



Champion jockey Hugh Bowman and Cellarman combine to take out the Wintergreen Stakes. Picture: AAP Racing

Wintergarden Stakes 2016: Hugh Bowman upbeat about Cellarman's prospects of claiming decent stakes race victory

Brad Davidson, The Sunday Mail (Qld) – June 25, 2016 5:00pm

CHRIS Waller and Hugh Bowman both believe Cellarman can win a nice stakes race in the spring after the immature colt survived a protest to win the Listed Wintergarden Stakes (1400m) at Eagle Farm.

Second placegetter Brulee's jockey Jim Byrne lodged a protest against the winner, alleging interference between the 300m and 250m mark.

Byrne argued Cellarman's jockey Bowman shifted in on to Brulee at a vital stage in the race and not only took his horse's run but also made him stop riding and alter course.

"It's no doubt it cost my filly the race," Byrne argued.

Brulee's trainer Peter Robl insisted the interference cost his horse more than the half-neck margin at the finish but Bowman and trainer Waller stressed that Cellarman was holding the second placegetter over the concluding stages.

Stewards felt Bowman's actions did inconvenience Brulee but said it wasn't enough to change the result.

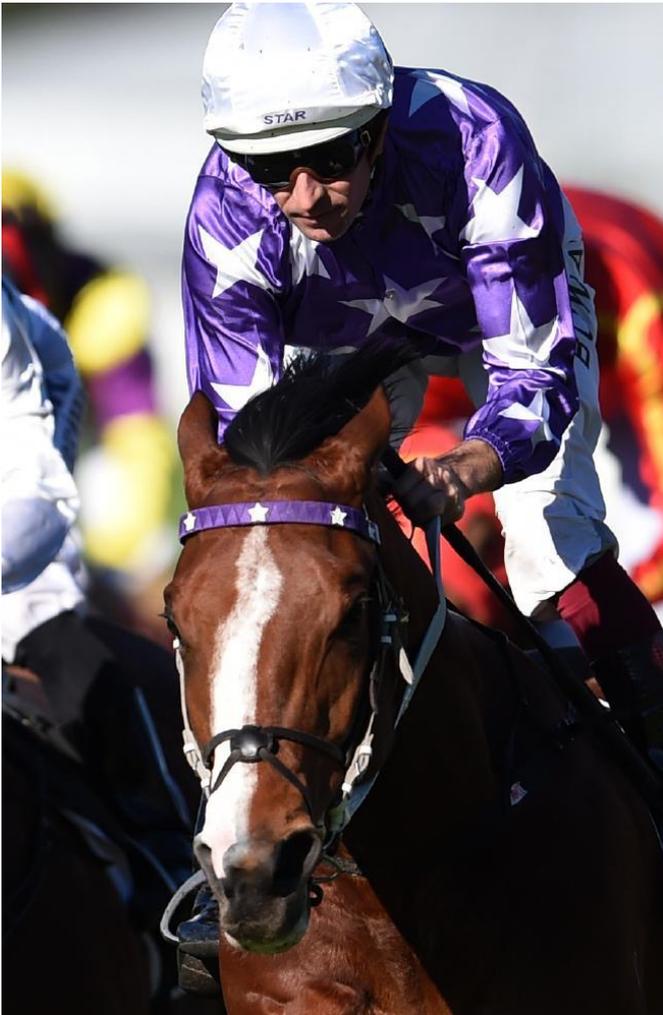
The victory was Cellarman's first win in four starts but champion jockey Bowman feels it won't be his last.

“If he can run a mile, which I can see no reason why he won’t, he is up to winning a stakes race in the spring,” Bowman said.

“He really relished the strongly run 1400m today.”

Waller took a line through Group 1 winner Shellscape to suggest Cellarman can be a major player in the spring.

“Shellscape won a race like this up here (in 2009) and then came out and won the (Group 2) Roman Consul in Sydney in the spring and it’s a stepping stone to bigger things,” Waller said.



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“He is a very promising horse and I commented pre-race on how relaxed he was and that was the whole idea about coming up here and the trip way will hopefully help him mature.

“He was competitive at home without winning but he is going to keep improving and he is a nice big three-year-old type.”

Star Thoroughbreds’ founder Denise Martin said Cellarman’s win marked the syndication company’s first stakes winner with Waller.

“We’ve had Saturday winners for the past three weekends and now this is the first stakeswinner,” Martin said.

“We’re thrilled. We found the colt in Melbourne and I thought he represented a lovely, quality colt.”

Waller predicted yesterday’s win to be the first of many stakes wins with Star Thoroughbreds.

“Denise is a lovely lady to train horses for and those stars (on Star Thoroughbreds’ silks) have five or six points on them because that’s the service Denise provides,” he said.

End...