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## **PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS**

### **Country Boy 123 returns home a winner; Streakinlilwagon Captures \$16,000 QROOI Overnight Dash**



COUNTRY BOY 123 wins for the 24th time in his illustrious career - New Image Media photo

AJAX DOWNS, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12, 2020 - Multiple champion COUNTRY BOY 123 returned to Ajax Downs for the first time since the fall of 2019 and flew to victory in a 110-yard allowance race August 12 as the 4 to 5 favourite. It was the 7-year-old's first race since he won the \$59,600 Bradford Stakes at Indiana Grand July 6 and just the second time in his career he was tackling the abbreviated 'Gridiron Gallop' distance.

While Ruth Barbour's three-time Horse of the Year is at his best at distances of 350 yards and up, jockey Ed Walton was confident the big bay could handle the short sprint.



"He breaks good enough from the gate to win a race like that," said Walton, who leads all Ajax Downs riders with 18 wins. "He's just a nice, good feeling horse and It's a thrill to be a part of him."

Country Boy 123 won by a neck over the quick mare Not Whistlin Dixie in a time of 6.915 for a 99 speed index. It was his 24th victory from 38 races with earnings of almost \$470,000. The long range goal for the gelding is the Alec Picov Memorial Championship in October, a race he has won the past three years.

\*Jason Pascoe and Bryanne Langford's GFR Equine Services of Pontypool watched their homebred filly STREAKINLILWAGON win the \$16,000 Quarter Racing Owners of Ontario's Overnight Sprint for 2-year-olds earlier in the day. Ridden by Helen Vanek, Streakinlilwagon sped clear to win by 1 1/4 lengths over Ice Cream Cartel, owned by Picov Cattle Company and Marie Broadstock. The winner sizzled 250 yards in 13.399 for a 90 speed index. Streakinlilwagon is a half sister to Pascoe and Langford's 2014 Horse of the Year Streakinshagginwagon.

Scoring doubles in the afternoon was Picov Cattle Company with Hanover Hill Chalsee in race 4 and Jess a Deal, co-owned by Marie Broadstock, who captured race 10. Owner George Coleman won a pair of races with Fighting Red Jess and Rowdy and Bodacious, both trained by Scott Reid of Landsdowne and ridden by Brian Bell and Craig Spada and daughter Lauren Spada of Fort Erie also won two races as Jess Black and Blue and You Zee Me Now were winners under Cory Spataro.

\*Racing continues at Ajax Downs next Wednesday August 19 with a first race post time of 12:55 p.m. You can watch and wager on all races at HPIBet.com and catch the livestream and replays at AjaxDowns.com. Be sure to follow Ajax Downs on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram (@AjaxDowns).

Streakinlilwagon's win in \$16,000 QROOI Overnight Dash  
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g10r-sB6HTw>

Country Boy 123's victory, race 7 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kL8DcpTryZ4>