



## Ohio State Racing Commission

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### OTRF Stake spotlights showdown between Sophomore Rivals

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by Kimberly Rinker, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund

The \$75,000 Daniel Stearns Cleveland Gold Cup will be part of a ten-race program on Saturday, June 26, that features the 87<sup>th</sup> running of the \$500,000 Ohio Derby (Grade III). First race post time is 12:20 pm, ET, with the Stearns set as the seventh race with a 3:26 pm, ET, post and the Ohio Derby set to be contested at 5:04 pm, ET.

The Daniel Stearns Cleveland Gold Cup features a full field of ten, 3-year-old Ohio-registered foals going postward in the 53<sup>rd</sup> running of the event, set for one and 1/8 miles over the Cleveland dirt. Recent stake winners Brig and Buckeye Magic will square off once again in this contest.



*Buckeye Magic winning the 2020 edition of the \$100,000 Juvenile Stakes*

**Brig**, a gelded son of Midshipman, captured the \$75,000 Daryl E. Parker Tall Stack Stakes on May 6 at Belterra Park before finishing fourth to Buckeye Magic in the \$100,000 Green Carpet Stakes at that same venue on May 28. Brig also finished a solid third in last season's \$100,000 Best of Ohio Cleveland Kindergarten Stakes at Thistledown. Trained by Robert Gorham for Mast

Thoroughbreds, this homebred has four wins, two seconds, and two thirds, with a bankroll of \$145,020. Brig will be guided by his regular jockey, Christian Pilares.

**Buckeye Magic**, like his aforementioned rival, is a homebred, trained by Thomas Drury, Jr., for Maccabee Farm. This Trappe Shot-Lady Buckeye, by Quiet American colt has career earnings of \$142,220 from three wins, a second and a third in just five starts. In addition to his triumph in the Green Carpet Stakes, Buckeye Magic was also victorious in the \$100,000 Juvenile Stakes last season at Mahoning Valley Racecourse for these same connections. John McKee is slated to be in the irons once again.