

2026 HAMBLETONIAN
Road to the Hambletonian Top 10 – Week 12
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 finished second by a neck to stablemate American Power in 3YO debut June 5, held off Diabolic Hill for a new mark of 1:50.3 in NJSS Platinum Final, won Stanley Dancer Memorial division in 1:52 July 11, did not race last week, not in to go
2	American Power (Walner)	James MacDonald, 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), took NJSS division in 1:52, third (1:51.1) in NJSS Platinum Final, second (1:52.1) in Stanley Dancer Memorial division, romped to all-age Vernon Downs track record 1:50 in Zweig Memorial, not in to go
3	Diabolic Hill (Muscle Hill)	Todd McCarthy, Annie Stoebe, Mario Mazza, AC Crawford Racing Stable	Third in 3YO NJSS debut June 5, second (1:50.3) in NJSS Final, second (1:52) from post nine in Reynolds division July 4, second (1:50.1) when favored in Zweig Memorial July 19, not in to go
4	Big Ranger (In Range)	Tim Tetrick, Anette Lorentzon, Madison Global	2025 Ohio Horse of the Year broke in 3YO debut April 23, fourth in Oak Grove Derby elim, wire-to-wire in Silver consol in 1:52.3, set Scioto Downs track record 1:51.2 in OHSS, after barn change set another Scioto Downs track record of 1:50.3 in OHSS division, crushed a Buckeye Stallion Series division in 1:51.4 @ Scioto Downs July 25 after a 35-day layoff, not in to go
5	Endurance	Andrew McCarthy, Christopher Beaver,	3YO debut a track record equalling 1:51.3 in Oak Grove Derby elim May 4, second (1:51.3)

	(Captain Corey)	Super Endurance Stable, Bill Manes, Leo Fleming, Mark Moger	in final, dominated PASS division in 1:51.4, set Currier & Ives stakes record 1:52.4, won Stanley Dancer Memorial division in 1:52, did not race last week, not in to go
6	Magic Punk (Wishing Stone)	Yannick Gingras, Ake Svanstedt, Magic Punk Inc.	1:53.1 stakes record Dexter Cup 3YO debut May 2, 1:52.1 romp in Goodtimes elim, second (1:52.2) in final, took new mark of 1:51.4 in Reynolds division, broke/seventh in Zweig Memorial, not in to go
7	Nix Nacken (Muscle Hill)	Dexter Dunn, Marcus Melander, Courant Inc.	1:52.2 Grand Circuit winner at two, second (1:52.1) in NJSS Silver Division June 5, 1:50 world record for 3YO geldings in final, third (1:51) in Reynolds division, fourth (1:52.1) in Stanley Dancer Memorial division, third (1:50.2) in Zweig Memorial, not in to go
8	It Could Be Worse (Captain Corey)	Tim Tetrick, Linda Toscano, Bay's Stable, Pat & Mark Huber, Bill Elliott, Camelot Stable	KYSS winner in 1:53 at two, just missed going wire-to-wire in 1:51.3 3YO debut June 12, unleashed an eye-catching new mark of 1:50.3 in Reynolds division, second (1:52) in Stanley Dancer Memorial division, did not race last week, not in to go
9	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 May 4, equaled 1:51.3 track record in final, 1:53.3 romp in NYSS @ Vernon Downs, dominated EBC in 1:54.4, broke/ninth in Yonkers Trot, broke/eighth in Stanley Dancer Memorial division, bounced back with strong 1:53.1 Big M qualifier July 18, not in to go
10	Neighver Punt (Bar Hopping)	Scott Zeron, Marcus Melander, M Biasuzzi Stable Inc	One of five Marcus Melander trainees in Top 10, has blossomed at three upsetting a Goodtimes elimination in 1:51.4, rallied to upset final in 1:52, fourth (1:53) in Reynolds division after missing three weeks, fifth (1:51.4) in Zweig Memorial, 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	Al	NIX NAKEN	1:51.3
May 8	PASS 1 st Leg	Mea	Captain Vodka	Ridge Warren	Robert Baggitt Jr.	GREENARROW HANOVER	HAMLET HALL	1:54.3
May 8	PASS 1 st 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 Svanstedt	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 1 st Leg	M	GABES LUCK	Scott Zeron	Nancy Takter	MEGA SHARK	PRACTICAL MAN	1:55.3

May 23	NJSS 1 st Leg	M	King Of The Wind	Joe Bongiorno	Joe Bongiorno	MAGA HILL	NEVER SAY DIE	1:55.2
May 23	NJSS 1 st Leg	M	AMERICAN POWER	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	KINGMEN	ARDONNE	1:54.3
May 23	NJSS 1 st Leg	M	TRILLION TIMES	Jason Bartlett	Per Engblom	Ice Fall	Be Positive	1:57.3
May 25	NYSS 1 st Leg	Ver	SEVENATO	Trond Smedshammer	Trond Smedshammer	WHOS EYES BLUES	Highway Six	1:54
May 25	NYSS 1 st Leg	Ver	SPENCER HANOVER	Jason Bartlett	Marcus Melander	Titan's Mischief	SECURED	1:53.4
June 5	NYSS 2 nd Leg	TD	READ THE ROOM	Sarah Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Highway Six	TWIN B SEVEN SINS	1:53.2
June 5	NYSS 2 nd Leg	TD	Silverstein	Matt Kakaley	Matthew Burkholder	AI	SEVEN GRAND	1:53.3
June 5	NJSS 2 nd Leg	M	AMERICAN POWER	Mattias Melander	Marcus Melander	APEX	DIABOLIC HILL	1:52
June 5	Goodti mes Elim	MO	MAGIC PUNK	Yannick Gingras	Ake Svanstedt	Strobe Light	WOLFPACK CROWN	1:52.1
June 5	Goodti mes Elim	MO	NEIGHVER PUNT	Yannick Gingras	Marcus Melander	Touchedbyanangel	Royal Captain	1:51.4
June 6	PASS 2 nd Leg	Poc	ENDURANCE	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	Geologic	HAMLET HALL	1:51.4
June 6	PASS 2 nd 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 3 rd Leg	Buf	READ THE ROOM	Ake Svanstedt	Ake Svanstedt	Chapter Geo J	LOU JOHNS ACTION	1:55
June 24	NYSS 3 rd Leg	Buf	Highway Six	Jeff Gregory	Jeff Gregory	TWIN B SEVEN SINS	SEVEN GRAND	1:56.4
June 26	Yonkers Trot Final	Y	INEXPRESS ABLE	Tim Tetrick	Lucas Wallin	KINGMEN	Silverstein	2:25.3
June 26	Currier & Ives	Mea	ENDURANCE	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	HAMLET HALL	Captain Vodka	1:52.4
July 4	Reynolds	M	IT COULD WORSE	Tim Tetrick	Linda Toscano	Southwind Alamo	NIX NACKEN	1:50.3
July 4	Reynolds	M	MAGIC PUNK	Yannick Gingras	Ake Svanstedt	DIABOLIC HILL	Southwind Fargo	1:51.4
July 11	Stanley Dancer	M	ENDURANCE	Andrew McCarthy	Christopher Beaver	IT COULD BE WORSE	Silverstein	1:52
July 11	Stanley Dancer	M	APEX	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	AMERICAN POWER	INEXPRESS ABLE	1:52
July 19	Zweig Memorial	V	AMERICAN POWER	James MacDonald	Marcus Melander	DIABOLIC HILL	NIX NAKEN	1:50
July 23	NYSS 4 th Leg	Y						
July 25	Tompkins-Geers	M						
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Aug. Hambo M
1 Elim

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