



Jonathan Sheppard

Born: Dec. 2, 1940 in Ashwell, England

Record at Keeneland

Total wins: 59

Stakes wins: 18

First Grade 1 Win:

1982 Flower Bowl Handicap with Trevisa (IRE).

First Graded Stakes Win:

1977 Riggs Handicap (G3) at Pimlico with Ripon.

First Stakes Win:

(jumps) Haffaday winning the 1967 Radnor Hunt Cup;
(flat) 1976 Oil Capitol Handicap with Hurricane Ed.

First Career Win:

Haffaday in 1966 at the Rosetree Hunt Meet.

- Ranks 11th at Keeneland by all-time stakes victories with 18.
- Stable won 89 races and earned \$3,183,121 in 2012; highlights included wins in the first division of the Pin Oak Valley View Stakes (G3) with Angel Terrace.
- Inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame in 1990.
- Trainer of two Eclipse Award winners – 2008 turf female Forever Together and 2009 female sprinter Informed Decision.
- Steeplechase Eclipse Award winners – Athenian Idol (1973), Café Prince (1977-'78), Martie's Anger (1979), Flatterer (1983-'86), Jimmy Lorenzo (GB) (1988), Highland Bud (1989) and Mixed Up (2009).
- **Breeders' Cup wins:** 2008 Filly & Mare Turf (G1) with Forever Together and 2009 Filly & Mare Turf Sprint (G1) with Informed Decision; as well as the Breeders' Cup Steeplechase in 1988 with Jimmy Lorenzo (GB), and in 1989 and 1992 with Highland Bud.
- Leading trainer of steeplechasers in money won 25 times, including 18 consecutive years (1973-1990), plus 1992-'94, 1996, 1999, 2007 and 2010.
- All-time leading money-winning steeplechase trainer with more than \$11 million in purses, more than twice his closest competitor.
- Won his 3,000th career race on Sept. 17, 2012, when Fugitive Angel won the seventh race at Philadelphia Park.
- Stable won 51 races and earned \$2,349,425 in 2011; highlights included wins by Fantasia (GB) in the Modesty Handicap (G3) at Arlington and by Emerald Beech in the Glens Falls (G3) at Saratoga.
- Reached a personal milestone in September 2010 when he saddled his 1,000th winner over fences under National Steeplechase Association rules – Arcadius in the \$100,000 Helen Haskell Sampson (NSA-1).
- Won eight stakes with With Anticipation, five of which were Grade 1s, between 2000-2002.
- Won a race at every Saratoga meet since 1967.
- Won five stakes at Keeneland in 2009, all graded races, including the Vinery Madison (G1) with Informed Decision.
- Saddled three winners of the Royal Chase for the Sport of Kings Hurdle (NSA-1) at Keeneland – It's a Giggle (2002), Mixed Up (2007) and Sovereign Duty (2008).
- Won two other stakes at Keeneland in 2008 – the First Lady (G1) with Forever Together and Lexus Raven Run (G2) with Informed Decision.
- Former chairman of the board of directors of the National Steeplechase Association.
- Other graded winners include Storm Cat, First Approach, Annie Edge (IRE), Alice Springs, More Royal, Powder Bowl, Last Approach, Virginia Carnival, Rochester, Palmilla, Cloudy's Knight, Winter View, Fugitive Angel and Rainbow View.

Background:

Sheppard's father was a racing official in Britain for 40 years. As handicapper for the British Jockey Club, a rule prohibited the handicapper's immediate family members from training racehorses in the country. Jonathan attended Eton College and worked at a stock brokerage firm in London.

He told Maryjean Wall, then with the *Lexington Herald-Leader*: "I was 20, and a working pupil you might say, but it was second choice for me to do it because I would have preferred to be training racehorses." He asked to take a year off to come to the U.S. in 1961 and promptly met W. Burling (Burley) Cocks, a renowned steeplechase trainer who was inducted into Racing's Hall of Fame in 1985. Though he did return to London, after about six months Sheppard grew restless. He decided to go back to the States and explore training opportunities.