

# CENTENNIAL PARK VETERINARY PRACTICE



A.B.N. 91 072 794 944

## VETERINARY REPORT

**Horse:** "Stunning To Win" **Date:** 2 March 2020  
**Microchip No.:** 985100012128031  
**Trainer:** Peter & Paul Snowden  
**Location of Examination:** Snowden Racing Stables, Randwick, NSW

"Stunning To Win" was examined on 25 February 2020 after suffering a stable accident. Clinical examination revealed severe trauma and related pain to the wither which appeared to be mildly 'flattened'. The filly did not display any neurological abnormality, she presented in a stable condition and was calm albeit in pain. The soft tissue swelling surrounding the wither injury was immense. A fractured wither was suspected, so "Stunning To Win" was confined to her stable with a prescription of daily analgesia and anti-inflammatory medication and twice daily ice packs. "Stunning To Win's" condition and level of pain improved slowly together with a sustained reduction in soft tissue swelling and she soon began to mobilize with ease inside her stable.

Radiographs of the injury site were conducted today, and the images reveal the presence of multiple fractures at various levels of the vertebral spines (dorsal spinous processes) of the thoracic vertebrae (T3 to T11 inclusive). The fractured dorsal spinous process of thoracic vertebra 7 (T7) appears to be compound and compressed whilst the remaining majority display displaced fragments of varying sizes. The radiographs confirm a fractured wither.

Complete bone healing of these fractures frequently does not occur and often there remains deformation of the dorsal spinous processes. Despite this, as long as the fractures are afforded sufficient time to stabilize with well-formed calluses (needed for bone to heal), the fractured bones will remodel and strengthen and the prognosis for a return to ridden exercise is considered to be good albeit possibly with the assistance of a 'special' / modified saddle.

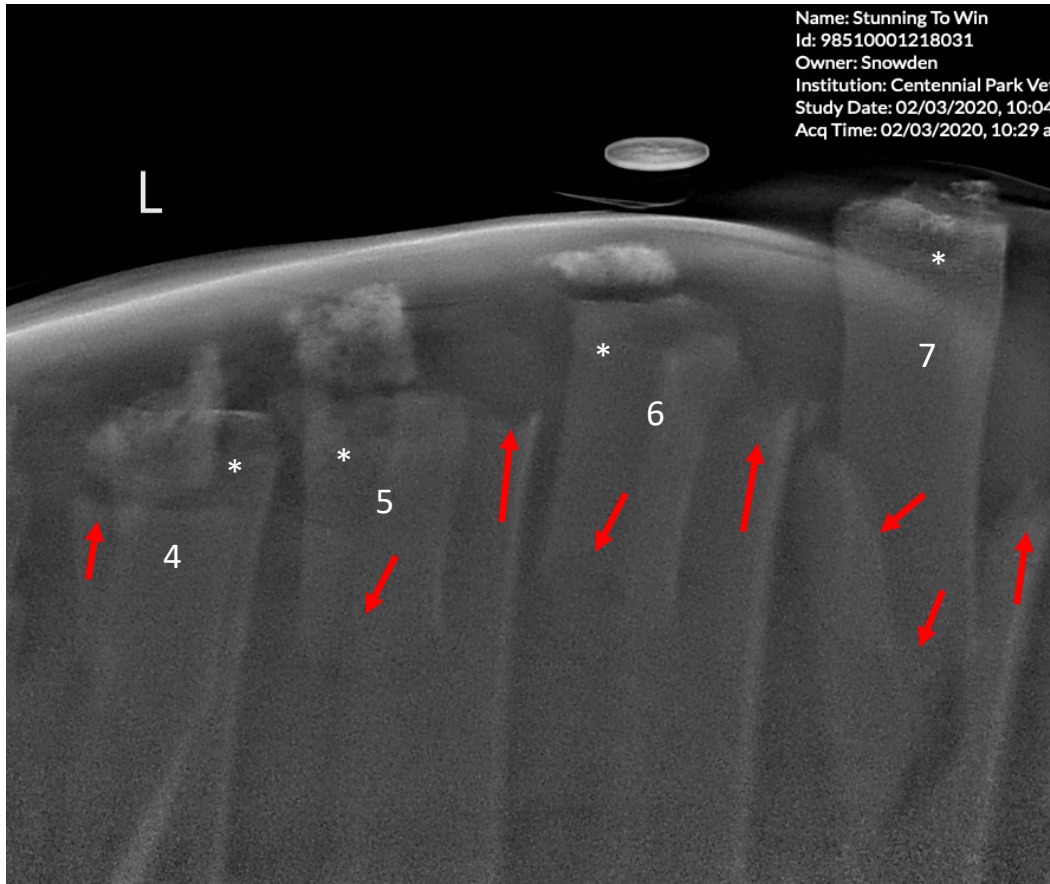
In order to encourage good callus formation, the following rehabilitation program is recommended:

1. 8 to 10 weeks restriction to a stable / small yard; then
2. A veterinary examination at the end of the 8-week period to decide whether or not the filly can be turned out into a small paddock on her own (day and night if safe!);
3. After 8 weeks in a small paddock, and should the filly display no discomfort or gait abnormality, then she can be turned out into a larger paddock with a mate and permitted free exercise for 4 weeks;
4. On completion of the 5 month period, and so long as no gait abnormality is evident, "Stunning To Win" may commence pretraining that ought to commence with 2 weeks walking on a dry walker fitted with a 'Chambon' or 'Pessoa' to strengthen the muscles of her back prior to commencement of ridden exercise;
5. Extreme care should be exercised when fitting a saddle to protect both "Stunning To Win" and her rider;
6. Should "Stunning To Win", at any stage during the above prescribed period, display pain or gait anomalies, a veterinary examination should be arranged and at least pain relief administered.

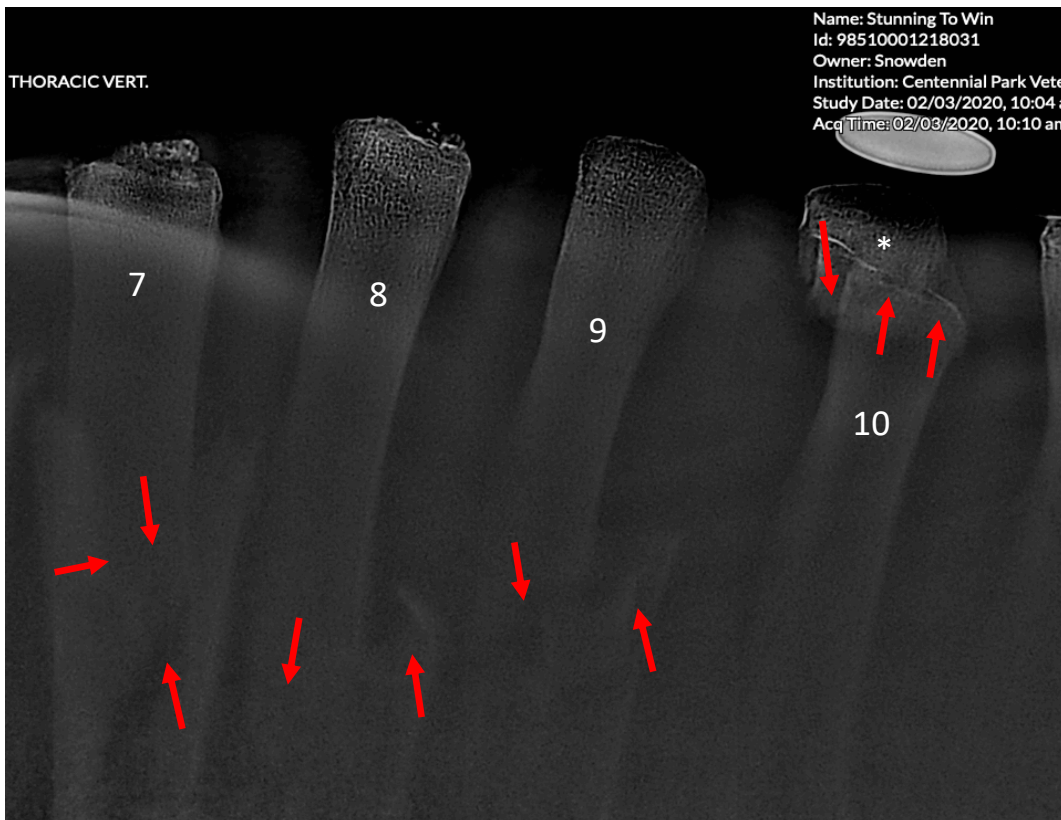
Should you have further queries, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr. Gary Baitz (BVSc) MRCVS MaSFM**



White number = Thoracic vertebra number (T4-T10)  
→ = Fracture line. \* White star = fragment



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