

### **JOE BONGIORNO**

**Born: 9/23/1993 – Birthplace: Red Bank, NJ – Resides: Monroe, NJ**

- Has appeared in two Hambletonian Oaks finals, with a best finish of second in 2022 with Pink Coco Chanel at odds of 56-1.
- Won a division of the New York New York Mile with Miss I La for trainer Noel Daley on June 28 at MGM Yonkers Raceway.
- Top win in 2023 came with Hellabalou in the Borgata Pacing Series final at Yonkers.
- Got career victory 3,000 on Feb. 8 with Emotions Riches at Yonkers.
- Won \$6.25 million in purses in 2023, his second-best total behind a career-high \$6.88 million in 2021.
- Exceeded \$5 million in purses each of the past three years and four times in the last five.
- Top lifetime wins include the 2019 Breeders Crown Open Pace with American History, 2020 Little Brown Jug with Captain Barbossa, and 2022 Canadian Trotting Classic with Slay, all for trainer Tony Alagna.
- Was the 2010 Amateur Driver of the Year, awarded by the U.S. Harness Writers Association, and was USHWA Monticello-Goshen chapter's 2011 Rising Star Award winner.

### **DEXTER DUNN**

**Born: 9/1/1989 – Birthplace: New Zealand – Resides: Millstone, NJ**

- **Dan Patch Award Driver of the Year:** 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019.
- **Hambletonian Oaks wins (1):** Bella Bellini, 2021.
- Won the 2021 Hambletonian Oaks with Bella Bellini, trained by "Nifty" Norman.
- Bella Bellini was the 2021 Dan Patch Award winner for best 3-year-old female trotter.
- Has driven in five Hambletonian finals. Last year, Dunn drove Winner's Bet, who finished sixth. This year with Dunn, Winner's Bet won the Graduate Series final for 4-year-old trotters. In a preliminary Graduate round on June 22, he won in 1:49.3. Only three trotters have gone faster prior to the age of 5: Manchego, Atlanta, and Six Pack.
- Dunn's best finish in the Hambletonian is fourth, which he had done three times, with filly Jiggy Jog S in 2022, Amigo Volo in 2020, and Soul Strong in 2019. Amigo Volo and Soul Strong both started from post 10.
- In addition to winning the Hambletonian Oaks with Bella Bellini, Dunn hit the board with Millies Possesion (second) in 2019 and with Panem (third) in 2020.
- Was the regular driver of 2022 Horse of the Year Bulldog Hanover, who in July of that year won the William R. Haughton Memorial at the Meadowlands in 1:45.4 – the fastest mile in the history of harness racing. On the same night, Dunn won the Hambletonian Maturity for 4-year-old trotters with mare Bella Bellini.
- Top wins this year include the Dave Brower Memorial and William R. Haughton Memorial, both with Abuckabett Hanover, at The Meadowlands.
- A native of New Zealand, Dunn moved to the U.S. in the summer of 2018.
- On June 29, Dunn got his 2,000th North American win with pacer Twin B Joe Fresh, a 4-year-old mare he owns with trainer Chris Ryder, longtime Ryder assistant Peter Trebotica, and Barry Spak. The victory came in the Perfect Sting at the Meadowlands.
- Dunn won 2,226 races in New Zealand, where he led the Premiership in victories for 10 consecutive years before moving to the States.
- U.S. Harness Writers Association's Driver of the Year four times, from 2019-2022.
- Led all drivers in North America in purses in 2022, 2021 and 2020. Dunn-driven horses have banked more than \$67 million since his arrival in the States.
- Won the 2015 World Driving Championship representing New Zealand.

### **YANNICK GINGRAS**

**Born: 8/4/1979 – Birthplace: Greenfield Park, Quebec – Resides: Allentown, NJ**

- **Hall of Fame:** Class of 2022.
- **Dan Patch Award Driver of the Year:** 2017, 2014.
- **Hambletonian Oaks wins (6):** Sorella, 2020; Manchego, 2018; Ariana G, 2017; All The Time, 2016; Wild Honey, 2015; Lifetime Pursuit, 2014.
- Holds the record for most driving wins in the Hambletonian Oaks with six. The nearest active driver is Tim Tetrick, who is tied for second with four.
- Won the 2020 Oaks with Sorella for trainer Nancy Takter. His previous five victories came for Takter's father, Jimmy, in consecutive years, 2014 through 2018.
- In the Hambletonian, Gingras has finished second on three occasions. He was runner-up with Ready For Moni in 2020, Southwind Frank in 2016, and filly Mission Brief in 2015. Southwind Frank's setback came by a nose to Marion Marauder, who went on to win the Trotting Triple Crown (Hambletonian, Yonkers Trot, Kentucky Futurity).
- On July 13, Gingras won the Hambletonian Maturity, for 4-year-old trotters, with Ron Burke-trained Chapercraz at The Meadowlands.
- Got career win 9,000 on July 29 when he guided Steely Knife to victory for trainer Ron Burke at Lexington's Red Mile.
- Ranks fourth among drivers in career purses with \$236 million. He led the sport in purses four consecutive years, 2014-2017, and occupied the top spot again in 2023, with \$15.1 million. He has been no worse than third in purses each of the past 12 years.
- A third-generation horseman from Quebec, Gingras arrived in the U.S. in 2001 and established himself as a top driver at Yonkers Raceway.
- In 2003, Gingras received the Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association and in 2004 he moved his base to the Meadowlands. He has won eight Big M driving titles, including in 2022 and 2023.
- Has sat behind three Dan Patch Award Horse of the Year winners: Tall Dark Stranger in 2020, Hannelore Hanover in 2017, and JK She'salady in 2014. He has driven 22 different horses to receive Dan Patch Awards, with eight honored multiple years.
- Gingras has won 26 Breeders Crown trophies in his career, good for sixth place all time among drivers.
- Known for his association with Hall of Fame pacer Foiled Again, who retired in 2018 as the richest horse in harness racing history with \$7.63 million in lifetime earnings. The gelding won 109 races, ninth most by a pacer in more than 50 years.

### **JAMES MacDONALD**

**Born: 1/10/1986 – Birthplace: Prince Edward Island – Resides: Guelph, Ontario**

- **O'Brien Award Driver of the Year:** 2023, 2022, 2021.
- Made his Hambletonian debut in 2023. Finished fifth with Southwind Coors in their elimination and seventh in the final.
- In the Hambletonian Oaks last year, MacDonald guided Righteous Resolve to third-place finishes in her elimination and the final.
- Won the Meadowlands Pace on July 13 with Legendary Hanover in a stakes-record 1:46.3. Only one 3-year-old has ever won a race with a faster time, Confederate with a 1:46.1 score last year at Lexington's Red Mile.
- Mike Lachance, in 2003, is the most recent driver to win the Meadowlands Pace and Hambletonian in the same year.
- MacDonald has received three consecutive O'Brien Award as Canada's top driver.
- In 2023, he led all drivers in Canada in wins, with 429, and purses, with \$9.75 million. He also led in wins and purses in 2022 and 2021.
- Ranks first in both categories again this year.

- For his career, MacDonald has won more than 3,700 races and \$69 million in purses.
- Won the 2017 World Driving Championship, hosted by Canada that year.
- Brother of drivers Mark MacDonald and Anthony MacDonald.

### **ANDREW McCARTHY**

**Born: 3/31/1986 – Birthplace: Bathurst, Australia – Resides: Swedesboro, NJ**

- **Hambletonian wins (1):** Ramona Hill, 2020.
- Won the 2020 Hambletonian with filly Ramona Hill, trained by Tony Alagna. It was McCarthy's second appearance in a Hambletonian final.
- Ramona Hill was the fourth filly trotter to win the Hambletonian since it moved to The Meadowlands in 1981 and the 15th overall to capture the sport's premier event for 3-year-old trotters. She received the 2020 Dan Patch Award for best 3-year-old filly trotter.
- McCarthy's best finish in the Hambletonian Oaks came in 2018 when he was fourth with Hey Blondie for trainer Chuck Sylvester.
- A native of Australia, McCarthy has raced regularly in North America since 2007. He has won more than 3,500 races and \$78 million in purses since arriving.
- In 2021, McCarthy set career highs with 315 victories and \$8.72 million in earnings. He ranked No. 5 among all drivers in North America in purses. His top wins came with Jujubee in the Breeders Crown and Kentucky Futurity. Jujubee was named Trotter of the Year.
- McCarthy has won five Breeders Crown trophies in his career. In 2019, he became the eighth driver in history to win at least four Breeders Crown finals in a year. He became the first to accomplish the feat without driving a favorite.
- His brothers Todd, who moved to the U.S. in 2020, and Luke, who raced in the U.S. in 2009, are also successful drivers and his father John is a highly regarded trainer.
- The McCarthy brothers all have won million-dollar races, with Luke capturing the Miracle Mile multiple times in Australia, Andy winning the 2020 Hambletonian and 2020 Mohawk Million (with Venerate), and Todd winning the 2022 Hambletonian (with Cool Papa Bell) and 2022 North America Cup (with Pebble Beach).
- The McCarthy family was selected by the Bathurst Harness Racing Club as its 2016 Gold Crown honoree.

### **TODD McCARTHY**

**Born: 2/24/1993 – Birthplace: Australia – Resides: Bordentown, NJ**

- **Hambletonian wins (1):** Cool Papa Bell, 2022.
- Made his Hambletonian debut in 2022 and drove Cool Papa Bell to the biggest upset in the history of the event, winning at odds of 52-1 for trainer Jim Campbell. Cool Papa Bell received the Dan Patch Award for best 3-year-old male trotter.
- The Hambletonian was one of two million-dollar races won by McCarthy in 2022. He also captured the North America Cup for 3-year-old pacers with Pebble Beach at Woodbine Mohawk Park. McCarthy later won his first Breeders Crown with Pebble Beach, who received the Dan Patch Award for best 3-year-old male pacer.
- Last year, McCarthy did not drive in the Hambletonian. He won a Hambletonian Oaks elimination with Heart On Fire and finished ninth in the Oaks final.
- McCarthy moved to the U.S. at the end of August 2020.
- Got his 1,000th win in the States on May 11 with Endofstory at The Meadowlands. He won 1,109 races in Australia prior to his move.
- In 2022, he ranked sixth among all drivers in North America with \$9.44 million in purses.
- Has nearly \$29 million in career North American purses.

- Received the 2021 Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association after finishing ninth in North America in purses with \$7.45 million. He was the driver of Dan Patch Award-winning older male pacer Allywag Hanover.
- His accomplishments Down Under included winning the 2016 Australasian Young Drivers Championship and multiple New South Wales state and metropolitan premierships driving titles. He represented Australia at the 2019 World Driving Championship.

#### **BOB McCLURE**

**Born: 9/26/1990 – Birthplace: Orangeville, Ontario – Resides: Rockwood, Ontario**

- **O'Brien Award Driver of the Year: 2020.**
- **Hambletonian wins (1):** Forbidden Trade, 2019.
- Won the Hambletonian in his only try to date, guiding Forbidden Trade to victory for trainer Luc Blais in 2019. Forbidden Trade went on to be named Canada's Horse of the Year.
- McClure finished No. 1 in purses in Canada in 2020 with \$6.67 million and was named Canada's Driver of the Year. He has been no worse than eighth in purses in Canada each of the past eight years, including second in 2018 and third in 2019.
- Led Canada in wins in 2017 and 2016 and was third in 2018 and 2015. He raced primarily at Canada's "B" tracks before moving to the main stage of the Woodbine-Mohawk circuit in December 2017.
- Has won more than 3,400 races in his career. He has earned more than \$48 million in purses lifetime.
- Top victory so far this year came with Highland Kismet in the Goodtimes Stakes on June 15 at Woodbine Mohawk Park.

#### **ANDY MILLER**

**Born: 9/7/1968 – Birthplace: Mattoon, IL – Resides: Millstone Township, NJ**

- **Hambletonian Oaks wins (1):** Creamy Mimi, 2008.
- Andy Miller won the 2008 Hambletonian Oaks with Creamy Mimi, trained by Trond Smedshammer.
- He had three consecutive top-three finishes in Hambletonian finals, 2016 through 2018. Met's Hall was second in 2018, Devious Man was third-placed-second in 2017 and Sutton was third, beaten only a neck, in 2016. All three horses were trained by Miller's wife, Julie.
- This year, Miller's top win so far came with Secret Agent Man in the Tompkins-Geers Stakes on July 20 at The Meadowlands.
- Miller ranks 13th among drivers in career purses with \$142 million.
- He ranks 23rd in all-time North American wins with more than 10,100.
- Miller's career began as a teenager on the Illinois fair circuit before establishing himself as a top driver in Chicago. He moved to the East Coast in 2006 and has ranked among the leading drivers at The Meadowlands, finishing as high as third in the standings there.
- Andy and Julie were married in 1996 and started their harness racing stable the same year. Their son Tyler started driving on a regular basis in 2020.
- Miller's brother Erv was the Dan Patch Award Trainer of the Year in 2005 and ranks among the sport's top five in all-time training purses and wins.

### **DAVID MILLER**

**Born: 12/10/1964 – Birthplace: Columbus, OH – Resides: Robbinsville, NJ**

- **Hall of Fame:** Class of 2014.
- **Dan Patch Award Driver of the Year:** 2016, 2015, 2003.
- **Hambletonian Oaks wins (1):** Personal Style, 2012.
- David Miller won the 2012 Hambletonian Oaks with Personal Style, trained by Richard "Nifty" Norman.
- Finished fifth in the 2023 Hambletonian final with Point Of Perfect.
- Seeking his first Hambletonian trophy but has never driven a horse in the final at odds lower than 7-1. He had third-place finishes with Gimpanzee in 2019, Uncle Lasse in 2015, and Corky in 2013. In 2017, he drove What The Hill, who crossed the finish line first but was disqualified for interference in the stretch.
- In 2021, Miller won the Hambletonian Maturity for 4-year-old trotters with Beads for trainer Per Engblom.
- Last year, ranked third in purses among drivers in North America, with \$10.9 million.
- Ranks No. 2 all time in purses with \$285 million and has finished among the top five in earnings 24 of the past 25 years. John Campbell, now president and CEO of the Hambletonian Society, holds the driving record for North American purses with just less than \$300 million.
- Miller is No. 6 all-time in wins among North American drivers with more than 14,400.
- In 2003, Miller led the sport in purses and drove No Pan Intended to the Pacing Triple Crown and Horse of the Year honors.
- In 2016, he was the driver of Horse of the Year Award winner Always B Miki, who paced the then-fastest mile in harness racing history when he won in 1:46 at Lexington's Red Mile.
- Miller was the regular driver of 2021 Horse of the Year winner Test Of Faith, who became the fourth 3-year-old female pacer to receive the honor.
- In 2015, Miller set the record for Breeders Crown wins in a year with five.
- Miller, who received the 1993 Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association, was already a standout in his native Ohio when he headed to the East Coast in the late 1990s and has been a force on the Grand Circuit ever since he made the move.

### **TIM TETRICK**

**Born: 11/22/1981 – Birthplace: Flora, IL – Resides: Woolwich Township, NJ**

- **Hall of Fame:** Class of 2020.
- **Dan Patch Award Driver of the Year:** 2013, 2012, 2008, 2007.
- **Hambletonian wins (1):** Market Share, 2012.
- **Hambletonian Oaks wins (4):** Heaven Hanover, 2023; Fashion Schooner, 2022; Bar Slide, 2010; Danae, 2007.
- Won the 2012 Hambletonian with Market Share, trained by Linda Toscano. Market Share received divisional Dan Patch Award honors and finished second to stablemate Chapter Seven for Trotter of the Year.
- Last year, Tetrick finished second with Oh Well in the Hambletonian final, a length behind Tactical Approach.
- Has finished second in the Hambletonian final on three other occasions, with Spy Booth in 2021, Smilin Eli in 2013, and Crazyed in 2008.
- Tetrick has won the Hambletonian Oaks four times, tied with Berndt Lindstedt for second most all time among drivers, with his two most recent victories coming back-to-back in 2022 and 2023. Yannick Gingras hold the record for Oaks wins, with six.
- Won last year's Hambletonian Oaks with Heaven Hanover for trainer Marcus Melander. She won from post 10 at odds of 28-1.
- Also won from post 10 in 2022 with Fashion Schooner for trainer Jim Campbell.

- His other Oaks wins came with Bar Slide for trainer Joe Holloway in 2010 and Danae for trainer George Teague Jr. in 2007.
- Tetrick ranks third among all drivers in history in purses with \$273 million.
- Led the sport in purses in 2019 and 2018 as well as for seven consecutive years, 2007 through 2013.
- Has finished no worse than third in the purse standings in each of the past 17 years.
- Was second in purses in 2023, with \$14.1 million.
- Ranks seventh in career wins in North America with nearly 14,000.
- Has won at least 500 races in 18 of the past 19 years. Has ranked among the Top 10 in victories in all 19 of those years.
- In 2007, Tetrick won a record 1,189 races and was named the U.S. Harness Writers Association's Rising Star Award winner as well as Driver of the Year. That season he became the first driver to lead the sport in both wins and purses (a then-record \$18.3 million) in the same year since 1991.
- Tetrick was the regular driver of three Horse of the Year Award winners: Confederate in 2023, Shartin N in 2019, and Chapter Seven in 2012.
- Grew up in Illinois and followed his father, Tom D. Tetrick, into the sport. Brothers Tom T. and Trace also are involved in harness racing. Trace is the all-time leader in driving wins at Hoosier Park.

### **SCOTT ZERON**

**Born: 5/23/1989 – Birthplace: Montreal, Quebec – Resides: Campbell Hall, NY**

- **Dan Patch Award Driver of the Year:** 2023.
- **Hambletonian wins (3):** Tactical Approach, 2023; Atlanta, 2018; Marion Marauder, 2016.
- Scott Zeron last year, at the age of 34, became the 11th driver in history to win the Hambletonian at least three times. The other 10 are all in the Hall of Fame.
- A fourth victory would put Zeron in a tie for second most ever, joining Ben White, Billy Haughton, Stanley Dancer, and Mike Lachance. The only driver with more Hambletonian trophies is John Campbell, with six.
- The most recent driver to win the Hambletonian in back-to-back years was John Campbell in 1987 with Mack Lobell and 1988 with Armbro Goal.
- Zeron's three wins have come in only seven starts in the final.
- He captured last year's Hambletonian with Tactical Approach, trained by Nancy Takter. He won from post 10, the least advantageous starting spot at The Meadowlands, at 12-1 odds.
- Tactical Approach also won the Kentucky Futurity, giving him two of the three jewels in the Trotting Triple Crown, and a Breeders Crown. He was named 2023 Trotter of the Year.
- Zeron's previous Hambletonian wins came in 2018 with Atlanta, trained by his father Rick, and in 2016 with Marion Marauder, trained by Paula Wellwood.
- Atlanta was the first female trotter since Continentalvictory in 1996 to win the Hambletonian. At the end of the season, she was named Trotter of the Year by the U.S. Harness Writers Association.
- Marion Marauder went on to capture the Yonkers Trot and Kentucky Futurity to sweep the Trotting Triple Crown. Marion Marauder was the ninth Trotting Triple Crown winner and was named Trotter of the Year.
- With Marion Marauder, the then 27-year-old Zeron was the second-youngest driver to win the Hambletonian and youngest driver to win a harness racing Triple Crown.
- Zeron missed the opportunity to drive in the 2022 Hambletonian because of injuries suffered in an accident several days prior to the event's eliminations but participated on Hambletonian Day as a guest announcer on the Meadowlands simulcast show.

- Last year, Zeron reached the \$10-million level in purses for the first time in his career, finishing with \$10.07 million. Other top wins for him included the North America Cup and Little Brown Jug, both with It's My Show.
- Zeron was the U.S. Harness Writers Association's 2023 Driver of the Year.
- For his career, Zeron has won nearly 4,600 races and \$105 million in purses.
- His top victory so far this year came with Dame Good Time in the Dr. Harry M. Zweig Memorial on July 4 at Vernon Downs.
- A native of Montreal, Zeron made a name for himself in Ontario before relocating to the U.S. near the end of 2013. He twice led all Canadian drivers in wins, in 2011 and 2010.
- Zeron received the 2012 Rising Star Award from the U.S. Harness Writers Association.