and I’m greatly looking forward to the next chapter in the yard’s history by teaming up with Michael from the start of March. It’s an exciting venture and one full of potential and I hope we have much to look forward to over the coming months and years.”

Father-and-son team Eddie and Patrick Harty are the only other joint-licence holders in Ireland, but Danny Murphy is understood to be in the process of joining Kieran Cotter on the licence.

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**British EBF cont. from p1**

Areas of the programme that will benefit from the extra support include juvenile developmental races, sire/dam-restricted 2-year-old races and a small series of novice and maidens for 3-year-olds.

“Some of our established high-value Novice and Maiden races at premier fixtures will benefit from extra funding,” said the British EBF’s Rachael Gowland. Our successful sire/dam-restricted races will receive a boost as an important cross-industry initiative to encourage the production of quality stayers in Britain. We are also supporting the BHA in special projects to strengthen developmental opportunities in the older horse programme. [Cont. p4](#)

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# TERRITORIES



Putting their money where our mouth is: trainers who signed for his stock included **Joseph O’Brien**, *Mark Johnston*, *Archie Watson*, *George Boughey*, **Richard Hughes**, **Paul Cole**, *Henri-Alex Pantall*, **Gay Kelleway**. *Andrew Balding*, trainer of Derby runner-up Hoo Ya Mal, paid 120,000gns for a 2022 Territories yearling. **That’s a decisive nod of approval from people who know.**

**£10,000** Oct 1, SLF Dalham Hall Stud

**Darley**

# Two Champions!

**EUROPEAN CHAMPION 3YO**  
from his first crop  
**VADENI**

**CHAMPION 2YO IN FRANCE**  
from his second crop  
**BLUE ROSE CEN**

**'ARC' AIM  
THIS SEASON**

**EXCITING CLASSIC  
PROSPECT**



# CHURCHILL

EUROPEAN CHAMPION 2YO & DUAL CLASSIC-WINNING MILER BY **GALILEO**

## 2022 Leading Second Crop Sires in Europe

Rk	STALLION	GSWs	G1SWs	2023 FEE	EARNINGS
1	<b>CHURCHILL</b>	5	2	€30,000	€4,833,566
2	Zarak	4	0	€60,000	€1,892,676

**8 sons of GALILEO sired Gr.1 winners in Europe and North America in 2022 (compared with 2 sons of Dubawi) including:**

### FRANKEL

Champion Sire

### AUSTRALIA

**13** Group/Stakes winners in 2022 plus two 100 plus-rated 2YOs with **Aidan & Donnacha O'Brien**

### GLENEAGLES

**9** Group/Stakes winners in 2022, three of them 2YOs including exciting Guineas prospect

**ROYAL SCOTSMAN**



# COOLMORE

**British EBF cont.**

“This is in addition to our long-standing commitments to our high-value fillies’ and mares’ handicaps, designed to retain mares in GB and give them productive targets throughout the season, and of course, our flagship British EBF £100,000 2yo Series finals founded last year.”



**Streets of Gold | Jeremy Philips**

The British EBF 2yo Series covers over 140 qualifying races and is capped by a finale for fillies at Goodwood and one for colts and geldings at York, each worth £100,000. It aims to support the commercial end of the sales and stallion market by utilising Restricted Novice and Maiden races as qualifiers. A number of these, now supported by long standing EBF contributor Juddmonte, are to be run at £30,000, making them valuable qualifying targets on the way to the finals.

In 2022, David Mensuisier’s €13,000 purchase Munch (GB) (New Bay {GB}) claimed the fillies’ final at Goodwood. The race went on to produce subsequent Listed Winterkonigin Trial winner Sirona (Ger) (Soldier Hollow {GB}). The colts’ final was won by the unbeaten Eve Johnson Houghton trained Streets of Gold (Ire) (Havana Gold {Ire}), a £27,000 Tattersalls Ireland purchase whose spring target is the G1 2000 Guineas. The race also produced Legend of Xanadu (GB) (Sixties Icon {GB}) who went on to with the Listed Doncaster S. at the end of last season.

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**GUEST NAMED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AT TIE AWARDS**

Sarah Guest, the yard manager for trainer John O’Shea, was named the Employee of the Year during the 2023 Thoroughbred Industry Employee Awards sponsored by Godolphin in ceremonies held Monday evening at York Racecourse. It was the first in-person event since 2020 and was held for the first time in Yorkshire.

Guest took home a cash prize of £10,000 and an additional £10,000 to be divided among her colleagues at the John O’Shea yard.

Earlier in the evening, Guest was also presented with the Leadership Award, carrying a £5,000 prize and a similar amount for the yard, meaning she and her coworkers each ended with £15,000 following the ceremony.



**Sarah Guest (second from right) | Courtesy BHA**

“Sarah is a richly deserving winner of this prestigious award and, despite the high quality of the finalists brought forward to this evening’s ceremony, she was a stand-out selection to be named the Employee of the Year,” said Nick Luck, chair of the judging panel. “There can be no doubting the importance of Sarah to the John O’Shea operation, which was demonstrated to greatest effect during 2022 when John O’Shea was unwell. Sarah is a shining example of the sort of hard work and dedication that keeps yards up and down the country running, and we as an industry can be rightly proud of her dedication to ensuring the well-being of her colleagues and the horses in her care.”

The £30,000 awarded to Guest and her colleagues was part of a total of £128,500 offered by Godolphin. The ceremonies were hosted by Francesca Cumani and were organised by the British Horseracing Authority in conjunction with Racing Post and Racing TV.

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