

2026 HAMBLETONIAN
Road to the Hambletonian Top 10 – Week 14
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, won first Hambo elim in 1:50.4, four-time runner up Marcus Melander sends out three finalists
2	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 conso 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 Buckeye Stallion Series division in 1:51.4 @ Scioto Downs July 25 after a 35-day layoff, blazed to new mark of 1:50 in second Hambo elim, Tetrick won the 2010 Hambo with Market Share
3	Endurance (Captain Corey)	Andrew McCarthy, Christopher Beaver, Super Endurance Stable, Bill Manes, Leo Fleming, Mark Moger	3YO debut a track record equalling 1:51.3 in Oak Grove Derby elim May 4, second (1:51.3) in final, won PASS division in 1:51.4, set Currier & Ives stakes record 1:52.4, won Stanley Dancer Memorial division in 1:52, second by a nose to Apex in 1:50.4 first Hambo elim, Andrew McCarthy won the 2020 Hambo with Ramona Hill
4	American Power (Walner)	James MacDonald, Marcus Melander, M Biasuzzi Stable 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, third (1:51) in first Hambo elim
5	It Could Be Worse	Scott Zeron, Linda Toscano, Bay's Stable,	KYSS winner in 1:53 at two, close second in 1:51.3 3YO debut on June 12, eye-catching new mark of

	(Captain Corey)	Pat & Mark Huber, Bill Elliott, Camelot Stable	1:50.3 in Reynolds division, second (1:52) in Stanley Dancer Memorial division, second (1:50.4) in second Hambo elim, Scott Zeron seeks a Hambo grand slam, Toscano won the 2010 edition with Market Share
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, third (1:50.4) in second Hambo elim, Svanstedt seeks Hambo grandslam
7	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, fourth (1:51) in second Hambo elim
8	Minoan (Bar Hopping)	Andrew McCarthy, Noel Daley, Patricia Stables, L A Express Stables, Sjoebloom Racing, Noel Daley	2YO Bluegrass winner in 1:52.4, prominent in PASS, wire-to-wire in 1:52.2 Tompkins-Geers division on July 25, fifth (1:51.1) in second Hambo elim, Noel Daley won the 2011 Hambo with Broad Bahn
9	Captain Naughty (Captain Corey)	Jason Bartlett, Per Engblom, Denise Dennis	Won Kentucky Golden Rod Final in 1:53.3 as a 2YO, switched to trainer Per Engblom & qualified at Big M in 1:52 on July 24, fourth (1:51.1) in first Hambo elim, one of three Hambo finalists by 2021 Hambo winner Captain Corey
10	AI (Chapter Seven)	Yannick Gingras, Ron Burke, Burke Racing Stable, Hatfield Stables, Knox Services, Weaver Brussemi	Won NYSS Final as a 2YO, second in Kindergarten Final, banked \$395,073, NYSS winner in 1:54.3 @ Yonkers July 23, fifth (1:51.1) in first Hambo elim, Ron Burke was second in back-to-back Hambos with Mission Brief (2015) & Southwind Frank (2016)

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	Titans 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	Chapter Geo J	Jason Bartlett	Noel Daley	SEVEN GRAND	WHOS EYES BLUES	1:54.3
July 23	NYSS 4 th Leg	Y	AI	Yannick Gingras	Ron Burlke	READ THE ROOM	Silverstain	1:54.3
July 25	Tompkins-Geers	M	NICHOLSON	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	CREATE ESCAPE	GABES LUCK	1:52.2

July 25	Tompkins-Geers	M	MINOAN	Niko Karna	Noel Daley	Push To Start	JIM BEAM	1:52.2
Aug. 1	Hambo Elim	M	APEX	Dexter Dunn	Marcus Melander	ENDURANCE	AMERICAN POWER	1:50.4
Aug. 1	Hambo Elim	M	BIG RANGER	Tim Tetrick	Anette Lorentzon	IT COULD BE WORSE	MAGIC PUNK	1:50