

ROAD TO THE HAMBLETONIAN
Week Five – Issued June 26, 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, \$1M freshman kicked off his 3YO season with an effortless three-ply NJSS series sweep (new mark of 1:51 in final), trained sharply @ Big M on June 14, last raced on May 31 & drew post 6 in W.N. Reynolds division
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), two-for-two this season, won 1:52.2 PASS division @ The Meadows & PASS division in 1:53.3 @ Pocono Downs, drew post 6 in W.N. Reynolds division
3	Highland Kismet (Father Patrick)	Bob McClure, Mark Etsell, Highland Thoroughbred Farm	Unraced at two, has come bursting on the scene winning four of five @ Mohawk, cruised to a Goodtimes stakes record equaling 1:51.3 for 2019 Hambo winning driver Bob McClure, drew post seven in a Mohawk overnight (Race 10) on June 28
4	Security Protected (Father Patrick)	Tim Tetrick, Marcus Melander, Mitchell Friesen, Brad Grant, Order By Stable AB	1:53 PA All-Stars win in 3YO debut, wire-to-wire in 1:53.3 PASS division @ The Meadows, won a PASS division @ Pocono Downs in 1:54.2, 3-2 ML favorite from the rail in Yonkers Trot Final, "He's always been a pretty nice, handy horse, and this year he's more mature and a true professional," said Tetrick.
5	Situationship (Chapter Seven)	Ake Svanstedt, Knutsson Trotting Inc, Little E, Tomas Anderson	Developed into a Grand Circuit player as a freshman, two-for-two this season, won divisions of NYSS & EBC, both in a career best 1:52.1 @ Vernon Downs, drew post eight in Yonkers Trot Final
6	Daiquiri Hanover (Bar Hopping)	Ake Svanstedt, Stable Why Not, Tomas Anderson	Valley Victory runner up finished a solid second to T C I in his 3YO debut, held off stablemate Amazing Catch to win a Big M overnight on June 21 in a career best 1:53.1, final quarter in :27, not in to go
7	Bright Star (Muscle Hill)	Scott, Zeron, Tony Alagna, Brittany Farms, Pryde Stables Inc, Caviart Farms, Plouffe & Riverview	Romped in a NJSS division in 1:52.1, fourth in NJSS Final, took a new mark of 1:52.1 in a Big M overnight on June 14 with three-time Hambo winner Scott Zeron, post eight in W.N. Reynolds division
8	Mars Hill (Muscle Hill)	Todd McCarthy, Tony Alagna, Willow Oak Ranch	Second in both legs of NJSS, broke/ninth from post eight in NJSS Final, rebounded to upset older foes with career best 1:53 in Big M overnight on June 14, not in to go
9	Benny J (Walner)	Andrew McCarthy, Tony Alagna, Kenneth Jacobs	Broke his maiden with a 1:53 NJSS decision over stablemate Mars Hill, then third to Waterfall & second to Karl in NJSS Final, eighth in Big M overnight on June 14, post three in W.N. Reynolds division
10	Waterfall (Walner)	Todd McCarthy, Tony Alagna, Brittany Farms, Al Libfeld	Second by a nose in his NJSS 3YO debut, rallied for a 1:52 win deadheat in Leg 2, then fifth in NJSS Final, fourth after a tough trip in Big M overnight on June 14, post eight in W.N. Reynolds division

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	KARL	Yannick Gingras	Nancy Takter	BENNY J	<i>Tony Adams S</i>	1:51
May 31	PASS 1 st Leg	Mea	SECURITY PROTECTED	Dave Palone	Marcus Melander	Blackhawk Zette	<i>Luke The Spook</i>	1:53.3
May 31	PASS 1 st Leg	Mea	T C I	Dave Miller	Ron Burke	Ordained	<i>COORS HANOVER</i>	1:52.2
June 3	NYSS 2 nd Leg	Mont	KEEP ASKING	Tyler Buter	George Ducharme	Super Duper Cooper	<i>NOTTINGHAM</i>	1:56
June 3	NYSS 2 nd leg	Mont	Sir Pinocchio	Jason Bartlett	Ed Hart	FLY BY	<i>Crazy Brother Jim</i>	1:56.3
June 7	Goodtimes Elim	Moh	Top Mast	Sylvain Filion	Dustin Jones	PICK POCKET	<i>Shermont</i>	1:53.4
June 7	Goodtimes Elim	Moh	HIGHLAND KISMET	Bob McClure	Mark Etsell	PRIVATE ACCESS	<i>WINTER SOLDIER</i>	1:54
June 8	PASS 2 nd Leg	Poc	SECURITY PROTECTED	Braxton Boyd	Marcus Melander	Blackhawk Zette	<i>COORS HANOVER</i>	1:54.2
June 8	PASS 2 nd Leg	Poc	T C I	Dave Miller	Ron Burke	DAIQUIRI HANOVER	<i>Ordained</i>	1:53.3
June 14	EBC	Vern	SITUATIONSHIP	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Sir Pinocchio	<i>THINKER MONKEY</i>	1:52.1

June 14	EBC	Vern	WILD TICKET	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	FLY BY	<i>DAME GOOD TIME</i>	1:53.3
June 15	Goodtimes Final	Moh	HIGHLAND KISMET	Bob McClure	Mark Estell	PRIVATE ACCESS	<i>Top Mast</i>	1:51.3
June 15	Currier & Ives	Mea	Splendid	Chris Lems	Todd Rooney	Father Mike	<i>I'm Out</i>	1:53.4
June 15	Currier & Ives	Mea	SPAAANZANO	Aaron Merriman	Chris Beaver	Memorynimagination	<i>Bird And Grenade</i>	1:53.3
June 21	Yonkers Trot Elim	Y	BARGAIN	Yannick Gingras	Nancy Takter	FLY BY	<i>I'm Out</i>	1:54.3
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						
July 20	Tompkins-Geers	M						
July 27	Hambletonian Elim	M						