

STALLION SYNOPSIS:

IRISH SURF

PREPARED BY: ALAN PORTER

PREPARED FOR: THOR-BRED STABLES



IRISH SURF

A track-record breaking graded stakes winner, Irish Surf is by three-time Leading Sire, Giant's Causeway. The outstanding son of Storm Cat, both as a racehorse and sire, Giant's Causeway is now a major sire of sires, with eight of his sons having sired grade one winners. Irish Surf's dam, Champion Three-Year-Old Filly Surfside, is by Seattle Slew out of Champion Two-Year-Old Filly Flanders, and is three-quarters sister to grade one sire Flanders Fields.

The cross of Giant's Causeway and sons with **Mr. Prospector** line mares has been a tremendously successful one, with more than 150 stakes winners. Irish Surf's second dam is a Champion by **Mr. Prospector** son, **Seeking the Gold**, and as Giant's Causeway sired Champion Two-year-old Filly Take Charge Brandi out of a mare by **Seeking the Gold**, duplicating that strain is worth considering. Sources of **Seeking the Gold** that particularly appeal are **Mutakddim** and **Cape Town** (both reverse crosses to Surfside). There are seven stakes winners, two grade one, by Giant's Causeway out mares by **Kingmambo**, and there are also four stakes winners, one grade one out of mares by **Kingmambo** son, **Lemon Drop Kid**, a reverse cross to Surfside.

There are 11 stakes winners by Giant's Causeway and sons out of mare by **Carson City** and sons, including a grade two winner out of a mare by **Pollard's Vision**. Other sons of **Carson City** include **City Zip** (sire of **Run Away and Hide**), **Boone's Mill**, **Cuvee**, **Five Star Day**, **Hear No Evil** and **Lord Carson**. There is a grade one winner by Giant's Causeway out of a mare by **Gone West**, and out of **Gone West** line mares there is a Giant's Causeway line grade one winner from a daughter of **Speightstown** (who is a Mr. Prospector/Storm Bird cross like the dam of the mare, and is sire of **Munnings**); two graded winners out mares by **Elusive Quality** (sire of **Quality Road**, **Smarty Jones**, **Exclusive Quality**, **Great Notion** and **Omega Code**); and stakes winners out of mares by **Grand Slam** (sire of **Limehouse**); **Zamindar** (who gives the similarly-bred Storm Bird and The Minstrel); and **Mr. Greeley** (sire of **El Corredor**). It would also be worth considering mares by **Gone West** sons **Canadian Frontier** (a reverse Mr. Prospector/Seattle Slew cross to the dam of Irish Surf), **Double Honor** and **Istan** (both bred on the same cross as the granddam of Irish Surf) and **Proud Citizen**.

Out of mares from the **Forty Niner** line there is a Giant's Causeway line grade one winner out of a mare by **Distorted Humor** (sire of **Drosselmeyer**, **Sharp Humor**, **Flower Alley** and of **Any Given Saturday**, who is bred on the reverse Mr. Prospector/Seattle Slew cross to the dam of Irish Surf); a graded stakes winner out of a mare by **Jules** (sire of **Peace Rules**); a graded stakes winner out of a mare by **Roar**; a graded winner out of a mare by **Trippi** (by **End Sweep**); and two stakes winners out of mares by **Gold Fever**. This also suggests mares by **Coronado's Quest**, **Twining**, **Tactical Advantage** and **West Acre**.



There is a Giant's Causeway graded stakes winner out a mare by **Mr. Prospector** son, **Gulch**, and **Thunder Gulch** – a son of **Gulch** who gives inbreeding to **Storm Bird**, and is a reverse cross to Irish Surf's granddam is broodmare sire of seven Giant's Causeway line stakes winners, and there is also a stakes winner by Giant's Causeway out of a mare by **Thunder Gulch** son **Point Given**. There are also Giant's Causeway line stakes winners out of mares by **Gulch** sons **Torrential** (broodmare sire of a Giant's Causeway classic winner), **Golden Gear** and **Nayef**.

Giant's Causeway's outstanding son, Shamardal, is out of a mare by Machiavellian, and there is also a grade one winner by son of Giant's Causeway out of a mare by Machiavellian son, Vettori, which also suggests daughters of Street Cry, Street Sense and Street Boss. We can also note a graded stakes winner out of a mare by Crafty Prospector (sire of Crafty Friend, Prospectors Gamble, Prospect Bay and Robyn Dancer); a grade one winner out of a mare by Miswaki (sire of Black Tie Affair and grandsire of Formal Gold); graded winners out of mares by Smart Strike (sire of Curlin, Lookin At Lucky and English Channel); graded winners out of mares by Woodman and his son, Hansel; and stakes winners out of mares by Distant View, Jade Hunter and Fusaichi Pegasus and his son, Roman Ruler.

Giant's Causeway has demonstrated an affinity for the **Fappiano** branch of **Mr. Prospector**, with grade one winners out of mares by **Cryptoclearance** (sire of **Victory Gallop**; grandsire of **Candy Ride**), **Unbridled's Song** (by **Unbridled**) and **Defensive Play**, and stakes winners from mares by **Quiet American** (grandsire of **Midnight Lute**, who could be interesting here), **Rubiano** and **Roy**. **Unbridled** and **Unbridled's Song** could also be introduced through **Broken Vow**, **Grindstone**, **Birdstone** (giving inbreeding to Storm Bird), **Empire Maker**, **Rockport Harbor**, **First Defence** (giving a well-placed inbreeding to Seattle Slew), **Old Fashioned**, **Half Ours** (giving inbreeding to Storm Cat), **Dunkirk** (giving inbreeding to Seattle Slew), **Even The Score** and **Songandaprayer**.

Giant's Causeway is a **Northern Dancer** line stallion, but he and his sons have done well with mares from some other branches of that line. There are nearly 50 stakes winners by Giant's Causeway and sons out of mares from the **Danzig** branch, with grade one producing crossing including those with mares by **Danehill**, **Anabaa**, **Polish Express** and **Bertolini** (a threequarters brother to **Green Desert**). In North America, crosses that have worked include with **Belong To Me**, **Polish Numbers** and **Langfuhr**, and it could be worth exploring the **Northern Dancer/Secretariat** cross – a parallel to Giant's Causeway's sire Storm Cat – found via **Lost Soldier**, **Honor Grades** and **Chief's Crown** (sire of **Concerto** and grandsire of **Bellamy Road**). Other **Danzig** line stallions to consider include **Exchange Rate** (who is out of a mare



bred on a reverse cross Northern Dancer/Seeking the Gold cross to Flanders), Hard Spun and War Front.

There are more than 30 stakes winners by Giant's Causeway and sons out of **Sadler's Wells** line mares, and in the U.S. options include **El Prado**, **Medaglia d'Oro**, **Kitten's Joy** (sire of a grade one winner out of Giant's Causeway mare), **Artie Schiller**, **Perfect Soul** (a Northern Dancer/Secretariat cross, like Storm Cat) and **Sligo Bay** (giving inbreeding to Champion Glorious Song and a sister).

Out of mares from the **Deputy Minister** branch of **Northern Dancer**, Giant's Causeway and sons have enjoyed success with **Dehere** (a Northern Dancer/Secretariat cross, like Storm Cat, and sire of **Graeme Hall**), **Awesome Again** (sire of **Ghostzapper** and **Awesome of Course**), **Silver Deputy** (sire of **Posse**, **Badge of Silver** and **Spring at Last**) and **French Deputy**.

The cross of Giant's Causeway and sons with mares from the **A.P. Indy** line has been a very productive one, with ten stakes winners, six graded. **A.P. Indy** son, **Majestic Warrior** is bred on a reverse Seattle Slew/Majestic Warrior cross to Flanders, and any of A.P. Indy/Mr. Prospector crosses, such as **Pulpit**, **Mineshaft**, **Malibu Moon**, **Flatter**, **Congrats** and **Girolamo** would offer similar reinforcement. Of these, there has already been a Giant's Causeway line stakes winner out of a mare by **Mineshaft** (sire of **Dialed** In, a reverse cross to Irish Surf, and of **Discreetly Mine**), a graded winner out of a mare by Pulpit, a graded winner out of a mare by his son, **Purge**, and a stakes winner out of a mare by his sons, **Tapit** (which also suggests trying **Sky Mesa** – doubling Storm Cat). There are also Giant's Causeway line stakes and **Olmodavor**. **A.P. Indy** could also be tried through **Bernardini** – who is bred on a very similar cross to Tapit – **Stephen Got Even**, **Golden Missile**, **Indygo Shiner**, **Old Trieste** and **Saint Anddan**.

Out of mares from the Halo line, Giant's Causeway and sons have three stakes winners, one grade one from daughters of More Than Ready. Giant's Causeway also carries Halo's Champion daughter, Glorious Song, a sister to Devil's Bag (sire of Devil His Due and Diablo) and Saint Ballado (sire of Saint Liam, Yankee Victor, Flame Thrower, Sweetsouthernsaint and Captain Bodgit).

Giant's Causeway has two classic performers out of a mare by Siberian Summer, a son of Siberian Express, also sire of In Excess (sire of Indian Charlie, Bring The Heat and Notional; grandsire of Adios Charlie and Uncle Mo). This is a branch of Caro male line, and from the Cozzene branch, there are Giant's Causeway stakes winners out of mares by Cozzene himself, and his sons Mizzen Mast, Alphabet Soup and Running Stag (broodmare



sire of a Giant's Causeway line stakes winner). **Maria's Mon** is out of a **Caro** mare, and he has worked under Giant's Causeway. His son, **Monarchos**, is also broodmare sire of a Giant's Causeway line stakes winner and might be interesting here, while **Super Saver** mares also appeal.

The Giant's Causeway line has done well with a number of **Relaunch** line broodmare sires. There is a graded stakes winner out of a mare by **Relaunch** himself, and a graded winner out of a mare by **Honour and Glory** (sire of **Put It Back**), and stakes winners out of mares by **Cee's Tizzy**, **Tiznow** (sire of **Tiz Wonderful** and **Colonel John**), **Slew Gin Fizz** and **Bertrando** (sire of **Officer**).