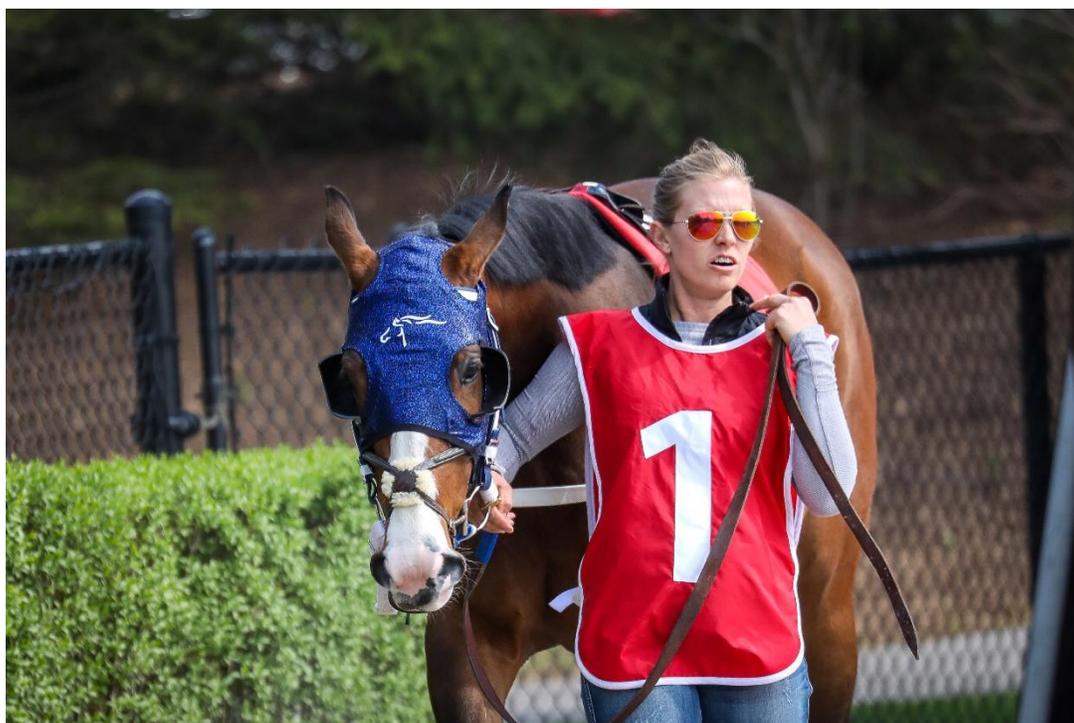




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## PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS

# Peterborough's Michelle Olson Starts First Horse at Ajax Downs May 31



*Michelle Olson (seen in May with her friend's horse Bodacious Tataz) will race her first Quarter Horse as an owner and trainer at Ajax Downs on May 31. (John Watkins photo)*

**AJAX DOWNS, MAY 30, 2023 - Michelle Olson** set a goal for herself a few years ago to own and train a Quarter Horse to race at Ajax Downs. The young horsewoman and former ironworker will realize that dream as she will start her 3-year-old filly Gin Xpress in race 2 on Wednesday May 31, the fourth racing day of the 2023 Ajax Downs meeting.

"I'm super excited and naturally nervous about my first career start as a trainer and Ginny's first-lifetime race," said Olson, who lives in Peterborough. "She has been feeling good since her last workout, but I try not to put big expectations on a first-time starter."

Also a trainer of Standardbreds since 2021. Olson was horse crazy as a child and has worked in Ontario horse racing for more than a decade. She started in the Quarter Horse business five years ago as an exercise rider and assistant trainer for her close friend and successful owner and trainer, Amanda McCormack. Just over a month ago, Olson wrote, and passed, her trainer's test at Ajax Downs.



Gin Xpress, in fact, was bred by McCormack and the filly is a daughter of successful Ontario stallion Sugarman Perry. Brian Bell, one of Ajax Downs' longtime leading jockeys, will partner Gin Xpress on Wednesday from post 6 in the 300-yard maiden race.

"I hope for a good experience [for her], a good break, and a strong, clean run," said Olson.

Incidentally, McCormack will be racing the older half-sister to Gin Xpress, Bodacious Tataz, in the fourth race on Wednesday.

First race post time for the May 31 card is 1:30 p.m. and admission and parking are always free. Arrive early to get a trackside table or watch and wager on the races at [www.HPIBET.com](http://www.HPIBET.com). For news on upcoming racing dates and events, visit [www.ajaxdowns.com](http://www.ajaxdowns.com) and @AjaxDowns on all social media platforms.

***Live Like The Gates Just Opened***

**Live Quarter Horse Racing May to October  
Wednesdays & One Sunday a Month &  
Thanksgiving Monday**

**Watch our website for all this seasons events [www.ajaxdowns.com](http://www.ajaxdowns.com)**    

A promotional banner for Ajax Downs Racetrack. The background is a faded image of a horse race. On the left is the Ajax Downs Racetrack logo. The main text is in a large, bold, red, italicized font. Below that is the racing schedule in black text. At the bottom is a red text line with the website URL and social media icons.