**Vincent Ho**

**Age:** 32

**Background:** HKJC Apprentice Jockeys' School graduate Vincent Ho racked up 44 wins as a young rider in New Zealand under the tutelage of leading trainer Lance O'Sullivan. He made a sound start to his Hong Kong career with 10 victories in his first season in 2009/10, including a trio of wins he achieved on only his fourth race day in Hong Kong. He sealed the 2010/11 Champion Apprentice title with 39 wins. Ho reached the graduation benchmark on 1 October, 2012 by claiming his 70th win in Hong Kong on board Castle Hero and he notched 33 wins in 2014/15 to be the season's leading homegrown rider. On number of wins, Ho enjoyed his best season to date in 2019/20 when he amassed a career-high 67 wins. However, 2020/21 could be regarded as his best season yet when winning five Group 1s, thanks largely to reigning Hong Kong Horse of the Year, Golden Sixty, as well as Japan’s Loves Only You, and at one time, he was ranked joint-top of the LONGINES World’s Best Jockey standings. Ho also took a third consecutive Tony Cruz Award with 61 wins after keen competition with Jerry Chau. Last term, Ho added a trio of Group 1 wins to his haul with Golden Sixty and Stronger. Ho rode a short stint in Europe during the off-season in 2018 and notched a first UK win at the first attempt, partnering the Mark Johnston-trained X Rated to success at Haydock on 9 August. He returned to Britain during the 2019 off-season and competed at the Shergar Cup at Ascot where he won the Shergar Cup Mile aboard the Marcus Tregoning-trained Power Of Darkness, helping the Rest of the World team secure Shergar Cup glory. Between this season and last, Ho enjoyed a short stint in Japan which included a sole Group 3 success for trainer Yoshito Yahagi and spot in the 2022 World All-Star Jockeys at Sapporo.

**Honours:**

Hong Kong Champion Apprentice (2010/11); Best Freelance Jockey Award (2014/15); Tony Cruz Award (2018/19, 2019/20 & 2020/21).

**IJC record:** 2021 – 10th (DH**);** 2020 – 8th (DH);2019 – 3rd; 2018 – 3rd; 2014 – 5th.

**Silvestre de Sousa**

**Age:** 41

Background:

One of 10 children, Silvestre de Sousa first sat on a horse on the family farm at age six, became an apprentice jockey at age 18 and within two years was champion apprentice in Sao Paulo. He moved to Europe at age 22 and was employed as a work rider for Dermot Weld. In 2004, dispirited after two years without a ride in public, De Sousa moved to England and teamed up with North Yorkshire trainer Dandy Nicholls. His first win in Britain was achieved aboard Sonic Anthem at Southwell on 1 January, 2006. Riding mainly for lesser trainers, often on longshots, he established his reputation on the northern circuit and in 2010 he rode his first century. With trainer Mark Johnston's support he finished runner-up in the 2011 British champion jockey race. He was retained by Godolphin from 2012 to 2014, during which time his haul included the G1 Dubai World Cup on African Story. Riding freelance in 2015, he achieved 132 wins to claim the British champion jockey title and repeated in 2017 (155 wins) and again in 2018 (148 wins). He was named as retained rider for King Power Racing in 2019 but is currently riding as a freelance. De Sousa notched 16 winners in each of his first two short winter stints in Hong Kong (2015/16 and 2016/17) and earned a fine 44 during a longer spell in 2018/19. In 2018, de Sousa lit up Happy Valley with victory in the 2018 LONGINES IJC and followed up four days later with a first HKIR win aboard Glorious Forever in the G1 Hong Kong Cup.

**Honours:**

British Champion Jockey (2015, 2017 & 2018), LONGINES IJC winner (2018).

**IJC record:** 2019 – 6th (DH); **2018 – WON;** 2017 – 2nd; 2015 – 4th.

**Matthew Chadwick**

**Age:** 32

**Background:**

A graduate of the Hong Kong Jockey Club Apprentice Jockeys' School, Matthew Chadwick went to Australia for his apprentice training and rode a four-timer at Lismore at age 17. Indentured to the Tony Cruz stable upon his return to Hong Kong, he was champion apprentice in 2008/09. He earned a full jockey's licence in January, 2010. His first Group race winner was Egyptian Ra in the National Day Cup (2009). He is most famous for his partnership with California Memory and became the first homegrown rider to win a Hong Kong International Races contest when clinching the Hong Kong Cup on the grey in December, 2011. Chadwick notched his 250th win in Hong Kong with Majestic Anthem on 26 December, 2013 and rode his first Hong Kong four-timer at Sha Tin on 22 June, 2014. Chadwick closed out a successful 2021/22 campaign with 55 wins as the season’s leading homegrown rider.

**Honours:**

Tony Cruz Award (2021/22); Hong Kong Champion Apprentice (2008/09); Shergar Cup Silver Saddle winner (2012).

**IJC record:** 2012 – 8th; 2011 – 4th (DH); 2009 – 4th.