2026 HAMBLETONIA
Road to the Hambletonian Top 10 – Week 7
The 101st Hambletonian will take place on Saturday, Aug. 8

Rank	Horse	Driver, Trainer, Owner	Ken Warkentin's Comments
1	**Apex** (Walner)	Dexter Dunn, Marcus Melander. Jeffrey Snyder, S R F Stable, Steve Stewart	Dan Patch Award winner rallied from post 11 to finish second by a neck to stablemate American Power in 3YO debut June 5, final quarter in :25.2, held off Diabolic Hill for a new mark of 1:50.3 in NJSS Final, not in to go
2	**Diabolic Hill** (Muscle Hill)	Todd McCarthy, Annie Stoebe, Mario Mazza, AC Crawford Racing Stable	Won Big M qualifier in 1:53.3 on May 8, wire-to-wire in 1:53.2 Big M qualifier May 29, first over third 3YO NJSS debut June 5, hard-charging second in NJSS Final June 12, not in to go
3	**Big Ranger** (In Range)	Tim Tetrick, Anette Lorentzon, Madison Global	2025 Ohio Horse of the Year broke in 3YO debut, fourth in Oak Grove Derby elim, wire-to-wire in Silver consolation in 1:52.3, set Scioto Downs track record 1:51.2 in OHSS May 25, underwent a barn change before another track record of 1:50.3 in OHSS division @ Scioto Downs with Tim Tetrick, not in to go
4	**Spencer Hanover** (Chapter Seven)	Jason Bartlett, Marcus Melander, Jeffrey Synder, Arthur Pronti	Breeders Crown champion won Oak Grove Derby elim in 1:53.4 in 3YO debut, equalled 1:51.3 track record in final, then a 1:53.3 romp (track good) in NYSS @ Vernon Downs May 25, made it four-for-four in 2026 dominating EBC in 1:54.4 June 12, not in to go, second leading money winner this season pointing for Yonkers Trot
5	**Neighver Punt** (Bar Hopping)	Mattias Melander, Marcus Melander,	One of five Marcus Melander trainees in Top 10, suddenly blossomed @

		M Biasuzzi Stable Inc	three upsetting a Goodtimes elimination in career best 1:51.4, stormed to upset final in 1:52, not in to go
6	**Magic Punk** (Wishing Stone)	Yannick Gingras, Ake Svanstedt, Magic Punk Inc.	1:53.1 stakes record Dexter Cup in 3YO debut, fourth (1:54.1), romped to a new mark of 1:51.1 in first Goodtimes elim, second (1:52.2) as beaten favourite in final, not in to go
7	**Endurance** (Captain Corey)	Andrew McCarthy, Christopher Beaver, Super Endurance Stable, Bill Manes, Leo Fleming, Mark Moger	Unleashed track record equalling 1:51.3 in Oak Grove Derby elim in 3YO debut, then a gallant second in final, dominated PASS division in 1:51.4 June 6, did not race last week & not in to go
8	**Nix Nacken** (Muscle Hill)	Dexter Dunn, Marcus Melander, Courant Inc.	1:52.2 Grand Circuit winner at two, just missed in a NJSS Silver Division June 5, then romped to an astounding 1:50 world record for 3YO geldings in that final, not in to go
9	**American Power** (Walner)	Dexter Dunn, Marcus Melander, Courant Inc	Rallied in :26.3 to win Garden State division May 16, won NJSS Platinum Division in 1:54.3 (sloppy track) May 23, took new mark of 1:52 in NJSS June 5, third (1:51.1) in NJSS Final, not in to go
10	**Highland Destiny** (Greenshoe)	Scott Zeron, Nancy Takter, Highland Thoroughbred Farm	Unraced at two, now four-for-four as a sophomore, winning PA All-Stars division in 1:52 May 18, then a PASS division @ Pocono in 1:54.1 June 6, did not race last week & not in to go

KEY PREP RACES

Hambletonian Eligibles in Caps

Date	Stakes	Site	Winner	Driver	Trainer	2nd Horse	3rd Horse	Time
May 2	Dexter Cup	M	MAGIC PUNK	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Southwind Alamo	WHOS EYES BLUES	1:53.1
May 4	Oak Grove Elim	OG	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	Geologic	IMPOSSIBLE BI	1:53.4
May 4	Oak Grove Elim	OG	Silverstein	Dave Miller	Matthew Burkholder	REQUIEM	KINGMEN	1:52.3
May 4	Oak Grove Elim	OG	ENDURANCE	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	AI	NIX NAKEN	1:51.3
May 8	PASS 1st Leg	Mea	Captain Vodka	Ridge Warren	Robert Baggitt, Jr.	GREENARROW HANOVER	HAMLET HALL	1:54.3
May 8	PASS 1st Leg	Mea	Fineline Hanover	Ridge Warren	Ron Coyne, Jr.	Dilly Hanover	R TOMMY COLLINS	1:53.2
May 16	Battle of Bunker Hill	PR	NEBBIOLO	Sarah Svanstedt	Ake Svantedt	MIDWIND CHIMP	Water Slide	1:54.2
May 16	Oak Grove Derby	OG	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	ENDURANCE	REQUIEM	1:51.3
May 18	PA Allstars	Poc	MR PENNER	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	MINOAN	Captain Vodka	1:52
May 18	PA Allstars	Poc	HIGHLAND DESTINY	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	JIM BEAM	DOLLAR DRAFT	1:52.2
May 18	PA Allstars	Poc	Fineline Hanover	Todd McCarthy	Ron Coyne, Jr.	NEIGHVER PUNT	Confident Volo	1:52.2
May 23	NJSS 1st Leg	M	GABES LUCK	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	MEGA SHARK	PRACTICAL MAN	1:55.3
May 23	NJSS 1st Leg	M	King Of The Wind	Joe Bongiorno	Joe Bongiorno	MAGA HILL	NEVER SAY DIE	1:55.2

May 23	NJSS 1st Leg	M	AMERICAN POWER	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	KINGMEN	ARDONNE	1:54.3
May 23	NJSS 1st Leg	M	TRILLION TIMES	Jason Bartlett	Per Engblom	Ice Fall	Be Positive	1:57.3
May 25	NYSS 1st Leg	Ver	SEVENATO	Trond Smedshammer	Trond Smedshammer	WHOS EYES BLUES	Highway Six	1:54
May 25	NYSS 1st Leg	Ver	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	Titan's Mischief	SECURED	1:53.4
June 5	NYSS 2nd Leg	TD	READ THE ROOM	Sarah Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Highway Six	TWIN B SEVEN SINS	1:53.2
June 5	NYSS 2nd Leg	TD	Silverstein	Matt Kakaley	Matthew Burkholder	AI	SEVEN GRAND	1:53.3
June 5	NJSS 2nd Leg	M	AMERICAN POWER	Mattias Melander	Marcus Melander	APEX	DIABOLIC HILL	1:52
June 5	Goodtimes Elim	MO	MAGIC PUNK	Yannick Gingras	Ake Svanstedt	Strobe Light	WOLFPACK CROWN	1:52.1
June 5	Goodtimes Elim	MO	NEIGHVER PUNT	Yannick Gingras	Marcus Melander	Touchedbyanangel	Royal Captain	1:51.4
June 6	PASS 2nd Leg	Poc	ENDURANCE	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	Geologic	HAMLET HALL	1:51.4
June 6	PASS 2nd Leg	Poc	HIGHLAND DESTINY	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	MINOAN	Captain Vodka	1:54.1
June 12	NJSS Final Platinum	M	APEX	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	DIABOLIC HILL	AMERICAN POWER	1:50.3
June 12	NJSS Final Silver	M	NIX NACKEN	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	King Of The Wind	MAGA HILL	1:50
June 12	EBC Division	Ver	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	TWIN B SEVEN SINS	SEVEN GRAND	1:54.3

June 13	Goodtimes Final	MO	NEIGHVER PUNT	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	MAGIC PUNK	Strobe Light	1:52
June 24	NYSS 3rd leg	Buf						
June 26	Yonkers Trot Final	Y						
June 26	Currier & Ives	Mea						
July 4	Reynolds	M						
July 4	Reynolds	M						
July 11	Stanley Dancer	M						
July 11	Stanley Dancer	M						
July 19	Zweig Memorial	V						
July 23	NYSS 4th Leg	Y						
July 25	Tompkins-Geers	M						
July 25	Tompkins-Geers	M						
Aug. 1	Hambo Elim	M						
Aug. 1	Hambo Elim	M						