

Dave Little's Road to the 2026 Meadowlands Pace
Week 4 (of 10) – Thursday, May 21
The Meadowlands Pace is on Saturday, July 11

Rank	Horse (Earnings – Mark)	Driver, Trainer, Owner(s)	Dave Little's (and trainer's) comments
1	Beau Jangles (\$1,284,439 – 1:48.3)	B. McClure, Dr. I. Moore Graham Grace Stables LLC, Kiwi Stables LLC, Bolton Stables	<p>Was his 9½-length romp at Mohawk in the Ontario SBOA final stupendous? Or does that word sell the effort short? Was it too much? Moore: “That was not me. That’s on Bobby. He said he never really asked him. He gave him his head and he took off on his own. That effort impressed me a little bit, too. He’s in to go Saturday in the Ontario Sires Stakes Gold. That means he will have raced 3 weeks in a row. That will be enough for me. Then, we’ll give him 4 or 5 days off, then get him ready for the North America Cup.”</p> <p>Breeding: Cattlewash-Mrs Major Hill</p> <p>Last Race: 5/16/2026 – Wbsb – Ontario SBOA final – 1st (1:49.3)</p>
2	Odds On Mr Mamba (\$314,405 – 1:47.4)	D. Dunn, M. Wrenn Odds On Racing	<p>Qualified in the slop to get ready for his first start of the year. Was that a less-than-ideal circumstance? Wrenn: “The weather wasn’t good for his last qualifier, but it’s crunch time. He raced against some good older horses and was cookin’ in the last eighth-of-a-mile. We’re very much looking forward to his first start (in the Indiana Sires Stakes on May 25).”</p> <p>Breeding: Odds On Equuleus-Honky Tonk Woman</p> <p>Last Race: 5/16/2026 – HoP – Qualifier – 1st (1:53.2)</p>

3	Gentlemans Club (\$248,506 – 1:50.2)	A. McCarthy, A. Lambert Anthony Licastro	Lambert: “He’s in Saturday in the Poconos, in the same race, same class as his last start. There’s nothing I don’t like (about that spot). He fits and doesn’t have to go up against horses older than 4. He seems great.” Breeding: Downbytheseaside-See You At Peelers Last Race: 5/9/2026 – PcD – W4-7PM – 1st (1:52.3)
4	Brandon Blvd (\$439,397 – 1:48.4)	D. Dunn, A. Harris Punisher 11 Stable LLC	The trainer wanted a qualifier that would keep his horse “nice and tight.” Was it mission accomplished? Harris: “He was good. He had the ear plugs in, and Dex said he did it all on his own. You want to go faster every start. They’ll probably go 1:48 in the Somebeachsomewhere; that’s his next stop.” Breeding: Downbytheseaside-Alexis Faith Last Race: 5/15/2026 – M1 – Qualifier – 1st (1:50.3)
5	Melillo (\$408,840 – 1:48.4)	T. Tetrick, R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, Jason Melillo, Weaver Brussemi LLC	Solid 2nd to stablemate Another C Note, who is a perfect 6-for-6 this year. The strongest performance of the Burke Brigade horses. “I thought he was good,” said Burke. “But my horses need to get better quicker. I’m not totally happy. He’s in next on Sunday at Chester (Harrah’s Philadelphia).” Breeding: Sweet Lou-Rosemary Rose Last Race: 5/16/2026 – PcD – PaSS – 2nd (1:51)
6	Bookie J (\$243,368 – 1:50)	D. Dunn, C. Ryder Ken Jacobs	Failed to outsprint the horse in front of him when fourth in his qualifier, but that’s forgivable. He was chasing stablemate Twin B Joe Fresh. Ryder: “We kept him tight. Scott

			<p>(Zeron) was nice enough to drive him and he didn't chase him. He didn't bother trying to keep up. We don't really know how he'll do against the better horses in the division until he faces them."</p> <p>Breeding: Perfect Sting-Skyy</p> <p>Last Race: 5/15/2026 – M1 – Qualifier – 4th (1:51.4)</p>
7	<p>Ubrute</p> <p>(\$370,907 – 1:49.4)</p>	<p>T. Tetrick, R. Burke</p> <p>Burke Racing Stable LLC,</p> <p>Weaver Brusceci LLC,</p> <p>Hatfield Stables,</p> <p>Phil Collura</p>	<p>Failed to impress after making a bold move to three-quarters, only to finish a well-beaten third in the Poconos. Burke: "That was a horribly bad trip for him, the worst-case scenario on a five-eighths-mile track. Those tracks are the trickiest. He's getting the week off."</p> <p>Breeding: Tall Dark Stranger-Warrawee Ubeaut</p> <p>Last Race: 5/16/2026 – PcD – Pa Stallion Series – 3rd (1:51.2)</p>
8	<p>Al Papi</p> <p>(\$411,500 – 1:48.1)</p>	<p>Y. Gingras, R. Burke</p> <p>Burke Racing Stable LLC,</p> <p>J&T Silva – Purnel & Libby,</p> <p>Lawrence Karr,</p> <p>Weaver Brusceci LLC</p>	<p>Swung three-wide into the stretch but did not fire at Pocono in an unimpressive effort. Burke: "His race was a different story from Ubrute. He came out of the race a little sore. We think this week will be the start of a turnaround for us. He's in Sunday at Chester."</p> <p>Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Baron Remy</p> <p>Last Race: 5/16/2026 – PcD – PaSS – 5th (1:50.4)</p>
9	<p>Windor</p> <p>(\$176,655 – 1:51.2)</p>	<p>D. McNair, M. Vanderkemp</p> <p>Dianna Secord</p>	<p>Raced OK while finishing third Saturday. Both of his starts this year have been fine, but he will have to step things up moving forward. Is in Saturday at Mohawk. McNair: "He was good Saturday. He's still not 100% yet coming back</p>

			<p>from being sick. I think when's he's all the way back, he'll be the second or third-best horse in the division in Ontario.”</p> <p>Breeding: Bulldog Hanover-Winx</p> <p>Last Race: 5/16/2026 – Wbsb – Ontario SBOA final – 3rd (1:51.3)</p>
10	<p>Always B Charlie (\$15,685 – 1:51)</p>	<p>S. Zeron, N. Takter Upstart Racing</p>	<p>Had to rough it first-over for the final three-eighths before recording a determined score at Pocono. Takter: “I really liked him last year but he hurt himself in the paddock and missed the summer. He’s only had two starts this year but they were both very good. Hopefully, I can keep him going in the right direction. On Sunday at Chester, that will be a little bit more of a test for him. The Meadowlands Pace? That’s definitely the goal.”</p> <p>Breeding: Always B Miki-My Little Delight</p> <p>Last Race: 5/16/2026 – PcD – Pa Stallion Series – 1st (1:51)</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
5/2	PaSS	Mea	Sneaky Squeaky	J. Bongiorno	T. Tetrick	MELILLO	AL PAPI	1:50.1
			Another C Note	R. Burke	R. Wrenn Jr.	Frantic Hanover	Twin B Thriller	1:51.2
5/2	NJSS	M1	BOOKIE J	C. Ryder	D. Dunn	AZRAEL BLUE CHIP	Thisbeestings Deo	1:50
5/9	NJSS	M1	Sonofanutcracker	T. Cancelliere	D. Dunn	AZRAEL BLUE CHIP	ROCKNACIOUS	1:50
5/9	Pa All-Stars	PcD	Another C Note	R. Burke	T. Buter	Papi Rick	Spunky Hanover	1:52.2
			Captain Apple	C. Ryder	P. Ryder	Southwind Spencer	Really Bright	1:54.1
			Treacherous Lou	R. Cleary	T. Tetrick	Easy Breeze	TALBOT ANDRETTI	1:53.4
			Toast Of The Town	N. Daley	T. McCarthy	Superchamp Hanover	Good Friday	1:52.2
5/9	Ontario SBOA elims	Wbsb	BEAU JANGLES	Dr. I. Moore	B. McClure	Tilthecowscomehome	Mega Moves	1:51
			Borderline Mobby	D. Menary	J. MacDonald	WINDOR	Redland Rocket Man	1:50.4
5/16	Ontario SBOA final	Wbsb	BEAU JANGLES	Dr. I Moore	B. McClure	Borderline Mobby	WINDOR	1:49.3
5/16	PaSS	PcD	APOCALYPSEBLUECHIP	J. Bongiorno	J. Bongiorno	Superchamp Hanover	Southwind Spencer	1:50.3
			Sneaky Squeaky	J. Bongiorno	J. Bongiorno	Captain Apple	Silent Investor	1:51.1
			Another C Note	T. Buter	R. Burke	MELILLO	Papi Rick	1:50.4
5/23	NJSS final	M1						
5/24	PaSS	Phl						
5/30	Somebeachsomewhr	Wbsb						
6/6	N.A. Cup elims	Wbsb						
6/13	N.A. Cup finals	Wbsb						
6/19	Messenger elims	YR						
6/26	Messenger final	YR						
7/4	Meadowlands Pace elims	M1						
7/11	Meadowlands Pace final	M1						