

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **MONMOUTH PARK HASKELL WEEKEND TRAINER CHALLENGE TO AGAIN OFFER \$150,000 IN BONUSES JULY 17 THROUGH 19**

OCEANPORT, N.J. – For the third straight year, Monmouth Park will offer added incentives for trainers during NYRA Bets Haskell Stakes weekend July 17-19 with a \$150,000 Haskell Weekend Trainer Challenge featuring a top payout of \$75,000.

Eclipse Award-winning trainer Chad Brown took the top prize a year ago, with Hall of Famer Todd Pletcher earning \$25,000 for finishing second. In the first year of the bonus in 2024, Pletcher finished first and Brown was second.

But local trainers have benefitted from the bonus challenge as well, with long-time Monmouth-based conditioner Pat McBurney finishing third in 2024 to earn \$20,000. Peter Synnefiyas, who was Monmouth-based for the first time last year, was third in 2025, earning a \$20,000 bonus.

Bonuses for the three-day event are determined by a point system that covers all of the races that weekend. The centerpiece is the 59th edition of the \$1 million, Grade 1 NYRA Bets Haskell Stakes for 3-year-olds on July 18.

The Grade 2 United Nations, the Grade 2 Molly Pitcher Stakes – both carrying purses of \$500,000 – the Grade 3 Monmouth Cup, the Grade 3 WinStar Matchmaker Stakes and the Wolf Hill Stakes, all part of the Haskell Day undercard, highlight the weekend.

The trainer accumulating the most points over the three days will again receive \$75,000, with \$25,000 for second place, \$20,000 for third place, \$10,000 for fourth place and \$7,500 for fifth place.

Trainers finishing sixth through 10th will each receive \$2,500.

To be eligible, trainers must make at least five starts in at least three races over the three-day weekend. The Haskell Stakes will offer 25 points for the winning trainer, with 20 points for second, 15 points for third place, 10 points for fourth place and 7 points for finishing fifth through last place.

The point system for the other graded stakes is as follows: 18 for first place, 15 for second place, 10 points for third place, 8 points for fourth place and 5 points for fifth through last place. The point system for all other stakes races will be 12-9-7-5 and 4 for fifth through last.

Maiden special weight, allowance and handicap races will offer points on an 8-6-4 basis, with 2 points for fourth place through last place.

All other races will have point values of 5 for first place, 3 for second place, 2 for third place and 1 point for fourth through last place.

Every race over the three-day span will offer the opportunity to accumulate points.

The \$100,000 Mister Prospector Stakes on July 17 and the \$100,000 Regret Stakes on July 19 will bookend the three-day weekend that will feature eight stakes races overall.

For a full set of rules regarding the Haskell Weekend Trainer Challenge see the Monmouth Park condition book.

Monmouth Park's 50-day meet runs from May 9 through Sept. 13.

Post time Saturday and Sunday is 12:50 p.m. When Fridays are added to the live racing calendar starting June 26 post time that day will be 2 p.m.

Post time on Haskell Stakes day is noon.