

## **GALILEO: *Chef-de-Race* (Classic/Solid)**

Bay horse, 1998 – Sadler's Wells (USA)-Urban Sea (USA) (by Miswaki USA)

October 5, 2016

*By Steve Miller*



### **A chip off the old block**

GALILEO, a son of Sadler's Wells, out of the Arc-winning Miswaki mare Urban Sea, stands at Coolmore Stud in Ireland. As a racehorse he was trained in Ireland by Aidan O'Brien at Ballydoyle, becoming champion three-year-old in Europe by winning six of his eight appearances in the 2000 and 2001 seasons, including the Derby, Irish Derby and King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes. He was beaten a head when runner-up to Fantastic Light in a thrilling Irish Champion Stakes. A tame performance at Belmont Park in the Breeders' Cup Classic brought the curtain down on his racing career, when only sixth behind Tiznow and Sakhee, running more than a stone below his form. His retirement was announced immediately after the race.

In the 2001 International Classifications Galileo was assessed at 129. He was given a best Racing Post rating (RPR) of 132 for his victory over Fantastic Light in the King George, with Timeform giving him a final rating of 134.

At stud he's been a prolific stallion and has succeeded as champion sire seven times, in 2008, 2010 and each subsequent year to 2015. He was used as a shuttle stallion between Ireland and Australia at first, but since 2012 has stood exclusively in Ireland. He has some 60 Group/Grade 1 winners, including: World Champion **Frankel** (Classic winner of the 2,000 Guineas and Group 1 winner of the Dewhurst, St. James's Palace Stakes, Sussex Stakes (2011 & 2012), Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, Lockinge, Queen Anne Stakes, Juddmonte International and Champion Stakes); **Cape**

**Blanco** (classic winner of Irish Derby and G1 winner of Irish Champion Stakes, Man O'War Stakes, Arlington Million and Joe Hirsch Turf Classic); **New Approach** (Classic winner of the Derby and Group 1 winner of the Dewhurst Stakes, National Stakes, Irish Champion Stakes and Champion Stakes); **Australia** (Classic winner of the Derby and Irish Derby and G1 winner of International Stakes and Breeders' Cup Juvenile Stakes); **Ruler Of The World** (winner of the Derby); **Gleneagles** (Classic winner of the 2,000 Guineas and Irish 2,000 Guineas and Group 1 winner of the National Stakes and St. James's Palace Stakes); **Magician** (Classic winner of Irish 2,000 Guineas and Grade 1 winner of Breeders' Cup Turf); **Minding** (Classic winner of 1,000 Guineas and Oaks and Group 1 winner of Moyglare Stud Stakes, Fillies' Mile, Pretty Polly Stakes and Nassau Stakes); **Misty For Me** (Classic winner of the Irish 1,000 Guineas and Group 1 winner of Moyglare Stud Stakes, Prix Marcel Boussac and Pretty Polly Stakes); **Was** (Classic winner of the Oaks); **Roderic O'Connor** (Classic winner of Irish 2,000 Guineas and Group 1 winner of the Criterium International); **Treasure Beach** (Classic winner of the Irish Derby and G1 winner of Secretariat Stakes); **Golden Lilac** (Classic winner of French 1,000 Guineas and French Oaks); **Soldier Of Fortune** (Classic winner of Irish Derby and Group 1 winner of Coronation Cup); **Sixties Icon** (Classic winner of the St. Leger and Group 2 winner of Jockey Club Stakes); **Nightime** (winner of Irish 1,000 Guineas); **Lush Lashes** (Group 1 winner of the Coronation Stakes, Yorkshire Oaks and Matron Stakes); **Noble Mission** (Group 1 winner of Tattersalls Gold Cup, Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud and Champion Stakes); **Rip Van Winkle** (Group 1 winner of Sussex Stakes, Queen Elizabeth II Stakes and Juddmonte International Stakes); **Adelaide** (G1 winner of Secretariat Stakes and Cox Plate); **Alandi** (Group 1 winner of Irish St. Leger and Prix du Cadran); **Alice Springs** (Group 1 winner of the Falmouth Stakes and Matron Stakes); **Nathaniel** (Group 1 winner of King George and Eclipse); **Red Rocks** (Grade 1 winner of Breeders' Cup Turf, Man O' War Stakes and runner-up in Group 1 Grand Prix de Paris); **Teofilo** (Group 1 winner of Dewhurst Stakes and National Stakes); **Allegretto** (Group 1 winner of Prix Royal Oak and Group 2 winner of Goodwood Cup, Lancashire Oaks, Henry II Stakes and Park Hill Stakes); **Altano** (Group 1 winner of Prix du Cadran); **Ballydoyle** (Group 1 winner of Prix Marcel Boussac); **Cima De Triomphe** (winner of Italian Derby); **Curvy** (G1 winner of E P Taylor Stakes); **Found** (Grade 1 winner of Breeders' Cup Turf and Group 1 winner of Prix Marcel Boussac and this year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and runner-up in nine other Group 1s); **Galikova** (Group 1 winner of Prix Vermeille); **Great Heavens** (Classic winner of Irish Oaks and Group 2 Lancashire Oaks); **Highland Reel** (Grade 1 winner of the Secretariat Stakes at Arlington, Hong Kong Vase and Group 1 King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes and runner-up in this year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe); **Imperial Monarch** (Group 1 winner of Grand Prix de Paris); **Intello** (Classic winner of French Derby); **Johannes Vermeer** (Group 1 winner of the Criterium International); **Kingsbarns** (Group 1 winner of Racing Post Trophy); **Lily Of The Valley** (Group 1 winner of Prix de l'Opera); **Marvellous** (Classic winner of Irish 1,000 Guineas); **Maybe** (Group 1 winner of Moyglare Stud Stakes); **Mondialiste** (G1 winner of Woodbine Mile Stakes); **Order Of St George** (Group 1 winner of Ascot Gold Cup and Irish St. Leger and placed in this year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe); **Photo Call** (Grade 1 winner of Awesome Again Stakes, Santa Anita); **Romantica** (Group 1 winner of Prix Jean Romanet); **Sans Frontieres** (Group 1 winner of Irish St Leger); **Seventh Heaven** (Classic winner of Irish Oaks and Group 1 winner of the Yorkshire Oaks);

**Seville** (G1 winner of The Metropolitan and runner-up in Irish Derby and Grand Prix de Paris); **Tapestry** (Group 1 winner of Yorkshire Oaks); **The Gurkha** (Classic winner of French 2,000 Guineas and Group 1 winner of Sussex Stakes); **Together** (Grade 1 winner of Queen Elizabeth II Challenge, Keeneland); **Together Forever** (Group 1 winner of Fillies' Mile); **Churchill** (Group 1 winner of the National Stakes); **Deauville** (winner of the Grade 1 Belmont Derby Invitational Stakes); **Igugu** (G1 winner of SA Fillies Classic, Woolavington 2000, Durban July and J&B Met); **Linton** (G1 winner of Stradbroke Handicap, in Australia); **Mahbooba** (G1 winner of Clairwood Golden Slipper); **Niwot** (G1 winner of Sydney Cup); **Sousa** (G1 winner of Spring Champion Stakes) and **The United States** (G1 winner of the Ranvet Stakes, Rosehill).

The Dosage profiles for this selection of 60 individual Group/Grade 1 winners appear in the following table, arranged in order of the Dosage index (DI). The table is designed to show those individuals with the most stamina potential of the selected group at the top and those with the most relative potential for speed at the bottom.

#### **Group/Grade 1 winners by Galileo (ranked in order of DI)**

<b>G1 winner</b>	<b>Damsire</b>	<b>Profile</b>	<b>DI</b>	<b>CD</b>
Imperial Monarch	Slip Anchor	3-0-10-9-4 = 26	0.44	-0.42
Alandi	Darshaan	3-0-10-9-2 = 24	0.50	-0.29
Soldier Of Fortune	Erin's Isle	3-1-8-8-2 = 22	0.57	-0.23
Sans Frontieres	Shirley Heights	4-1-13-8-4 = 30	0.62	-0.23
Cape Blanco	Presidium	3-1-8-7-1 = 20	0.67	-0.10
Seville	Silver Hawk	3-0-16-5-2 = 26	0.73	-0.12
Niwot	Noble Bijou	3-0-11-4-2 = 20	0.74	-0.10
Allegretto	Caerleon	4-1-11-8-0 = 24	0.78	0.04
Curvy	Inchinor	4-0-10-6-0 = 20	0.82	0.10
Altano	Lando	3-0-7-4-0 = 14	0.87	0.14
Lily Of The Valley	Pennekamp	3-0-7-4-0 = 14	0.87	0.14
Linton	Centaine	3-0-7-4-0 = 14	0.87	0.14
Adelaide	Elnadim	4-2-16-6-2 = 30	0.88	0.00
The United States	Pivotal	3-0-9-4-0 = 16	0.88	0.13
Treasure Beach	Markofesteem	3-1-9-4-1 = 18	0.89	0.06
New Approach	Ahonoora	5-0-7-6-0 = 18	0.89	0.22
Kingsbarns	Belmez	4-0-9-5-0 = 18	0.89	0.17
Sousa	Last Tycoon	4-0-9-5-0 = 18	0.89	0.17
Igugu	Intikhab	4-0-11-4-1 = 20	0.90	0.10
Frankel	Danehill	5-2-15-7-1 = 30	0.94	0.10
Noble Mission	Danehill	5-2-15-7-1 = 30	0.94	0.10
Australia	Cape Cross	3-1-16-4-0 = 24	1.00	0.13
Nathaniel	Silver Hawk	5-0-16-4-1 = 26	1.00	0.15
Great Heavens	Silver Hawk	5-0-16-4-1 = 26	1.00	0.15
Minding	Danehill Dancer	4-1-10-4-1 = 20	1.00	0.15
Magician	Mozart	3-1-8-4-0 = 16	1.00	0.19
Found	Intikhab	4-0-10-4-0 = 18	1.00	0.22
Sixties Icon	Diesis	6-0-10-5-1 = 22	1.00	0.23
Ruler Of The World	Kingmambo	9-0-21-8-0 = 38	1.05	0.26
Together Forever	Theatrical	6-0-15-4-1 = 26	1.08	0.23

The Gurkha	Danehill Dancer	5-1-11-4-1 = 22	1.10	0.23
Rip Van Winkle	Stravinsky	5-0-13-4-0 = 22	1.10	0.27
Johannes Vermeer	Holy Roman Emperor	3-2-9-4-0 = 18	1.12	0.22
Mondialiste	Kaldoun	4-2-16-4-0 = 26	1.17	0.23
Mahbooba	Red Ransom	5-1-16-4-0 = 26	1.17	0.27
Highland Reel	Danehill	4-2-12-4-0 = 22	1.20	0.27
Golden Lilac	Danehill	4-2-12-4-0 = 22	1.20	0.27
Romantica	Danehill	4-2-12-4-0 = 22	1.20	0.27
Teofilo	Danehill	4-2-12-4-0 = 22	1.20	0.27
Gleneagles	Storm Cat	5-1-12-4-0 = 22	1.20	0.32
Marvellous	Storm Cat	5-1-12-4-0 = 22	1.20	0.32
Together	Pennekamp	4-2-8-4-0 = 18	1.25	0.33
Intello	Danehill	4-3-15-4-0 = 26	1.26	0.27
Roderic O'Connor	Danehill	5-2-15-4-0 = 26	1.26	0.31
Cima De Triomphe	Danehill	4-3-13-4-0 = 24	1.29	0.29
Deauville	Danehill	5-2-13-4-0 = 24	1.29	0.33
Was	Green Desert	4-3-11-4-0 = 22	1.32	0.32
Lush Lashes	Anabaa	5-2-11-4-0 = 22	1.32	0.36
Alice Springs	Danehill Dancer	6-1-11-4-0 = 22	1.32	0.41
Galikova	Blushing Groom	10-1-17-4-2 = 34	1.34	0.38
Churchill	Storm Cat	4-3-9-4-0 = 20	1.35	0.35
Photo Call	Rock Of Gibraltar	3-5-8-4-0 = 20	1.50	0.35
Seventh Heaven	Johannesburg	5-3-8-4-0 = 20	1.50	0.45
Tapestry	Danehill	8-2-16-4-0 = 30	1.50	0.47
Red Rocks	Machiavellian	9-0-11-4-0 = 24	1.53	0.58
Maybe	Danehill	4-6-12-4-0 = 26	1.60	0.38
Misty For Me	Storm Cat	9-2-11-4-0 = 26	1.74	0.62
Ballydoyle	Storm Cat	9-2-11-4-0 = 26	1.74	0.62
Order Of St George	Gone West	7-6-15-4-0 = 32	1.78	0.50
Nightime	Indian Ridge	3-8-7-4-0 = 22	1.93	0.45

Additional to the Group/Grade 1 winners featured above the following progeny-winning sample of 245 (3-y-os and above, Great Britain & Ireland) is distributed across the following distance range:

<b>AWD</b>	<b>5f</b>	<b>6f</b>	<b>7f</b>	<b>8f</b>	<b>9f</b>	<b>10f</b>	<b>11f</b>	<b>12f</b>	<b>13f</b>	<b>14f+</b>
11.0	0	0	4	21	17	75	23	65	11	29

Source: *The Statistical Record* (Weatherbys)

Of this sample a clear concentration of progeny winners (163, or 66.5%) is seen between 10 and 12 furlongs inclusive. There is a virtually equal split either side of this of 17.1% of progeny winners at 7 to 9 furlongs and 16.4% at 12 to 14+ furlongs inclusive. This is a very strong indicator of middle-distance prepotency in the band of 10 to 12 furlongs, balanced on one side by Classic speed and on the other by stamina. Rather than lump this into a plain Solid designation a Classic/Solid split would seem to better reflect the range of distance aptitude in Galileo's progeny, reinforcing the same characteristics of his own sire Sadler's Wells (also a Classic/Solid *chef-de-race*).

The following table shows the adjusted figures with a Classic/Solid designation factored in.

**Group/Grade 1 winners by Galileo (with Classic/Solid factored in)**

<b>G1 winner</b>	<b>Damsire</b>	<b>Profile</b>	<b>DI</b>	<b>CD</b>
Imperial Monarch	Slip Anchor	3-0-18-17-4 = 42	0.40	-0.45
Alandi	Darshaan	3-0-18-17-2 = 40	0.43	-0.37
Soldier Of Fortune	Erin's Isle	3-1-16-16-2 = 38	0.46	-0.34
Cape Blanco	Presidium	3-1-16-15-1 = 36	0.50	-0.28
Sans Frontieres	Shirley Heights	4-1-21-16-4 = 46	0.51	-0.33
Niwot	Noble Bijou	3-0-19-12-2 = 36	0.53	-0.28
Altano	Lando	3-0-15-12-0 = 30	0.54	-0.20
Lily Of The Valley	Pennekamp	3-0-15-12-0 = 30	0.54	-0.20
Linton	Centaine	3-0-15-12-0 = 30	0.54	-0.20
Seville	Silver Hawk	3-0-24-13-2 = 42	0.55	-0.26
Curvy	Inchinor	4-0-18-14-0 = 36	0.56	-0.17
Allegretto	Caerleon	4-1-19-16-0 = 40	0.57	-0.17
Treasure Beach	Markofesteem	3-1-17-12-1 = 34	0.58	-0.21
Kingsbarns	Belmez	4-0-17-13-0 = 34	0.58	-0.15
Sousa	Last Tycoon	4-0-17-13-0 = 34	0.58	-0.15
New Approach	Ahonoora	5-0-15-14-0 = 34	0.58	-0.12
Igugu	Intikhab	4-0-19-12-1 = 36	0.60	-0.17
Magician	Mozart	3-1-16-12-0 = 32	0.60	-0.16
Found	Intikhab	4-0-18-12-0 = 34	0.62	-0.12
Adelaide	Elnadim	4-2-24-14-2 = 46	0.64	-0.17
Minding	Danehill Dancer	4-1-18-12-1 = 36	0.64	-0.14
Sixties Icon	Diesis	6-0-18-13-1 = 38	0.65	-0.08
Johannes Vermeer	Holy Roman Emperor	3-2-17-12-0 = 34	0.66	-0.12
Frankel	Danehill	5-2-23-15-1 = 46	0.67	-0.15
Noble Mission	Danehill	5-2-23-15-1 = 46	0.67	-0.15
Australia	Cape Cross	3-1-24-12-0 = 40	0.67	-0.12
Nathaniel	Silver Hawk	5-0-24-12-1 = 42	0.68	-0.09
Great Heavens	Silver Hawk	5-0-24-12-1 = 42	0.68	-0.09
The Gurkha	Danehill Dancer	5-1-19-12-1 = 38	0.69	-0.05
Rip Van Winkle	Stravinsky	5-0-21-12-0 = 38	0.69	-0.05
Together	Pennekamp	4-2-16-12-0 = 34	0.70	-0.06
Together Forever	Theatrical	6-0-23-12-1 = 42	0.71	-0.05
Highland Reel	Danehill	4-2-20-12-0 = 38	0.73	-0.05
Golden Lilac	Danehill	4-2-20-12-0 = 38	0.73	-0.05
Romantica	Danehill	4-2-20-12-0 = 38	0.73	-0.05
Teofilo	Danehill	4-2-20-12-0 = 38	0.73	-0.05
Gleneagles	Storm Cat	5-1-20-12-0 = 38	0.73	-0.03
Marvellous	Storm Cat	5-1-20-12-0 = 38	0.73	-0.03
Mondialiste	Kaldoun	4-2-24-12-0 = 42	0.75	-0.05
Mahbooba	Red Ransom	5-1-24-12-0 = 42	0.75	-0.03
Churchill	Storm Cat	4-3-17-12-0 = 36	0.76	-0.03
Ruler Of The World	Kingmambo	9-0-29-16-0 = 46	0.77	0.05
Was	Green Desert	4-3-19-12-0 = 38	0.77	-0.03
Lush Lashes	Anabaa	5-2-19-12-0 = 38	0.77	0.00
Alice Springs	Danehill Dancer	6-1-19-12-0 = 38	0.77	0.03
Cima De Triomphe	Danehill	4-3-21-12-0 = 40	0.78	-0.03
Deauville	Danehill	5-2-21-12-0 = 40	0.78	0.00

Intello	Danehill	4-3-23-12-0 = 42	0.79	-0.02
Roderic O'Connor	Danehill	5-2-23-12-0 = 42	0.79	0.00
Photo Call	Rock Of Gibraltar	3-5-16-12-0 = 36	0.80	-0.03
Seventh Heaven	Johannesburg	5-3-16-12-0 = 36	0.80	0.03
The United States	Pivotal	3-4-21-12-0 = 40	0.82	-0.05
Red Rocks	Machiavellian	9-0-19-12-0 = 40	0.87	0.15
Galikova	Blushing Groom	10-1-25-12-2 = 50	0.89	0.10
Maybe	Danehill	4-6-20-12-0 = 42	0.91	0.05
Tapestry	Danehill	8-2-24-12-0 = 46	0.92	0.13
Misty For Me	Storm Cat	9-2-19-12-0 = 42	0.95	0.19
Ballydoyle	Storm Cat	9-2-19-12-0 = 42	0.95	0.19
Nighttime	Indian Ridge	3-8-15-12-0 = 38	0.95	0.05
Order Of St George	Gone West	7-6-23-12-0 = 48	1.04	0.17

**Note:** The United States has also been adjusted for the simultaneous inclusion of **Pivotal** as an Intermediate/Classic CDR.

There is a consequent reshuffling in the individual order and a general shift to enhanced stamina for the group as a whole. Order Of St George appears as somewhat of an anomaly. We might expect to see a Gold Cup winner much higher in the table. Yet despite showing no less than 12 points in the stamina wing of his profile, he is also showing excellent prepotent speed influences, suggesting that he might be just as good at middle distances as he was in the Gold Cup. Indeed, finishing placed in this season's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, as we go to press (in which Galileo was responsible for the first three home), supports this view.

As a sire of sires Galileo's sons have also begun to make an impact at stud, with the likes of Teofilo, New Approach and Rip Van Winkle all responsible for Group 1 winners.

And like his sire Sadler's Wells, Galileo is also a sire of broodmares whose offspring have achieved Group 1 success.

Such have been Galileo's exploits at stud that some have questioned why he had not already been added to the *chef-de-race* list. Galileo is of course one of those sires we monitor closely with regard to performance trends for his progeny. He has been showing good prepotent concentration at middle-distances and is more than capable of getting enhanced stamina types. There is clear evidence that he is at least reinforcing the influence of his own sire. While also building a compelling case on his own account, there has been no pressing requirement to include him on the CDR list as, for the most part, the figures were already reflecting a good approximation of reality. Ruler Of The World (DI 1.05 and CD 0.26) and Australia (DI 1.00, CD 0.13) were already virtual blueprints for the Derby without the need for factoring in Galileo. The fact that Galileo was the stallion closest up in these pedigrees could have only added to our confidence of their suitability for staying the Derby trip. Indeed, my own column in the *Racing Post Weekender*, previewing the Derby, put these two up in 2013: *World can rule at Derby trip*, and 2014: *Australia has ideal stamina suitability*.

While Galileo's inclusion reinforces that of his own sire, if anything it actually makes the readings a little top heavy until subsequent generations begin to work through. Nevertheless, the profiles in the second table look both more robust, certainly with regard to stamina, and overall more accurate than in the unadjusted table. While Galileo's inclusion is not really telling us anything new that is not a

reason for not including him, given that he is showing clear evidence of prepotent aptitude. Indeed, it was never a question of *if* Galileo would join the ranks of the CDRs but *when*. The task now is to give him a precise placing. We assign Galileo as a **Classic/Solid** *chef-de-race*, the 226<sup>th</sup> of the series.

STEVE MILLER

October 2016

[semiller@btinternet.com](mailto:semiller@btinternet.com)

---

**STEVE MILLER** is an author, correspondent, columnist and bloodstock analyst, based in London. He has also been a thoroughbred owner – having had successful horses in training with Mark Johnston (Flat) and the late Toby Balding (National Hunt). He has written on horse racing and breeding issues for *Raceform Update* and writes a regular column of big-race previews on the Flat, based on the Dosage system, for the *Racing Post Weekender*. His observations on the thoroughbred racehorse have appeared over the years in the *Sporting Life*, *Racing Post*, *Pacemaker & Thoroughbred Breeder*, *the Blood-Horse*, *Raceform* and *Timeform* publications and the BBC. He has worked in close collaboration with Dr Steve Roman since the inclusion of Sadler's Wells on the *chef-de-race* list in August 1998. Certain analytical work on racing and breeding is referenced on Steve Roman's website at [www.chef-de-race.com](http://www.chef-de-race.com) and in the book *Dosage: Pedigree & Performance* (published by Russell Meerdink).