

Artie's Ideal (Marcus Miller) wins the \$12,500 first elimination for the Empire Breeders Classic (EBC) featuring 3-year-old colts & geldings.

Rollwithpapajoe (Dexter Dunn) got to the first quarter first in :27 and led to the half in :50. Major Blake (Jason Bartlett) went first-over on the back stretch and stuck a nose in front hitting three-quarters first in 1:22.1. Rollwithpapajoe reclaimed the lead as they reached the top of the stretch.

Artie's Ideal (\$24.80), who is owned by Bay Pond Racing and trained by Erv Miller, followed in the pocket and came out to go first-over. Buddy Hill (Brian Sears) then made a three-wide move. Artie's Ideal was too strong in deep stretch and held off second-place finisher Buddy Hill to win in a lifetime best of 1:50.3. Covered Bridge (Wally Hennessey) finished third as World On Edge (Matt Kakaley) took fourth. All four qualified for the EBC final next Sunday (August 18). Rollwithpapajoe finished fifth and is also eligible for the final.

Artie's Ideal is 3-year-old colt by [American Ideal](#). It was his first win this season. He now owns three career victories.

Hickfromfrenchlick (Matt Kakaley) holds on to win the \$12,500 second division.

Hickfromfrenchlick (\$4.30) charged to the front and led to a first quarter of :28. He controlled the pace hitting the half in :56.3. Major March (Jason Bartlett) went first-over just before Hickfromfrenchlick hit three-quarters in 1:24.4.

Hickfromfrenchlick, who is owned by trainer Ray Schnittker, Nolamaura Racing, and Thomas Spatorico, battled with Major March as they made the turn for home. Shake That House (Brian Sears) then found an opening on the inside but fell just short as Hickfromfrenchlick won in 1:51.4. Shake That House settled for second best. Major March held on for third. Respect Our Flag (Dexter Dunn) finished fourth with Chatelroll getting fifth place. All five qualified for the EBC Final.

Hickfromfrenchlick is a 3-year-old colt by [So Surreal](#). It was win number five this season and career victory number nine.

Tioga Downs returns to live racing on Friday (Aug. 16) with a 10-race card starting at 6:15 p.m.