

## Barn Bella equals track record in Tioga NYSS

by James Witherite, Tioga Downs racing media

Nichols, N.Y. -- Barn Bella (\$23.40) stole the show in Friday (August 5) evening's New York Sire Stakes events for 2-year-old trotting fillies at Tioga Downs, working her way into a share of a track record with a sparkling 1:55.2 triumph in her \$36,566 division.



Barn Bella set the bar high in the evening's sixth event, working to a comfortable lead over Reverend Nanny (John Cummings) on approach to the first turn and rating a :58.4 first half mile. On the backstretch, the daughter of Conway Hall and Bravissima accelerated at will, amassing a seven-length lead and never looking back while Reverend Nanny failed to keep up. Favorite Mamora Bay (Sam Schillaci) mounted a rally out of last on approach to the far turn--ultimately circling into second over Scarey Karie (Phil

Fluet)--but still finished 7-1/2 lengths in arrears of Barn Bella.

Claude Huckabone, Jr. drove Barn Bella for trainer Steven Pratt. Nancy Pratt and the Purple Haze Stables share ownership of the two-time winner with the conditioner.

Barn Bella's 1:55.2 mile equalled the previous local mark for 2-year-old trotting fillies established by You Want Me (Tim Tetrick, 2012) and matched by Jolene Jolene (David Miller, 2014).

In the subsequent Sire Stakes races, Amber Ella (\$7.10) and Mighty Surf (\$4.40) proved victorious. Amber Ella used a first-over push up the far side to capture the \$35,866 seventh event by a widening 1-1/2 lengths in 1:58. Mike Simons drove the daughter of Chapter Seven and Blushed for trainer Linda Toscano.

In the \$36,566 ninth event, Jim Morrill, Jr. sent Mighty Surf immediately to the front, and the pair controlled the terms before evading a stout three-wide challenge from Heels On Wheels off the far turn for a 2-1/4 length 1:57 victory, her fourth in as many career starts. Dennis Laterza trains the daughter of Prayer I Am and Big Surfer.

Attached: Barn Bella (Claude Huckabone, Jr. up) wired her foes in dominant fashion to capture her New York Sire Stakes event at Tioga Downs in 1:55.2, equaling the track record for 2-year-old trotting fillies. Fred Brown photo.