



January 7th, 2026

JOAO MOREIRA MAGIC CONTINUES IN MAROÑAS WITH GR1 GRAN PREMIO JOSÉ PEDRO RAMIREZ TRIUMPH

Brazil's legendary jockey João Moreira continued his remarkable run of success across South America when he produced a perfectly timed ride to land **the Gr1 Gran Premio José Pedro Ramírez** aboard **Native Extreme (BRZ)** on Tuesday, 6 January 2026, at the **Maroñas Racecourse** in Uruguay.



Joao Moreira and NATIVE EXTREME (BRZ)
– (Ph: Ovación – El País)

The victory came in front of an enthusiastic crowd and added another elite triumph to Moreira's recent haul, following his wins in the **Gran Premio Latinoamericano** in his native Brazil last October and the **Gran Premio Carlos Pellegrini** in Argentina just four weeks earlier.

Moreira clearly relished this latest Gr1 success, enjoying every moment of the achievement on the **Bruno Firmino** trained four-year-old, as he further cemented his extraordinary dominance on the South American stage.

While Gr1 success is nothing out of the ordinary for João Moreira, this marked a first triumph at the top level for **Native Extreme (BRZ)**, a son of **Emcee** out of **Extreme Justice**, who runs in the colours of **Stud Los Mareados**.

Racing in third behind the early leader and favourite **Obstacle (BRZ)**, who was a little keen in the opening stages, **Native Extreme** appeared briefly under pressure as they negotiated the final bend. However, under Moreira's expert guidance, he soon found another gear upon entering the straight. As **Obstacle** began to weaken, allowing **Pluto** to strike the front, **Native Extreme** was only just hitting his stride. Clearly thriving over the **2400 metres**, he stayed on powerfully to outlast his rivals, scoring a

decisive victory in **2:29:11**, beating **Pluto** by a neck into second place, while **Obstacle** finished 4 ¼ lengths further back in third.

“I’m in a very good phase of my professional life right now,” said a smiling Moreira. *“But this would not have been possible if it wasn’t for the opportunities I have been given by some people. They all know who they are. I would like to express my gratitude to all the owners, breeders and especially the trainers, as they are the ones I deal with directly. They gave me these wonderful horses to win such important races like the Ramirez. So, I want to thank everyone.”*



Prize-giving Ceremony GP Ramírez – (Ph: Ovación – El País)

As to **Native Extreme’s** performance in the **Uruguay’s premier event**, he added: *“He is a strong horse, physically and mentally. He definitely tested my abilities to relax him but fortunately I managed it. My hands were hurting from holding onto the reins, but I stayed focused and once he relaxed, I knew he would be competitive. Also, the horses in the lead were not going so well, which gave me even more confidence. The pace changed after 1000m and he kind of got disconnected from the horses in front, but he then got back into the rhythm and went after the horses in front of him. It wasn’t an easy race for him, because the second horse (Pluto) tested him to the limit as he fought valiantly, but my horse is very good and very courageous. He gave everything in that battle to the line, and I was simply blessed to be on his back today.”*

Moreira returned to the winners’ enclosure visibly emotional, greeted by the many connections of **Native Extreme**. For **Arturo Cardozo of Stud Los Mareados**, the moment was just as overwhelming when he added: *“This is a dream come true, for our whole family, my father, my sons, our friends and supporters of this horse. Stud Los Mareados has been going since 1969 or even longer. It was created*

along with Gabriel Denis, Armando Solari and of course Fernando Benitez who is here with us today. I cannot explain to you the importance and what it means to a lover of racehorses to win the Ramirez. It's marvellous, unique and it's the fruit of countless efforts and strategies."

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.