

Focus Group

Focus Group	Dk. b or b. c. 4 (Apr) KEESEP15 \$140,000 Sire: Kither's Joy (El Prader'lre) \$40,000 Dam: Cocktail Hour (Dynaformer) Br: Dislama Farms LLC (Kp) Tr: Brown Chad C(6 2 2 1 .33) 2018:(688 167 .27)		Life	10	4 1	2	\$227,340	100	D.Fst	0	0	0	0 \$0	-
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- Focus Group has been in the zone of late winning three of his last four starts and seeking his third straight win after making a successful stakes debut in the restricted John's Call over 15/8 miles of turf at Saratoga.
- Now, the four-year-old son of Kitten's Joy will be moving into Grade I company for the Pattison Canadian International. "The horse is in good form," said trainer Chad Brown. "He's an improving horse, we know he can get the distance. It's a big step up in class but he's a well-bred horse. He's always acted like he'll get to this level."
- Brown, whose stable sports extraordinary strength in both the male and female turf divisions, has to spread his troops around for maximum effectiveness and found the Canadian International to be an appropriate spot for Focus Group.
- "The timing of the race really works for us," said Brown. "And, my hope is that he will appreciate the course, it will suit him. We'll have to see. It's a race I've had in the back of my mind for quite a while."
- Brown has yet to win Canadian International but has been coming close with two second-place finishes and a third from his three starters.

Owners - Klaravich Stables, Inc. and William H. Lawrence

Klaravich Stables represents Seth Klarman of the Baupost Group. Based in Boston, Mass., the Baupost Group is one of the largest hedge funds in the world. The original partners recruited Klarman early in the process of founding the company in 1982, and today Klarman is Baupost's president, chief executive and portfolio manager, managing assets valued at \$30 billion. In 1991, HarperCollins published his book 'Margin of Safety: Risk-Averse Value Investing Strategies for the Thoughtful Investor.' Klarman has owned Thoroughbreds since 2000. In 2006, he began buying and racing horses in partnership with William H. Lawrence and the pair have fielded the winners of more than \$34 million. Klaravich and Lawrence boast six Grade 1 wins together, including 2017 Preakness Stakes champ Cloud Computing, 2016 Champagne and Hopeful champ Practical Joke, and the 2011 Hopeful victor Currency Swap. Klaravich Stables Inc. was the leading owner at this year's Saratoga meeting with $\mathfrak A$ victories including the Grade I Test with Separationofpowers.

Trainer - Chad Brown

Chad Brown, who learned the racetrack ropes with trainer Shug McGaughey, moved on to work as an assistant to the late Bobby Frankel for five years when the stable's stars included the likes of Ghostzapper, Intercontinental, Empire Maker and Medaglia d'Oro. Brown saddled his first winner on his own account on Nov. 23, 2007. His rise since then has been nothing short of meteoric and the 39-year-old Brown now is riding the crest of back-to-back Eclipse Awards as Outstanding Trainer. He recently captured his second Saratoga training title, with a record 46 victories. Other recent feats include saddling the 1-2 finishers in the Grade 1 Arlington Million after fielding the top three in the Grade 1 Beverly D. at that oval that same afternoon.

Jockey - Jose Ortiz

Born in Puerto Rico, Jose Ortiz currently rides on the New York circuit with his older brother Irad Ortiz Jr. The pair made headlines on January 2O, 2O13 when they won the first seven races on Aqueduct's card with Jose earning three of the victories. In 2O15, Ortiz ranked fourth among all North American jockeys by purse earnings with \$17,324,O23 and seventh by victories with 244. He had already eclipsed both figures the following year by the time the 2O16 Breeders' Cup came around, and he earned his first career Breeders' Cup score when he piloted Oscar Performance to victory in the Juvenile Turf. Ortiz notched his second Breeders' Cup win in 2O17 with Good Magic in the Juvenile and led all N.A. jockeys in earnings after topping the win column the year prior. He earned his first Eclipse Award last year for a campaign that also included a classic win (Tapwrit, Belmont Stakes). Ortiz won the Grade 1 Ricoh Woodbine Mile last month with Oscar Performance and guided the Canadian champion Channel Maker to his first Grade 1 score in the recent Joe Hirsch Turf Classic at Belmont