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## PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS

### Fiesty Icon and Ghost Pines Continue Rivalry



*(Photo - FIESTY ICON edges Ghost Pines in one of their 6 meetings in 2019. They split decisions last year and meet up in their 2020 season debuts June 24 at Ajax Downs - New Image Media Photo)*

**AJAX DOWNS, MONDAY JUNE 22, 2020** - Six times they met in 2019 and each beat the other on three occasions and on Wednesday, June 24 the grand old gelding **FIESTY ICON** and tough grey mare **GHOST PINES** will square off in yet another matchup. It will be the first start of 2020 for the two Ontario-sired, Ontario-bred speedsters who will take to the track in race 5 at 300 yards on the third day of the Ajax Downs meeting.

Fiesty Icon, a 17-time career winner, was Ontario's Horse of the Year in 2015 and 2019 High Point Older Male and has been a gem of consistency for owner and trainer Rick Kennedy of Mount Albert, ON. Now 8-years-old,



Fiesty Icon won four of eight starts last season including the Ontario Sires Maturity, edging Ghost Pines by a neck. Ed Walton is his regular rider.

**James Bogar of Cameron, ON** privately purchased Ghost Pines before her 2019 season and watched her win three of nine starts, one of those a victory over her arch rival in June at the 300-yard distance.

Trained by Barry Wood of Port Perry, Ghost Pines is now 6-years-old with eight career wins in 21 starts. She has a new rider on Wednesday as 2019 Champion Jockey Tony Phillips gets the call.

There is a plethora of top horses at Ajax Downs this year and the June 24 card of racing also marks the return of **SHAKE IT TWICE**, one of last year's top 3-year-old fillies. Winner of the Ontario Sires Derby, Shake It Twice signaled she's ready for action with a blazing workout on June 7 for owner and trainer **Chantelle Bourgeois of Enniskillen**. She competes in race 6 with Cassandra Jeschke on board.

First race post time Wednesday is 12:55 p.m. You can watch races and replays at <http://www.ajaxdowns.com> and easily wager on the races through <http://www.hpibet.com>.

Currently there are no spectators permitted at racetracks in Ontario due to the COVID-19 pandemic but the hope is that later in the summer, tracks can begin to bring in fans.

Don't forget to follow Quarter Horse racing on our **Twitter and Instagram feeds, @AjaxDowns**.

To get involved in **owning a share of your own Quarter Horse**, contact the Quarter Racing Owners of Ontario at <http://www.qrooi.com>.