

For Immediate Release

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Official Notice still going strong at age 18

Scarborough, Maine (May 6, 2009) Old friends check in from time to time at Scarborough Downs and ghosts from the past can drop in for a visit when least expected. Such was the case on Wednesday (May 6) when a first time standardbred owner named Beverly Le Blanc stopped by to make inquiries concerning her brand new acquisition, a horse she said once raced here at the Downs and a horse whose name was immediately familiar.

Official Notice had found a new home.

“He’s in great shape,” said the proud new owner. “Actually my vet couldn’t believe he was 18-years-old. He said he looked more like a healthy 10 or 12-year-old.”

Could it really have been all that long ago?

It seems like only yesterday when the plucky Maine-bred colt battled an exceptional sophomore stakes class which included such standouts *as My Bill Derek, Lindons Rowe Me N* and *SK Hurricane* to grab top honors in four MSBS splits.

Official Notice secured his lifetime mark of 1:56.4 in the 1996 final of the Billy Direct series at Skowhegan Raceway and then during a memorable two-year period between 1996 and 1997 locked horns in Open-company against such stellar competitors as *Postcard Jack, Spend All The Money, Alan’s Curraugh, Township Cahoots, Gamma Ray* and *Cruyff*.

The last of his 32 lifetime victories came under the lights at Scarborough Downs on Halloween night in 1999 when in harness to David Ingraham he persevered over his longtime rival *Lindons Rowe Me N* to parade victoriously one final time before the hometown fans while capping off a brilliant racing career.

Now secure in retirement a brand new career unfolds as *Official Notice* has been fitted out for a fashionable new saddle.

“He’s taken to the saddle quite nicely,” Le Blanc remarked. “I’ve been told that standardbreds are very adaptable animals and that certainly is the case with *Official Notice*. He’s fitting right into the routine on the farm in West Newfield (Maine) and has already become a fixture. I’m so glad to have found this new friend.”

New friends can become old friends and *Official Notice* has plenty of both.

Thanks for the memories old friend.

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