

Dave Little's Road to the 2026 Meadowlands Pace
Week 5 (of 10) – Thursday, May 28
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 (\$1,334,839 – 1:48.3)	B. McClure, Dr. I. Moore Graham Grace Stables LLC, Kiwi Stables LLC, Bolton Stables	Cruised to a 2½-length score in the OnSS Gold over an off track in 1:50.3 racing for a third straight week. Time for a break before the N.A. Cup. Moore: "It was either go in the OnSS Gold or the Somebeachsomewhere. The weather last week was miserable, but sometimes, it's good to get them a race in those conditions. everything is hunky-dory." Breeding: Cattlewash-Mrs Major Hill Last Race: 5/23/2026 – Wbsb – Ontario Sire Stakes Gold – 1st (1:50.3)
2	Odds On Mr Mamba (\$362,405 – 1:47.4)	D. Dunn, M. Wrenn Odds On Racing	In his much-anticipated seasonal debut, crushed his Indiana Sire Stakes foes by 2¼ lengths in 1:49. Does that eliminate any stress? Wrenn: "I'm feeling much better. He did everything right. He was effortless. He will not race in the Somebeachsomewhere but will go next week in the N.A. Cup eliminations. This is how we mapped his season out." Breeding: Odds On Equuleus-Honky Tonk Woman Last Race: 5/25/2026 – HoP – Indiana Sire Stakes – 1st (1:49)
3	Gentlemans Club (\$252,881 – 1:50.2)	A. McCarthy, A. Lambert Anthony Licastro	Another nice effort in the Poconos has this one ready to rock and roll. Lambert: "I think it ended up being the quickest mile of the day. No shame in getting beat by Downbythewater. We are racing Saturday at The Meadowlands. Then the North America Cup. He's good, sound and healthy." Breeding: Downbytheseaside-See You At Peelers Last Race: 5/23/2026 – PcD – W4-7PM – 2nd (1:51.1)
4	Brandon Blvd	J. Bartlett, A. Harris	He's only had one start this year. Is there cause for concern? Harris: "I don't mind it.

	(\$439,397 – 1:48.4)	Punisher 11 Stable LLC	<p>We're coming in as perfect as we want him to be. These horses only race 11 to 14 starts a year, you have to save them for the big dances." Will be racing Saturday in the Somebeachsomewhere.</p> <p>Breeding: Downbytheseaside-Alexis Faith Last Race: 5/15/2026 – M1 – Qualifier – 1st (1:50.3)</p>
5	Melillo (\$427,507 – 1:48.4)	T. Tetrick, R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, Jason Melillo, Weaver Brussemi LLC	<p>Powered clear of his foes by 3¼ lengths at Chester in a lifetime-best-equalling 1:48.4. Paced identical :27 quarters during the back half of the mile while on the point. Super impressive! Burke: "He was much better. My horses, they are all moving in the right direction. He's been the one that's been a little bit ahead of everybody. You'll see him next in the N.A. Cup."</p> <p>Breeding: Sweet Lou-Rosemary Rose Last Race: 5/24/2026 – Phl – Pennsylvania Sire Stakes – 1st (1:48.4)</p>
6	Bookie J (\$355,868 – 1:50)	D. Dunn, C. Ryder Ken Jacobs	<p>Came back on in the slop to nail Azrael Blue Chip in a thriller of a New Jersey Sire Stakes final. The winner displayed two moves in his best effort of the year. Ryder: "That might have been a (1):48 mile on a nice evening. He'll be taking a couple of weeks off, then might race in the Home Grown in 2 or 3 weeks. Things are working out better than I thought they would."</p> <p>Breeding: Perfect Sting-Skyy Last Race: 5/23/2026 – M1 – New Jersey Sire Stakes final – 1st (1:50.2)</p>
7	Ubrute (\$370,907 – 1:49.4)	Y. Gingras, R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, Weaver Brussemi LLC, Hatfield Stables, Phil Collura	<p>Took last week off. Burke: "I expect to go a big qualifier with him Friday at The Meadowlands. I was thinking about the Somebeachsomewhere, but I don't think three weeks in Canada is constructive at all. We're not set up there, so that means he'd be shipping back and forth. It didn't make sense for the horse or the barn. After qualifying, he'll head to the N.A. Cup."</p> <p>Breeding: Tall Dark Stranger-Warrawee Ubeaut</p>

			Last Race: 5/16/2026 – PcD – Pennsylvania Stallion Series – 3rd (1:51.2)
8	Al Papi (\$415,980 – 1:48.1)	Y. Gingras, R. Burke Burke Racing Stable LLC, J&T Silva – Purnel & Libby, Lawrence Karr, Weaver Brussemi LLC	Burst onto the scene off cover turning for home and finished a good third at Chester, finishing behind the leader and pocket-sitter. Burke: “He did what we wanted him to do. We have now raced him twice from off the pace and now he’s ready for the N.A. Cup eliminations.” Breeding: Papi Rob Hanover-Baron Remy Last Race: 5/24/2026 – Phl – Pennsylvania Sire Stakes – 3rd (1:50.4)
9	Always B Charlie (\$25,018 – 1:51)	S. Zeron, N. Takter Upstart Racing	Bumped up to the Sire Stakes level and finished second to Another C Note, who is a perfect 7-for-7 this year. Takter: “That was just his third lifetime start, and I was really proud of his effort. Since he still qualifies for non-winners of 3, it won’t be a problem getting him a start or two before the Meadowlands Pace. I’ll get him in an overnight in a week or two.” Breeding: Always B Miki-My Little Delight Last Race: 5/24/2026 – Phl – Pennsylvania Sire Stakes – 2nd (1:50.4)
10	Azrael Blue Chip (\$147,030 – 1:51)	A. McCarthy, B. Odza CT Stables LLC	Cracks the Top 10 off a big try in the NJSS final. Odza: “I wasn’t thrilled with him having to go first over. He’s still a green horse. I thought we were home free for a second, but we know Bookie J is a good horse. My horse came out of the race great so I’m looking forward to seeing him on a bigger stage, that’s why we are giving him a shot in the N.A. Cup.” Breeding: Perfect Sting-Bathsheba Last Race: 5/23/2026 – M1 – New Jersey Sire Stakes final – 2nd (1:50.2)

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 Another C Note	J. Bongiorno R. Burke	T. Tetrick R. Wrenn Jr.	MELILLO Frantic Hanover	AL PAPI Twin B Thriller	1:50.1 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. Cancellier e	D. Dunn	AZRAEL BLUE CHIP	ROCKNACIO US	1:50
5/9	Pa All-Stars	PcD	Another C Note Captain Apple Traacherous Lou Toast Of The Town	R. Burke C. Ryder R. Cleary N. Daley	T. Buter P. Ryder T. Tetrick T. McCarthy	Papi Rick Southwind Spencer Easy Breeze Superchamp Hanover	Spunky Hanover Really Bright TALBOT ANDRETTI Good Friday	1:52.2 1:54.1 1:53.4 1:52.2
5/9	Ontario SBOA elims	Wbs b	BEAU JANGLES Borderline Mobby	Dr. I. Moore D. Menary	B. McClure J. MacDonal d	Tilthecowscomeho me WINDOR	Mega Moves Redland Rocket Man	1:51 1:50.4
5/16	Ontario SBOA final	Wbs b	BEAU JANGLES	Dr. I Moore	B. McClure	Borderline Mobby	WINDOR	1:49.3
5/16	PaSS	PcD	APOCALYPSEBLUECH IP Sneaky Squeaky Another C Note	J. Bongiorno J. Bongiorno T. Buter	J. Bongiorno J. Bongiorno R. Burke	Superchamp Hanover Captain Apple MELILLO	Southwind Spencer Silent Investor Papi Rick	1:50.3 1:51.1 1:50.4
5/23	NJSS final	M1	BOOKIE J	C. Ryder	D. Dunn	AZRAEL BLUE CHIP	Thisbeestings Deo	1:50.2
5/24	PaSS	Phl	MELILLO Another C Note Papi Rick	R. Burke R. Burke N. Daley	T. Tetrick Y. Gingras A. McCarthy	Easy Breeze ALWAYS B CHARLIE Sneaky Squeaky	TALBOT ANDRETTI Thai Hanover AL PAPI	1:48.4 1:50.3 1:50.3
5/30	Somebeachsom ewhr	Wbs b						
6/6	N.A. Cup elims	Wbs b						
6/13	N.A. Cup finals	Wbs b						
6/19	Messenger elims	YR						
6/26	Messenger final	YR						
7/4	Meadowlands Pace elims	M1						
7/11	Meadowlands Pace final	M1						