

# TOP TRAINERS

# Katricia Adams

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	73	4	9	13	\$93,708
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	131	19	12	16	\$202,986
Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2019	49	11	5	4	\$95,555

**Birthdate:** 1969-09-18      **Birthplace:** Clarion, PA  
**Residence:** Kittanning, PA      **Age:** 52



Katricia Adams posted her second half million dollar season and scored a career high 43 wins in 2021.

Adams continued to make inroads at the Meadowlands in 2020, finishing in the Top Five during the Fall Meet with 11 wins and seventh for the year with 19 wins. Her top horses were Paduka N, Solo Story, A Major Omen, Aces Rock, Apple Hannover, The Bettormack N and Oberto.

Adams came bursting onto the Meadowlands racing scene in 2019 while in the best season of her young training career. Together with her husband Patrick Dellavecchia and her prominent owner John Barnard, Adams won a Graduate division with Breeders Crown champion Fiftydallarbill in 1:50.2.

Adams' 1:49 pacer Mcthriller tied with Trolley for the most wins during the 2018-19 meet with nine. Her streaking pacing mare Backseat Terror reeled off six in a row, and pacer On Duty took

a mark of 1:49.2 at the Big M.

Adams graduated from Penn State University with a teaching degree, and also has Associate Judges and Clerk of the Course licenses. Her family had heavy draft and riding horses, and she worked for trainer Mickey Burke.

# Tony Alagna

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	271	48	37	41	\$2,349,598
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	184	40	23	26	\$1,725,415
Meadowlands Career	1,843	329	281	254	\$11,611,048
<b>Birthdate:</b> 1972-06-08		<b>Birthplace:</b> Champaign, IL			
<b>Residence:</b> Manalapan, NJ		<b>Age:</b> 49			

Tony Alagna remained in the top five in the Meadowlands trainer standings in 2021. Alagna also enjoyed a career best season overall with \$7.97 million and 212 wins. He won the Valley Victory and a Kindergarten Classic Final with Hambletonian prospect and Breeders Crown runner up Fast As The Wind. Captain Barbossa set a track record for four-year-old pacing geldings of 1:47.1. Alagna finished one-two in the Progress Pace with Rockyroad Hanover and Abuckabett Hanover. He was also second in the William Haughton Memorial with 1:48 performer Shake That House.

Alagna maintained his prominence at the Meadowlands finishing third again in 2020 with 40 wins and \$1,725,415, and landed in the Top Five during the Championship Meet. On Meadowlands Pace Night, Alagna made a powerful statement when Ramona Hill pulled an 8-1 upset from post ten in the \$253,500 Del Miller Memorial in 1:50.3. Angers Bayama took a mark of 1:48 for Team Alagna with a :25.4 final quarter. That four-year-old son of Big Jim made it three in a row with a 1:48.3 tally in the Hambletonian Day opener. Also, Reflect With Me won the \$90,525 Shady Daisy in 1:48.3. Then, Alagna hit the mountaintop when Ramona Hill dominated the \$1,000,000 Hambletonian and equaled the stakes record of 1:50.1. Alagna's stable finished third in the sport in 2020 with 149 wins and \$5,330,460.

Alagna finished third in the Meadowlands trainer standings during the 2018-19 meet with 29 wins, and his stable continued to be a dominant force on the Grand Circuit. Alagna also passed the \$40 million mark in 2019 with his ninth straight season past \$3 million. His late-blooming Hambletonian prospect Pilot Discretion won his first six starts, including the Goodtimes Final @ Woodbine at Mohawk Park. Alagna won the Shady Daisy in a Meadowlands track record of 1:48 with Tall Drink Hanover. Alagna also scored three Breeders Crown upsets with Ramona Hill, Reflect With Me and American History. He enjoyed the best year of his career with just under \$6 million in purses.

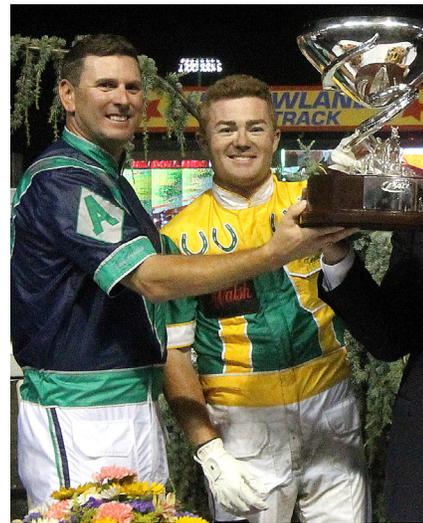
Alagna finished fourth in the Meadowlands trainer standings with 21 wins and over \$800,000 during the 2017-18 meet. His star three-year-old pacer was Stay Hungry, who equaled the stakes record of 1:47.3 in the Cane Pace. That millionaire Somebeachsomewhere colt also won the \$500,000 Messenger Stakes at Yonkers and banked well over \$700,000 in 2018. Alagna passed the \$4 million mark for the fifth time in 2018.

Alagna added to his reputation for developing major young stars in 2017 by pulling a Breeders Crown upset with Stay Hungry, and the two-year-old son of Somebeachsomewhere finished a close second in the Governor's Cup. Alagna's late-blooming American History finished third in that event in only his fifth lifetime start. Alagna also campaigned two-time O'Brien Award winner Caprice Hill and may have a 2018 Hambletonian prospect in Missle Hill. The Alagna Stable passed the \$3 million mark for the seventh consecutive season.

Alagna maintained his status as a top producer of stakes winners in 2014 with another promising contingent of two-year-olds, including the standout Artspeak. His stable passed the \$3 million mark for the fourth straight year. Following a break-out season in 2012, Alagna's career soared in 2013 with the spotlight shining brightly on his two-time Pacer of the Year and triple millionaire Captaintreacherous. "The Captain" helped Alagna vault past the \$5 million mark for the first time and he won over 100 races for the third straight season. Captaintreacherous more than lived up to his press clippings in 2013, emerging with a stellar season that included major wins in the North America Cup, Max Hempt Memorial, Meadowlands Pace, Cane Pace, Bluegrass, Tattersalls and Breeders Crown. The 1:47.1 performer fashioned a \$2 million season and became the first horse since the great Niatross to be named Pacer of the Year back-to-back at ages two and three.

Alagna was born into the racing business, and by age eight he was working side by side with his parents who trained a large stable of horses in Urbana, Illinois. His mother, Donna Lee Ozment, still trains in Chicago. Alagna worked for the late Brian Pinske, Doc and Pat Walker's Fox Valley Standardbred Stables and Erv Miller before making the decision, at age 37, to strike out on his own in 2009. He started with three horses and one employee, and peaked at 90 horses and 20 employees. The 45-year-old from Champaign, Illinois is stabled at Gaitway Farm in Englishtown, NJ, and has attracted high profile owners such as Brittany Farms.

The personable Alagna has embraced social media and developed a stable website at [alagnaracing.com](http://alagnaracing.com), which informs his clients, keeps fans connected, offers contests and gives back to retired racehorses through New Vocations.



# Carmen Auciello

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec 2021	161	14	16	13	\$211,382

**Birthdate:** 1980-07-15      **Birthplace:** North York, Ontario  
**Residence:** Stouffville, Ontario      **Age:** 42



Carmen Auciello has maintained a remarkable level of consistency as a trainer, passing the \$2 million mark in eight of his last nine seasons. His stable totals in 2021 were 167 wins and \$2,463,809. Auciello has won more than 1,700 races and \$23 million.

"My dad Rocco Auciello stills works with me every day. We are 50/50 partners on Auciello stables. He's been doing it full-time since the late 1980s. I went to the barn every weekend but I still went to school, played hockey, baseball and golf. I wasn't fully immersed in it but I grew up into it. When I was 22, after I got my college degree, I decided to do it full-time. The reason I got involved, my dad's stable started to grow and I was in a job that I didn't enjoy after college. I figured I might as well give it a shot now and see if I liked it rather than regret never trying later. I took a shot. It took a lot of years but it has started to pay off the last seven or eight years.

"I have a diploma in marketing and sales. My parents always told me not to be a horse trainer and to go to school and get my education. I decided to get the education but still be a horse trainer. It helps with the day-to-day running of the business and with market-

ing/promoting myself. Overall it was definitely beneficial.

"My favorite moment was probably when Moneyman Hill finished third in the 2020 North America Cup. Only the owners of the horses were there, so it wasn't the regular atmosphere, but just to be involved in the elimination race and make the final was great. Halfway down the stretch it looked like we had a shot, he got within a length-and-a-half of Tall Dark Stranger and nobody ever gets by him. He was a really good third. We had just bought the horse a month prior on OnGait, so it was a big thrill."

# Jennifer Bongiorno

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	212	26	32	33	\$584,747
Jan. 2020 – Dec. 2020	134	15	19	17	\$204,688
Oct. 2018 - Nov. 2019	155	41	17	16	\$478,343

Residence: 1990-02-27                      Birthplace: Red Bank, NJ  
Residence: Alpine, NJ                      Age: 32



Jennifer Bongiorno's star continued to rise in 2021, winning her first Yonkers Raceway training title, while posting her first \$5 million season, plus a career high 271 wins and compiled a UTRS percentage of .363. She also landed in the Top Ten at the Meadowlands. Sub 1:49 performers Vettel N and J M Mandamin were just a couple of stars that helped the Bongiorno stable amass well over half a million dollars at The Big M.

Bongiorno posted her third straight \$2 million season in 2020 with 138 wins from 667 starts, good for a .355 UTRS rating.

In only her third year as a trainer, Bongiorno passed the \$2 million for the second straight season in 2019. Teaming up with her younger brother and driver Joe Bongiorno, the former Meadowlands commentator and marketing assistant finished second in the track's trainer standings with 41 wins.

Diva's Image won a Fillies & Mares Preferred Handicap in 1:53.3. Albergo Hanover captured a 4YO Preferred in 1:49. Alotbettor N took a mark of 1:49.3 at The Big M. None Bettor A was a 1:48.4 performer at The Big M and went wire-to-wire in the Battle of Lake Erie as part of a nine-race winning streak.

# Ron Burke

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	588	79	87	87	\$3,306,079
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	445	72	56	44	\$1,939,101
Meadowlands Career	8,678	1,282	1,150	856	\$39,478,931

**Birthdate:** 1969-10-16      **Birthplace:** Washington, PA  
**Residence:** Canonsburg, PA      **Age:** 53



The Ron Burke Brigade rolled on in 2021, leading the Meadowlands with well over \$3 million and 79 wins. Burke also passed 12,000 career wins and his stable won more than \$21 million for the eighth time in the last nine years. He was nominated to the Harness Racing Hall of Fame and will be inducted in 2022. Burke won both the Jugette with Scarlett Hanover and his third Little Brown Jug with Lou's Pearlman, the same week his parents Mickey and Sylvia Burke were Little Brown Jug Wall of Fame honorees. Burke's other stable stars included triple millionaire trotter Atlanta, 1:47.1 Graduate winner Cattlewash, world champion This Is The Plan, 1:47.4 Kentucky Championship Series winner Blue Diamond Eyes, Southwind Gendry and It's Academic. Burke also won his fourth Jerry Kaltenbach Memorial Trophy and third in a row for top trainer in Ohio Sires Stakes. In 2021, the Burke Stable passed the \$273 million mark.

Burke continued to redefine dominance as the leading trainer in the sport in 2020 with 883 wins from 4,096 starts at various venues, and \$17,541,537 in purse earnings. The Burke Stable rolled past the unprecedented \$250 million mark and finished 2020 at 11,335 career wins. Burke captured his ninth consecutive Championship Meet title with 50 wins and \$1,099,667, and led the Big M in 2020 with 72 wins and \$1,939,101. On Hambletonian Day, the Burke Brigade sent out 28-1 upsetter Filibuster Hanover in the \$61,540 Sam McKee Memorial Consolation in 1:49.1. Dorsoduro Hanover rallied to a 43-1 shocker in the \$410,400 Canadian Pacing Derby in 1:48.4, and This Is The Plan was an 8-1 upsetter in the \$140,000 Hoosier Park Pacing Derby in 1:49.1. 21-1 longshot Summa Cum Laude was involved in the first ever Breeders Crown deadheat for win with Perfect Sting in 1:50.2. Southwind Gendry was third in that \$600,000 event for freshman pacers after winning nine of his first 11 starts. The great trotting mare Atlanta scored major wins in the \$425,600 Maple Leaf Trot in 1:50.4, the \$175,000 Dayton Derby in 1:51 and the \$148,500 Allerage Farms in 1:50. Blue Diamond Eyes pulled a 9-2 upset in the \$323,600 Three Diamonds in 1:51.1. Cattlewash took a sparkling mark of 1:46.4 in a \$67,600 division of the Bluegrass, fresh off a second in the Little Brown Jug Final.

Burke's rampage as the sport's runaway leader rolled on during the 2018-19 meet at the Meadowlands, taking his eighth straight training title with 101 wins and \$2,563,284. The leading trainer in horse racing history passed the unprecedented 10,000-win mark and \$225 million in 2019, while divisions of his stable continued to dominate at several venues. The Burke Brigade passed the \$20 million mark for the seventh straight season. On Meadowlands Pace night, Burke sent out Wheels On Fire to take a new mark of 1:48.1, Swandre the Giant won a Stanley Dancer Memorial division in 1:51.3, and Hannelore Hanover took her Miss Versatility division in 1:50.2. Burke kicked off Hambletonian Day with Backstreet Shadow in 1:47.3, and Mission Accepted won the Vincennes Trot in 1:50.2.

Burke continued to dominate the sport in 2018 with his sixth \$20 million season in a row and became the first trainer in history to pass the \$200 million mark. The massive Burke operation sent out more than 4,000 starters for the seventh consecutive year, dominated several venues, posted a 1,000-win season for the third time and romped to a seventh straight Meadowlands training title. Burke joined Jimmy Taktar and Ray Remmen as the only stables to win more than \$30 million at The Big M. His 2017 Horse of the Year Hannelore Hanover beat the boys from post 12 in the Arthur J. Cutler Memorial. Burke also won three Breeders Crowns with Warrawee Ubeaut, Percy Bluchip and Adios champion Dorsoduro Hanover, the Shady Daisy with Youaremycandygirl in a stakes record of 1:48.2 and the Goldsmith Maid with Sonnet Grace. Warrawee Ubeaut became the fastest two year old in history with a 1:48.3 world record at The Red Mile.

Burke has been relentless in rewriting the record books, and in 2017, he never let up on the gas peddle. Burke cruised to his sixth consecutive Meadowlands training title with 61 wins and \$2.4 million. He was the sport's leading trainer for the ninth straight season, passing the \$20 million plateau for the fifth year in a row with \$21,092,421. With well more than 4,000 starters (4,504) and 800 wins (889) for the sixth consecutive season, Burke finally had his first Horse of the Year. Hannelore Hanover capped her second straight \$1 million season by beating the boys in the Breeders Crown. The five-year-old daughter of Swan For All also set a world record of 1:49.2. Burke's other Breeders Crown champion was What The Hill, who beat older foes in the TVG Final.

The Ron Burke modern day rampage rolled on in 2016 enroute to his fifth straight training title at the Meadowlands.

In 2015, Burke continued to reinvent his mega stable status and made major headlines with world champion trotting filly Mission Brief. That outstanding daughter of Muscle Hill overcame back issues to beat the boys in a heat of the Hambletonian before finishing a gallant second in that final. Also, Burke's New Jersey Sires Stakes champion Southwind Frank dominated the Peter Haughton Memorial.

# Stacy Chiodo

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	110	18	11	16	\$196,809
<b>Birthdate:</b> 1977-1-21	<b>Birthplace:</b> Red Bank, NJ				
<b>Residence:</b> Jackson, NJ	<b>Age:</b> 45				



Stacy Chiodo enjoyed a career best season in 2021 winning 39 races and \$493,107. Assisted by her husband Bruno, who was also active in the GSY Amateur Driver Series, the Chiodo Stable won 18 races at the Meadowlands.

Chiodo sent out two three-year-old fillies in a Breeders Crown elimination, Shezafreaklikeme and Beach Crazy. Shezafreaklikeme is owned by Chiodo Racing, which also bred the filly. The filly's mother is a full sister to past Chiodo star Mighty Young Joe, who Chiodo trained and drove throughout his 11-year career. The gelding earned \$537,279 lifetime and posted a best win time of 1:49.3 at age 11 in 2014. The triumph made Chiodo the first female driver in history with a sub-1:50. Chiodo has 124 driving victories.

"I used to Barrel Race with Laurie Molnar and bought my barrel horse off of her," said Chiodo. "She owns Crystal Brook Training Center and that is where I kept the horse. It came up that Ross Croghan was looking for a stall cleaner and I was just getting out of high school, so that was my first job in the business. I went from that to being a groom to basically being more hands-on. Then my mom bought me a couple of cheap horses for me to start training with. One was a pretty good Winners-over horse at Freehold and the other was a cheaper claimer. She decided that we would sell the cheaper claimer to get a young horse that would be sounder and believe it or not that is when we picked out Mighty Young Joe."

# Jeff Cullipher

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>\$1,324,987</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>\$754,237</b>
<b>Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>\$462,948</b>

**Residence:** 1971-09-30      **Birthplace:** Henderson, KY  
**Residence:** Pendleton, IN      **Age:** 50



Jeff Cullipher added another impressive item to his resume in 2021. The Middletown, Indiana resident won his first training title at The Meadowlands when the meet concluded Saturday, August 7. Horses from Cullipher's barn won 54 races during the 61-day meet to take home the title. Cullipher, who splits his time between Indiana and New Jersey with owner Tom Pollack, maintained a 36 percent in the money percentage. His stable just missed earning \$1 million in purse earnings for the meet. Cullipher and Pollack also teamed up for another leading owner title. Horses from their stable at The Big M were led by Lovedbythemasses, a trotter who won six races. Dealer's Table and Kenziesky Hanover each added five wins to the tally.

Cullipher continued to race a prominent stable of solid overnight horses at the Meadowlands in 2020, finishing fourth during the Championship Meet with 21 wins and \$509,277, and second overall in 2020 with 42 wins and \$754,237. His top horses included Ana Afreet N, Harambe Deo, B Stoney, Saying Grace N, Kenziesky Hanover and Roll With Jr.

The Indiana-based trainer sent a division of his stable to the Meadowlands for the first time in 2019, and together with PA owner Thomas Pollack, the pair enjoyed a consistent and successful season at the Meadowlands. The Cullipher stable tied for fifth in The Big M standings with 25 wins and were leading owners for the 2018-19 meet. Cullipher also passed the \$2 million mark for the first time in 2019.

Cullipher and Pollack campaigned solid overnight horses like New Talent, Incredible Shark, Nascar Seelster, Stonedust, Texican, Endeavor, Dubious Claim and All It Takes. Their Wisdom Tree competed in the Golden Girls on Hambletonian Day. Southwind Chrome took a mark of 1:51.2 in her first start for Cullipher.

Raised by a family rich in harness racing tradition, Cullipher quickly made a name for himself as a trainer at Hoosier Park Racing & Casino. The native of Henderson, KY native is no new comer to the sport of harness racing. A driver since 1988 and trainer since 1991, Jeff has over 30 years of harness racing experience to his credit.

In 2013, Cullipher's training career found a new gear as he increased his earnings by over 75% from the previous season. He recorded his best season to date as a trainer in 2015 with 282 pari-mutuel starts and an impressive \$812,599 in purse earnings. Cullipher has accumulated a majority of his training wins racing throughout the Indiana harness racing circuit. After tying with trainer Jamie Macomber for the leading trainer title at Hoosier Park in 2017, Jeff Cullipher took the next step and secured the 2018 leading trainer title outright.

Cullipher hails from a harness racing family as his father, Roger Cullipher, is a veteran of the sport and campaigns a successful stable throughout the Midwest. His brother, Terry Cullipher, is also a competitive driver and trainer on the Indiana circuit.

Cullipher currently resides in Anderson, Indiana with his wife and their two daughters. When he is not racing horses, Cullipher enjoys vacationing and spending time with his family.

# Noel Daley

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$556,304</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$455,401</b>
<b>Meadowlands Career</b>	<b>5,218</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>\$20.702.027</b>

**Birthdate:** 1961-12-18      **Birthplace:** Mt. Isla, Queensland, Australia  
**Residence:** Bordentown, NJ      **Age:** 60



Noel Daley continued his comeback in America in 2021 with Grand Circuit stakes winner Palermo Hanover, a two-year-old Father Patrick filly, who went two-for-two at The Red Mile. Daley also campaigned world champion two-year-old pacer Pebble Beach, Kentucky Championship Series Final winner in 1:48.3, and Breeders Crown runner up Anoka Hanover. Daley passed the \$20 million mark at The Big M and has amassed \$64 million in his career overall, which ranks him sixth all-time.

Daley was all set to launch his first full season in 2020 since returning to the US late in 2019, until the pandemic hit. His stable star was the Dan Patch Award winning Anoka Hanover, a daughter of Donato Hanover, who capped her freshman season with seven straight wins, including the \$252,340 Kindergarten Classic Final in

1:52.3 and \$451,800 Goldsmith Maid in 1:53.2.

Late in 2018, Noel Daley announced he was returning to Australia to become private trainer for Emilio Rosati, who was building a new facility in Sydney. Daley amassed more than 2,500 wins and \$60 million after three decades in the US. His top performer in 2018 was the millionaire pacing mare Caviart Ally, who took a mark of 1:48.3 in her Milton Stakes elimination and won that \$196,350 final in 1:51.2 at Mohawk.

Daley's stable star in 2017 was Caviart Ally. The three-year-old filly pacer by Bettor's Delight won the Jugette in straight heats, the PASS Final and a Bluegrass division. She also finished second in the James Lynch Memorial, Shady Daisy, Glen Garnsey and Breeders Crown. Daley also passed 2,500 career wins and \$60 million.

Daley passed the \$58 million mark in 2016, and the veteran trainer from Australia made a late-season impact at the Meadowlands with overnight horses and some high level two year olds.

After working for the sport's all-time money winner Brett Pelling, Noel Daley established one of the most successful stables at the Meadowlands and beyond.

Daley grew up in Mt. Isa, Australia, where he worked for Qantas Airlines. He began working with horses when he came to the United States and first settled at Los Alamitos racetrack in California. Daley shipped east in 1990 to work as a caretaker in the Brett Pelling Stable. He stayed with Pelling for eight years, working his way up to second trainer. He enjoyed much success as the Pelling stable dominated at the Meadowlands in the 1990s, winning the training title six times. The two trainers parted ways in 1998 and Daley quickly filled a stable with the help of owner and friend Adam Victor and his son, Adam Victor, Jr. He won his first Meadowlands training title in 2003.

Daley won the biggest race of his career in 2011 when Broad Bahn went all the way to capture the \$1.5 million Hambletonian. The son of Broadway Hall earned \$1.5 million and a Dan Patch Award, along with another Daley trainee, Cedar Dove, a Breeders Crown runner up in 2013.

His greatest success stories have been Mr Muscleman (\$3,582,823), a three-time Dan Patch Award winner and the 2005 Trotter of the Year, and two-time Dan Patch Award winning mare My Little Dragon (\$2,318,623).

# Nik Drennan

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	110	18	11	16	\$196,809
<b>Birthdate:</b> 1982-10-09	<b>Birthplace:</b> Burlington, Ontario				
<b>Residence:</b> Allentown, NJ	<b>Age:</b> 39				



Nik Drennan posted his best season in 20 years in 2021 winning 38 races and \$898,959. His top performers included Yacht Seelster, Poseidon Seelster, Gia's Surreal, Robertsin, Patrikthepiranha A, Heavens Showgirl A and Mikala.

Drennan has enjoyed success teaming with veteran driver George Brennan, who explained: "It goes way back to when Nik was a kid working for Tony Montini and I was driving for him then, and then he went on his own and I continued driving for him and did well."

In 2007, Drennan moved to the States from Canada to work for Montini and run his New Jersey operation. A few years later, when Drennan went on his own, Brennan was one of the many drivers he used at The Big M.

"Alexie Mattosie won the 2011 William Haughton Memorial for me 10 years ago, and Brennan drove him for me," said Drennan. "We weren't really close friends back then, but over the years, we've become pretty good friends."

# Per Engblom

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$641,687</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$495,825</b>

**Birthdate:** 1980-02-12      **Birthplace:** Viby, Sweden  
**Residence:** East Windsor, NJ      **Age:** 42

Per Engblom is a successful trainer from Sweden, who has managed massive operations, including several years with Hall of Famer Jimmy Takter. Overall in 2021, Engblom sent out 341 starters, won 65 races and \$1,670,149.

Beads came back as a four-year-old in 2021 to pull a post ten upset in the Hambletonian Maturity and added another \$370,000 to his earnings.

Beads had a quarter million dollar sophomore season in 2020, winning the Muscle Hill in 1:51.2.

Weslynn Quest, driven by Joe Bongirone, set a world record of 1:50.4 in the \$100,000 Tom Aldrich President's Trot at Northfield Park.

Per Engblom started his own stable in 2019 after spending six years as the top assistant to Hall of Fame trainer Jimmy Takter. The Takter Stable won 19 of its record 34 Breeders Crown trophies during that time frame.

In 2019, Engblom won 72 races and \$2.81 million in purses, and in 2020 he won 35 races and \$1.47 million.

Engblom grew up in Mantorp, Sweden, which is also Takter's birthplace. Both men began their careers at the local racetrack, which was started by a group that included Engblom's grandfather, Bengt Engblom. Per Engblom's father, Raoul, also is a trainer.

This is Enblom's second stint in the U.S. He was 19 when he came to the States for the first time. His sister, Pernilla, worked for Takter and the stable needed additional help. Engblom worked as a groom for two years before assisting with training for another three years. He then returned home to Sweden, where he was the private trainer for Stall Tilly, and later worked in Italy before starting his own public stable.

At the beginning of 2012, Engblom and his wife, Helene, decided to move to the U.S. with their then 4-year-old son, Tom, who was ready to start school. Engblom worked for a year with trainer Tony Alagna before returning to the Takter Stable, where Helene joined him.

Engblom made his Breeders Crown debut in 2019 and had five finalists. His best finish came with Synergy in the 2-year-old colt-and-gelding trot. Synergy won his elimination and was fifth in the final. Two-year-old filly trotter Ms Savannah Belle also was an elim winner. She finished seventh in her final.



# Mark Ford

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$72,619</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$47,150</b>
<b>Meadowlands Career</b>	<b>6,717</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>\$14,332,647</b>

**Birthdate:** 1970-10-12      **Birthplace:** Ronceverte, WV  
**Residence:** Campbell Hall, NY      **Age:** 52

In 2021, Mark Ford passed the 4,000-win plateau and \$67 million in earnings, which ranks him fifth all-time. Ford's stable also went past the \$1 million mark for the twentieth season.

Ford completed the 2020 season with 3,946 career wins and went past the \$66 million career earnings mark.

Ford continued to close in on the 4,000-win plateau and passed \$65 million in career earning in 2019.

Ford passed the \$1 million mark for the 19th consecutive season in 2018.

In 2017, Ford maintained his busy schedule as trainer, training center proprietor and President of the SBOA of New Jersey. Ford sent out more than 1,000 starters for the fifteenth consecutive year, had more than 100 wins for the seventeenth straight season and his stable earned more than \$1 million for the eighteenth year in a row. Ford's career totals went past 3,700 wins and \$63 million.

Ford sent out his 6,000th Meadowlands starter in 2016, and also passed 25,000 career starts and 3,600 wins. Ford's stable passed the \$1 million mark for the 17th consecutive season. It was also Ford's first full year as President of the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey.

Ford set career highs of 299 wins and \$5,236,730 in 2010 led by New Jersey Sire Stakes two-year-old filly pacing champion Ace Of Pace. Also that year, Ford became the first trainer to pass \$40 million before the age of 40, and only the sixth trainer to hit that milestone. He has won more than 3,500 races.

Ford owns a 200-horse state-of-the-art training center in upstate New York. A native of West Virginia, Ford passed up an agricultural scholarship in England, and instead traveled to Florida after high school to work with Clint Galbraith. He moved to the New York/ New Jersey area in 1990 and eventually met Ted Wing, who became a big influence on him. He also credits Ray Schnittker with assistance on his road to stardom.

Ford stepped into the national spotlight thanks to the pacing gelding Gallo Blue Chip, the 2000 Horse of the Year, who became the richest pacer in the history of the sport with \$4.26 million in earnings. He is also noted for conditioning millionaires Whosurboy, Turnpike Token, Ambro Animate, Stonebridge Kisses and Self Professed, as well as On The Attack.

Ford was named co-winner (along with Jimmy Takter) of the 2000 Glen Garnsey Trainer of the Year Award by the United States Harness Writers' Association.

One of Ford's first success stories was the purchase of the durable double-gaited Six Day War, for whom he paid just \$12,000. Six Day War earned more than \$400,000 on the pace and nearly \$90,000 on the trot. "There would never have been a Gallo Blue Chip without Six Day War," said Ford, who admitted the horse was responsible for unequivocally changing his life. Ford was just 23 in May of 1994 when he scraped together \$12,000 — virtually every dollar he had — and risked it all to purchase Six Day War, a double-gaited son of Nihilator out of Pampered Lady. "I'm not going to say we weren't going to eat the next day, but we were going to have to decide what we were going to eat," Ford said, adding that Six Day War was the horse that determined whether he would continue to have a career in harness racing or be forced to find a different line of work. "It was either stay or not stay. We got him straightened out and he was, in reality, nothing more than a 20 claimer, but he put a lot of money on the table at the right time for a 22- or 23-year-old guy just getting started," Ford said.



# Mark Harder

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	68	4	11	8	\$215,115
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	58	6	8	9	\$285,684
Meadowlands Career	3,891	556	511	470	\$7,405,777
<b>Birthdate:</b> 1961-11-12		<b>Birthplace:</b> Wellington, New Zealand			
<b>Residence:</b> Freehold, NJ		<b>Age:</b> 61			



In 2021, Mark Harder passed the \$1 million mark for the 21st consecutive season and also vaulted over \$48 million, which ranks him 17th all-time. Two of his top performers at the Meadowlands were Governor's Cup finalist PJ Lou and Breeders Crown finalist Southwind Petyr.

Harder completed 2020 with 2,103 career wins and hit the \$47 million mark in career earnings. Harder pulled a "Holborn Hanover" when Zenith Stride shocked the \$319,000 Peter Haughton Memorial at 85-1 in 1:55.

Harder passed 2,000 career wins and the \$45 million mark in 2019.

Harder enjoyed his best season since 2012 with more than 100 wins and \$2 million. Harder was closing in on 2,000 career wins and passed \$44 million. He pulled a \$65.40 upset with Lily Stride, beating Atlanta in the Breeders Crown 3 Year Old Filly Trot and finished fourth in the Mare Pace with Blue Moon Stride.

In 2017, Harder kept his personal streak alive when his stable passed the \$1 million mark for the 17th straight year. His stable star Blue Moon Stride set a Milton Stakes record of 1:48.4 at Mohawk. The four-year-old daughter of Rocknroll Hanover pushed her career bankroll just shy of \$1 million.

2016 was the 16th consecutive year the Mark Harder Stable earned over \$1 million, and the Harder highlight reel was led by the lucrative exploits of multiple stakes winning pacing filly Blue Moon Stride. The three-year-old daughter of Rocknroll Hanover piled up major victories in the \$100,000 New Jersey Sires Stakes Final, the \$157,400 Mistletoe Shalee, the \$85,000 Thomas D'Altrui and a \$73,000 division of the Bluegrass. Harder also passed 1,800 career wins and \$40 million 2016.

Harder regained the spotlight at the Meadowlands in 2015 winning a \$100,000 New Jersey Sires Stakes Final with the freshman pacing filly Blue Moon Stride. Overall, Harder's stable earned more than \$1 million for the 15th consecutive season, and Harder passed 1,700 career wins and \$39 million.

Harder came out flying in 2013 when his top free for all pacer Golden Receiver made it back-to-back Presidential Series sweeps and January Horse of the Month honors. The eight-year-old double millionaire also won a TVG FFA event in 1:49.1 and was the series points leader going into the final. Harder finished fourth in the Big M trainer standings with 24 wins, and took won the Charles Singer Memorial with Real Babe.

Harder apprenticed with some of New Zealand's top horsemen, and in the late 1980s was asked to travel to Chicago with a group of horses to be sold. Harder traveled back and forth to the US on a regular basis for several years before giving Los Angeles a try. Upon the recommendation of Ross Croghan, whom he knew in California, Harder went to work for Bob Murphy's large contingent in British Columbia for three years. Problems with his work visa forced Harder to return to the US, and he went to work for Croghan's powerful stable in New Jersey.

Harder went out on his own in 2000, and with the backing owners such as Brian Nixon and Aubrey Friedman, his stable quickly swelled. Harder ascended to the top of the training ranks in 2004, winning his first Big M title during the January-August meet. That year, he posted personal highs of 281 wins and \$6,855,875, and pulled off the biggest upset in the history of the \$1 million Meadowlands Pace with Holborn Hanover, paying \$119.00.

# Rob Harmon

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	25	2	4	5	\$29,211
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	55	0	5	2	\$29,291
Oct. 2018 – Aug. 2019	230	25	31	24	\$327,320

**Birthdate:** 1969-09-04      **Birthplace:** Albany, NY  
**Residence:** Mahwah, NJ      **Age:** 52

Rob Harmon made fewer appearances at the Meadowlands in 2021, yet the Harmon stable earned more than \$1 million for the 13th season and won more than 100 races for the 16th year. Harmon was also active in the GSY Amateur Driver Series.

The husband and wife team of Rob and Patti Harmon tied for fifth during the 2018-19 meet at the Meadowlands with 25 wins.

Team Harmon made it back-to-back third-place finishes in the Meadowlands trainer standings with 26 wins during the 2017-18 meet. Their top Big M performers included Jacksluckytoo and Montalbano Bi. They were also third in the Tioga Downs trainer standings.

Team Harmon ranked third in the Meadowlands trainer standings with 34 wins during the October, 2016 – August, 2017 meet. The Harmon Stable has averaged more than a .330 percentage in the last four seasons. Their standouts include Jacksluckytoo and Montalbano Bi.

Team Harmon finished fourth in the Big M trainer standings with 28 wins during the November, 2015 – August, 2016 meet.

The native of Albany, NY, who now resides in Mahwah, NJ, was a two-time Trainer of the Year at Hazel Park and leading dash winner at Windsor Raceway. Harmon claims learning the craft of shoeing from his father and how to tinker with older horses have been major assets to running a consistent operation.

Harmon sold his farm in Michigan a few years ago and relocated to race at east coast tracks. Harmon was selected to go to college and play baseball in Michigan, but dislocated his shoulder in a stable accident. He then decided to help train horses with his father, Reid, and also learned from Michigan horsemen Gord Norris and Keith Crawford.

In 2014, Harmon traveled to Brazil with Mark Ford and Brandon Simpson to experience that country's harness racing and mentor their horsemen.

The Harmon's son, Tyler, is a talented young goaltender, who was named the Bergen Record's High School Player of the Year following a 1-0 shutout, while leading the Ramsey Rams to the Public B State Final Ice Hockey Championship in 2016. While playing for the New Jersey Hitmen of the US Premier Hockey League, Tyler accepted a scholarship to play at the University of Vermont.

Rob Harmon enjoys playing recreational ice hockey for the Ramsey Rhinos in Hackensack, NJ.



# Andrew Harris

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$331,115</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>\$506,472</b>
<b>Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>\$408,918</b>

**Birthdate:** 1984-12-07      **Birthplace:** Hamilton, Ontario  
**Residence:** East Windsor, NJ      **Age:** 37



Andrew Harris scaled back his activity at the Meadowlands in 2021, yet overall his stable won 100 races and \$1,891,861. Some of his noteworthy Big M performers were Deltasun A, Pappy Go Go, Lovely Donna and San Domino A.

Harris sent out None Bettor A, who won the Quillen Memorial at Harrington in 1:49.4 on September 20, and the next day guided the Somebeachsomewhere mare Silver Tail from out of the clouds at Pocono Downs to post his first driving success in 12 years.

Harris captured his first Meadowlands training title during the Fall Meet of 2019 with 18 wins and \$288,361. Then, Harris finished third during the 2020 Championship Meet with 24 wins and \$394,377, and in the Big M's Top Five overall in 2020 with 32 wins and 506,472. His top horses included Tricky Sister, None Bettor A, San Domino A and Elysium Lindy. The Harris Stable sent out 151 winners and banked \$2.4 million in 2020. It was the fourth straight season Harris passed the \$2 million mark.

The Andrew Harris Stable passed the \$2 million mark for the third straight year in 2019. Harris campaigned Open pacer and 1:49.3 performer Trump Nation at The Big M, and Solsbury Hill won a James Doherty Memorial elimination in 1:55.3.

In 2018, Harris flew past 100 wins and the \$2 million mark for the second consecutive season. His top performers included Perfect Summer K and Cruising In Style. He also

handled the US training duties for sophomore stakes star Jimmy Freight and Hambletonian elimination starter Lawmaker.

Harris has blossomed into one of harness racing's bright young stars. Fresh off his first \$1 season in 2016, Harris posted a career best \$3 million campaign in 2017, then passed the \$2 million mark and over 100 wins again in 2018.

In 2018, Harris housed and handled Lawmaker when racing stateside. Harris, a former assistant to star Canadian trainer Casie Coleman, made his second appearance in the Hambletonian, finishing fourth in 2016 with Waitlifter K (to Marion Marauder). Harris followed his father, Jack, and grandfather, Ron, into the sport.

Harris saw himself on the biggest stage in 2016 when he sent the three-year-old trotter Waitlifter K postward in the Hambletonian. It was an unexpected position to be in, but Harris acquitted himself rather well at the highest level. "He just turned out to be fourth or fifth best. He wasn't as good as Marion Marauder, Bar Hopping or Southwind Frank," said Harris of the colt who went back with trainer Rich Gillock.

Harris had a breakout year in 2016 that saw his stable earn above \$1.5 million, the first time he exceeded the seven-figure mark and more than double any of his previous yearly earnings. With 91 winners, Harris surpassed his win output from both 2014-15 combined.

Based at White Birch Farm, Harris has committed to a strong racehorse stable, but also has aspirations of hitting a home run with the youngsters. His understanding of the dynamics of a racehorse stable combined with his ability to focus in on quality young horses and bring out the best, are sure signs he has attracted stakes caliber horses.

The wife of trainer Andrew Harris, Amanda was diagnosed with breast cancer in March 2015. After 12 rounds of chemotherapy doctors reported her tumor had shrunk significantly, and a fundraising effort was launched. Trainer Casie Coleman spearheaded a fundraising effort to help Amanda, Andrew and their two daughters with the cost of the treatments. The harness racing industry responded with an outpouring of generosity and a GoFundMe account was set up. Sadly, Amanda passed away on February 15, 2020 at age 34.

# Kelvin Harrison

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	213	26	20	19	\$313,433
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	162	18	26	17	\$221,902

**Birthdate:** 1950-03-22      **Birthplace:** Metheun, New Zealand  
**Residence:** Bordentown, NJ      **Age:** 72



Kelvin Harrison is not only a pioneer in importing horses to America, he's been a Meadowlands mainstay since the early years of the track's existence. Harrison continued to be a regular presence at The Big M in 2021, and overall won 60 races and \$616,953.

Harrison has had a long and successful career. He has also been a member of the Standardbred Breeders & Owners Association of New Jersey's Board of Directors. He campaigned 2015 Meadowlands Pace finalist In The Arsenal, who went on to earn \$1 million, and Harrison reflected on his career at the time. "This is my 50th year in the business," said Harrison, a Bordentown, N.J., resident known by his friends as Big Red. "I got out of school when I was 15 years old, and I am now 65. Fifty years I've been doing this," he repeated. "If I could win the Meadowlands Pace 50 years down the line, it

would be amazing. Training horses is not work for me. It's not a job; it's a life. You are all in, or you're not in at all. It's a full commitment."

For many years, Harrison campaigned 30-horse stables, racing at the tracks in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. In 1989, he won the premier Meadowlands race for two-year-old pacers, the Woodrow Wilson Pace, with Sam Francisco Ben. A mare he trained, Frightening P, became the first female to break the 1:49 barrier with a 1:48.4 clocking at the Meadowlands. His stable star in 1992 was Direct Flight, who competed in the Meadowlands Pace, the showcase event for three-year-old pacers, and finished third. In The Arsenal marked his return to the Meadowlands Pace for the first time in 23 years. Harrison was also renowned for campaigning North American pacer Dare You To at the 1991 Interdominions in Auckland, Zealand.

Harrison, who was born in New Zealand and came to the United States in 1972, has had a long and successful career. He won the Meadowlands' top race for 2-year-old pacers, the Woodrow Wilson Pace, with Sam Francisco Ben in 1989. A mare he trained, Frightening P, became the first female to break the 1:49 barrier at the Meadowlands.

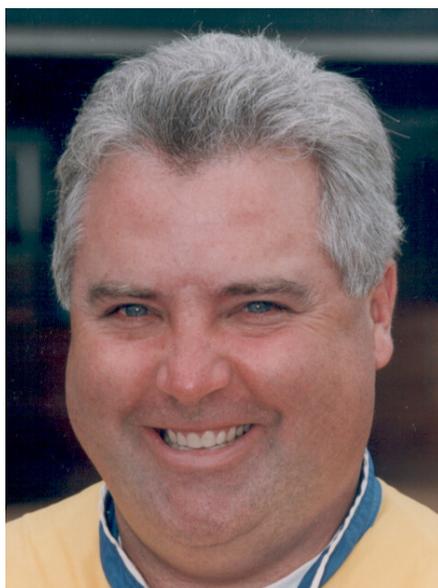
Winning big Stakes races is not foreign to Harrison. Since his arrival in the United States in 1992 Harrison has trained over 1,100 winners and has earnings of \$15 million.

Harrison was also renowned for campaigning North American pacer Dare You To at the 1991 Interdominions in Auckland. The Abercrombie stallion won the 6th Pacers heat in a then New Zealand record time of 2:02.6 for the 1,700-meter race with a mobile start.

# Joe Holloway

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	52	12	8	5	\$986,683
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	10	2	1	0	\$17,940
Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019	47	7	7	4	\$276,647

**Birthdate:** 1956-09-17      **Birthplace:** Wilmington, DE  
**Residence:** Freehold, NJ      **Age:** 66



In 2021, Joe Holloway enjoyed another vintage season in the big spotlight, spearheaded by back-to-back Dan Patch Award winning pacer Perfect Sting. That three-year-old led the entire sport in earnings with \$1,273,847 and won his second straight Breeders Crown. Holloway also campaigned Grand Circuit winning two-year-old pacer Early Action, who capped his freshman season winning the Governor's Cup in 1:50. Holloway was voted the 2021 William R. Haughton Good Guy Award.

Holloway has been blessed with several great horses in his Hall of Fame career, and his latest is the Dan Patch Award winning pacer Perfect Sting. The son of Always B Miki, out of Holloway's world champion Shebestingin, lived up to his name with a perfect ten-for-ten freshman season in 2020. Perfect Sting swept the Kentucky Sires Stakes Series, took a mark of 1:49.4 at The Red Mile and was involved in the first ever Breeders Crown deadheat for win in 1:50.2.

Holloway reached a well-deserved pinnacle in 2019 when he was inducted into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame. Holloway also passed 1,000 career wins and \$33 million.

Holloway was back in the major stakes spotlight in 2017 with a pair of prolific two-year-old pacers. Rainbow Room, a regally-bred daughter of Somebeachsomewhere and Rainbow Blue, didn't miss the board in 12 starts, banked \$467,880, won the Pennsylvania Sires Stakes Champion and took a mark of 1:51.2 at

Pocono Downs. Closing Statement, a Somebeachsomewhere colt, was a Grand Circuit stakes winner, earning \$286,281 and won the \$125,000 Elevation in 1:50.4 at Hoosier Park.

In 2016, Holloway unveiled a late-blooming freshman pacer named Air Strike, who finished first in a 1:52.1 deadheat in the \$147,200 Kindergarten Classic Final at the Meadowlands. Holloway's dynamic duo of pacing mares Divine Caroline and Bettor Be Steppin vaulted past a combined \$1.6 million.

Holloway was back under the major stakes spotlight in 2015 with a solid one-two punch of Dan Patch Award winner Divine Caroline and Bettor Be Steppin. The pair of three-year-old filly pacers emerged as stars in New York Sires Stakes and stepped up to the Grand Circuit level. Bettor Be Steppin rallied to a 16-1 upset in the \$300,000 James Lynch Final and also won the \$350,000 Valley Forge at Pocono Downs.

Holloway continued to ride a wave of resurgence following the first \$2 million season of his career in 2014, and passed the \$30 million mark in 2015.

Holloway finished second in the 2014 Meadowlands Pace with Always B Miki. He also campaigned Somwherovrainbow, who won the \$371,400 Blue Chip Matchmaker Final at Yonkers Raceway, and Shebestingin, the fastest female in history by virtue of a 1:47 clocking at The Red Mile at age three in 2013.

Holloway teamed up with David Rovine to dominate the Meadowlands in the eighties and set a record for wins in a single meet in 1987 with 106.

In the mid-nineties, Holloway campaigned the three-time Dan Patch Award winner and legendary pacer Jenna's Beach Boy. His other top horses include She's A Great Lady, Tooter Scooter, Florida Jewel, Lady Macbeach and Always A Virgin. He pulled an upset in the 2010 Hambletonian Oaks with Bar Slide.

# Marcus Melander

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>\$1,685,046</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec 2020</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$1,245,152</b>
<b>Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$1,299,861</b>

**Birthdate:** 1992-01-07      **Birthplace:** Stockholm, Sweden  
**Residence:** New Egypt, NJ      **Age:** 30



Marcus Melander's rising star was shining bright in 2021 with Breeders Crown champion and Goldsmith Maid winner Joviality S and Hambletonian Oaks runner up Iteration. Overall in 2021, Melander won 71 races and \$3,784,017. His other prominent performers were Sonofamistry, In Range, Dancinginthedark M, Temporal Hanover and Hypnotic AM.

Melander continued to enhance his rising prominence as one of the sport's top trotting trainers in 2020. On Meadowlands Pace Night, his 2020 Trotter of the Year Gimpanzee overcame post 13 to win the \$464,900 Hambletonian Maturity. He finished second in a \$142,250 division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial with Hollywood Story. On Hambletonian Day, Gimpanzee won the \$291,350 John Cashman Memorial in a stakes record equaling 1:50, he also finished third in the \$350,300 Jim Doherty Memorial with Ineffable, second in the \$319,000 Peter Haughton Memorial with Moonstone S, and second from post 12 in the \$600,000 Hambletonian Oaks with Hypnotic AM. From three longshots in the \$1 million Hambletonian, he took home a fifth-place check with Hollywood Story. Melander was second in a \$600,000 Breeders Crown with 2021 Hambletonian prospect In Range. Gimpanzee won his third straight Breeders Crown in that \$500,000 Final in 1:51.3.

Melander was the youngest at age 27 to be named Trainer of the Year in 2019, the same year Greenshoe and Gimpanzee both won a million dollars and Green Manalishi S also became a millionaire. Greenshoe also gave Melander back-to-back Trotters of the Year.

Melander quickly emerged as an elite trainer of trotters and made headlines with his "Big 3" of sophomore trotters Greenshoe, Gimpanzee and Green Manalishi S. Greenshoe was rated number one on the Road to the 2019 Hambletonian. That son of Father Patrick won his second straight New Jersey Sires Stakes Final in 1:50.2 and division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial in 1:50.1. After dominating his Hambletonian elimination in 1:50.2, Greenshoe finished second in the \$1 million final. Gimpanzee won his first 12 career starts before finishing fourth in his Hambo elimination and third in the \$1 million final. Green Manalishi S won his Hambo elimination in 1:50.3 and finished fifth in the \$1 million final.

Melander made his Hambletonian debut in 2017 with elimination winner Enterprise, who finished fourth-placed-third in the \$1 million final. In 2018, Melander-trained Evaluate finished fourth in his elimination and fifth in that final.

Melander received the 2018 Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association.

Gimpanzee won a Dan Patch Award for the best two-year-old male trotter going nine-for-nine. Melander also won the \$1 million Yonkers International Trot with Cruzado Dela Noche and the Maple Leaf Trot with Crazy Wow.

Melander came to the U.S. less than five years ago and worked for Jimmy Takter before starting his own stable in 2014. He is based in New Egypt, NJ at the farm that was home previously to the legendary Stanley Dancer. Growing up in Sweden, Melander stayed up all hours of the night following results of U.S. harness racing. His uncle, Stefan Melander, won the 2001 Hambletonian as a trainer and driver with Scarlet Knight.

# Julie Miller

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	99	19	8	17	\$407,078
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	81	9	12	19	\$329,963
Meadowlands Career	2,227	408	376	315	\$11,040,052

**Birthdate:** 1972-11-20      **Birthplace:** Iowa City, IA  
**Residence:** Millstone Twp, NJ      **Age:** 49

Julie Miller, along with her husband Andy and son Tyler, continued to guide a path of success for Team Orange Crush in 2021. Their Big M winners included Maple Leaf Trot upsetter Lindy The Great, Hambletonian finalist Venerate, Priceless, Get Legs and San Cristobal. Overall in 2021, Miller won 125 races and \$2,911,699 with a UTRS percentage of .369.

Miller enhanced her status as an elite trotting trainer in 2020 with stars like Venerate, Love A Good Story, Lindy The Great and Hambletonian Finalist Big Oil. Miller to staged a 27-1 upset in the \$255,000 Kentucky Filly Futurity with New York Sires Stake star Love A Good Story in 1:51.2. She finished second in the \$291,350 John Cashman Memorial with Lindy The Great. Her biggest win came in the Mohawk Million with Venerate, who rallied from post ten in 1:53.2 for catch-driver Andrew McCarthy. That colt by Love You is now one of the Winterbook favorites for the 2021 Hambletonian. Miller had 79 wins and won \$3,309,462 in 2020. She finished the season with 2,010 career wins and \$45,636,256.



Team Orange Crush, the husband and wife stable of Andy and Julie Miller maintained their Top Ten presence at the Meadowlands during the 2018-19 meet with 20 wins. Julie Miller also passed the \$40 million career mark, with over \$10 million coming at The Big M. Eurobond won his first three starts under Team Orange Crush, including a 1:50.1 world record. Hayden Hanover took a mark of 1:47.3 on Pace Night. Summit In Sight was a Pennsylvania Sires Stakes winner in 1:53, and PA Allstars winner Word Of Honor was a James Doherty Memorial finalist.

Miller finished sixth in the Meadowlands trainer standings during the 2017-18 meet with 18 wins. Team Orange Crush reached career highs of 150 wins and \$4.6 million. The Millers finished a hard-charging second in the \$1 million Hambletonian with Met's Hall, who was also second in the Canadian Trotting Classic and Breeders Crown. The son of Cantab Hall capped a \$1 million season in 2018 with a wire-to-wire victory in the \$256,000 Carl Erskine at Hoosier Park and took a mark of 1:51.2 in the Bluegrass at The Red Mile.

Miller maintained her Top 10 presence at the Meadowlands during the 2016-17 meet, posted a career best \$4,679,554 million season with 138 wins, and continued to build a strong reputation with trotters. Julie and her husband Andy Miller had a pair of three-year-olds well on the road to the 2017 Hambletonian, Fly On and Devious Man, and the latter finished third, placed second in the \$1 million final. On the filly side, Overdraft Volo won a division of the Del Miller Memorial in 1:52.2.

In 2016, the Julie Miller Stable continued to build its strong reputation as a top trotting producer, advancing Milligan's School and Sutton to the \$1 million Hambletonian Final. With her husband Andy Miller driving, the Julie Miller-tuned Sutton finished a fast-closing third, and the Donato Hanover colt was beaten only a neck. "Team Orange Crush" also had success with a pair of sophomore filly trotters as Southwind Hope won a \$100,000 New Jersey Sires Stakes Final and Women's Will captured a \$95,250 division of the Del Miller Memorial in a deadheat. Julie Miller passed 1,500 career wins and \$30 million 2016.

Although she has a bachelor's degree in science, Julie Miller's first love has always been harness racing. Miller grew up in Iowa, where she spent many summers assisting her father, Owen Julius, at the county fairs. Miller attained her training license when she was 18 and won her first race at Quad City Downs in 1993. She began her career as a trainer-driver, and after graduating from Southern Illinois University in 1995, she married top catch driver Andy Miller.

Miller's top trainee was Lucky Jim, who won 17 of 18 races and \$1 million on his way to 2009 Older Trotting Horse of the Year. Lucky Jim trotted a world record of 1:50.1 in the Nat Ray at the Meadowlands and went on to also win the Breeders Crown.

# Richard “Nifty” Norman

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	280	54	46	29	\$2,500,045
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	178	26	34	28	\$1,161,051
Oct. 2018 – Aug. 2019	123	22	18	16	\$1,007,170

**Birthdate:** 1960-10-21      **Birthplace:** New Zealand  
**Residence:** Allentown, NJ      **Age:** 61



Richard “Nifty” Norman enjoyed a career best season in 2021 and was voted the Glen Gamsey Trainer of the Year. Norman campaigned Dan Patch Award winners Bella Bellini and Venerable, and both fillies had \$1 million seasons. Bella Bellini gave Norman his third Hambletonian Oaks and Venerable beat the boys in the Mohawk Million. Norman also had two half million dollar winning fillies in Fire Start Hanover and Grace Hill, along with Bluegrass winner Lilbitalexis and Matron winner Joyride Hanover. He won 15 races of \$100,000 or more, pushing him past the \$6 million mark for the first time, won a career high 141 races and posted a .346 UTRS percentage. Norman had 54 wins at the Meadowlands in 2021, third highest in the trainer standings and also ranked third in Big M earnings with \$2,500,045.

Nifty continued in his usual solid role in the Top Ten at the Meadowlands in 2020 with 26 wins and \$1,161,051. Norman enjoyed a career best \$4,456,767 season overall, topping 1,000 career wins and the \$40 million mark. His top horses included Dan Patch Award winning trotter Amigo Volo. Norman won a pair of Breeders Crowns with Fire Start Hanover and Amigo Volo, who was the second leading money winning trotter of 2020 with \$939,498. Fire Start Hanover also won a \$151,030 Kindergarten Classic Final in 1:50.4, and Bee Forever rallied to a 1:54 upset in the \$398,650 Valley Victory.

Norman was a Top Ten trainer at the Meadowlands during the 2018-19 meet with 22 wins and hit the \$1 million mark at the Big M. Norman’s star trotter was New Jersey Sires Stakes champion Evident Beauty, who also won a Del Miller Memorial division in 1:52.3. Reign Of Honor finished second to standout Greenshoe in his NJSS Final. Norman’s stable hit \$2 million for the ninth season in a row.

In 2018, Norman continued to concentrate on developing young stakes stars in 2018. Norman pulled a 15-1 upset in the \$435,900 Valley Victory with Southwind Avenger. He also won the Kindergarten Classic Final with Reign Of Honor, and campaigned Grand Circuit stakes winning filly Evident Beauty, and Pennsylvania Sires Stakes winning trotters Piranha Fury, Live Laugh Love and Lindy’s Big Bang. Norman passed the \$2 million mark for the eighth season of his career.

2017 was a busy year on the stakes trail for Norman, who sent out a slew of promising two year olds, including Kindergarten Classic champion Point’s North and Three Diamonds runner up Reign On Me. His top three-year-olds were led by Magic Presto, second in the Hambletonian Oaks, 1:51.2 trotting filly Glitzy Gal and Inverse Hanover. Norman passed 1,000 career wins and posted his best season in four years with \$2,361,000.

Norman kicked off 2016 with a big win in the \$150,000 Mack Lobell Elitlopp Playoff when his prized trotting mare Bee A Magician finished second and was placed first through a disqualification. Unfortunately, the six-year-old daughter of Kadabra spent most of the season sidelined with an injury, but made a successful comeback and vaulted past \$4 million with a second in her fifth Breeders Crown appearance.

Norman engineered a bounce-back season for his triple millionaire trotting queen Bee A Magician, who had won eight of nine starts in 2015 before her second place finish in the \$181,450 Fresh Yankee on Hambletonian Day. The five-year-old mare by Kadabra helped send Norman past the \$1 million mark for the tenth straight year.

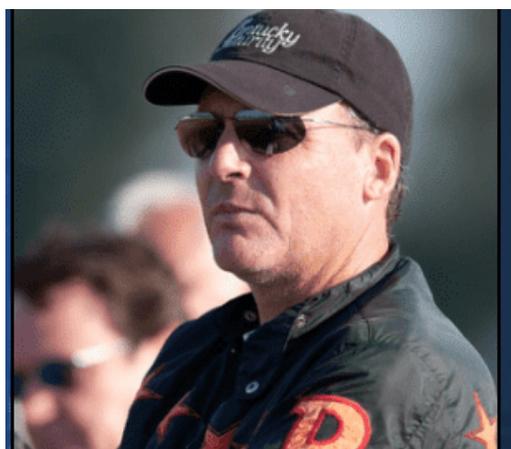
Norman is a native of New Zealand. His father had thoroughbreds, yet when he came to the US in 1985 he began working with harness racing horses and trainer Ross Croghan in California.

Norman spent nearly two decades as an assistant with seven-time Big M leading trainer Brett Pelling before striking out on his own in 2006. His stable vaulted past \$3 million for the first time in 2012.

# Brett Pelling

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	111	40	21	12	\$1,969,062
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	67	18	9	11	\$662,150
Meadowlands Career	6,858	1,389	1,005	837	\$33,338,866

**Birthdate:** 1958-07-17      **Birthplace:** Auckland, New Zealand  
**Residence:** Creamridge, NJ      **Age:** 63



Brett Pelling enjoyed another stellar season in 2021, producing his second Horse of the Year Test Of Faith and another Dan Patch Award winner Allywag Hanover. Test Of Faith, a three-year-old Art Major filly, fashioned a 16 – 14-2-0 record in a million dollar season. The 1:48.3 performer won the Matron, Breeders Crown, Courageous Lady, Glen Garnsey, Bluegrass, New York Sires Stakes Final and Empire Breeders Classic. Allywag Hanover, a four-year-old Captaintreacherous gelding, was voted the sport's top older pacer, winning the TVG Final, Allerage Farms, Mohawk Gold Cup, Canadian Pacing Derby, and divisions of the Sam McKee Memorial and William Haughton Memorial. He paced a world record of 1:47.2 at Pocono Downs and took a mark of 1:46.4 at The Red Mile. Allywag Hanover equaled a tracked record for four-year-old pacing geldings of 1:47.1. His other top performers were When Dovescry, Hammering Hank, Treacherous Dragon, Komodo Beach and Hail Christian N. From 330 starts, Pelling won 105 races and \$4,463,632, and had sparkling .461 UTRS percentage. His UTRS at the Meadowlands was a staggering .502. Overall, he

passed the \$60 million mark, which ranks him ninth all-time.

Pelling continued his American comeback in 2020, and finished the season with 1,646 career wins and \$56,475,798 in career earnings. Pelling finished second and third in the \$636,650 Meadowlands Pace with Papi Rob Hanover and Allywag Hanover. Papi Rob Hanover went on to win an Adios elimination in a world record of 1:47.1 before being forced to retire due to injury. His other top horses included Dr. John R. Steele Memorial winner When Dovescry, Caviart Ally, 1:48.1 performer Springsteen and Shakespeare. Pelling passed the \$31 million mark at the Big M, ranking him third among the track's all time leading trainers.

At the end of 2005, Pelling retired as the all-time leading money-winner at the Meadowlands and in the entire sport. Pelling relocated his family to Perth, Australia where his wife Joanne's family resides. He still stands second to Ray Remmen in wins.

In 2019, Pelling enjoyed his best season since returning to America, led by the prolific Open class pacing mare Caviart Ally, who won the Rainbow Blue Final in 1:48. Caviart Ally was also second in both the Golden girls and Lady Liberty. Pelling passed the \$2 million mark in 2019 and \$54 million in his illustrious career.

Caviart Ally upset division standout and arch-rival Shartin N in three straight late-season stakes, the Allerage Farms, Breeders Crown and TVG Mares Pace. Pelling's two-year-old pacing star Papi Rob Hanover was Pennsylvania Sires Stakes Champion and capped his freshman season winning the Matron Final and Governor's Cup. He was also a close second in the Metro Final and first, placed second in the Breeders Crown. The son of Somebeachsomewhere banked \$754,774, while Caviart Ally earned \$672,215 in 2019.

Pelling held the record for seven Meadowlands training titles, also the single season record of 122 wins set in 1991 and repeated in 1998. Pelling has trained a long list of award winning champions including Mystical Maddy, Western Ideal, Ambro Romance, Pizza Dolce, Lyell Creek N, Like A Prayer, I Am A Fool and Timesareachanging. In 2005, the legendary Rocknroll Hanover earned a record \$2.2 million, one of four Meadowlands Pace winners Pelling has trained.

# Chris Ryder

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$809,523</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$574,444</b>
<b>Oct. 2018 – Aug. 2019</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>\$586,817</b>

**Birthdate:** 1955-10-2      **Birthplace:** New Zealand  
**Residence:** Allentown, NJ      **Age:** 66



Chris Ryder enjoyed another solid season in 2021 winning 59 races and \$2,381,307 overall. His pride and joy was Dan Patch Award winning filly pacer Niki Hill. That two-year-old daughter of Always B Miki won nine of ten starts, including a Breeders Crown, She's A Great Lady, Three Diamonds and Kindergarten Classic Final. Ryder ranks in the Top 25 all-time with \$46 million. Also in 2021, Ryder campaigned New York Sires Stakes champion I'll Drink to That and Yonkers Open star pacer Tattoo Artist.

Ryder continued to polish his image as one of the sport's elite trainers in 2020. His Dan Patch Award winner Bettor's Wish won the \$229,660 Sam McKee Memorial in 1:47.3. Ryder's amazing 1:47.2 performer and Dan Patch Award winner Party Girl Hill won her first 14 career starts before finishing third in a \$500,000 Breeders Crown. Bettor's Wish capped his \$2,601,233 career with a 1:48.1 romp in the \$340,000 TVG Open Final. Ryder finished 2020 with 68 wins and \$2,704,026, and with 1,594 career wins and \$43,753,965.

Ryder's star in 2019 was the sophomore pacer Bettor's Wish, who romped in the Art Rooney at Yonkers Raceway in 1:51.4, and finished second in the North America Cup, Meadowlands Pace, Cane Pace and Messenger Stakes enroute to a \$1 million season. That consistent son of Bettor's Delight also went wire-to-wire in the Carl Milstein Memorial at Northfield Park in 1:50.3. In 2019, Ryder's stable passed \$2 million for the first time since 2013 and the \$40 million career mark.

Ryder's big gun in 2018 was sophomore pacer This Is The Plan, who capped a near half million season with major wins in the Matron Stake and Progress Pace at Dover Downs. The son of Somebeachsomewhere took a mark of 1:49.1 in a deadheat Matron Stake victory. Ryder's stable earnings passed the \$1 million mark for the 19th season.

Ryder's top gun in 2017 was multiple stakes winner and Mistletoe Shalee champion Agent Q, who equaled a Meadowlands track record of 1:48.4. Ryder has more than 1,400 career wins and \$37 million.

In 2016, Chris Ryder's stable earned more than \$1 million for the 17<sup>th</sup> year, and campaigned stakes performers Kissmeonthebeach, That's The Ticket, JJ Flynn and Pointtomygranson. In 2015, most of Ryder's power came from New Jersey Sires Stakes champion The Show Returns, a sister to Ryder's former stand-out Put On A Show, and New York Sires Stakes star National Seelster. Those two three-year-old pacers sent Ryder past the \$1 million mark for the 16th season.

Ryder has played at the top end of the game for many years, producing champions like Sealed n Delivered, Cathedra Dot Com, McArdle, two-time Breeders Crown champion Mystical Sunshine and 2010 Crown winner Put On A Show, who set a world record of 1:47.3 and banked \$2.4 million.

The New Zealand native arrived in the US in 1989 when his wife Nicola was transferred to a Manhattan accounting firm. Ryder worked as an agent Down Under and also when he first came to America. Ryder gained a reputation as a gifted developer of young talent. He first gained national attention with 1997 Two Year Old Colt Pacer of the Year Sealed N Delivered.

# Bruce Saunders

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>\$211,896</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$347,916</b>
<b>Meadowlands Career</b>	<b>6,698</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>\$18,843,794</b>

**Birthdate:** 1944-06-30      **Birthplace:** Neptune, NJ  
**Residence:** Hamilton, NJ      **Age:** 77

Bruce Saunders remained quite active in his 31st season at the Meadowlands in 2021, and overall, Saunders won 34 races and \$574,092. His top performers included Rockin The Aces, Decision Day, So Irresistable, Dee's Red Delicious, Betalady, Thundra and Walknafter Midnite. Going into 2022, Saunders career earnings stood at \$32.8 million.

Saunders completed his 30th season in 2020 finishing sixth during the Fall Meet with 10 wins and \$230,215. Saunders finished fourth in the \$636,650 Meadowlands Pace with Manticore. He won a \$207,570 Kindergarten Classic Final with Dee's Red Delicious in 1:54.3.

Saunders competed in his 29th season in 2019, has won more than 1,300 races and \$31 million, and his stable earned more than \$1 million for 14 straight seasons from 2000 to 2013.

In 2018, Saunders enjoyed his best season since 2013 with over 40 wins and more than \$900,000.

In 2017, Saunders garnered a place under a major spotlight with Meadowlands Pace finalist Talent Soup, a son of American Ideal who took a mark of 1:48.4 at the Big M.

Saunders remained quite active in 2016, spanning the spectrum from seasoned trotter Sweet Justice to Kindergarten Series competitors Sky Fulla Star and Rock N Blue, and New York Sires Stakes player Lady Of Heaven.

Saunders jumped back into the limelight in late 2013 and early 2014 with his \$25,000 bargain purchase named Sweet Justice. The son of Justice Hall won his first five starts for Saunders, including a 1:52 track record for three-year-old trotting geldings and a FFA Handicap in 1:51.1.

Saunders has enjoyed a long, successful career, and he struck gold with his best horse to date, 2010 Horse of the Year Rock N Roll Heaven, who finished second in the Meadowlands Pace, and went on to win the Little Brown Jug and Breeders Crown. The Rocknroll Hanover colt won 16 of 21 starts and \$2,156,192 in his award-winning season, and took a mark of 1:47.3 in a Meadowlands Pace elimination. The pacer propelled Saunders to a personal best \$4,118,950 campaign.

Saunders ranks among the Big M's all-time leading trainers. Saunders did not follow the typical path to a career training horses. Raised in Farmingdale, New Jersey, Saunders spent two years in the army, including a year in Vietnam (1969). He became a stockbroker and from 1972 to 1976 was the Director of Economics for the State of Delaware. For one day, he was even the acting Governor of the State. Saunders earned a masters degree in finance from Temple University in 1980.

A licensed trainer since 1979, he campaigned two different Delaware Valley Horses of the Year early in his career: Perky Fiddler and Chipper Frost.

Saunders has handled many other top pacers, including Misfit, Casimir Camotion, Mandretti, Indiana Sam, Master Barney, Die Lute, Armbro View and On The Way Again.

A class act who always says the right thing at the right time to further a positive image of the sport, Saunders has received numerous accolades, including Grand Circuit Trainer of the Year and the W.R. Haughton Good Guy Award from the United States Harness Writers. He was the keynote speaker at the 2012 USTA Standardbred Driving School.



# Ray Schnittker

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	53	10	5	4	\$570,622
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	17	4	0	2	\$28,955

**Birthdate:** 1958-02-11      **Birthplace:** Buffalo, NY  
**Residence:** Middletown, NY      **Age:** 64

Once again, Ray Schnittker was on the national stage in 2021 with Dan Patch Award winning trotter King Of The North. That two-year-old from the tremendous first crop of Walner won six of his first seven starts and \$578,915. His major wins came in the New Jersey Sires Stakes Final, Peter Haughton Memorial and William Wellwood Memorial. Another top performer was Brickhouse Babe, runner up to Venerable from post ten in the Jim Doherty Memorial. Overall in 2021, Schnittker won 64 races and \$2,199,178, putting his career earnings at \$43,314,328.

Schnittker completed 2020 with 1,306 career training wins and \$41,116,150 in earnings. His stable passed the \$1 million mark for the 13 straight seasons from 2007 to 2019.

Schnittker won his second Meadowlands Pace in 2017 with Huntsville, a Somebeachsomewhere colt, who held off Downbytheseaside in 1:47.4, the same time his previous Pace champion One More Laugh and Tim Tetrick posted in 2010. Huntsville's victory also gave Tetrick his fifth Pace trophy. Huntsville also won the Cane Pace, and finished second in the North America Cup and Adios enroute to a \$1 million season. His stable passed the \$2 million mark for the first time in four years in 2017.



Schnittker struck gold in 2016 with world champion freshman pacer Huntsville. The Somebeachsomewhere colt reeled off a 1:49 world record in a \$65,500 division of the International Stallion Stake at The Red Mile, and followed up with a Meadowlands track record of 1:49.1 in the \$600,000 Breeders Crown. Schnittker also passed 1,100 career wins and \$35 million in 2016.

In 2013, Schnittker continued to be a virtual money machine, producing more than \$2 million in purses and 100 winners for the seventh straight year. Schnittker's personal best was \$6,095,004 and 174 winners in 2010. Since his career began in 1977, Schnittker has won more than 2,700 races as a driver, while his mounts have banked more than \$42 million.

The 61-year-old from Buffalo, NY rose to prominence with his father, Warren, has dominating the New York Sires Stakes circuit, won the Dexter Cup four times, and he has appeared among the Top 10 in the Grand Circuit driver standings.

In 2012, Schnittker campaigned the outstanding three-year-old trotting filly, Check Me Out. The Horse of the Year contender and 2011 Dan Patch Award winner became the richest trotting filly in history. Going into the Breeders Crown her career bankroll stood at \$1,795,945. The daughter of Donato Hanover set a world record of 1:51.3 in the Del Miller Memorial, then lowered it to 1:51.2 in the Bluegrass at The Red Mile.

Another Schnittker-trained star, Deweycheatumnhowe, was 2007's 2-Year-Old Trotting Colt of the Year, and then 2008's Trotter of the Year and Three Year Old Trotting Colt of the Year in the Dan Patch awards balloting. Deweycheatumnhowe enjoyed a remarkable sophomore campaign, capturing the Hambletonian, Canadian Trotting Classic, World Trotting Derby and Kentucky Futurity on his way to \$2.2 million in season's earnings. Schnittker campaigned another top three-year-old trotter in 2008, Make It Happen, who banked more than \$670,000, and was a winner in the Empire Breeders Classic and Zweig Memorial.

Schnittker's top horse in 2009-10 was the pacing gelding One More Laugh, a winner of \$2.6 million. As a freshman, he won nine of 12 starts and banked \$594,306. One More Laugh set a world record for his age and gait on a five-eighths-mile track when he scored in 1:49.2 in capturing the \$600,000 Governor's Cup final at Harrah's Philadelphia. During his sophomore campaign, One More Laugh hit the board in 16 of 20 starts and banked \$1,576,984. He set his lifetime mark of 1:47.4 in capturing the Meadowlands Pace, upsetting Rock N Roll Heaven, and also won the Cane Pace, the Art Rooney Pace and the American-National.

# Trond Smedshammer

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	43	6	5	4	\$137,705
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	37	6	5	6	\$124,239
Meadowlands Career	2,059	355	281	241	\$18,067,029

**Date:** 1967-03-22      **Birthplace:** Gfovik, Norway  
**Residence:** Allentown, NJ      **Age:** 55



One again, Trond Smedshammer raced on a light schedule at the Meadowlands in 2021. Overall, he won 50 races and \$909,299, putting his career earnings at \$51,635,405, which ranks him 14th all-time. His top performers included Thankful NO, Hillextotic, Chaptiama, Seventier and Bluffinner.

Smedshammer completed the 2020 season with 1,285 career wins and \$50,726,106.

The Trond Smedshammer Stable passed the \$1 million mark for the 18th straight season in 2019, while closing in on \$50 million. Smedshammer won a Preferred Trot at The Big M with Hambletonian Maturity finalist Phaetosive in 1:52.2.

Smedshammer had a resurgent \$1.5 million season in 2018, his best since 2006, led by the \$600,000 stakes winning filly Phaetosive. The Explosive Matter filly won the Elegan-timage Final, Pennsylvania Sires Stakes Championship, a division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial and Bluegrass, a Hambletonian Oaks elimination in 1:51 and finished second in that \$500,000 Final.

Memorial and Bluegrass, a Hambletonian Oaks elimination in 1:51 and finished second in that \$500,000 Final.

Smedshammer was once again a prominent figure on the major stakes trail in 2017 with Phaetosive, a two-year-old filly by Explosive Matter, who won four of seven starts, including eliminations for the Jim Doherty Memorial, Peaceful Way and Breeders Crown. She was second in both finals of the Jim Doherty and Peaceful Way, and finished third in the Breeders Crown, earning \$259,853. Smedshammer's stable went past \$1 million for 16th straight season.

Smedshammer was back in the major stakes spotlight in 2016 with freshman trotting fillies Chezatter and Hillarmbro, along with New York Sires Stakes standout sophomore filly Fad Finance. After his 15th consecutive season past \$1 million, Smedshammer passed 1,100 career training wins and \$45 million.

Smedshammer came to the United States in 1987 after a mandatory year in the Norwegian army and was virtually penniless when he took a job in the barn of fellow Norwegian Per Henriksen. Smedshammer stayed for six months before heading back to Norway where he continued training. He returned a year later to work for Lindy Farms and was part of their team when they won back-to-back Hambletonians in 1989 with Probe and 1990 with Harmonious.

In 1992, Smedshammer opened his own stable at White Birch Farm in Allentown, New Jersey, and he has proven himself as one of the sport's top trotting trainers. Some of his unconventional methods included lunging horses in a sand pit and training on straightaways.

Smedshammer was named the Glen Garnsey Trainer of the Year in 2004 when his stable banked a personal best of \$5,311,104 and he campaigned three champions. Trotter of the Year, Windsong's Legacy, Three Year Old Filly Trotter of the Year, Housethatruthbuilt, and Trotting Mare of the Year, Stroke Play. Windsong's Legacy earned a single-season record of \$1.7 million. His victories in the Hambletonian, Yonkers Trot and Kentucky Futurity made him the first Trotting Triple Crown winner since Super Bowl in 1972.

Smedshammer has trained a record ten trotting millionaires, including Arch Madness, Strong Yankee, Blur, HP Paque, Sand Vic, Break The Bank K and Dejarmbro. His other stakes winners include Creamy Mimi, Bowlin For Dollars, Mr Pine Chip, Blue Mac Lad and Here Comes Herbie.

Smedshammer co-owns (under the name American Viking Racing Stable) and drives many of his trainees.

# Ake Svanstedt

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	181	19	17	27	\$2,611,827
Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020	158	15	19	26	\$1,259,396
Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019	161	18	24	24	\$897,621

**Date:** 1958-11-18      **Birthplace:** Sweden  
**Residence:** Vero Beach, FL      **Age:** 63

Ake Svanstedt reached the peak of the harness racing mountaintop for the second time in 2021, going all the way in the \$1 million Hambletonian with Captain Corey. That three-year-old son of Googoo Gaagaa romped in his elimination in 1:51.2 and came right back in the final without shoes in 1:51. Also, Svanstedt trainees Ambassador Hanover and Delayed Hanover finished third and fourth, respectively. Captain Corey went on to win the Earl Beal, Jr. Memorial in 1:51 and a Pennsylvania Sires Stakes Consolation in 1:51.4 at Pocono Downs before being retired due to injury. Svanstedt posted a career best \$6,312,341 season with 104 wins overall. His other top performers included Breeders Crown winner Ecurie D DK, Felicityshagwell S, Back Of The Neck, Gangster Hanover, Incommunicado, Splash Blue Chip, Mon Amour, Rattle My Cage, Fly Light, Ambassador Hanover and 2022 Hambletonian prospect Coach K Hanover.

Svanstedt continued to trot out a powerful contingent in 2020. His stable of stars included Beautiful Sin, Common Sense S, King Alphonso, Back Of The Neck, Third Shift, Soul Strong, TVG champion Plunge Blue Chip, Felicity Shagwell S, Marseille, Muscle M Up, Splash Blue Chip, Presto, and Pennsylvania Sires Stakes champion Captain Corey. Svanstedt enjoyed his best season since arriving in America with 51 wins and a career high of \$5,213,649.



Svanstedt continued to make a major impact on the trotting side of the sport in 2019. Swedish import Darling Mearas S set a Meadowlands track record of 1:49.4 in a stunning US debut. World champion Six Pack won a Graduate Series division in his 2019 debut, finished a close second in the Graduate Final and third in the John Cashman Memorial. Earl Beal, Jr. Memorial upsetter Marseille and Soul Strong both advanced to the \$1 million Hambletonian Final, with Soul Strong picking up a fourth-place check from post ten. The Svanstedt Stable has passed the \$2 million mark in all six seasons in the US.

Svanstedt shook the trotting world in 2018 with a trio of world champion trotters, Six Pack, Plunge Blue Chip and Ice Attraction. Six Pack won a division of the Stanley Dancer Memorial in 1:50. Also on the Meadowlands Pace Night, New York Sires Stakes champion Plunge Blue Chip won a Del Miller Memorial division in 1:49.4. Ice Attraction took a mark of 1:50.1 in the Allerge Farms at The Red Mile. Six Pack also won the Empire Breeders Classic, Yonkers Trot, Kentucky Futurity and Matron Stake in a million dollar campaign and set a world record of 1:49.1. The Svanstedt stable passed the \$3 million mark for the fourth straight season.

In 2017, Svanstedt enjoyed one of the greatest days of his four years in America when he finished second and was placed first through a disqualification in the \$1 million Hambletonian Final with Perfect Spirit. Svanstedt also won the John Cashman, Jr. Memorial with Resolve and the Duenna from post ten with Ice Attraction. That Muscle Hill filly also won the New Jersey Sires Stakes Final and Kentucky Filly Futurity. Svanstedt's fourth season as a trainer in the US was his best so far with 124 wins and \$4,674,656.

Svanstedt remained a dominant force in the trotting world in 2016 with Resolve, one of the sport's top Open class trotters. After finishing second in Sweden's Elitlopp, the five-year-old son of Muscle Hill shipped back to America and cruised past \$1 million with major wins in the \$200,000 Arthur J. Cutler Memorial, the \$273,600 John Cashman Memorial, the \$480,320 Maple Leaf Trot and set a world record of 2:23.4 for a mile and half in the \$1 million International Trot. He recorded his first \$4 million season in the USA, putting his stable in the nation's Top 5.

Svanstedt was a dominant force in Swedish racing before making a major move to the United States in the Fall of 2013, and opened a training facility in Vero Beach, Florida with the Bender Family/Palema Stable. In 2014, Svanstedt purchased Legend Farms, relocated his training operation to Wrightstown, New Jersey, and hired Bjorn "Bernie" Noren as his assistant trainer.

Svanstedt captured five Trainer of the Year titles and three Driver of the Year Awards in Sweden, and has more than 5,000 wins as a trainer and 6,400 as a driver. In his first two seasons in the US, his stable won more than 100 races and banked over \$4 million. Svanstedt immediately made a huge impact in America, spearheaded by his super trotter Sebastian K. On May 10, 2014, the eight-year-old barefoot wonder was making his first start in the US, his first start in eight months, and was coming off a nondescript qualifier (finished fourth timed in 1:56.2). However, with an awesome and effortless 1:50.1 clocking, Sweden's 2012 Horse of the Year equaled the mile track world record.

# Nancy Takter

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>\$1,859,005</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec 2020</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$2,428,938</b>
<b>Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$918,127</b>

**Birthdate:** 1981-06-21      **Birthplace:** Malmo, Sweden  
**Residence:** Allentown, NJ      **Age:** 40



In 2021, Nancy Takter continued to solidify her status as one of the sport's elite trainers. Manchego came back out of retirement to capture her third Dan Patch Award, winning the John Cashman Memorial, Spirit of Massachusetts and Arthur J. Cutler Memorial, while passing the \$3 million mark in career earnings. Manchego equaled a track record for Older Trotting Mares of 1:49.4. Takter finished seventh in the Meadowlands trainer standings. Overall, her stable won 101 races and \$4,831,240, which ranked her sixth in 2021. JK First Lady set a world record for four-year-old pacing mares of 1:47.4 in the Dorothy Haughton Memorial. Some of Takter's prominent horses were Matron Stakes winner Market Based, Red Right Hand, Pretender, Sorella, Ready For Moni, No Lou Zing, Selfie Queen, Altar and Peaky Sneaky.

Takter was voted 2020 Trainer of the Year by the United States Harness Writers Association (USHWA) – and her year was so spectacular, the decision to have her receive the award did not even have to go to a vote. Takter's stable led the way at the Meadowlands in 2020 with \$2,428,472.

With over \$8 million won by her trainees, 31% victories and a UTRS rating of .442, the horses in Nancy's stable seemed to almost never miss in the big events. The leader of the barn was Tall Dark Stranger, a three-year-old pacing colt who was named for Horse of the Year off of a year where he won 11 of 13 starts and earned \$1,302,681, tops among all North American harness horses. The Meadowlands Pace, Cane Pace, North America Cup, and two Grand Circuit victories at Lexington all were taken by a horse who earned widespread praise from seasoned veterans for his fierce tenacity to hold on to the lead late when threatened with defeat.

Nancy also trained the great trotting mare Manchego, whose 1:49.3 victory at Plainridge, a 5/8-mile track, was not only the sole sub-1:50 trot of the year, but probably the most impressive trotting mile of all. There was also Kissin In The Sand, who capped her year with seven straight wins against the top older pacing mares including her Breeders Crown ... and Hambletonian Oaks champion Sorella ... and Governor's Cup winner Always A Miki ... and the list could go on.

Nancy emerged from the shadow of her Hall of Fame father Jimmy Takter to compete successfully at the Grand Circuit level. Takter passed the \$4 million mark for the first time in 2019 and her stable star Captain Crunch rallied for a mild upset in the North America Cup in 1:47.2. That Dan Patch Award winning son of Captaintreacherous also won the Cane Pace at The Big M in 1:48 with Scott Zeron in the bike.

Nancy resurrected Manchego to win the Dr. John R. Steele Memorial in a stakes record of 1:50 on Hambletonian Day. Manchego went on a late-season six-race winning streak, capturing the Dayton Derby, Allerage Farms and Breeders Crown Mare Trot. She was also second in the TVG Open Trot.

Two-Year-Old sensation Tall Dark Stranger banked \$717,514, and won eight of nine starts, including the Metro Final and the Breeders Crown through a disqualification. Captain Crunch closed out his career with a 1:47.2 Dover Downs all-age track record in the Hap Hansen Progress Pace elimination, and finished second in that \$335,000 Final. JK First Lady set a track record of 1:49.2 in the Three Diamonds Final, eclipsing the previous mark set by her dam in the same race and Takter's 2014 Horse of the Year, JK She'salady.

In 2018, Takter campaigned Dan Patch Award winning two year old, Kissin In The Sand.

# Linda Toscano

	<b>STARTS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Earnings</b>
<b>Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>\$671,811</b>
<b>Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$415,729</b>
<b>Oct. 2018 - Aug. 2019</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$570,915</b>

**Birthdate:** 1955-06-26      **Birthplace:** Brooklyn, NY  
**Residence:** Freehold, NJ      **Age:** 66

Back where Linda Toscano won her first Breeders Crown with Molly Can Do It in 2002, the Hall of Fame trainer won the same event for Older Pacing Mares in 2021 with Rocknificent in 1:49, upsetting heavily favored divisional champion Lyons Sentinel and fresh off a Red Mile track record of 1:48 in the Allerage Farms. That four-year-old daughter of Captaintreacherous vaulted past the \$1 million career earnings mark in 2021. Overall in 2021, Toscano won 79 races and \$2,746,521. Coming into 2022 her career earnings were \$61,628,984, ranking her eighth all-time. Her other top performers in 2021 include Marsala Hanover, Find Happiness, Lean Hanover, Lady Chaos, High Minded and Ken's Walner.

Toscano continued to add to her Hall of Fame legacy as a great developer of young stars in 2020, while sending out a consistent stable of overnight stock. Her top horses included 1:49.1 performer Somebaddude, New Jersey Sires Stakes champion Play Trix On Me, Pennsylvania Sires Stakes winner Rocknificent, Baby You're The Best, Dip Me Hanover, Breeders Crown winner Lady Chaos, Marsala Hanover and Classicist. She completed 2020 with 2,295 career wins and \$58,893,588.



With almost 2,200 training wins and \$54 million, Toscano was fittingly given a rousing reception when she was inducted into the Harness Racing Hall of Fame in 2019. Toscano also added a huge feather in her cap when Best In Show rallied to a 27-1 upset in the Crawford Farms Meadowlands Pace.

In 2018, Toscano reached a pinnacle in her great career when she was nominated to the Harness Racing Hall of Fame. Helpisontheway, a sophomore son of Toscano's 2012 Horse of the Year Chapter Seven, overcame post 12 to take a mark of 1:51.4 in the Dennis Drazen. The Toscano stable passed the \$2 million mark for the 12th consecutive season.

Toscano saw her dream of winning her second Hambletonian in 2017 dashed by the career-ending injury of world champion Walner, who set a stakes record of 1:50.2 in a Stanley Dancer Memorial division shortly before being retired. The son of Toscano's 2012 Horse of the Year Chapter Seven won nine of ten career starts. Toscano passed 2,000 career wins and was just shy of \$50 million. Her stable reached the \$2 million mark for the 11th straight season.

Toscano caught lightning in a bottle again in 2016 with world champion freshman trotter Walner. From the first crop of Toscano's 2012 Horse of the Year Chapter Seven, Walner unleashed a world record of 1:51.3 in a \$56,000 division of the International Stallion Stake at The Red Mile, and went on to set a Meadowlands track record of 1:53 in the \$600,000 Breeders Crown. Walner capped a seven for eight season with another easy win in the \$200,600 Kindergarten Series Final at The Big M.

Toscano enjoyed a dream season in 2012 when she was voted Trainer of the Year, campaigned Horse of the Year Chapter Seven, became the first female trainer to win the \$1.5 million Hambletonian with Market Share and banked \$6 million for the first time. The millionaire four-year-old trotter Chapter Seven blazed a world record of 1:50.1 winning the Nat Ray. Toscano also won a New Jersey Sires Stakes final for two-year-old trotting fillies with Southwind Cocoa. She sent out a pair of top flight three-year-old pacers in Heston Blue Chip and Bettors Edge, plus freshman pacing star Doctor Butch.

Toscano is by far the most successful female trainer in Meadowlands history. Toscano became interested in harness racing through friends while attending Stony Brook State University in New York.

The breast cancer survivor started attending the races some 40 years ago when her father would take her to Roosevelt and Yonkers Raceways. She got her start with Buddy Regan in New York, and also worked with John Campbell when he had a stable. She went out on her own in 1984 and was the leading trainer in her home state before moving full-time to the Meadowlands in 1988.

The Rutgers Equine Science Center named Toscano the 2013 recipient of their annual 'Spirit of the Horse' award, which recognizes individuals whose lives have been profoundly changed because of their involvement with horses and who have acknowledged the impact by giving back to the horse industry.

Toscano became the first woman to harness a Breeders Crown winner with Molly Can Do It in the 2002 Mares Pace. Molly Can Do It entered Toscano's barn at the end of her four-year-old season and banked more than \$700,000 from 2002 to 2004.

# Lucas Wallin

	STARTS	1	2	3	Earnings
Jan. 2021 - Dec. 2021	50	11	4	4	\$516,179
<b>Birthdate:</b> 1992-12-28	<b>Birthplace:</b> Sweden				
<b>Residence:</b> New Egypt, NJ	<b>Age:</b> 29				

Lucas Wallin is one the young guns from Sweden. He posted his first \$1 million season as a trainer in 2021, and won his first Breeders Crown with Rebuff, who was driven by Tim Tetrick. That three-year-old son of Muscle Hill is now one of the top prospects for the 2022 Hambletonian. Some of Wallin's other big moments came with Hambletonian finalist Cuatro De Julio. That three-year-old son of Trixton won a Breeders Crown elimination in 1:52.2 and finished fourth in that final. Trained by Marie Otolan Bar, Cuatro De Julio took a mark of 1:51 at The Red Mile where he was also second by a nose in the 1:49.3 Kentucky Championship Series Final. At The Big M, he won a division of New Jersey Sires Stakes in 1:53.1 and was second by a neck in that final in 1:52.2.



In 2020, Wallin won the New Jersey Sire Stakes championship for three-year-old filly trotters at the Meadowlands with Ab'sattitudexpress. That Trixton filly also took a mark of 1:51.4 in a division of the Bluegrass, and finished third in both the Breeders Crown and Matron.

Lucas Wallin had two finalists in the 2019 Hambletonian Oaks. Princess Deo finished fifth and Queen Of Trix finished sixth. Each filly finished third in her elimination.

In 2018, Wallin started Winbak Noelle in the Oaks elims, but failed to reach the final.

Wallin grew up in Sweden, where he was driving ponies at the age of eight. Several years later, he began helping at his uncle Joakim Wallin's stable.

In mid-2014, Wallin was alerted to an opportunity to work for Ake Svanstedt's stable in the U.S. by childhood friend Oskar Florhed. Wallin spent two years with Svanstedt before deciding to go on his own.



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