



## CANTERBURY PARK

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1100 Canterbury Road  
Shakopee, MN 55379

# Canterbury Park Offers \$2 Million In Thoroughbred Stakes Purses For 2021

*Mystic Lake Derby's \$150k purse is richest of 27 stakes;  
2021 condition book now available featuring increased overnight purses*

### **For Immediate Release:**

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Shakopee, Minn. -- Canterbury Park racing officials today announced that 27 stakes races with purses totaling \$2,060,000 will be run during the 65-day 2021 race meet that begins May 18. The richest of the stakes is the \$150,000 Mystic Lake Derby at one mile on the turf on June 23, part of the six-stake Mystic Lake Northern Stars Turf Festival. Again in 2021, each of the six stakes comprising the Sept. 8 Minnesota Festival of Champions will offer \$100,000 purses. All but two of the meet's stakes will be run on Wednesday evenings when first post is 5:00 p.m.

The Northern Stars Turf Festival includes four \$100,000 turf races in addition to the Mystic Lake Derby. Also on that date are the Mystic Lake Mile, the Lady Canterbury Stakes, the Dark Star Turf Sprint, and the Curtis Sampson Oaks named in honor of the late Canterbury Park founder and Chairman who died in 2020. The race previously was run as the Northbound Pride Oaks. The \$60,000 MTA Stallion Auction Stakes rounds out the stakes offerings on June 23.

Vice President of Racing Operations Andrew Offerman has scheduled preview days to offer racing opportunities leading up to the major stakes dates. The Northern Stars Turf Festival is previewed on May 26 with three \$50,000 turf stakes, the Honor the Hero Stakes, HBPA Distaff and Brooks Fields Stakes.

“Clustering stakes races to offer high quality racing on selected Wednesdays throughout the meet will continue to strengthen Canterbury’s national presence,” Offerman said.

Offerman used a similar strategy in 2020 when the track switched from traditional weekend racing that attracted large in-person crowds no longer possible during the COVID-19 pandemic to a weeknight schedule. Handle soared to a record \$68 million for the 53-day meet, easily eclipsing the previous record of \$48 million over 69 days in 2018.

Hall of Fame Day is July 14 offering Minnesota-breds \$50,000 purses in four stakes. The Ralph Strangis Stakes and Minnesota Turf Distaff are turf routes. Three-year-olds will sprint in the Victor S. Myers and Frances Genter before stretching out in distance on Aug.18 in the Minnesota Derby and Minnesota Oaks, each offering \$100,000 and anchoring Made in Minnesota Day which includes the \$50,000 Wally’s Choice Stakes and Glitter Star Stakes.

Overnight purse levels, which saw slight decreases in 2020 due to impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, will return to or exceed the levels of 2019 depending on race condition. Condition books and stall applications are available now at <https://www.canterburypark.com/horsemen/>. Track officials anticipate announcing a new shipping and participation incentive program in the coming weeks with the objective of attracting additional participants to Canterbury Park. The race meet concludes Sept. 16.

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**For a photograph please use this link: <https://canterburypark.egnyte.com/fl/vuvOS87NJB>**

Please Credit Coady Photography

## 2021 Canterbury Park Thoroughbred Stakes Schedule

Date	Stake Race	Conditions	Distance	Purse
5/19/2021	10,000 Lakes Stakes	3 & up / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$50,000
5/19/2021	Lady Slipper Stakes	3 & up f/m / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$50,000
<b>2021 Northern Stars Preview Day - Wednesday, May 26 - 5:00 p.m. First Post</b>				
5/26/2021	Honor The Hero Stakes	3 & up	5T Furlongs	\$50,000
5/26/2021	HBP A Distaff	3 & up f/m	8T Furlongs	\$50,000
5/26/2021	Brooks Fields Stakes	3 & up	8T Furlongs	\$50,000
<b>2021 Northern Stars Preview Day Purse</b>				<b>\$150,000</b>
<b>2021 Mystic Lake Northern Stars Racing Festival - Wednesday, June 23 - 5:00 p.m. First Post</b>				
6/23/2021	MTA Stallion Auction Stakes	Eligible 3yo	6.5 Furlongs	\$60,000
6/23/2021	Dark Star Turf Sprint	3 & up	5T Furlongs	\$100,000
6/23/2021	Lady Canterbury Stakes	3 & up f/m	8T Furlongs	\$100,000
6/23/2021	Mystic Lake Mile	3 & up	8T Furlongs	\$100,000
6/23/2021	Curtis Sampson Oaks	3yo f	8T Furlongs	\$100,000
6/23/2021	Mystic Lake Derby	3yo	8T Furlongs	\$150,000
<b>2021 Mystic Lake Northern Stars Racing Festival Purse</b>				<b>\$610,000</b>
<b>2021 Canterbury Park Hall of Fame Day - Wednesday, July 14 - 5:00 p.m. First Post</b>				
7/14/2021	Ralph Strangis Stakes	3 & up / MN-Bred	7.5T Furlongs	\$50,000
7/14/2021	Minnesota Turf Distaff	3 & up f/m / MN-Bred	7.5T Furlongs	\$50,000
7/14/2021	Victor S. Myers Stakes	3yo / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$50,000
7/14/2021	Frances Genter Stakes	3yo f / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$50,000
<b>2021 Canterbury Park Hall of Fame Day Purse</b>				<b>\$200,000</b>
<b>2021 Made in Minnesota Day - Wednesday, August 18 - 5:00 p.m. First Post</b>				
8/18/2021	Minnesota Derby	3yo / MN-Bred	1 Mile 70 Yards	\$100,000
8/18/2021	Minnesota Oaks	3yo f / MN-Bred	1 Mile 70 Yards	\$100,000
8/18/2021	Wally's Choice Stakes	3 & up / MN-Bred	8.5 Furlongs	\$50,000
8/18/2021	Glitter Star Stakes	3 & up f/m / MN-Bred	8.5 Furlongs	\$50,000
<b>2021 Made in Minnesota Day Purse</b>				<b>\$300,000</b>
<b>2021 Minnesota Festival of Champions - Wednesday, September 8 - 5:00 p.m. First Post</b>				
9/8/2021	Northern Lights Futurity	2yo / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$100,000
9/8/2021	Northern Lights Debutante	2yo f / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$100,000
9/8/2021	Crocrock Minnesota Sprint	3 & up / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$100,000
9/8/2021	Bella Notte Minnesota Distaff Sprint	3 & up f/m / MN-Bred	6 Furlongs	\$100,000
9/8/2021	Blair's Cove Minnesota Classic Turf	3 & up / MN-Bred	8.5T Furlongs	\$100,000
9/8/2021	Princess Elaine Minnesota Distaff Classic Turf	3 & up f/m / MN-Bred	8.5T Furlongs	\$100,000
<b>2021 Minnesota Festival of Champions Purse</b>				<b>\$600,000</b>
9/16/2021	Tom Metzen H.B.P.A Sprint Stakes	3yo & Up / NSW	6 Furlongs	\$50,000
9/16/2021	Shakopee Juvenile Stakes	2yo	6 Furlongs	\$50,000
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>\$2,060,000</b>