

EMERALD DOWNS - July 26, 2026 - Race 6

CLAIMING - Thoroughbred
FOR THREE YEAR OLDS AND UPWARD. Three Year Olds, 121 lbs.; Older, 125 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race At A Mile Or Over In 2026 Allowed 3 lbs. Claiming Price \$15,000, if for \$12,500, allowed 3 lbs. (Maiden Races, Claiming Races And Starters Races For \$12,500 Or Less Not Considered In Allowances). **Claiming Price:** \$15,000 - \$12,500
Distance: One Mile On The Dirt **Current Track Record:** (Point Piper - 1:32.90 - August 14, 2016)
Purse: \$18,000
Includes: \$3,600 MITEC - Muckleshoot Tribal Contribution
Available Money: \$18,000
Value of Race: \$17,280 1st \$10,260, 2nd \$3,510, 3rd \$2,070, 4th \$900, 5th \$540
Weather: Clear, 75° **Track:** Fast
Off at: 5:05 **Start:** Good for all **Timing Method:** Electronic



[Video Race Replay](#)

Last Raced	Pgm	Horse Name (Jockey)	Wgt	M/E	PP	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin	Odds	Comments
5Jul26 ⁸ EMD ⁴	2	Background (Morales, Allyssa)	125	L	2	3	3 ¹	3 ^{1 1/2}	3 ⁴	2 ²	1 ^{Neck}	1.00*	3-w bid, prevailed
12Jul26 ⁵ EMD ⁴	1	Dirt Road Red (Cruz, Alex)	122	L f	1	1	2 ^{1/2}	2 ^{1/2}	1 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{3 1/4}	1.52	vied, held gamely
20Jun26 ⁶ EMD ⁴	5	I'm Noble (Alvarado, Frank)	122	L b	4	5	5	5	4 ¹	4 ¹⁰	3 ^{7 3/4}	6.24	inside, late rally
16Aug25 ⁹ DMR ⁶	6	Lil Richards Bello (Amador, Silvio)	122	L bf	5	2	1 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{1 1/2}	3 ^{Head}	4 ^{21 3/4}	9.18	vied, weakened
21Mar26 ⁵ TUP ⁵	4	Speed It Up (Kriger, Kevin)	118	L	3	4	4 ²	4 ³	5	5	5	13.03	steadied, gave way

Fractional Times: 23.64 46.38 1:10.17 1:22.91 **Final Time:** 1:36.24 **Time from Gate:** 1:38.39
Split Times: (22:74) (23:79) (12:74) (13:33)
Run-Up: 56 feet

Winner: Background, Chestnut Gelding, by Khozan out of Ephyra, by Corinthian. Foaled Mar 31, 2017 in Florida.
Breeder: Brent Fernung & Crystal Fernung
Owner: Mike Puhich
Trainer: Puhich, Michael

Claiming Prices: 2 - Background: \$15,000; 1 - Dirt Road Red: \$15,000; 5 - I'm Noble: \$15,000; 6 - Lil Richards Bello: \$15,000; 4 - Speed It Up: \$15,000;

Scratched Horse(s): Elegant Boy (Stewards)

Total WPS Pool: \$74,882

Pgm	Horse	Win	Place	Show	Wager Type	Winning Numbers	Payoff	Pool
2	Background	4.00	2.26	2.10	\$1.00 Exacta	2-1	3.33	29,373
1	Dirt Road Red		2.32	2.10	\$0.50 Trifecta	2-1-5	2.60	21,325
5	I'm Noble			2.26	\$0.50 Pick 3	5-9-2/3 (3 correct)	45.22	6,559
					\$0.10 Superfecta	2-1-5-6	0.79	15,049
					\$1.00 Daily Double	9-2	6.22	4,057

Past Performance Running Line Preview

Pgm	Horse Name	Start	1/4	1/2	3/4	Str	Fin
2	Background	3	3 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1/2}	3 ^{1 1/2}	2 ^{Head}	1 ^{Neck}
1	Dirt Road Red	1	2 ^{Head}	2 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{Neck}
5	I'm Noble	5	5 ^{3 1/2}	5 ⁵	4 ^{5 1/2}	4 ^{2 1/4}	3 ^{3 1/2}
6	Lil Richards Bello	2	1 ^{Head}	1 ^{Head}	2 ^{Head}	3 ²	4 ^{11 1/4}
4	Speed It Up	4	4 ^{1 1/2}	4 ²	5 ^{6 1/2}	5 ^{12 1/4}	5 ³³

Trainers: 2 - Puhich, Michael; 1 - Crowe, Shelly; 5 - Toye, Joe; 6 - Rodriguez, Francisco; 4 - Ledford, Melissa

Owners: 2 -Mike Puhich; 1 -Julie Nakahara; 5 -Rusty George Warwick; 6 - Hat Trick Racing; 4 -Steve Haahr;

Footnotes | [View Glossary Of Terms](#)

BACKGROUND stalked the pace racing along the inside, angled out to come three-wide into the stretch, caught DIRT ROAD RED at the eighth pole then dueled with that one to the wire and prevailed narrowly. DIRT ROAD RED vied with LIL RICHARDS BELLO for the lead from along the inside, responded when asked and held on gamely to the wire. I'M NOBLE saved ground while being unhurried and rallied late. LIL RICHARDS BELLO vied with DIRT ROAD RED for the lead into the stretch and weakened. SPEED IT UP was close-up early racing along the inside, steadied nearing the three-quarter pole lacking room then was allowed to settle and gave way.