

ROAD TO THE HAMBLETONIAN

Week One – Issued May 29, 2024

The 2024 Hambletonian is Saturday, August 3

RANK	HORSE	DRIVER, TRAINER, OWNER	KEN WARKENTIN'S COMMENTS
1	KARL (TACTICAL LANDING)	Yannick Gingras, Nancy Takter, Christina & Nancy Takter, Black Horse Racing, Crawford Farms Racing, Bender Sweden Inc.	Dan Patch Award winner capped a \$1M season with a 1:52.1 stakes record in the Valley Victory, went nine for ten, including the Breeders Crown, took a mark of 1:51.2, looks for a three-ply NJSS series sweep @ Big M on May 31 from post seven
2	T C I (CANTAB HALL)	Dave Miller, Ron Burke, Burke Racing Stable, Hatfield Stables, Knox Services Inc., Weaver Brusceci	O'Brien Award winner set earnings record for freshman trotters with \$1,238,870 (12 – 10-2-0), PASS champ won the Peter Haughton, epic comeback in the Mohawk Million, handed Karl his only career defeat, jogged in two Big M qualifiers (1:54.1 & 1:53.2), post three in PASS division @ The Meadows on May 31
3	SECURITY PROTECTED (FATHER PATRICK)	Tim Tetrick, Marcus Melander, Mitchell Friesen, Brad Grant, Order By Stable AB	1:52.4 Grand Circuit winner, 11 – 4-2-3, \$354,754 as a 2YO, second in PASS Final, third in Breeders Crown, Tetrick & Melander second in 2023 Hambo with Oh Well, 1:53 PA All-Stars win in 3YO debut, post seven in PASS division @ The Meadows on May 31
4	MARS HILL (MUSCLE HILL)	Todd McCarthy, Tony Alagna, Willow Oak Ranch	Runner up to T C I in Wellwood Final, won Bluegrass division in 1:54.2, Todd McCarthy pulled the biggest upset in Hambo history with Cool Papa Bell @ 52-1 in 2022, second in both legs of NJSS, post eight in NJSS Final on May 31
5	WATERFALL (WALNER)	Brett Beckwith, Tony Alagna, Brittany Farms, Al Libfeld	Four Alagna trainees in the Top Ten, lightly-raced son of Walner finished second by a nose in his NJSS 3YO debut, then rallied for a 1:52 win deadheat with Pantoran, post six in NJSS Final on May 31
6	BENNY J (WALNER)	Andrew McCarthy, Tony Alagna, Kenneth Jacobs	Winless in six starts @ two, broke his maiden with a 1:53 NJSS decision over stablemate Mars Hill, then finished third behind stablemate Waterfall, drew the rail in NJSS Final on May 31
7	PANTORAN (WALNER)	Ake Svanstedt, Ake Svanstedt Inc., Stable Why Not, Tomas Anderson	Team Svanstedt sleeper held on for a 1:52 win deadheat with Waterfall in his 3YO debut, makes only his fourth career start in NJSS Final on May 31 from post five
8	WINTER SOLDIER (FACE TIME BOURBON)	Dexter Dunn, Tony Alagna, Peter Alagna, Pryde Stables Inc.	2YO record of 12 – 5-2-3 (mark of 1:53.1), third in the Valley Victory, McCarthy & Alagna won the 2020 Hambo with filly Ramona Hill, second (1:55.3) to Sig Sauer in Big M qualifier on May 25, post 3 in Big M overnight on June 1
9	SIG SAUER (MUSCLE HILL)	Andrew McCarthy, Noel Daley, Patricia Stable, Joe Sbrocco & JAF Racing, Allister Stables, Caviart Farms	Won NJSS & NJ Classic Finals, earned \$279,500 with a mark of 1:53.3, Daley won \$1.5M Hambo in 2011 with Broad Bahn, won Big M qualifier in 1:55.3 on May 25, not in to go @ press time
10	DAIQUIRI HANOVER (BAR HOPPING)	Ake Svanstedt, Timot Stable, Inc.	Runner up in the Valley Victory, part of a Hambo battalion for Svanstedt (two-time Hambo winner & third in 2023), rallied for third (1:56.1) behind Sig Sauer in Big M qualifier on May 25, not in to go @ press time

KEY PREP RACES

Hambletonian Eligibles in Caps

Date	Stakes	Site	Winner	Driver	Trainer	2nd Horse	3rd Horse	Time
May 11	NJSS 1 st Leg	M	CABALLERO	Trond Smedshammer	Trond Smedshammer	WATERFALL	<i>Bella's Muscle Hill</i>	1:54.1
May 11	NJSS 1 st Leg	M	KARL	Yannick Gingras	Nancy Takter	SOUTHWIND METRIC	<i>PICK POCKET</i>	1:53.2
May 11	NJSS 1 st Leg	M	BENNY J	Andrew McCarthy	Tony Alagna	MARS HILL	<i>DUKE OF WALNER</i>	1:53
May 18	NJSS 2 nd Leg	M	BRIGHT STAR	Scott Zeron	Tony Alagna	MARS HILL	<i>SOUTHWIND METRIC</i>	1:52.1
May 18	NJSS 2 nd Leg	M	KARL	Yannick Gingras	Nancy Takter	Tony Adams S	<i>DUKE WALNER</i>	1:52.2
May 18	NJSS 2 nd Leg	M	PANTORAN DH	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt		<i>BENNY J</i>	1:52
May 18	NJSS 2 nd Leg	M	WATERFALL DH	Todd McCarthy	Tony Alagna		<i>BENNY J</i>	1:52
May 19	PA Allstars	Poc	SECURITY PROTECTED	Tim Tetrick	Marcus Melander	WHITE SHOE HANOVER	<i>Ordained</i>	1:53
May 19	PA Allstars	Poc	Blackhawk Zette	Matt Kakaley	Robert Baggitt, Jr.	SKYDIVER	<i>LONGFELLOW S</i>	1:53.3
May 19	PA Allstars	Poc	Usain Hanover	Tyler Buter	Nifty Norman	Luke The Spook	<i>FOR JULY</i>	1:53.3
May 27	NYSS 1 st Leg	Vern	SITUATIONSHIP	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	It Wasnt Me	<i>THINKER MONKEY</i>	1:52.1
May 27	NYSS 1 st Leg	Vern	WILD TICKET	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	NOTTINGHAM	<i>VICTOR LASZLO</i>	1:55.4
May 27	NYSS 1 st Leg	Vern	DAME GOOD TIME	Scott Zeron	Travis Alexander	Sir Pinocchio	<i>Devastate</i>	1:51.1
May 31	NJSS Final	M						
May 31	PASS 1 st Leg	Mea						
June 3	NYSS 2 nd Leg	Mont						
June 7	Goodtimes Elim	Moh						
June 8	PASS 2 nd Leg	Poc						
June 14	EBC	Vern						
June 15	Goodtimes Final	Moh						
June 15	Currier & Ives	Mea						
June 23	Yonkers Trot Elim	Y						
June 26	NYSS 3 rd Leg	Buf						
June 28	Yonkers Trot	Y						

June 29	Reynolds	M
July 4	Zweig Memorial	Vern
July 13	Stanley Dancer Mem.	M
July 15	NYSS 4 th Leg	Y
July 19	PASS 3 rd Leg	Phl