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## PRESS RELEASE - AJAX DOWNS

# General Skywalker Stars in Stallion Auction Futurity; Cheeko Malo Wins for Bogar



*General Skywalker, in only his second career start, won the \$36,360 Stallion Auction Futurity on June 28 at Ajax Downs. New Image Media Photo*

**AJAX DOWNS, JUNE 28, 2023** - Two-year-old **GENERAL SKYWALKER**, making just his second career start, proved best in the first running of the \$36,360 Stallion Auction Futurity Stakes at Ajax Downs on a warm and windy June 28 afternoon. The eighth day of the Quarter Horse meeting at Ajax Downs also featured the final of the new 'Never Better Than 79' Unclassified Maturity, which was won in a mild upset by **James Bogar's CHEEKO MALO**, an Ontario bred who was winning for the first time in the \$31,320 dash.

**GENERAL SKYWALKER**, a son of Ontario stallion Look At Magics Form came into the Stallion Auction Futurity off a second-place finish in his career debut for owner and breeder Marie Broadstock and trainer Bob Broadstock. The big gelding, ridden by Ramiro Castillo, maintained his composure during a delay at the gate when race favourite Senator Rose was a late scratch, and ran down first time starter Wicked Wild Willie to win the 250-yard dash by half a length in a time of 14.093 into a strong headwind.



The Stallion Auction Futurity was for horses by stallions who had breedings donated to the Quarter Racing Owners of Ontario stallion auction, which began in 2020.

"He's a really cool horse, he takes everything in stride," said Broadstock, who credited his team including Brian Samis, Don Reid, and jockeys Rachael Isaacs and Castillo for the victory. "The stallion auction will continue in 2024, it's a great way to get into Ontario racing."

**Look At Magics Form**, owned by Chantelle Bourgeois, has 11 winners from 12 starters in an auspicious beginning to his stallion career.

\*The co-featured **Unclassified/Never Better than 79 Maturity Stakes**, race seven on a big card at Ajax Downs was won by **CHEEKO MALO**, who was winning for the first time against a good field going 330-yards. The big bay 3-year-old, ridden by Diego Benitez, rallied from post position nine and won by three-quarters of a length at 5 to 1 over Krash On Okey.

Bred by James Bogar, who owns Cameron Steel in Lindsay, ON, Cheeko Malo had finished second by a neck in one of two Trials for the Unclassified Maturity.

"I thought his Trial race was strong and I expected him to have a good chance of winning," said Bogar, who runs his own horse, began training his stable this year, and won four races on the June 18 card at Ajax Downs. "I like to have control of my horses but hats off to my assistant Nicole Clark, she really does all the work."



*Ontario bred Cheeko Malo came from the clouds to win the co-featured Unclassified/Never Better Than 79 Maturity on June 28. New Image Media Photo*



\*Racing continues at Ajax Downs on **Wednesday, July 5** with the final of the **Ontario Bred Derby** and a first race post time of 1:30 p.m. Be sure to check on the Ajax Downs website, [www.ajaxdown.com](http://www.ajaxdown.com), for information on all of the 2023 racing dates including the special event Sundays coming up through the summer.

**Video:** Stallion Auction Futurity: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rzq\\_5stx-Bg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rzq_5stx-Bg)

**Video:** Never Better Than 79 Maturity: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Briy9s4tHg>

A promotional banner for Ajax Downs Race Track. The background shows a horse race in progress. The text "Live Like The Gates Just Opened" is written in large, bold, red, italicized font at the top. Below it, in black text, it says "Live Quarter Horse Racing May to October Wednesdays & One Sunday a Month & Thanksgiving Monday". At the bottom, it says "Watch our website for all this seasons events www.ajaxdowns.com" followed by social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube. On the left side of the banner is a circular logo for Ajax Downs Race Track, Est. 1969.

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