

December 15th, 2025

OBATAYE RULES ARGENTINA'S TURF WITH GRAN PREMIO CARLOS PELLEGRINI TRIUMPH

The Joao Moreira partnered **Obataye (BRZ)** stormed to his third consecutive Gr 1 success when he beat **The Gladiator's Hat (ARG)** by a length and a half in the 2025 renewal of the **Gran Premio Carlos Pellegrini Internacional**, which took place on Saturday, 13 December, at the San Isidro racecourse in Argentina.



Following victories in the **Gr1 Grande Premio Matias Machline – ABCPCC Classica** at the Cidade Jardim racecourse in Sao Paulo in August and in the **Gr1 Gran Premio Latinoamericano** at Gavea in Rio de Janeiro in October, this was arguably the Brazilian-bred five-year-old's best performance.

Up against 16 opponents in a fiercely competitive renewal of Argentina's most prestigious race, Joao Moreira settled Obataye in midfield position, while Jazzy Frank (Arg) set the early pace. When they left the final turn, The Gladiator's Hat made his move and went into the lead, but Joao Moreira had already pulled Obataye away from the rail to get a clear run down the straight. When asked, he produced an impressive turn of foot and surged to the front to give his connections a first victory at the highest level outside his home country Brazil. A son of Courtier out of Sufri'n USA, he completed the **2400m in 2:24.14** on ground that was called "normal", leaving **The Gladiator's Hat (ARG)** a length and half behind in second place, followed another length further back in third by **Havana Cigar (BRZ)**.

"He is a brilliant horse that has given me some amazing moments on the track," said winning rider Joao Moreira. *"He is getting better with every day and today, I knew he wasn't going to get beat."*

Trained by Antonio Marcos Oldoni for the Haras Rio Iguassu, with this victory, Obataye has become the first horse to earn an automatic starting position in the **2026 Gr1 Longines Breeders' Cup Turf** at Keeneland next November through the Breeders' Cup Challenge Series "Win and You're In".

Brazilian trainer Antonio Marcos Oldini, who like his jockey, enjoyed his very first Gran Premio Carlos Pellegrini success, added: *"It's a dream come true for any trainer and I'm so grateful to God, my family and obviously to the horse who felt right at home ever since we came to San Isidro. He is just amazing, really smart and very relaxed."*



Owner Luis Felipe Pelanda, who is behind the Stud Haras Rio Iguassu, was also very emotional when he declared: *"I still can't believe it, it's like a dream and I'm wondering if I'm going to wake up soon. Just being in San Isidro is a dream come true and then on top of it to actually win the race is brilliant. The entire team has put a lot of work into this great horse and today we got the fruits of that labour. He is exceptional and I thank God for letting us come here to run the race and to win it. Also, today, we equalled the record of the Brazilian horse Much Better who won the same three races. We are exceptionally proud of this achievement."*

While Joao Moreira celebrated another success at the highest level in South America, Italian jockey Frankie Dettori, whose dream was to ride in South America before he finally hangs up his boots in a couple of months' time, could only finish fifteenth on the Conrado A Linares trained outsider **El Pulque**.



Frankie Dettori at San Isidro Racecourse

About OSAF

The South American Organization for the Development of Thoroughbred's activities (**Organización Sudamericana de Fomento del Pura Sangre de carreras - OSAF**) was founded in 1958 as the advisory body for the regulation and harmonization of the thoroughbred racing industry in Latin America, following the recommendations of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), the world's leading regulatory body for the racing sport.

Our members include the major racetracks, Stud Books, Breeders' Associations, and Owners' Associations in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Uruguay, Panama, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, and Paraguay.

The main objectives of our Organization are:

- To promote an extensive exchange of information between its Members and with International racing organizations worldwide,
- To promote the alliance with international racing and breeding authorities,
- To promote the harmonization of racing protocols and regulations within the region;
- To promote the control and fight against doping in Thoroughbreds and jockeys;
- To improve the quality of pattern races within South America;
- To promote the integrity and the best practices in the Thoroughbred industry in South America;
- To communicate about the evolution achieved by the horseracing activity within the continent, highlighting its quality and importance; developing reports, statistics and technical research on the Thoroughbred industry;
- To organize and take part in regional and international events related to the Thoroughbred industry;

OSAF is Member of the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA), International Stud Book Committee (ISBC) and the International Thoroughbred Breeders's Federation (ITBF), being the regional representative before these institutions.