

Track and stakes records set in Massachusetts Sire Stakes by NY-Sired horses

September 29, 2019, by Tim Bojarski, for the Standardbred Owners of Massachusetts

Plainville, MA — The 3-year-old trotters and pacers hit the track for the first leg of the \$1.8 million (est.) Massachusetts Sire Stakes on Sunday afternoon (Sept. 29) at Plainridge Park and the record books were rewritten in two of the four events.



Simple Kaos set a new track record at Plainridge Park for 3-year-old trotting geldings. Tom Melanson photo.

In the \$39,900 3-year-old colt and gelding trot, Simple Kaos (Jimmy Whittemore) took a quick lead in the race, followed by Jake G's Champion (Shawn Gray) and the two opened up a three-length lead on the field by the quarter in :28.2. They remained one-two to the half and extended their gap on the field to seven lengths when they hit the three-quarters in 1:25.3. It was there that Simple Kaos parted ways with Jake G's Champion and opened up a three-length lead on him, that he extended to five down the lane and to the wire where he was a wrapped-up winner in 1:54.3.

The time was a new lifetime mark for Simple Kaos and also a new track record at Plainridge Park for 3-year-old trotting geldings, replacing the old mark of 1:55.1 set by Now's The Moment in 2018.

Simple Kaos (\$4.40), who was the 2018 MASS 2-year-old trotting champion, scored his first win of 2019 for co-owner/trainer George Ducharme. Co-owner Michelle Larson bred Simple Kaos (RC Royalty-Ksenia).

Then in the \$38,500 3-year-old trotting fillies division, Crystalline made a big late move to capture her first stake win of the year.

Mother Teresa (Drew Monti) took the point off the gate and led the single-file pack to the half without a challenge in :57. An outer-flow formed with Ev's Girl (Steve Smith) coming first up with Crystalline (Shawn Gray) second-over. At the three-quarters they

fanned three-wide with Ev's Girl two out and Crystalline, who had made a move from fourth, farthest from the pegs. Ev's Girl did take the lead at the head of the stretch but Crystalline was still closing, and closing fast. Gray kept her to her work and Crystalline gained the lead in deep stretch and won by a length in 1:56.1.



Crystalline set a new MASS stakes record for 3-year-old trotting fillies. Tom Melanson photo.

It was a new lifetime mark for Crystalline and a new MASS stakes record for 3-year-old trotting fillies, surpassing the 10-year-old standard of 1:58.1 set by RC Curiosity in 2009.

Crystalline (\$7.20) is owned by Ray Campbell Jr. and is trained by George Ducharme. Campbell also bred Crystalline (Chapter Seven-Royalty Free).