



Ohio State Racing Commission

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Youngsters vie in \$75,000 Loyalty Stakes

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by Kimberly Rinker, For the Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

A field of eight Ohio-accredited bred youngsters will break from the Belterra Park starting gate on Saturday, September 8 in the \$75,000 Loyalty Stakes. Set as the seventh race on the afternoon program, the Loyalty is a six-furlong contest with a post time of 4:20 pm, ET.

Trainer Michael Evans sends out recent winner **Firsthand Justice**, an altered chestnut son by Tidal Volume owned by Sheltoewe Farm. This winner of \$23,775 from just three career starts was a \$5,200 yearling purchase at the 2017 Ohio Thoroughbred Breeders Mixed Sale and broke his maiden on Aug. 14 at Thistledown. Bred by Justice Farm and Greg Justice, Firsthand Justice was second in his career debut on July 21 and fourth in his second start on Aug. 5—both at Belterra.

Trainer John Bourke, Jeff Barbee and James Kerin's **Danefield** steps up into stakes company fresh off a July 31 Thistledown triumph in his career debut. This homebred Kentucky Dane gelding has \$18,000 in his career coffers from that lone victory.

Hey Adrian is a bay Twinspired-Zinn House Doll, by Milwaukee Brew filly owned and trained by Joshua Faulkner. This homebred broke her maiden on Aug. 13 at Thistledown by 5¼ lengths in front-running style and sports a bankroll of \$21,000.

Trainer Mike Rone sends out a trio of runners in the Loyalty Stakes, including first-time starter **Doc Gardner** for breeder/owner Thorobeam Farm. This Stately Victor colt is out of the Blair's Cove mare Erin Murphy. Rone will also bridle up his own neophyte gelding, **Truest of Them All**, a son of Alcindor—Be True, by Shakespeare bred by Breakaway Farm and **Stone Cold Cat**, who'll be making his second career start for breeder/owner Ronald Dewolf. This Stately Victory gelding was fourth in a 5½ furlong Thistledown maiden sprint on July 31.

Patti Go Girl hails from the Larry Smith barn for breeder/owner Richard Alderson. A chestnut daughter by Big Atlantic—Witty Woman, by Red Bullet, Patti Go Girl was fourth in the \$75,000 Tah Dah Stakes on Aug. 26 at Belterra and is seeking her first stakes victory in the Loyalty. She has modest earnings of \$3,750 from that lone start.

Breeder/owner Jennifer Thorpe's **Touchnotthecomet** rounds out the field of eight runners. This grey Tidal Volume-Looney Lynda, by Trippi gelding is conditioned by Daniel Thompson, and was sixth in her career debut at Belterra on Aug. 23. She garnered \$235 from that first try.