

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact: Kevin Kerstein  
Kentucky Racing Communications  
Churchill Downs, Ellis Park, Turfway Park  
(610) 420-6971 (mobile)  
(502) 635-4712 (office)  
[Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com](mailto:Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com)

## **GOWELL STAKES WINNER LILIESFORMILLIE RETURNS IN SATURDAY'S \$125,000 VALDALE STAKES**

**FLORENCE, Ky. (Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023)** – **Liliesformille** will attempt to keep her perfect record at Turfway Park in tact against a competitive field of 11 3-year-old fillies that entered Saturday night's 36<sup>th</sup> running of the \$125,000 Valdale Stakes.

Run at 6 ½ furlongs, the Valdale will go as Race 5 of 8 with a post time of 7:55 p.m. (all times Eastern). First post is 5:55 p.m.

Trained by **Sarah Hamilton** and owned in partnership by **Kelly Bownes, Tom Van Meter, Randy Finegan, William Sparks, Jocelynn Morgan, Allen Nohsey Jr., Karen Arnold, Wayne Sweezey** and **Cathy Sweezey**, Liliesformille was part of an eventful stretch drive on New Year's Eve in the Gowell Stakes where she was bumped by rival **B G Warrior** and eventually placed first by the stewards. Prior to the Gowell Stakes, Liliesformille broke her maiden by 2 ¾ lengths at the Florence oval under jockey **Jack Gilligan**. She'll be ridden in the Valdale by **Declan Cannon** out of post No. 3.

Even though Gilligan rode Liliesformille when she broke her maiden and in the Gowell, he'll remain in the saddle on **Ready Made Racing's** impressive Churchill Downs allowance winner **T Max**. Trained by **Will Walden**, T Max began her career on Aug. 21 at Ellis Park where she broke her maiden by 5 ¾ lengths prior to her dominant five-length allowance victory beneath the Twin Spires on Sept. 15. Saturday will be the first start for T Max since Nov. 26 when she finished an enigmatic sixth in the \$400,000 Golden Rod (GII). The Connect filly will break from post 11.

Another top filly that entered the Valdale is **Lael Stables' 4 ½-length** allowance winner **Murky**. Trained by **Wesley Ward**, Murky defeated eight rivals in the aforementioned Jan. 26 allowance event. The six-furlong dash was the first start for the daughter of Violence on the Tapeta surface. She'll be ridden by **Gerardo Corrales** from post 9.

Also entered in the Valdale is \$50,000 Golden Gate Debutante winner **Sally's Sassy**, recent Gulfstream Park allowance winner **Strokes (IRE)** and debut winner **Tammy Tap Tap Tap**.

Here's the complete field from the rail out (with jockey and trainer): Sally's Sassy (Alex Achard, Jonathan Wong); **Baytown Lovely** (Grace McEntee, Paul McEntee); Liliesformille (Cannon, Hamilton); **Jill Jitterbug** (Manny Esquivel, Ryan Walsh); B G Warrior (David Haldar, Ron Kahles); Strokes (IRE) (Luan Machado, Mark Casse); **Moon Magic Chrissy** (Rogelio Miranda, Doug Danner); **Always At Ease** (Chris Landeros, Keith Desormeaux); Murky (Corrales, Ward); Tammy Tap Tap Tap (Rafael Hernandez, Phil Bauer); T Max (Gilligan, Walden).

Fans can watch and wager on the Valdale and all the action from Turfway Park on [www.TwinSpires.com](http://www.TwinSpires.com), the official wagering provider of Churchill Downs Incorporated.

For dining reservations and more information about Turfway Park, visit [www.turfwaypark.com](http://www.turfwaypark.com).

**WEDNESDAY PROGRAM FEATURES \$41,720 CARRYOVER IN LATE PICK 5** – Wednesday's eight race card will feature a \$41,720 carryover to the Late Pick 5 after no one correctly hit five winners in Saturday's early Pick 5.

Wednesday's Late Pick 5 will begin in Race 4 and has a low 15% takeout. Bettors will be treated to full fields in each of those races – an average of 11.4 horses per race.

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**DOWN THE STRETCH** – Racing from Turfway Park will continue on a Wednesday-Saturday basis through February. In March, the schedule will change to Thursday-Saturday. First post is 5:55 p.m. ... Nominations to the Feb. 18, \$125,000 Dust Commander Stakes will close Thursday. To nominate, contact Stakes Coordinator **Jackie Herbstreit** at 859-743-4333. ... Through 21 days of the Winter/Spring Meet, jockey **Fernando De La Cruz** took a one-win lead over **Gerardo Corrales** in the standings. **Walter Rodriguez** was in third with 20 wins followed by **Luan Machado** with 14 and **Chris Landeros** with 13. In the trainer's race, **Wesley Ward** held a one-win lead over **Bill Morey** 8-7. **Brad Cox, Cherie DeVaux, Dale Romans** and **Jonathan Wong** were tied for third with six wins. Ward also led the owner's race with four victories. He was one win ahead of **Barrett Partners, Frank Jones Jr. and Nancy Delony** and **Southwest Racing Stables**.