

# PA THOROUGHBRED REPORT

# HORSE OF THE YEAR

JUNE 2025  
ISSUE NO. 135

## NEECIE MARIE

Owner Michael Milam accepts award from  
new PHBA president Deanna Manfredi

CHELSEA DURAND PHOTO

### IN THIS ISSUE

- 2024 PA-BRED CHAMPIONS AND  
LEADING BREEDERS



**PENNSYLVANIA**  
HORSE BREEDERS  
ASSOCIATION

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Congratulations to all of our 2024 champions! A special note goes out to Horse of the Year Necie Marie, bred by Jon Marshall, Leading Breeder Warrior’s Reward, and Leading Stallion Uptowncharlybrown. Russell Jones received the Lifetime Achievement Award and Donna Barton Brothers delivered a great speech. Everyone had a fantastic time. Take a look at pictures from our event in this issue.

Last call to breed to a PA-Sire so go to [pabred.com](http://pabred.com) and check out our Pa Stallion & Domicile Directory. Remember, boarding and foaling your mare is available at Daydream Farm. Contact info is located in the directory.

I’m happy to announce that there will be no registration fee for the PA-Sired PA-Bred Stallion Series in 2025. If your 2yo is PA-Sired PA-Bred you will be automatically registered to run. The only exception will be the third and final leg of the 2024 Stallion Series which will be run on Sept. 19 on PA Day at the Races, with stakes purses of \$100,000 for 3yos and 3yo fillies. These horses were already registered as 2yos in 2024. Any 3yos you wish to enter in these races that were not nominated in 2024 will have to be nominated by paying the \$5,000 stated late fee to the PHBA before the nomination date of Tuesday, Sept. 2. A \$50,000 breeder bonus for horses that finish first, second and third in total points for the 2024 series will be paid after those races – \$25,000 for first, \$15,000 for second and \$10,000 for third.



We’ll be having our first PA Yearling Show on June 21 at Brandywine Polo Club in Chester County. Four categories, plus one for Grand Champion, will be offered with lots of prizes. You should have received show information and a registration form in the mail. It’s also online on our website. Only \$50 to enter. We will be paying two \$20,000 bonuses split between the top four 2yo and 3yo show participants, based on total earnings and not limited to PA races.

If you are still using paper registrations, please make sure you forward a signed copy of the Code of Ethics, which is attached to the registration form. We will be transitioning to paperless this year.

Wishing you good luck for the balance of 2025, and remember, PA is the only place to Breed and Race!!

*Brian Sanfratello*  
Executive Secretary

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## PHBA Names Deanna Manfredi First Woman President

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 4:30 pm | [Back to: Top News](#)

Updated: May 21, 2025 at 7:45 pm



Longtime owner and breeder Deanna Manfredi has been named the new president of the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association, the organization announced Wednesday. Most recently secretary of the association, she succeeds Gregory Newell who has held the role since 2019.

"I haven't been a very political person, which is why this has been a long time coming," said Manfredi. "I don't have a political bone in my body. Unfortunately, we find ourselves now where our whole future, our whole program, the sport essentially, has become a political issue."

Owner of Ascoli Piceno Farm for the past 20 years, Manfredi has been a member of the PHBA board since 2016.



Courtesy Deanna Manfredi

## Like a Saltshaker Named 2024 Claiming Crown Horse of the Year

Tuesday, May 27, 2025 at 10:31 am | [Back to: Shared News, Top News](#)

Updated: May 27, 2025 at 10:32 am

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL STORY](#)



**Like a Saltshaker** (Peace and Justice) was named the Claiming Crown Horse of the Year by Claiming Crown co-founders National Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association (NHBPA) and the Thoroughbred Owners & Breeders Association (TOBA).

Like a Saltshaker, who cemented his title with a narrow win in last fall's \$140,000 Claiming Crown Rapid Transit at Churchill Downs, will be honored at the annual TOBA Awards Dinner on Sept. 6 at Fasig-Tipton in Lexington.

Trained by Brittany Vanden Berg, the gelding was campaigned by Marisco Brothers Racing, who claimed the Pennsylvania-bred for \$10,000 on May 14, 2023. With 18 wins to his credit and \$606,161 in career earnings, the 7-year-old was bred by Glenn Brok in Pennsylvania.



Trainer Brittany Vanden Berg and her husband, jockey Chris Emigh, after **Like a Saltshaker** wins last fall's Claiming Crown Rapid Transit | *Gwen Davis/Davis Innovation photo*



We'll be having our first PA Yearling Show

**JUNE 21, 2025**

at Brandywine Polo Club in Chester County.

Four categories, plus one for champion, will be offered  
with lots of prizes. For information and entry form  
go to [pabred.com](http://pabred.com) under the featured section.

**ONLY \$50 TO ENTER**

*We also will be paying two — \$20,000 bonuses  
split between the top-four 2yo and 3yo show participants,  
based on total earnings, not limited to PA races.*

**ENTER  
TODAY**

**AT PABRED.COM**



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HORSE BREEDERS  
ASSOCIATION

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# A GUIDE TO THE **PENNSYLVANIA** HORSE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION **YEARLING SHOW**

## **PENNSYLVANIA-BRED REGISTRATION**

In order to compete in the show, your yearling must meet eligibility requirements for Pennsylvania-Bred registration.

## **HANDLERS**

Any competent person may show the yearling in the ring. Inexperienced handlers and ill-prepared horses can cause a dangerous situation. Please keep safety in mind.

## **DRESS CODE**

Please refrain from any identifying information or logos on handler attire. The horse should be shown with anonymity in mind. Please be dressed professionally as at a show or sale.

## **GROOMING**

Having your yearling well-prepared and well-groomed can go a long way while showing for the judge. Braiding your yearling's mane or tail is your preference. A \$100 Best Turned Out Award will be presented in each class.

## **SHOEING**

The option is left up to you to do whatever is in the best interest of your horse(s).

## **TACK**

Please refrain from any identifying information on the yearling's halter. The tack your yearling is presented in is your choice, but leather halters and shanks with a brass Chifney bit with short chains tend to be the most proper.

## **PREPARATION**

Please take some time to practice walking and standing your yearlings for a few weeks prior to the show. Well prepared horses will foster a safer environment.

## **IN THE RING**

Each yearling will be judged standing and walking away and toward the judge. There are no guidelines for what the judge may ask exhibitors. Yearlings will be judged on their conformation and racing suitability.

## **STABLING**

Stalls will be available on the morning of the show. You also have the option to show directly out of your van. For those using stalls, please bring your own shavings to bed the stall, in addition to buckets, hay, and necessary equipment for stall cleaning. Please check in to receive your number and provide a current negative Coggins certificate and proof of EHV-1 vaccination.

## **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE**

The first class of the day will begin at approximately 10:30am. Please allow time for your yearling to settle in prior to their class. The duration of each class will vary. If you are awarded first or second in your class, you will be eligible for the championship class, judged as the fifth and final class. The championship class will begin 30 minutes following the conclusion of the fourth class. If you are not competing in the final class, you are free to leave once your stall is cleaned. Someone will be available to clean stalls at \$15 apiece if needed. Please inform us ahead of time if you would like for your stall to be cleaned for you.

## **FOOD**

Coffee and donuts will be available in the morning during check in. A lunch truck will be on site in the afternoon.

## **YEARLING SHOW BONUS INCENTIVES**

Your horse must actually compete in the ring to be eligible for the \$20,000 bonus incentives that are awarded to the eventual highest earning two and three-year-old runners.



# PA Yearling Show

Brandywine Polo Club, June 21st, 2025  
10:00am – 3:00pm

## CLASSES, PRIZES & FEES:

- Colts & Geldings  
Non-PA Sired & PA-Sired
- Fillies  
Non-PA Sired & PA-Sired
- Champion Class  
8 horses, 4 male & 4 fillies

## PRIZES

\$1,000 each class  
60%, 20%, 12%, 8% plus 6 ribbons  
trophy for winner

## CHAMPION AWARDS

\$1,000 Winner, \$500 Reserve Plus Win Trophy  
PA Stallion Award – Trophy, Highest total  
points, schedule: 7,5,4,3,2,1 participant

Champion Breeder – Trophy  
Best Turnout - \$100 per 4 classes  
\$50 entry fee, \$75 late entry fee after June 1st

- *Additional incentive payouts for top four highest earning two and three-year-olds*

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## CLEAN-UP

Bring your own shavings (only) & cleanup

## JUDGE

Russell Jones

## VET & EMT ON SITE




Negative Coggins within past year  
EHVI vaccination past 7-90 days

## FOOD

Coffee & Donuts Provided  
Lunch Trucks on site



**PENNSYLVANIA**  
HORSE BREEDERS  
ASSOCIATION

   #PABred on social media

# 2025 Yearling Show Entry Form

## WHEN:

Saturday, June 21st, 2025,  
10:00am – 3:00pm

## WHERE:

Brandywine Polo Club 232 Polo Road,  
Toughkenamon, PA 19374

## HORSE (sire & dam):

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## BREEDER:

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## CURRENT OWNER (if different from above):

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Please include and return  
payment with completed form

Payment: \$50 per horse before  
June 1st, \$75 after June 1st



**PENNSYLVANIA**  
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# 2024 PA-BRED CHAMPIONS AND LEADING BREEDERS

*The Champions & Leading Breeders were celebrated  
May 9 at The Inn at Mendenhall*



AVERIE LEVANTI PHOTOS

## HORSE OF THE YEAR OLDER FEMALE FEMALE TURF **NEECIE MARIE**

Bred by Jon A. Marshall

The richest PA-Bred runner of 2024, Neechie Marie earned just shy of \$900,000 in six starts – an average per start of nearly \$150,000. She was relentless when rallying to win the Grade 3 Beaugay Stakes in her first start of the year in May in New York. She went over the million-dollar mark with a dramatic rally to take Kentucky Downs' Grade 3 Light & Wonder Ladies Marathon Stakes in September. Her season included a second in the Grade 1 New York Stakes at Saratoga and a third in the Grade 2 Beverly D. Stakes at Colonial Downs.



## AWARDS CONTINUED



2-Year-Old Filly

### CAPRICE

Bred by Gregory & Caroline Bentley

Six wins and a second in seven starts, Caprice won her debut by nearly 14 lengths and followed with five stakes wins – three at Laurel, including the Smart Halo and Gin Talking against open company, and two at Delaware Park. Earning more than \$330,000, she ranked as the top-earning PA-Bred 2-year-old of 2024 and was tied for first in the nation by number of wins for a juvenile.



2-Year-Old Male

Leading Breeding Fund Recipient (Horse)

### THE BOY'S WARRIOR

Bred by Warrior's Reward LLC

The son of retired PA sire Warrior's Reward dazzled in his debut at Presque Isle in August, won the Whistle Pig Stakes at Parx next out by 9 lengths, and returned to Presque Isle to win the Mark McDermott Stakes by 4 lengths. His only loss came when second in the Pennsylvania Nursery in his first attempt beyond 6 furlongs.



3-Year-Old Filly

### CARMELINA

Bred by Lilith E. Boucher

The well-traveled filly made nine starts at seven different tracks and was the richest state-bred 3-year-old filly in 2024, earning \$136,000. She won the Penny Chenery Stakes at Colonial Downs and was second in the Busher Stakes at Aqueduct and Malvern Rose at Presque Isle Downs.



3-Year-Old Male

### UNCLE HEAVY

Bred by Barbara Reid

Winner of the Grade 3 Withers Stakes at Aqueduct in his 3-year-old debut, the son of former PA sire Social Inclusion tackled graded company the majority of the year. He finished fourth in the Grade 1 Pennsylvania Derby after a third-place finish in the Smarty Jones Stakes at Parx.



## AWARDS CONTINUED



Older Male/Turf Male

### I'M VERY BUSY

Bred by Glenn E. Brok LLC & Mark Toothaker

Racing solely in graded company, the son of Cloud Computing came out hot when finishing a fast closing second after a troubled trip in the Grade 1 Pegasus World Cup Turf Invitational Stakes at Gulfstream Park in January. He broke through for his first stakes win when taking the Muniz Memorial Classic-G2 at Fair Grounds in March. While off the board in the Manhattan at Saratoga in June, his final start of the year, he was beaten a total of 4 lengths in the hotly contested Grade 1. With \$377,000 in earnings, he ranked as the richest PA-Bred male runner of 2024.



Male Sprinter

### OUR SHOT

Bred by Dr. S. Mark Rayburg Inc.

Racing at distances from 5 to 6 furlongs, he concluded his season with his first stakes victory in Keeneland's Grade 2 Woodford Stakes at 5½ furlongs in October. Other outings included missing by a head when second in Saratoga's Harvey Pack Stakes and finishing just a little over a length behind the winners in the Grade 2 Shakertown at Keeneland and Big Daddy Stakes at Turfway Park in his first two starts of the year.



Female Sprinter

### ROSES FOR DEBRA

Bred by Blackstone Farm LLC

In her first four starts of the year, all sprint stakes, Roses for Debra recorded two wins – the Grade 3 Giant's Causeway at Keeneland and Grade 2 Presque Isle Downs Masters Stakes, the latter in track record time – and ran twice at Saratoga, missing by a head when second in the Grade 2 Intercontinental, and finishing third in the Smart N Fancy.



PA Preferred Female

### DONTLOOKBACKATALL

Bred by A1A Racing

A three-stakes win streak, from 5 to 6 furlongs on the turf, got started in the License Fee at the Belmont at the Big A meet in May, followed by Parx's Power by Far in June and culminating in the Grade 3 Caress Stakes at Saratoga in July. The daughter of former PA sire Peace and Justice also finished second in the \$1.5 million Exacta Systems Ladies Turf Sprint Stakes-G2 at Kentucky Downs.





PA Preferred Male

## SMOOTH B

Bred by St. Omer's Farm & WynOaks Farm LLC

Back-to-back victories at Parx in the Marshall Jenney Handicap and Turf Monster Stakes propelled Smooth B past the million-dollar mark in career earnings. The son of PA sire Weigelia also finished third in the Jim McKay Turf Sprint Stakes on Preakness Day at Pimlico.



Broodmare of the Year

## ESSENTIAL ROSE

Dam of Roses for Debra & Rosie's Alibi  
Owned by Blackstone Farm LLC

From six PA-Bred foals of racing age, Essential Rose is the dam of four winners, two being 2024 stakes performers: Roses for Debra, winner of the Grade 2 Presque Isle Downs Masters (while setting a new track record) and Grade 3 Giant's Causeway Stakes; and Rosie's Alibi, winner of the Princess of Sylmar Stakes. Combined, the two have 26 lifetime starts, 13 wins, won or placed in 10 stakes, and earned over \$1 million.



Lifetime Achievement Award  
**RUSSELL B. JONES**

Award of Merit  
**WORK TO RIDE**

Thoroughbred Makeover Top PA-Bred  
**HE DID IT**

Bred by Jonathan Sheppard

Leading Total Breeding Fund Recipient  
**WARRIOR'S REWARD LLC**  
\$927,518.75

Leading Overall Breeder of Pennsylvania-breds  
**WARRIOR'S REWARD LLC**  
\$2,241,660

Leading Breeder Award Recipient  
**WARRIOR'S REWARD**  
\$727,854.70

Leading Stallion  
**UPTOWNCHARLYBROWN**  
\$225,115.50



*Guest speaker Donna Barton Brothers*



# 2024 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## RUSSELL B. JONES JR.



*Russell B. Jones Jr.*

Russell B. Jones Jr. has dedicated his life to the Thoroughbred racing industry, earning widespread recognition for his contributions as a breeder, bloodstock advisor, and industry leader. With a career spanning decades, Jones has played a pivotal role in shaping the success of numerous racehorses and advancing the sport through his expertise and leadership.

In 1980, he co-founded Walnut Green Bloodstock with his late brother, Richard I.G. Jones, establishing it as one of the premier Thoroughbred purchasing and sales consignment companies in Pennsylvania. Under their guidance, Walnut Green became renowned for its ability to identify, develop, and market elite bloodstock, contributing to the success of countless racing champions.

Beyond his work at Walnut Green, Jones has been an influential figure in the broader racing community. He serves as a Pennsylvania Horse Racing Commissioner, playing a key role in overseeing and promoting the state's racing industry. His deep knowledge and strategic

insights have made him a sought-after bloodstock advisor, with his expertise instrumental in guiding the careers of notable horses, including the celebrated Union Rags.

Throughout his career, Jones has remained a tireless advocate for the industry, championing initiatives that promote responsible breeding practices and strengthen the sport's future. His influence has extended to advisory roles for top owners, breeders, and racing organizations, further solidifying his reputation as a trusted and respected figure in Thoroughbred racing.

His lifetime commitment to excellence in horse breeding and racing has left an indelible mark on the industry, inspiring future generations of breeders, trainers, and racing professionals. As he receives this Lifetime Achievement Award, Jones's legacy stands as a testament to his passion, dedication, and unwavering pursuit of excellence in the world of Thoroughbred racing. ■



# 2024 Iroquois Stakes Winners

Awards are presented to the Breeders of all Pennsylvania-Bred Stakes Winners in 2024

## *Candy Reward*

Warrior's Reward LLC

H.B.P.A. S, PID

## *Caprice*

Gregory and Caroline Bentley Breeders

BLUE HEN S, DEL  
SMALL WONDER S, DEL  
SMART HALO S, LRL  
MARYLAND JUVENILE FILLY S, LRL  
GIN TALKING S, LRL

## *Carmelina*

Lilith E. Boucher

PENNY CHENERY S, CNL

## *Crab Daddy*

Brian C. Schartz

PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY S, PRX

## *Crisper*

Ascoli Piceno Stables

SUMMER FUN S, PEN  
ALPHABET SOUP H, PRX

## *Disco Ebo*

St. Omer's Farm

PRIMONETTA S, LRL

## *Dixieland Belle*

Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC and  
More Than Ready Syndicate

FINEST CITY S, PID

## *Dontlookbackatall*

A1A Racing

LICENSE FEE S, BAQ  
POWER BY FAR S, PRX  
CARESS S-G3, SAR

## *Drum Roll Please*

Barlar LLC

JEROME S, AQU

## *Far Mo Power*

Peter Giangulio

PAGE MCKENNEY H, PRX

## *Fenton Forever*

Desmond C. Wynter

WAIT FOR IT S, PRX

# 2024 Iroquois Stakes Winners (cont.)

Awards are presented to the Breeders of all Pennsylvania-Bred Stakes Winners in 2024

## *Fierce and Strong*

Ultra Championship Racing LLC

WITH ANTICIPATION S, PEN

## *Foxy Junior*

Dianne L. Stern

PLUM PRETTY S, PRX  
MARYLAND MILLION DISTAFF S, LRL  
THIRTY EIGHT GO GO S, LRL

## *Get Set*

Joseph Mark Imbesi

FABULOUS STRIKE S, PEN

## *Gordian Knot*

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Imbesi

JUMP START S, PRX

## *Greavette*

Heart Hill Farms LLC

MALVERN ROSE S, PID

## *Honorable Win*

Pewter Stable

MISS BLUE TYE DYE S, PRX  
MISS BEHAVIOUR S, PRX

## *Icona Mama*

J. Patrick Morell & Tanya Lobsiger

SHAMROCK ROSE S, PEN

## *I'm Very Busy*

Glenn E. Brok LLC and Mark Toothaker

MUNIZ MEMORIAL CLASSIC S-G2, FG

## *Irish Cork*

Two-Turn Farm LLC

STORM CAT S, PRX

## *Jean Valjean*

Hasting Farm

DON'T CLOSE YOUR EYES S, PEN

## *Jeanne Marie*

Cash Is King LLC and LC Racing LLC

MAIN LINE S, PRX



# 2024 Iroquois Stakes Winners (cont.)

Awards are presented to the Breeders of all Pennsylvania-Bred Stakes Winners in 2024

## *Late Frost*

Gregory and Caroline Bentley Breeders

SHINE AGAIN S, TIM

## *Little J P*

John Parker

SPRINT SERIES LEG ONE S, GPR  
SPRINT SERIES S, GPR  
B CUP SPRINT S, LBG

## *Maximus Meridius*

Westerly Farm

GRAVESEND S, AQU

## *Morning Matcha*

Crane Thoroughbred Services LLC

UNIQUE BELLA S, PRX  
MRS. PENNY S, PRX

## *Neecie Marie*

Jon A. Marshall

BEAUGAY S-G3, BAQ  
LIGHT & WONDER LADIES  
MARATHON S-G3, KD

## *New Hire*

Arrowwood Farm

PENN LADIES DASH S, PEN

## *Our Shot*

Dr. S. Mark Rayburg Inc.

WOODFORD S-G2, KEE

## *Roses for Debra*

Blackstone Farm LLC

GIANT'S CAUSEWAY S-G3, KEE  
PRESQUE ISLE DOWNS  
MASTERS S-G2, PID

## *Rosie's Alibi*

Blackstone Farm LLC

PRINCESS OF SYLMAR S, PID

## *Saburo's Grace*

Ruis Racing LLC

J.D.A. RACEWAY S, GPR  
FAREWELL S, LBG

# 2024 Iroquois Stakes Winners (cont.)

Awards are presented to the Breeders of all Pennsylvania-Bred Stakes Winners in 2024

## *Smooth B*

St. Omer's Farm and WynOaks Farm LLC

MARSHALL JENNEY H, PRX  
TURF MONSTER S, PRX

## *Simply Joking*

Barlar LLC

LETELLIER MEMORIAL S, FG

## *Stassi*

Sandra Kim Eshleman

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY S, PEN

## *Stern Chaser*

Gregory and Caroline Bentley Breeders

LYPHARD S, PEN

## *The Boy's Warrior*

Warrior's Reward LLC

WHISTLE PIG S, PRX  
MARK MCDERMOTT S, PID

## *Trevesso*

Gregory and Caroline Bentley Breeders

CROWD PLEASER S, PRX

## *Tudox Opportunity*

Roberta L. Schneider MD

CHOCOLATE TOWN S, PEN

## *Twilight Dancer*

Warrior's Reward LLC

HARD SPUN S, PID

## *Uncle Heavy*

Barbara Reid

WITHERS S-G3, AQU

## *Witty*

Elizabeth M. Merryman

KING T. LEATHERBURY S, LRL



# Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association Releases 2025 PA-Bred Stakes Schedule

Over \$1.4 million in purses will be up for grabs in 2025 as the Pennsylvania Horse Breeders Association (PHBA) has announced its 2025 stakes schedule for registered PA-Bred and PA-Sired/PA-Bred horses.

All three Pennsylvania racetracks will combine for 18 total state-bred stakes.

Horsemen should note that there has been a slight shuffling of dates and locations in 2025.

Three-year-olds will close out the current PA-Sired, PA-Bred Stallion Series, which began last year, on September 19th at Parx Racing with the \$100,000 Prince Lucky Stakes and the \$100,000 Imply Stakes for fillies. The top three point earners across the six-race series will split a \$50,000 breeder bonus at the conclusion of the final races. The current leader is Honorable Win (Winchill), who captured both the Miss Blue Tye Dye Stakes and Miss Behaviour Stakes in 2024. Last year's two stakes for males were split between Whistle Pig Stakes winner The Boy's Warrior (Warrior's Reward) and Fenton Forever (Pat On the Back), who captured the Wait For It Stakes. Those two are tied for third place in the standings, while Reelin N Dealin (Pat On the Back) sits in second following runner-up finishes in both stakes events.

Juveniles of 2025 will begin their PA-Sired/PA-Bred Stallion Series races at Parx Racing in December with the \$75,000 Wait For It Stakes and the \$75,000 Miss Behaviour Stakes.

The 2025 PA-Bred stakes season will kick off at Penn National Race Course during its featured Penn Mile card on Friday, June 20. Older turf routers will contest two \$75,000 stakes going 1 1/16 miles, the Alphabet Soup Handicap and the Lyphard Stakes for fillies & mares.

Penn National will also host all other PA-Bred turf stakes this year, with the \$75,000 Marshall Jenney Handicap for older sprinters and the \$75,000 Crowd Pleaser for sophomores moving over from Parx Racing, to be contested on Friday, August 15th.

On Father's Day in June, Parx Racing opens its schedule with two \$100,000 sprints for older horses: the Page McKenney Handicap and the Unique Bella Stakes.

Presque Isle Downs will feature three PA-Bred stakes over its all weather course on Mondays in July: the \$75,000 Malvern Rose Stakes for three-year-old fillies going 6 1/2 furlongs and two events at 1 mile 70 yards, the \$75,000 Hard Spun Stakes and \$75,000 Princess of Sylmar Stakes for fillies & mares.

Parx will also play host to the PHBA's signature event, Pennsylvania's Day at the Races, to be held on Friday, September 19th - an added race day on the eve of the \$1 million Pennsylvania Derby. In addition to the two aforementioned PA-Sired/PA-Bred sophomore stakes, the day will also feature the \$100,000 Storm Cat Stakes for older horses going 1 mile 70 yards.

Older PA-Sired/PA-Bred horses will have an opportunity for \$75,000 in each of two stakes at Parx Racing on Wednesday, October 22nd. The Disco Chick Stakes for fillies & mares is a new addition to the schedule, joining the Jump Start Stakes, with both to be run at 7 furlongs.

Juvenile stakes for PA-Breds begin at Parx Racing on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 26th. The \$100,000 Shamrock Rose Stakes for fillies shifts from its prior location at Penn National to the Parx oval, joining the \$100,000 Pennsylvania Nursery. The latter stakes boasts a history of being the first stakes win for the immortal Pennsylvania-Bred Smarty Jones.



**Please note the Lyphard Stakes & Alphabet Soup Handicap were rescheduled from May 30th to June 20th**



# — 2025 —

## PENNSYLVANIA-BRED STAKES SCHEDULE

	Sunday, June 15	<b>\$100,000 PAGE MCKENNEY HANDICAP</b> <b>\$100,000 UNIQUE BELLA STAKES</b>	3 & up, 6 furlongs 3 & up, f&m, 6 furlongs
	Friday, June 20	<b>\$75,000 LYPHARD STAKES</b> <b>\$75,000 ALPHABET SOUP HANDICAP</b>	3 & up, f&m, 1 1/16 miles, turf 3 & up, 1 1/16 miles, turf
	Monday, July 7	<b>\$75,000 MALVERN ROSE STAKES</b>	3YO fillies, 6 1/2 furlongs
	Monday, July 21	<b>\$75,000 HARD SPUN STAKES</b>	3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards
	Monday, July 28	<b>\$75,000 PRINCESS OF SYLMAR STAKES</b>	3 & up, f&m, 1 mile 70 yards
	Friday, August 15	<b>\$75,000 MARSHALL JENNEY HANDICAP</b> <b>\$75,000 CROWD PLEASER STAKES</b>	3 & up, 5 furlongs, turf 3YO, 1 1/16 miles, turf
<div></div>			
		<b>\$100,000 STORM CAT STAKES</b> <b>\$100,000 PRINCE LUCKY STAKES</b> <b>\$100,000 IMPLY STAKES</b>	3 & up, 1 mile 70 yards 3YO PA-Sired, PA-Bred, 7 furlongs 3YO fillies, PA-Sired, PA-Bred, 7 furlongs
	Wednesday, Oct. 22	<b>\$75,000 JUMP START STAKES</b> <b>\$75,000 DISCO CHICK STAKES</b>	3 & up, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 7 furlongs 3 & up, f&m, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 7 furlongs
	Wednesday, Nov. 26	<b>\$100,000 PENNSYLVANIA NURSERY STAKES</b> <b>\$100,000 SHAMROCK ROSE STAKES</b>	2YO, 7 furlongs 2YO fillies, 6 furlongs
		<b><u>2YO PA-SIRED PA-BREDS:</u></b>	
	Tuesday, Dec. 30	<b>\$75,000 WAIT FOR IT STAKES</b> <b>\$75,000 MISS BEHAVIOUR STAKES</b> *Non-Black-Type	2YO PA-Sired PA-Breds, 6 furlongs 2YO fillies, PA-Sired PA-Breds, 6 furlongs



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Horse	Pedigree	Breeder	Earnings
Summary Judgment	Peace and Justice x Seven Dreams, by Majestic Warrior	A1A Racing	\$96,426
Dropline	Uncle Lino x Sour Lemon Drop, by Lemon Drop Kid	R H Breeding	\$95,975
Shetalkstomuch	Uptowncharlybrown x Empire's Gold, by Empire Maker	Robert Burroughs	\$90,332
True Phenomenon	Uptowncharlybrown x Dream Come True, by Congrats	Uptowncharlybrown Stud	\$85,872
Our Uptown Girl	Uptowncharlybrown x Fringe Benefits, by Cape Blanco	Barbara Rickline & Seminole Racing	\$85,525
Catty's Uncle	Uncle Lino x Just Catty, by Catienus	Sebastiano Ciccio	\$80,100
Respirator	Peace and Justice x La Padrina, by El Padrino	Dennis Johnson	\$78,960
Social Lady	Social Inclusion x Graemy, by Graeme Hall	Glenn E. Brok	\$78,000
Harley's Charly	Uptowncharlybrown x Harley Go Lightly, by Harlan's Holiday	Uptowncharlybrown Stud	\$76,109
Harp's Hot Corner	Weigelia x Katarica Disco, by Disco Rico	St. Omer's Farm	\$73,920

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## OBS JUNE TWO-YEAR-OLDS AND HORSES OF RACING AGE SALE – JUNE 17 & 18

Hip	DOB	Color	Sex	Sire	Dam	Dam Sire	Breeder	Consignor
279	3/6/23	GR	F	Frosted	Dixie Serenade	Uptowncharlybrown	Uptowncharlybrown Stud LLC	Harris Training Center LLC
544	2/22/23	B	C	Ransom the Moon	Magnolia Bee	Honor Code	Blackstone Farm LLC	Champions of the Future
555	4/10/23	CH	C	Maximum Security	Margarita Salt	Salt Lake	Maria M. Haire	Golden Noguez

## MIDLANTIC MAY TWO-YEAR-OLD IN TRAINING RESULTS

Hip	DOB	Color	Sex	Sire	Dam	Sire of Dam	Breeder	Consignor	Price	Purchaser
27	2/18/23	CH	F	More Than Ready	Brilliancy	Exchange Rate	Blackstone Farm LLC	Crane Thoroughbred Services Agent	45,000	HRH Prince Abdulaziz al Saud
80	3/4/23	B	F	Authentic	De la Soul	More Than Ready	Jon A. Marshall	Mckee Bloodstock LLC Agent	80,000	Roger E. Legg
144	4/23/23	DKB	F	Mendelssohn	Giddy Up	High Cotton	Forgotten Land Investment Inc	James Layden Agent	60,000	Sport of Kings Racing Partners
274	1/28/23	B	F	Independence Hall	Moon's Prospect	Malibu Moon	Moon's Gate Farm LLC	Pick View LLC Agent	55,000	John Servis, agent
290	3/30/23	CH	F	Vekoma	Newstouse	Unbridled's Song	Equivine Farm LLC	Grassroots Training And Sales LLC	75,000	D. Farrington
350	3/28/23	B	C	Tiz the Law	Rock Me Mama	Broken Vow	Cynthia Jo Darrah-Hipple	Thorstock LLC Agent	90,000	Cash is King LLC & LC Racing LLC
351	5/17/23	B	F	Volatile	Roman Bluff	Roman Ruler	Blackstone Farm LLC	Robert Brewer Agent	45,000	Christopher McCarthy
354	3/7/23	CH	F	Uptowncharlybrown	Royalaspen	Congrats	Equivine Farm LLC	Crane Thoroughbred Services	50,000	Michael J. Gramiak
414	4/9/23	B	C	American Pharoah	Southern Christmas	Harlan's Holiday	Dunham Thoroughbreds	Tom McCrocklin Agent	230,000	not sold
453	4/4/23	B	F	Higher Power	Thakaa	Lemon Drop Kid	Emily White	Grassroots Training And Sales LLC	15,000	Ernesto Padilla
477	4/7/23	GRR	F	Essential Quality	Tricky Escape	Hat Trick (JPN)	Jon A. Marshall	Crane Thoroughbred Services Agent	235,000	not sold
577	4/16/23	CH	F	Munnings	Queen Scheherazade	Smart Strike	Blackstone Farm LLC	Robert Brewer Agent	80,000	Taproot, for DeSales 85
585	4/15/23	B	C	Weigelia	Bon Heir	Wildcat Heir	WynOaks Farm LLC	Crane Thoroughbred Services Agent	47,000	Peter D. Kelly



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# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS

## JIM MCKAY TURF SPRINT S

PIM, \$125,000, 3YO/UP, 5FT, 5-17.

### WON - WITTY

g, 6, Great Notion–Zeezee Zoomzoom, by Congrats.  
O-Qatar Racing LLC, Marc Detampel and Elizabeth M. Merryman,  
B-Elizabeth M. Merryman (PA), T-Elizabeth M. Merryman,  
J-Flavien Prat, \$75,000.

There is no doubt that Witty gets attention. The eye-catching, big-bodied dappled gray draws oohs and aahs wherever he goes. When the son of Great Notion appeared in the Pimlico post parade on Preakness Day, he commanded national attention during NBC's coverage.

Then he really wowed them.

Trailing in last, about a dozen lengths behind the frontrunners, who rocketed through an opening quarter-mile in :21.91 in the 5-furlong Jim McKay Turf Sprint Stakes, Witty turned for home seemingly beaten. Then he shifted into a gear that left his fans breathless. Accelerating as rider Flavien Prat found room heading down the stretch, the 6-year-old swooped past the field à la "Secretariat" and drew off as if the others had stopped. His winning margin was 3 1/4 lengths while clocking the distance in :59.61 over a course rated good.

Prat, who was riding Witty for the first time in the gelding's 31st start, said afterwards: "That race set up perfect. They kind of ran away from me at first, then in the turn, he started making up a bit of ground. I thought maybe I'm gonna get a piece of it then all of a sudden, I asked him for run and he took off. He kept coming as the leaders stopped a bit at the eighth-pole and we kept going."

It was a perfect day of celebration for breeder/trainer and co-owner Lizzie Merryman, who not only was celebrating her birthday, but enjoying the historic moment on the last day of racing in the old clubhouse where Merrymans occupied box seats for generations. Witty, a half-brother to 2022 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint-G1 winner Caravel, continues to bring the excitement and pure joy.

"That's him," she said. "He always comes from way off the pace. There was a ton of speed in the race, so I expected him

to be way behind. You never know, it was a long ways back. Like Flavien (Prat) said, turning for home he thought he'd get a piece of it and all of a sudden he was four in front. I like that part!"

Witty is now co-owned by Qatar Racing LLC and Marc Detampel, who also campaigned Caravel as the Mizzen Mast mare went on to win nearly \$2 million including multiple Grade 1 stakes. Merryman had campaigned Witty in her own colors through last year's Jim McKay Turf Sprint Stakes, in which he gained the lead before giving way late to finish second. Merryman explained to reporters that the Witty ownership group came together when, while at dinner, "... Sheikh Fahad said, 'How about you sell me half?' I was like, 'Nah ... all right.' A few days later Marc jumped in, too. It was kind of like carrying on the Caravel situation." Since the sale, Witty has made nine starts, won twice, with three seconds (including the Grade 2 Highlander) and a third, while earning over \$200,000 of his career total \$801,782. Lifetime he's won or placed in 22 of his 31 starts, is a stakes winner on dirt and turf, and is the third leading earner for his sire Great Notion.

His dam Zeezee Zoomzoom (by Congrats) has five winners from six starters – Merryman has Witty's 4-year-old full brother Enzo in training and sent him out at Laurel for his first win on May 23. Also racing this year for the breeder is 3-year-old filly Somnium, by Street Boss, who has been second or third in all three of her starts.

Zeezee Zoomzoom was not bred for 2023, and produced a PA-Bred Justify colt last year. Her 2025 foal is a filly by Nyquist born March 5. ■



AVERIE LEVANTI PHOTO

# PA-BRED STAKES RECAPS

## THIRD CHANCE S

HAW, \$50,000, 3YO/UP, F/M, 6F, 5-18.

## 2ND - GRAY LIGHTNING

f, 4, Social Inclusion–Fairy Gray, by Cat Thief.

(\$370,000 2024 FTOAPR) O-NR Club,

B-Desmond C. Wynter (PA), \$10,000.

## PRAMMS MEMORIAL

JAGERSRO, SWEDEN, \$71,586, 3YO/UP, ABT 11/16M, 5-18.

## 2ND - LORD MOUNTBATTEN

c, 4, Connect–Softly Lit, by Latent Heat. (\$9,000 RNA 2022

KEESEP; \$62,429 2023 GOFFAPR) O-FTHK Racing,

B-Blackstone Farm LLC (PA), \$17,896.

## WILLOWDALE STEEPLECHASE S

WIL, \$35,000, 5YO/UP, 31/2M, 5-10.

## 3RD - MASTER SEVILLE

g, 9, Seville (Ger)–Casablanca Lily (Ire), by Hurricane Run (Ire).

O-South Branch Equine LLC, B-South Branch Equine LLC (PA),

\$3,500.

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