



PRESS RELEASE

Chasing 800 - Jockey Brian Bell Returns May 14



Brian Bell on his way to the post. Laurie Overton photo

AJAX DOWNS, MAY 13, 2025 - BRIAN BELL, 2024's High Point Jockey at Ajax Downs, begins his 25th year in the saddle on Wednesday, May 14, the second day of the Quarter Horse meeting. Bell, who has won more than half a dozen riding championships is **nine wins away from 800 victories**, more than any other Quarter Horse jockey in Canada.

Bell will **ride all six races** on Wednesday including the incomparable **MARYLAND MAGIC**, the 11-year-old stallion who easily won on opening day last week for owner Milena Kwiecien. Bell, who lives in Lindsay, had to sit out opening day due to a minor riding infraction from last season.

Maryland Magic, trained by perennial leading conditioner Jason Pascoe, will be odds-on in race four, a 250 yard speed index dash. The 20-time winner has five rivals including Tina Bogar's promising gelding The Gingerbread Mann.

Wednesday's **first race, which is set for 1:45 p.m.**, is an Ontario sired allowance race and the diminutive **FIRST FOR YOU** will be the first starter for young trainer Lauren Spada this season. First for You won a Trial for the Ontario Sired Futurity last season as a 2-year-old and finished a good third in the final. Brian Chyene, new to the Ajax Downs riding colony, gets the mount in the 250-yard opener.

The final two races on the May 14 Ajax Downs card are intriguing maiden dashes with many new faces to Ontario. In race five, the well-bred **RIDE THE HURRICANE** is by one of the world's leading Quarter horse stallions, Apollitical Jess. Ride the Hurricane makes her Ajax Downs debut for owner John Wilson and trainer Scott Reid who won two races on opening day.

In the day's final race, **LAST COLD BUD** and jockey Diego Benitez will be favoured to win but Dan Giles' **THE FIRE WITCH** is an upset possibility under jockey Norman DeSouza.

Parking and admission are always free at Ajax Downs and you can watch the racing up close from the many picnic tables trackside. Bet on the Ajax Downs races at the track or on www.HPIBet.com.

The popular VIP room overlooking the track can be reserved on racing days by contacting the track at www.ajaxdowns.com or (905) 686-8001.

To find out more about joining the popular First Line Racing Syndicate and own a share in a Quarter Horse, call the QROOI at (905) 426-7050.

2025 RACE SCHEDULE
LIVE QUARTER HORSE RACING

RACING & EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE ~FAMILY~

RACE DAYS

- WEDNESDAY MAY 7, 14, 21, 28 First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY JUNE 4, 11, 25 First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 16, 23 First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6, 13, 20 First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 17, 24 First Race 12:55 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22 First Race 12:55 P.M.

Special Events!

- FATHER'S DAY SUNDAY JUNE 15 First Race 12:55 P.M.
- TWILIGHT RACE NIGHT WEDNESDAY JULY 2 First Race 4:15 P.M.
- CRAFT BEER DAY SUNDAY JULY 20 First Race 12:55 P.M.
- FAMILY FUN DAY SUNDAY AUGUST 24 First Race 12:55 P.M.
- PUMPKIN DAY MONDAY OCTOBER 13 First Race 12:55 P.M.

ALL SUNDAYS & HOLIDAY MONDAYS FIRST RACE 12:55 P.M.

50 ALEXANDER'S CROSSING - AJAX, ONTARIO 905 686-8001
MORE INFO VISIT AJAXDOWNS.COM