



PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS

EARLY JUNE WAGERING INCREASES AS SUMMER ARRIVES AT AJAX DOWNS

AJAX DOWNS, JUNE 11, 2017 - Summer has arrived and horse racing fans flocked to Ajax Downs on June 11 and bet in record amounts on the eight-race card which featured many exciting finishes by Durham region horses and horsepeople.

The total betting handle on the eight-race card of \$54,360 was **up 62 percent from the corresponding card** of racing last year when \$33,539 was wagered. The average amount wagered per race was up an impressive 41 percent to \$6,795 from \$4,793 per race a year ago.

John McCracken's Chillvally Farms, near Cobourg ON, celebrated its first winner of the 2017 Ajax Downs season when its remarkable 8-year-old gelding Pegasos One Underpar won one of the featured races of the day, a \$16,000 dash at 330 -yards for allowance runners.

The McCracken family have been involved in Quarter Horse racing for almost 30 years and have a small stable of racehorse, plus a collection of retired runners that reside on their farm. Pegasos One Underpar, was sent out for this season debut in very sharp form by young trainer Scott Reid of Bowmanville. Ridden by Cassandra Jeschke of Gores Landing, Pegasos One Underpar was made the 6 to 5 favourite by the boisterous Ajax Downs crowd and he did not disappoint, battling to a head victory in a fast time of 16.880, not far off the track record of 16.410 set 10 years ago.

It was the 12th win in 39 career starts for Pegasos One Underpar and he has earned over \$141,000 for the McCracken family.

Ajax Downs is readying for a huge day of racing on **June 18 in celebration of Father's Day**. On the track, the **final of the \$50,000 Picov Maturity** is sure to attract excitement as one of the most talented horses seen in Ontario in years, Country Boy 123, will look to continue his local domination when he meets a tough field of nine rivals in the prestigious event.

For more information, visit www.ajaxdowns.com.