

# NY-Sired Crystalline breaks Massachusetts stake record at Plainridge

October 6, 2019, by Tim Bojarski, for Batavia Downs

**Plainville, MA** — The second leg of the \$1.8 million Massachusetts Sire Stakes (MASS) got underway on Sunday (Oct. 6) at Plainridge Park with the second-year class competing in four divisions. The 3-year-old trotting filly Crystalline (Chapter Seven-Royalty Free) stole the show as she set a new stake record for her group in her \$38,500 contest.



**Crystalline sets a new stake record of 1:55.4 at Plainridge Park. Tom Melanson photo.**

Crystalline (Shawn Gray) got away fourth and watched as Ev's Girl (Steve Smith) flew to the quarter in :27.4. Gray pulled the 2-5 Crystalline past that station and rushed to the front midway through the second turn. The field bunched up on the backside with Mother Teresa (Drew Monti) coming first-over with Just Dreamin (Mike Stevenson) behind her and Ev's Girl on the pylons just a length off.

After they hit the three-quarters in 1:26 flat, Crystalline opened up a length lead over the competition and as she made her way through the last turn, continued to extend the gap. Heading down the stretch Gray was a mere passenger as Crystalline just cruised home to a 3-3/4 length win in 1:55.4.

The time was a new lifetime mark for Crystalline and it also broke the MASS stake record of 1:56.1 that was set by this filly just last week.

It was the second straight MASS win and sixth win of the year for Crystalline (\$2.80) who has now earned \$74,575 for owner Ray Campbell Jr., who also bred the filly. George Ducharme trains the winner.

There were no surprises in the three other divisions either as the favored horses finished on top. (cont.)

### **MASS \$39,200 trot for 3-year-old colts and geldings**

Driver Jimmy Whittemore left strong from post six with Simple Kaos (RC Royalty-Ksenia) and then had his way with the field. He cut fractions of :28, :57.1 and 1:26.3 while Jake G's Champion (Shawn Gray), The Fixer (Howard Parker) and RFL's Lord Command (Jim Hardy) tried to mount an assault. But Simple Kaos was just too good and pulled away in the lane to win by 2-1/4 lengths in 1:56.4.

After scoring his second win of the stake, Simple Kaos (\$3.20) has now earned \$56,820 this year for owners the George Ducharme Stable and Michelle Larson. Ducharme trains the gelding that was bred by Larson.