

KEEP GRINDING

Keep Grinding ^{Own: Attard Joshua J}	Dk. b or b. c. 3 (Apr) CANSEP19\$9,770 Sire: Tizway (Tiznow) Dam: Samsal (Consolidator) Br: Huntington Stud Farm Corp. (Ont-C) Tr: Attard Tino(22 4 5 3 .18) 2021:(22 4 .18)	Life 5 1 1 \$112,810 84 D.Fst 0 0 0 \$0 - 2021 2 0 1 \$44,910 84 Wet(322) 0 0 0 \$0 - Synth 4 1 1 \$83,665 84 2020 3 1 0 \$67,900 76 Turf(309) 1 0 0 \$5,700 52 Wo 4 1 1 1 \$107,110 84 Dst(271) 0 0 0 \$0 -
11,JIy21-7W0 fst 1	Marine-G3 84 6 / 6 521 531 52 211 22 Stein J OC 75k/N\$V-N 73 5 / 9 21 22 21 21 321 Stein J Md Sp Wt 108k 76 3 / 12 321 311 411 21 1nk Stein J Md Sp Wt 107k 54 1 / 9 3nk 32 311 31 32 Stein J	L118 16.70 91-10 Easy Time ² Keep Grinding ² Haddassah ^{nk} Brk outwd,2-3w,gamely L118 5.45 92-06 Tidal Forces ¹ / ₂ <i>Harlan Estate</i> ¹ / ₃ Keep Grinding ¹ / ₂ Stalk,press,led,hung *2.30 87-12 Keep Grinding ^{nk} Truffle King ¹ / ₄ Tape to Tape ³ / ₄ Led mid str,clr,held 118 4.70 90-09 British Royalty ¹ / ₃ Curlin's Catch ¹ / ₂ Perfect Crime ¹ / ₄ Stalked,to rail 1/8 pl

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• Not many grandfathers get to share the anticipation of a Queen's Plate run with their grandsons, and Tino and Joshua Attard are thoroughly appreciating the unique experience.

• The possibility of competing in Canada's most famous race came after Keep Grinding broke his maiden in a 1 1/16-mile contest over the main track last November. "My grandson, he says, 'Nannu, maybe we've got a Plate horse here.' I said, 'Well, we'll keep playing around with him and see what happens', and we've decided we're going to go," said Tino Attard. "Joshua is excited about it, I don't blame him."

• Keep Grinding has started twice this season, both at 1 1/16-miles over the main track, finishing third on June 19 and then second in the Grade 3 Marine Stakes. "He's an honest horse," said Tino. "What he's got, he gives it to you."

Tino said Keep Grinding is a perfect gentleman with manners more akin to a pony than a stud colt. "He's a colt, but he looks like a pony, you can do anything you want with him. He's quiet in the shedrow; in the stall he's very quiet. A smart horse. He sits in a corner, if he sees you going by he comes beside the door and just calls you, give me something to eat."
The elder Attard admitted Keep Grinding's requests for food are usually met with a mint and that Joshua has kidded him about spoiling the colt like one might a favoured grandchild.

Owner – Joshua J. Attard

Joshua Attard has been immersed in the world of Thoroughbred racing since birth — his father Kevin Attard is one of Woodbine's leading trainers, as was his grandfather Tino Attard during the height of his career — however, like many young men, he was not always interested in his father's job. That interest grew once he approached his teenage years and his connection with the horses deepened. In 2018, he selected his first yearling, following that up with the acquisition of Keep Grinding (for \$13,000) in 2019. Last summer he worked on the backstretch at Woodbine and was able to see the colt's development first hand. Attard has owned horses since 2011 — Kings Parade gave him a win in his very first start as an owner — and prior to Keep Grinding his favourite horse was Bear At Last. That son of Marchfield earned Attard and his grandfather \$20,000 before being claimed in 2019. Keep Grinding will be the 17-year-old's first Queen's Plate starter.

Trainer - Tino Attard

Tino Attard was born in Birkirkara, Malta. He followed his older brother Joe to Canada in 1963 and took a job at a steel factory next to Woodbine. His second job in Canada was on the backstretch at Woodbine. Attard has won a number of stakes races and developed champions like Bucky's Solution, Cozzene's Prince, Kirby's Song and Milwaukee Brew. His graded stakes wins include the Monmouth Breeders' Cup Oaks (Kirby's Song, 1998), Marine Stakes and Ohio Derby (Milwaukee Brew, 2000), and Valedictory Stakes (Turkish, 2014). He has won the Woodbine Oaks twice — in 1998 with Kirby's Song and 1999 with Touch Dial. At 74, he has scaled back his operation from the heights it achieved at the turn of the century, when he was ranked among North America's top 100 trainers, and works alongside his son Kevin Attard.

Jockey - Rafael Hernandez

Rafael Hernandez was born in Puerto Rico and began his riding career at Tampa Bay Downs in 2004. At Fairmount Park, he was the leading rider nine times. During 2015, he bounced around to several different tracks, before moving to Woodbine full-time during the summer of 2016. He found immediate success, winning 99 races in an abbreviated campaign. He then finished third in the Woodbine jockey standings in 2017, second in 2018 and 2019, and won the title in 2020. He also earned the 2020 **Sovereign Award as Canada's outstanding jockey**. Hernandez won the 2015 Queen's Plate with Shaman Ghost and has won the Breeders' Stakes, the third jewel of the Canadian Triple Crown, on three different occasions, with Camp Creek (2016), Channel Maker (2017) and Tone Broke (2019). Hernandez missed two and one-half weeks at the start of the 2021 meet after suffering an injury in a spill on opening day.

Groom - Beresford Lee

