



PRESS RELEASE

Another Fabulous Run, Bell at 799



Track announcer Frank Ferrari said Had to Be Fabulous was out for a 'stroll in the park' - New Image Media Photo

AJAX DOWNS, JUNE 12, 2025 - There seems to be no stopping the fast filly **HAD TO BE FABULOUS** as Carol and Jaime Robertson's 3-year-old coasted to her sixth consecutive win at Ajax Downs on June 11, taking the **fastest of two Trials for the \$55,000 Ontario Bred Derby**.

In front of an enthusiastic crowd on a warm afternoon, Had to Be Fabulous and jockey Ismael Mosqueira breezed to a 1 3/4 length win in the 300-yard dash, stopping the clock in 15.538 for a hefty 92 speed index. At the finish, Mosqueira was simply trying to slow the Bryn Robertson trainee down.

"The farther she went, she just wanted to go faster," said Mosqueira. "It's important to qualify for the final but you want to save something."

Had to Be Fabulous, a half sister to multiple champion Had to Be Ivory, has won 8 of 9 starts.

There was plenty of excitement for the first Trial as first time starter **EMBRACE YOUR FATE**, the first racehorse owned by famous Canadian stunt performer and animal trainer **RICK PARKER**, charged to an impressive win, overcoming a step-slow start to score in 15.711 for an 87 speed index. Parker and his actress/stunt performer wife Sue own Canadian Wrangler, which supplies animals for films. They won an ACTRA Award in 2019 for lifetime achievement. The couple are from Schomberg, ON.

"Sue used to work with [trainer] John McInerney at Woodbine and she was coming to Ajax Downs to help him," said Parker. "I told her she might as well have a racehorse. It's fun and it was great seeing the crowd here." Embrace Your Fate was bred by McInerney's partner Michelle Woodley.

The final for the Ontario Bred Derby is July 2, with a first race twilight post time of 4:15 p.m.

BRIAN BELL won career race number 799 on Wednesday aboard Jennifer Zurowski's **NADIR**, who broke his maiden by 2 3/4 lengths, racing 330 yards in 15.839 for a stunning 99 speed index. Bell, the winningest jockey in Quarter Horse racing history, has a chance to reach 800 wins this **Sunday, June 15 on a special Father's Day racing program beginning at 12:55 p.m.**

Parking and admission are always free at Ajax Downs. You can watch and wager on the races trackside or from the expansive simulcast room. Wagering is also available through www.HPIBET.com.

Do you have a group or company event? Call ahead to **reserve the trackside VIP room** to enjoy food, drink and mutuels. Fans may also **reserve outdoor tables** at the track for \$25. Want to get involved in **Quarter Horse ownership**? Contact the QROOI at 905 – 426-7050 for details.

Follow Ajax Downs on social media @AjaxDowns and visit our website, www.AjaxDowns.com for news, track programs and more information.

2025 RACE SCHEDULE
LIVE QUARTER HORSE RACING

RACING & EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE ~FAMILY~

RACE DAYS

- WEDNESDAY MAY 7, 14, 21, 28
First Race 1:05 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY JUNE 4, 11, 18, 25
First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 16, 23, 30
First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6, 13, 20
First Race 1:45 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 17, 24
First Race 12:30 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
First Race 12:35 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