



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023
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KONNAN CARTEL TOP QUALIFIER FOR \$144,635 DELTA DOWNS LOUISIANA-BRED DERBY

JOSUE PONCE TRAINEE STAYS UNDEFEATED ON THE SEASON

VINTON, LA. – Delta Downs conducted a pair of qualifying trials for this year’s Delta Downs Derby for Louisiana-bred 3-year-olds on Thursday night. The fastest qualifier was Dania Castellanos’ Konnan Cartel under jockey Victor Urieta, Jr.

Konnan Cartel won the second trial of the night for trainer Josue Ponce and did it in impressive fashion leading every step of the way after breaking from the inside post position. The Delta Downs Derby is contested at 400 yards. Konnan Cartel stopped the timer in 19.505 seconds, which equaled a speed index of 102. Each race on the program was contested over a fast track.

The win by Konnan Cartel was the fifth of his 11-race career and his second of the season. He also took the Vinton Stakes in his first start of the season on May 27. He earned \$6,000 for this trial score and can add a much bigger paycheck to his bank account on closing night in the \$144,635 final of the Delta Downs Derby.

Konnan Cartel is a 3-year-old brown gelding by Five Bar Cartel, out of the Jet Black Patriot mare Jet Black Chiraq. He was bred in Louisiana by Luis Armando Castellanos.

Listed below are the 10 finalists for this year’s Delta Downs Derby from the fast time on down.

	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	Time
1	Konnan Cartel	Victor Urieta, Jr.	Josue Ponce	19.505
2	Tha Duke	Arturo Alvarez	Raul Rodriguez	19.683
3	Moonin Rusty	Juan Garcia, Jr.	Dwayne Breaux	19.756
4	Pk Pure Rogue	Ubaldo Luna	Dustin Rhodes	19.880
5	Five Bar Jess Cartel	Jorge Garcia	Joel Huitron	19.893
6	Turn the Eagle Lose	Eleazar Hernandez	Leonel Hernandez	20.017



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7	Hes a Fast Blood	Arturo Alvarez	Jesus O. Torres	20.096
8	Mp Don't Look	Guadalupe Lucio, Jr.	Fernando Valdez	20.104
9	King Air	Guadalupe Lucio, Jr.	Janessa Lee Muniz	20.125
10	Splishsplash Piloto	Floriberto Maldonado	Martin Trejo	20.142

Delta Downs will host an expanded 12-race program on Friday night with a special early post time of 5:10 pm. The entire card will be made up of qualifying trials for this year's \$624,792 Lee Berwick Futurity (RG1). The race week will wrap up on Saturday night with a nine-race program beginning at 6:10 pm.

For more information about the season, visit the track's website at www.deltadownsracing.com.

[Delta Downs Racetrack Casino Hotel](#), a property of [Boyd Gaming Corporation](#), is the premier racing and gaming entertainment venue in Vinton, LA. Named "America's Best Horse Racing Track" by readers of USA TODAY 10Best, Delta Downs features a six-furlong oval track, 15,000 square feet of casino space and more than 1,500 of the most popular slot machines. Amenities include two restaurants, chart-topping entertainment at the Delta Event Center and the FanDuel Sportsbook.