



### **Prix du Gros-Chêne : nns of Court, in a class of his own**

**Inns of Court** was the most decorated of the 5 runners of the Prix du Gros-Chêne (Gr2), even though this was his first time running over 5 furlongs (1,000 metres). The winner, representing Godolphin, went clear in the finish, putting daylight between him and **Sestilio Jet**. The pacemaker, **Major Jumbo**, came third.

Andre Fabre's runner should now be heading for the Diamond Jubilee Stakes over 1,200 metres, at Royal Ascot, if he recovers well.

Inns of Court is the son of the successful stallion Invincible Spirit. His mother is a daughter of Lune d'Or, for the colours of Moussac, and has also won the Prix de Pomone and Malleret in 2004.

### ***How they ran:***

1<sup>st</sup>- Inns of Court: Travelled in third by Sestilio Jet and made ground rapidly in front of the stands. He burst forward as soon as his Jockey Mickaël Barzalona pushed him to accelerate. Went clear 300m from the post and won without a crack of the whip.

2<sup>nd</sup> - Sestilio Jet: Broke well and travelled in second position. Chased the leader couldn't match Inns of Court in the final furlongs. Finished second.

3<sup>rd</sup> - Major Jumbo: Burst from the barriers to challenge the leaders at the head of the pack. Unable to challenge Inns of Court, he fought to secure third place.

4<sup>th</sup> - Gold Vibe: Settled in fourth position. Never any impression.

5<sup>th</sup> - Gossamer Wings: Came last out of the stalls and faded badly in front of the stalls.

### ***The reactions***

#### **Mickaël Barzalona (jockey of Inns of Court, 1st)**

"I knew I was going to win all throughout the race. I asked him gently for more effort so that he wouldn't go to hard. His entourage has decided that he should run over short distances this year. He does this beautifully in the face of qualified sprinters. He is in his element."

#### **Lisa-Jane Graffard (French representative for Godolphin SNC, owner of Inns of Court, 1st)**

"He gave a really good feeling to Mickaël Barzalona, who is really happy about his performance. We knew he had a lot of speed, but what he has accomplished for his first try over 1000m is fantastic. We thought he could get overwhelmed at the start, but that wasn't the case. Inns of Court is a horse with a distinct character and can have various moods. Today, he came prepared, he had his ears pricked and was ready for the fight. He is due to run in the Diamond Jubilee à Royal Ascot (Gr1 over 1.200m) but we will discuss with Mr Fabre whether he might consider running him in the King's Stand Stakes (Gr1 over 1.000m) after this performance. All our options are open. He is a beautiful horse: he has gained strength, which often happens with the move to shorter races. He deserves his Gr1 and I hope that he will one day have his place at the stud. He deserves this aswell."

#### **Andrea Marcialis (trainer of Sestilio Jet, 2nd)**

"He ran a top-class race even though he's a soft ground horse. He was also beaten by the best and I don't think soft ground would have made a difference to the results. I told his jockey to run behind the English horse, because he's a good horse that is second from Gr2. Sestilio Jet finished ahead of him; it wasn't bad form! He won't go to Ascot because it would be too hard. I will maybe give him some holiday time because I don't think he'll have the ground he likes anytime soon."

**Kevin Ryan (trainer of Major Jumbo, 3rd)**

“He runs well, with generosity, even though the ground isn’t exactly in his favour. Right now, he will probably take some time to rest after a busy start of the season. We gave it a try, but on this ground and in this weather, it was hard. He is generally better on softer ground.”

***Roll of honour***

<i>Year</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<i>S/A</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Jockey</i>	<i>Trainer</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>
2019	Inns of Court	H5	00’57’’64	M. Barzalona	A. Fabre	Godolphin SNC	Sestilio Jet	Major Jumbo
2018	Finsbury Square	G6	00’57’’91	O. Peslier	M. Delcher Sanchez	Berend Van Dalssen	Gold Vibe	A Momentofmadness
2017	Muthmir	G7	00’58’’01	J. Crowley	W. Haggas	Hamdan Al Maktoum	Finsbury Square	Plusquemavie
2016	Son Cesio	H5	00’59’’58	V. Cheminaud	H.-A. Pantall	Yves Borotra	Catcall	Finsbury Square
2015	Muthmir	G5	00’58’’22	P. Hanagan	W. Haggas	Hamdan Al Maktoum	Catcall	Spirit Quartz
2014	Rangali	G3	00’57’’32	F. Veron	H.-A. Pantall	Henri-Alex Pantall	Catcall	Dibajj