

Story of **Kampar** – A Deleted Racehorse

Kampar Born: Nothing Talk Racing Name: Carla II

Sire: Babaroom

Dam: Totara Bay

DOB: 5 Oct 1987

Brown Mare

- 1) Retired from racing and came to the BTSC in 1995.
- 2) Trained on the flat by Therese Vreden for 2 months. Kampar to be used as a dressage horse. Advised not to jump her due to injuries incurred from racing. Therese left to return to Germany after her husband's (Hanno) contract ended with the BTSC. Before leaving, the Vredens encouraged me to take the horse.
- 3) As Kampar was throwing everyone off, I was given the option of leasing her or it would have been "off to the zoo" for her.
- 4) Kampar threw me off twice the 1st time I tried her. It was a flat lesson with Sean Hope. She was not settled from racing yet and spooked from being genuinely scared of everything. She was the best behaved horse in the stable and had a great temperament (on the ground). I decided to try my luck and half-leased her from the BTSC.
- 5) During the year, she continued throwing people off and landing some in the hospital with stitches in various places etc. I decided to buy her from the Club and she became mine in 1996.
- 6) She settled a little and we decided to do some gymnastic poles and crosses with her. She seemed to enjoy it and didn't seem to be feeling any pain so the jumps got bigger. We then encountered another problem...she started giving "happy bucks" after each jump and bolting off after. This landed me in the hospital in Feb 1996 for a nights' stay. But as the saying goes, "a bucking horse is a jumping horse".
- 7) Each time Kampar throws someone off, she will not run off after but will look at you on the floor with a puzzled expression as if to say "what are you doing down there?"
- 8) As the years went by, Kampar matured and settled. She was such an honest jumper that she always trusted the rider and never refused any jump, no matter the size. This was not always a good thing as we would sometimes land in the middle of the jump due to rider error.
- 9) In 2001, Kampar was at her peak. She was clearing jumps up to 125cm in lessons and the occasional 130s. She won her 1st major competition which was the 1st FEI PSI World Jumping Challenge in 2001 with 16 participants. Later that year, she was placed 2nd in the final round of YR World Cup League(SEA) with Mia Bjorkenstam on board.

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10) She continued to win or place in most national & major competitions for the years following including the yearly FEI WJ Challenges as well as the SEA Showjumping Competition in 2004.

11) In 2005, a week before the FEI PSI WJC in April 2005, Kampar & I did a “forward roll” while warming up in the canter before a jumping lesson. To date, we still cannot confirm what happened. From the fall, Kampar’s knees were both cut open and she severed part of her left fore tendon. She was stitched up and administered anti-biotics for approx 3 weeks and had to be re-stitched twice over with buttons to hold the stitches together. She also used a human splint to keep her from bending her knee for 2 months.

12) After over 2 months of box rest, she was able to come out of her stable to be hand walked. We continued to hand walk her for 2 weeks before I got on her to continue walking for another month. We finally started trotting again with a lot of stiffness. After a month of working out the trot, we started cantering which went better than the trot work.

13) We took it easy with long hacks and easy work till December when she started feeling better. We slowly built up her fitness level and she started to get back some condition. In February 2006, we decided to start jumping her again to see if she could cope.

14) In March, we entered a competition in a small class and we did fairly well. I then decided to do the FEI WJC 2006 in April. We actually managed to finish the competition and with a lot of luck and great coaching and schooling from Chris Ladbroke and Oliver Hausner, we actually managed to win the Category B class over 4 rounds.

15) At age 19, I have decided to retire Kampar from these competitions. I will still continue to jump her occasionally in small events as I know she enjoys it but I will not put her through the bigger ones. Kampar is still young at heart but I don’t think her body can keep up.

16) Kampar is a special race horse that money cannot buy. I was very lucky to get her 10 years ago and I hope she can go on for another 10. She is not only my horse, she is my friend.