

Dayson headlines NYSS trotters at Batavia Downs

by Tim Bojarski, for Batavia Downs

Batavia, NY --- On Wednesday night (Aug. 31), the New York Sire Stake 3-year-old colt and gelding trotters will visit Batavia Downs to compete in two divisions for a total of \$119,300 in purses and Dayson comes in ready after recent Grand Circuit competition.

Dayson ([Conway Hall](#)-Nervey's Taurus) took on the best male sophomore trotters in North America in his last start when he faced off against Hambletonian champion Marion Marauder and Southwind Frank in the \$500,000 Colonial Stake at Pocono. After being parked out half the mile, Dayson finished fifth behind winner Southwind Frank, beaten only three lengths in 1:52.4.

Prior to that start, Dayson strung together three straight wins, including a lifetime mark of 1:51.2 at the Meadowlands in the \$50,000 Townsend Ackerman Stake. For the year, Dayson has seven wins in 11 starts and \$201,033 in the bank. He currently sits second in the points standing for his sex, age and gait.

Trainer Ron Burke has assigned leading NYSS driver Jim Morrill Jr. to steer Dayson in his \$59,100 division and they will leave from post three as the prohibitive morning line 6-5 favorite.

The Royal Harry ([RC Royalty](#)-Wilsonator) will be major competition for the favorite after he recently competed in the Hambletonian in August. The Royal Harry faced the best of his class in that race and acquitted himself well, trotting back-to-back heats race-timed in 1:53 and 1:53.3.

In four NYSS starts this year The Royal Harry has posted two wins and two second-place finishes and that ties him with Dayson for second in overall points. Those starts also helped pad his wallet this year to the tune of \$136,283.

Trainer Ake Svanstedt has listed Oskar Florhed to drive The Royal Harry and they will line up in post two as the 2-1 second choice.

In the other \$60,200 split, NYSS divisional points leader Smalltownthrowdown ([Cash Hall](#)-Ann's Promise) comes into western New York red hot on the heels of two eye-popping victories.

Last week he went wire-to-wire in 1:56.2 at Monticello Raceway to win by almost nine lengths and two weeks before that, he won in similar style at Saratoga in 1:54.4 by five lengths. That time was also a new lifetime mark. Smalltownthrowdown has five wins in 12 starts this year and \$156,795 in earnings.

Trainer/driver Dan Daley will be in his usual spot behind Smalltownthrowdown and depart from post five, listed at 7-5.

Sir Royson ([Crazed](#)-Leibovitz Hanover) has had a mixed bag of racing luck of late. A nice 1:56.3 second place effort behind Dayson at Yonkers on July 14 was sandwiched between a break at Buffalo Raceway and one at Saratoga. But after a 10 day sabbatical, Sir Royson qualified in good form at Freehold in 1:59.2 and looks to build on that effort in here.

Sir Royson has three 2016 wins, two in NYSS action and \$94,928 in earnings. He took a mark of 1:54 at Tioga Downs back in May. Trainer Linda Toscano has Jim Marohn Jr. in the sulky and Sir Royson will leave from post two as the 4-1 second choice.

There are also two \$15,000 divisions of the Excelsior A series on the program that are carded as races one and two.

Post time for Wednesday's first race is 6:15 p.m.