



Patrick Husbands, the youngest rider ever to win the prestigious Cockspar Gold Cup (now the Sandy Lane Gold Cup) at the Garrison Savannah of Barbados in 1990, has been the champion jockey at Woodbine, Toronto several times since then.

By 2001 he became the first rider in Canadian racing history to complete the natural hat-trick winning back-to-back-to-back Sovereign Awards, and in 2002 Husbands won an unprecedented fourth-consecutive Sovereign Award as the nation's top rider. This same year he led the colony in mounts (840), earnings (\$9,222,378), wins (167), seconds (148) and thirds (118).

He had formed a formidable tandem with trainer Mark Casse, the duo combining for four wins on August 16, 2002, a day in which Husbands rode five winners in all. The next year, in what was undoubtedly the crowning achievement of his career, he guided 2003 Horse of the Year Wando to Triple Crown glory, teaming with the colt to capture the hearts of Canadian racing fans, and cracked the \$10-million mark in purse earnings for the first time.

Patrick Husbands has ranked in the top three at Woodbine twelve (12) years in a row, including six (6) riders' titles (1999, 2000, 2002, 2007, 2008, and 2009). In 2006, when he climbed aboard Seaside Retreat for the 132nd running of the prestigious Kentucky Derby, he became only the second black jockey and the first from the Caribbean to ride in the race since the turn of the century. Just last year for the second time, he won the Sovereign Awards three consecutive years in a row, 2007, 2008 and 2009, duplicating his earlier feat of 1999, 2000 and 2001!

In 2003 the Barbados government bestowed on him the Barbados Service Star (BSS) for his outstanding contribution to sport. Also he was honoured in his native Barbados for his 2003 Triple Crown victory, highlighted by 'Patrick Husbands Day' at the Garrison Savannah racetrack on January 3, 2004.

In 2005 he was inducted into the City of Brampton's Sports Hall of Fame and the Barbados Turf Club (BTC) Hall of Fame in 2009.

Ordinarily you wouldn't hear about this but there is a large Bajan colony at Woodbine and Fort Erie working in various capacities as trainers, grooms, exercise riders and hot walkers. Patrick was the one who was instrumental in arranging jobs with the various stables for most of them. Also, Patrick is a significant donor to both the Hospital for Sick Kids and the Canadian Cancer Society.