



Ignacio Correas IV

Born: 1959, Buenos Aires

Residence: Lexington, Kentucky.

Family: Wife, Marina Victoria Donovan; Sons, Ignacio and Benjamin

Breeders' Cup Record: 2-0-0-0 | \$100,000

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- Correas could get a second crack at the \$2 million Longines Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) with Merriebelle Stable's Blue Prize (ARG) after her fourth-place finish in the 2018 edition.
 - Both trainer, known as "Nacho," and Blue Prize were born and raised in Argentina, where both started their racing careers.
 - The 6-year-old Pure Prize mare gained an automatic entry into the Distaff after a rare repeat victory Oct. 6 at Keeneland Race Course in the Juddmonte Spinster (G1). She is one of only four horses to do so in the event's 64-year history. The Spinster is part of the Breeders' Cup Challenge "Win & You're In" series.
 - Blue Prize has a 2-1-2 record from five starts in 2019, her only other win of year coming in the listed Summer Colony Stakes Aug. 18 at Saratoga Race Course.
 - The mare's racing career began at age 2 in Argentina and she scored her first graded win there at age 3 in the 2016 Seleccion (G1) at Palermo en route to becoming the season's champion 3-year-old filly. Her first U.S. start came eight months later in June 2017 for Correas, for whom she provided his breakthrough Grade 1 win in last year's Spinster.
 - After Bluegrass Thoroughbreds Services' John Stuart and Peter Bance brokered the private sale of Blue Prize for owner Merriebelle Stable from owner Bullines S.A. in Argentina, Bullines president Ignacio Pavlovsky recommended Correas take over training duties in the U.S.
 - Made his Breeders' Cup debut in 2010 with Humble and Hungry, who finished eighth in the Juvenile Turf (G2).

- Correas' roots in the Thoroughbred business go back at least four generations, starting in 1887 when his namesake founded Haras Las Ortigas, which is still operated by his father. Las Ortigas has been a leading breeder in Argentina or has stood the leading sire on numerous occasions. In 1906, ancestor Don Ignacio Correas imported 1901 English Triple Crown winner Diamond Jubilee to Argentina, where the horse was a four-time champion sire. Other prominent horses such as Arturo A., Yatasto and Neapolis are part of the farm's history.
- Correas took out his trainer license in 1983 in Argentina. As an adolescent, attended jockey school but grew too tall, then worked at the family farm before further honing his horsemanship skills at the famed Haras Santa Maria de Araras in Brazil and serving stints under European trainers Alec Head and David Smaga, the latter who conditioned his family's international Grade I winner Campero.
- Moved to the U.S. in 2001 where longtime family friend Diane Perkins of Wimborne Farm in Kentucky and San Francisco de Pilar in Buenos Aires, helped him land a job with trainer Billy Badgett.
- Opened a public stable, assisted by son Benjamin, in 2015 with a lone horse owned by Perkins.
- Correas previously worked for Southern Equine in Louisiana, California-based trainer Bill Currin, and as private trainer for Sagamore Farm in Maryland.
- Perkins provided Correas with his first top-level runner, Argentine-bred Kasaqui, third in the 2016 Arlington Million (G1).