



PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS

Country Boy 123 wins again, Bank of America Challenge and possible trip to US could be next

AJAX DOWNS, JULY 30, 2017 - In another flawless performance, Ontario's reigning Horse of the Year **Country Boy 123** galloped to an easy 1 ½ length victory in the Distance Series feature race at Ajax Downs on Sunday July 30.

The big bay 4-year-old remains **unbeaten in 2017** and now has his sights set on the important Bank of America Challenge which will be held on Aug. 20. Should Country Boy 123 win that race, he will earn a trip to represent Ontario in the \$330,000 (US) final on Oct. 14 at Prairie Meadows racetrack in Iowa.

Country Boy 123, owned by Dr. Ruth Barbour and trained by top Ajax trainer Bryn Robertson, was ridden as usual by 29-year-old Cory Spataro, who was in awe of his mount's performance.

"It was suspenseful, I was waiting for this day for more than a month now. He gives you everything every time."

A large, sun-baked crowd at Ajax Downs also watched and wagered enthusiastically on **two trial races for the upcoming Adequan Derby** on Aug. 13. Both trials were won by 3-year-olds trained by **Jason Pascoe of Pontypool, ON** and owned by Milena Kwiecien.

LS Prince pulled off a 12 to 1 surprise win the first Trial under jockey Julian Serrano while his stablemate Maryland Magic sped to victory in the second Trial under longtime Ajax Downs rider Tony Phillips.

Quarter Horse racing at Ajax Downs hits the halfway mark on Sunday August 6 with a post time of 12:55 p.m.

(Photo below is of Country Boy 123 romping to his July 30 Distance Series win)

