



## Ohio State Racing Commission

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### Authentic Cowtown & Moonlit Mission win OTRF Stakes

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by Kimberly Rinker, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

**Authentic Cowtown** scored his first official stakes triumph by winning the \$75,000 George Lewis Memorial Stakes at Jack Thistledown on Thursday, July 17. The winner was clocked in 1:46.66 for the one and one-sixteenth mile test for Ohio Accredited, 3-year-olds and up.



Authentic Cowtown winning the 2021 Lewis Memorial for jockey Malcolm Franklin. *Photos by Jeff Zamiako*

Ridden by Malcolm Franklin, the 4-year-old son of Cowtown Cat-Echt, by Fusiachi Pegasus, upped his career bankroll to \$206,065 for owners Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm and trainer James H. McDonald. The homebred dark bay or brown gelding now has five wins, two seconds and two thirds to his credit in 12 lifetime starts.

Authentic Cowtown left the gate at 9-2 odds, finishing nearly three lengths ahead of the public's 4-5 choice **Mobil Solution** (Erik Barbaran), with 57-1 longshot **Sammy Da Bull** (Edgar Paucar) third and 5-1 **Firsthand Justice** (Ronald Allen, Jr.) fourth.

The 18<sup>th</sup> running of the Petro Memorial saw **Moonlit Mission** hold off late charges by two rivals to prevail in the \$75,000 J. William Petro Memorial Handicap. The one and one-sixteenth mile contest for Ohio registered fillies and mares, 3-year-olds and up, saw the winner timed in 1:48.22, besting six rivals.



Moonlit Mission captures the \$75,000 Petro Memorial for jockey Jose Bracho. *Photos by Jeff Zamaiko*

Owned by Charlie Williams, the 4-year-old daughter of Shackleford-Moonlit River, by Maria's Mon, is trained by Silvano Gonzalez and was ridden to victory by Jose Bracho as she upped her career earnings to \$337,950 with the Petro triumph. She now has eight wins, two seconds and one third in 15 career outings.

Moonlit Mission left the gate as the 8-5 favorite, finishing three-quarters of a length in front of the hard-trying **Drillit** (Christian Pilares) at 2-1, was a close second, just a head-bob in front of 18-1 **Cali Dream** (Angel Serpa) at the wire, while 5-1 **Tiz What** (Ronald Allen, Jr.) nabbed fourth-place money.