

PRESS RELEASE

DELTA DOWNS[®]
RACETRACK ♦ CASINO ♦ HOTEL

2717 DELTA DOWNS DRIVE, VINTON, LA 70668
WWW.DELTADOWNS.COM | 800-589-7441

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024
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GOTAGOGH QUALIFIES FASTEST FOR THE FIRECRACKER DERBY AT DELTA DOWNS

THE \$145,205 FINAL TAKES PLACE ON JULY 5

VINTON, LA. – Delta Downs hosted three qualifying trials for this year’s \$145,205 Firecracker Derby on Friday night and the top finalist for the big race was Triple Five’s Gotagogh. The Juan Diaz, Jr. trainee won the first trial of the night under jockey Victor Urieta, Jr. in a time of 17.499 seconds for 350 yards.

Breaking from the inside post position in a field of eight, Gotagogh quickly grabbed the lead and increased his advantage all the way to the finish line, winning the race by one length. The effort marked the fifth win of his nine-race career. His impressive clocking equaled a speed index of 96.

After qualifying for some of the richest futurities in the country last year as a 2-year-old, Gotagogh is now set to capture the first stakes race of his career on Friday, July 5, when the Firecracker Derby final will take place. Each trial race on Friday carried a purse of \$5,000 and the winners snagged \$3,000 apiece. Gotagogh has now earned \$140,872 during his career.

Bred in Texas by Bobby D. Cox, Gotagogh is a 3-year-old brown colt by Favorite Cartel, out of the Shazoom mare Signs Zoomer.

In addition to Gotagogh, the team of trainer Juan Diaz, Jr. and jockey Victor Urieta, Jr. also qualified two other runners for the Firecracker Derby. They include the third quickest qualifier, White Collar, and the eighth fastest, Blood Aztec.

Below is a complete list of 10 finalists for this year’s Firecracker Derby.

	Horse	Jockey	Trainer	Time
1	Gotagogh	Victor Urieta, Jr.	Juan Diaz, Jr.	17.499
2	White Collar	Eleazar Hernandez	Leonel Hernandez	17.669
3	Motion of Grace	Victor Urieta, Jr.	Juan Diaz, Jr.	17.706
4	Think Again Kev	Arturo Alvarez	Heath Taylor	17.747
5	Regardlezz	Arnulfo Gutierrez	Kenneth Roberts, Sr.	17.810
6	Woopaa123	Sabino Reyes	Jose R. Espinosa	17.826
7	B Second Cowboy	Sabino Reyes	Jose R. Espinosa	17.830

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8	Blood Aztec	Victor Urieta, Jr.	Juan Diaz, Jr.	17.835
9	Eagle Fly Thru Fire	Ubaldo Luna	Jesus Huitron Lira	17.838
10	Big Red Train	Ubaldo Luna	Patrick L. Clemons	17.923

Delta Downs will close out the race week on Saturday night with another nine-race program featuring six trials for this year's \$303,490 Firecracker Futurity. The action kicks off at 6:15 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" in 2023 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.