



# ITOBA



Indiana Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association



## KATIE CLAWSON AWARDED THE JUAN SAEZ LEADING APPRENTICE AWARD AT INDIANA GRAND RACING & CASINO

*Story by Tammy Knox, Photos by Linscott Photography (unless noted)*

SHELBYVILLE, Ind.; - Oct. 27, 2017 - Apprentice Jockey Katie Clawson came out of the gate strong at the beginning of the 2017 season and was atop the standings for the majority of the 2017 racing season. The 20-year-old from Brazil, Ind. announced her retirement from riding in late September and completed the meet with 71 wins, which not only earned her a title, it also marked a new record for most wins in one season by an apprentice jockey.

Clawson is now serving as an exercise rider for Trainer Mike Maker alongside her fiancé, Nolan Ramsey, who serves as an assistant trainer for Maker. She was unavailable for the trophy presentation during the final day of racing at Indiana Grand but sent this heartfelt message to racing fans, horsemen and the staff at Indiana Grand:

"I can't fully express my gratitude to all of the people who supported me through my months at Indiana Grand. Everyone had a piece of fulfilling my dreams and goals. I was blessed to be trusted with many good horses and I'd like to thank everyone whom I worked with for their time and trust. Thank you to my agent, Jimmy (McNerney), for working with me, my valet, Britany (Waugh), everyone in the jock's room, and all of the owners, trainers, grooms, hot walkers and exercise riders who put the time into their horses and did right by them. I was glad to have taken part in that process. I had a summer to remember. Thank you."

Clawson concluded her riding career that lasted a little more than a year with 82 career wins and purse earnings in excess of \$1.8 million. Her final statistics line at Indiana Grand was 71 wins in 375 starts with purse earnings in excess of \$1.5 million. She still finished in sixth place in the leading jockey standings even after missing the final two months of racing.

Clawson and Ramsey are preparing for a Spring wedding in 2018.

Clawson is the third recipient of the Juan Saez Leading Apprentice Jockey Award at Indiana Grand. The award was named in honor of the apprentice jockey who was tragically killed in a racing spill in 2014. He later went on to secure the title. Other recipients of the award include Cheyanna Patrick (2015) and Eduardo Gallardo (2016).

The 15th season of Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing concluded Friday, Oct. 27. Racing will return in April 2018.

About Indiana Grand Racing & Casino: Indiana Grand Racing & Casino holds multiple awards from industry publications for customer service, entertainment, gaming and dining. Located in Shelbyville, Ind., Indiana Grand features 2,200 of the latest slots and electronic table games in addition to a one-mile dirt race course and a seven-eighths mile turf course offering live Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse racing each year. Simulcast wagering is also offered year-round at Winner's Circle Brewpub & OTB located on the casino floor as well as an off-track betting facility located in Clarksville, Ind. For more information, please visit [www.IndianaGrand.com](http://www.IndianaGrand.com).



**Rachel McLaughlin, racing broadcast production manager, and Kevin Greely, director of racing, accept the award.**