

Dave Little's Road to the 2025 Meadowlands Pace
Week 1 – Thursday, May 1
The Meadowlands Pace is Saturday, July 12

Rank	Horse (Earnings – Mark)	Driver, Trainer Owner(s)	Dave Little's (And Trainer's) Comments
1	Louprint (\$737,939 – 1:48.4)	R. Wrenn Jr., R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, Weaver Brusceci LLC, Phillip Collura, Lawrence R. Karr	The winner of the \$400,000 Kentucky Sire Stakes Championship and \$700,000 Breeders Crown from last year opens up as the horse at the top of the list. Burke: "He's racing on Saturday in sire stakes at The Meadows. We're looking at the North America Cup and then the Meadowlands Pace. I'm trying to spread my colts out so they don't face each other." Breeding: Sweet Lou-Rockin Racer Last Race: 4/22/2025 – Mea – Qualifier – 1st (1:52.2)
2	Fallout (\$568,600 – 1:48.4)	T. Tetrick, T. Alagna Robert J. LeBlanc, Pryde Stables Inc, Caviart Farms	Won the 2024 edition of the \$740,000 Metro as well as a six-figure International Stallion Stakes division. Alagna: "He's being pointed toward the Cup and the Pace. His qualifier was a sneaky good line. We try to have them at their peak to have them ready for the money." Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Aria Hanover Last Race: 4/26/2025 – M1 – Qualifier – 4th (1:52.2)
3	Captain Optimistic (\$454,830 – 1:49)	D. Dunn, N. Takter 3 Brothers Stables, Marvin Katz, Caviart Farms	The \$150,000 New Jersey Classic winner from last year also took the \$382,200 Governor's Cup. Takter: "He's really good. He trained super last week and is qualifying Friday at The Meadowlands. If he stays healthy and sound, he should have a good year." Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Cinamony Last Race: 11/30/2024 – M1 – Governor's Cup – 1st (1:49.3)

4	Papis Rocket (\$287,903 – 1:50.4)	T. Tetrick, R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, Weaver Brusceci LLC, Knox Services Inc, Slaughter Racing Stable LLC	Outperformed his odds with a third-place finish in the 2024 Governor's Cup. His big win came in the \$252,000 PaSS final. Burke: "He qualified really well and is going to the sire stakes on Saturday." Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Real Touch Last Race: 4/19/2025 – M1 – Qualifier – 2nd (1:53.1)
5	Papis Pistol (\$184,867 – 1:49.3)	A. Miller, S. DePinto Shannon C. DePinto, Chris Arvanitis, Anthony Perretti, Brad Shackman	Fired his biggest shot of 2024 taking the \$148,500 Kindergarten final in 1:50.3 as the 1-5 favorite. Will qualify Friday at The Meadowlands. DePinto: "He's coming into the season well. He was turned out on Andy Miller's farm and has trained down very well. For a smaller stable like mine, it's an exciting time." Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Bang Bang Last Race: 11/30/2024 – M1 – Governor's Cup – 4th (1:50.4)
6	American Son (\$175,150 – 1:49.3)	D. Dunn, C. Ryder Henderson Farms	Finished second to Pace ineligible Sippinonsearoc in a qualifier last Saturday. Went 4-for-7 during his freshmen season with all of his losses coming to Louprint. Ryder: "He's fine. We are racing Saturday night at The Meadowlands in an overnight. He's a New York-sired horse, so he doesn't have much before the [June 14] North America Cup." Breeding: American Ideal-Lady Captain Last Race: 4/26/2025 – M1 – Qualifier – 2nd (1:51.3)
7	Prince Hal Hanover (\$287,321 – 1:51)	D. Miller, Dr. I. Moore Prince Hal Hanover Stable	Sparkled in his second qualifier at Southern Oaks Training Center, winning in 1:51. Moore: "He was an average colt until May of last year and then he started picking things up. He's grown tall and filled out. I'm very optimistic. He's in the sire stakes Saturday at The Meadows. When the sire stakes are over, we'll go to the Somebeachsomewhere." Breeding: Captaintreacherous-Percy Bluechip

			Last Race: 4/16/2025 – SOTC – Qualifier – 1st (1:51)
8	Manolete (\$232,243 – 1:50.4)	S. Zeron, B. Saunders M and L of Delaware LLC, M & M Harness Racing LLC	<p>Off a second-place finish to powerhouse winner Smooth Dream in the Home Grown. Saunders: “He showed advancement [last week]. We didn’t like the fact that we [had to race on the lead], but we’re happy with his progress so far. This weekend [in the Jersey Sire Stakes], he’s in a good spot, and I think he’ll be the favorite in there.”</p> <p>Breeding: Cattlewash-Glancewithme</p> <p>Last Race: 4/26/2025 – M1 – Home Grown – 2nd (1:51.2)</p>
9	D A Love Boat (\$71,589 – 1:48.4)	Y. Gingras, J. Darling Jack Darling Stables Ltd	<p>His last outing of last year was a memorable one, as he took down Louprint in 1:48.4. Darling: “We’re going to qualify Friday at Mohawk. He’s a little bit of an unknown entity but based on his last start at Lexington [last year], he was pretty impressive and it looks like he belonged. He was always a nice colt but I really didn’t expect him to win that race.”</p> <p>Breeding: Captain Crunch-Addicted To Love</p> <p>Last Race: 10/5/2024 – Lex – International Stallion Stakes – 1st (1:48.4)</p>
10	Fusion (\$106,322 – 1:50.4)	T. McCarthy, B. Pelling Diamond Creek Racing	<p>Went 4-for-5 during 2024 racing against Kentucky Commonwealth stock. He hasn’t had the horse long, but the 5-time Meadowlands Pace-winning trainer said that’s no big deal. Pelling: “I’ve had him since Feb. 1. He’s impressive to look at. He’s a big strong, black horse. I’m going to qualify him at Chester on Tuesday and then take him to The Meadowlands and qualify him there. We’re not going to the Cup, so we can space things out.”</p> <p>Breeding: Always B Miki-Pure Country</p> <p>Last Race: 11/30/2024 – M1 – Governor’s Cup – 10th (1:51.4)</p>

Key Prep Races

MEADOWLANDS PACE ELIGIBLES IN CAPS

Supplements are permitted per the conditions of the race

Date	Stakes	Site	Winner	Trainer	Driver	2 nd Horse	3 rd Horse	Time
5/3	PaSS	Mea						
5/3	NJSS	M1						
5/10	Pa All-Stars	PcD						
5/10	NJSS	M1						
5/10	WEG/SBOA elims	WMP						
5/17	PaSS	PcD						
5/17	WEG/SBOA final	WMP						
5/24	NJSS final	M1						
5/24	OnSS Gold	WMP						
5/25	PaSS	Phl						
5/31	Somebchsomewhere	WMP						
6/7	N.A. Cup elims	WMP						
6/14	N.A. Cup final	WMP						
6/20	Messenger elims	YR						
6/27	Messenger final	YR						
6/28	OnSS Gold	WMP						
7/5	Meadowlands Pace elimis	M1						