



## By Jennie Rees, Eclipse Award-winning freelance writer

SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; – July 15, 2016 - Indiana's Horse of the Year will be on display during Indiana Grand's showcase card Saturday night. Trainer Anthony Granitz just doesn't know in which Indiana Grand stakes.

Lady Fog Horn is accomplished on turf and dirt and was entered in both the \$100,000 Mari Hulman George on dirt and the \$100,000 Indiana General Assembly Distaff on turf.

"I'm going to leave it up to the owner and let him make the call," Granitz said of Delaware attorney Stuart Grant, who bred and races the Indianaborn and sired Lady Fog Horn in the name of his Elkstone Group. "Because last year I gave it to him and he made some great calls picking what spot we wanted to run. I entered in both because of the weather. It's nice they give you that option."

Lady Fog Horn was voted Indiana's 2015 Horse of the Year for a season in which she went 6-1-1 in nine starts, earning \$354,335. She won four Indiana-bred stakes, three on dirt and one on turf and each by a greater margin, capping her year with a second in Churchill Downs' Grade III Cardinal Handicap on turf.

In her only start this year, the 4-year-old Lady Fog Horn won a first-level allowance race April 20 against open company on dirt at Indiana Grand. She was eligible for the race because her six wins against state-bred company and two in high-priced allowance/optional claiming races (where she was in for the \$75,000 claiming price) at Tampa did not count under the eligibility conditions.

Lady Fog Horn and Albin Jimenez win an allowance race April 20 at Indiana Grand, the only start this season for Indiana's 2015 Horse of the Year. Photo by Linscott Photography

I think the competition will be too tough for her.' I said, 'You know, she's just learning. I'd like to take her there and run her a couple of times and try her on the grass.'

"The first time she ran there, Todd Pletcher had a heavy favorite in the race and won. (Lady Fog Horn) finished fourth, but she ran well. We had her in again. Pletcher had another one there like 3-5. It came off the turf, and we came up the rail in the mud and won the race."

Grant foals in mares in various states with casino gambling augmenting the breeding and racing programs. He's the breeder of the Pennsylvania-bred Santa Anita Derby runner-up Mor Spirit, sold as a yearling for \$85,000 and again at 2 for \$650,000. Granitz notes that Grant earned a record \$189,000 in breeding awards last year in addition to purse money.

Granitz also has the Illinois-bred America Mon Amie, third in Minnesota's Lady Canterbury in her last start, in the Indiana General Assembly. America Mon Amie finished a late-running fourth in last year's race.

While Granitz also has a division at Arlington Park and started out in racing 39 years ago in Chicago, he said he's sold his home there and is building one not far from Shelbyville, Ind.

"Here the stakes are \$100,000," he said. "In Illinois, the biggest stakes for Illinois-breds is \$50,000. It's a tough go in Chicago, fighting the political system up there, the politicians. We can't get anything done for the tracks."

Live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing is conducted Tuesday through Friday at 2:05 PM EST with Saturday racing beginning at 6:05 PM. The 120-day season runs through Saturday, Oct. 29.

About Indiana Grand Racing & Casino: Indiana Grand Racing & Casino holds multiple awards from industry publications for customer service, entertainment, gaming and dining. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,200 of the latest slots and electronic table games in addition to a one-mile dirt race course and a seven-eighths mile turf course offering live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing each year. Simulcast wagering is also offered year-round at Winner's Circle Brewpub & OTB located on the casino floor as well as an off-track betting facility located in Clarksville, Ind. For more information, please visit www.IndianaGrand.com.

6 7

"She got a little sick on us, so we missed some training. We had a spot picked out for her at Churchill, and didn't get to run," Granitz said of the Mint Julep on turf, whose winner, Cash Control, is running in the Indiana General Assembly. "She had the prep and got sick after that. Now she's doing well, but both races are very tough.

"She's a real special filly. I liked her as a 2-year-old, but she was just developing. The (2014) meet ended here in October, and I said to Mr. Grant, 'Let's take her to Tampa.' And he's like, 'Well, she's Indiana-bred.

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