

NEWS RELEASE

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MONMOUTH PARK'S HASKELL WEEKEND TRAINER CHALLENGE WILL AGAIN OFFER \$150,000 IN BONUS MONEY FROM JULY 17 TO 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 that will feature a top payout of \$75,000.

Though Hall of Fame trainer Todd Pletcher and Chad Brown have dominated the first two years, local trainers have reaped the financial benefits as well. Long-time Monmouth Park trainer Pat McBurney checked in third in 2024 to earn \$20,000 with Peter Synnefias, based at Monmouth Park since 2024, finishing third last year for a \$20,000 bonus.

Brown earned the top prize of \$75,000 last year, with Pletcher receiving \$25,000 for second. In 2024, Pletcher captured the top spot with Brown finishing second.

Bonuses for the three-day event will be 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, 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 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 Mr. Prospector Stakes on July 17 – expected to feature Jersey-bred star and Eclipse Award champion sprinter Book'em Danno – and the \$100,000 Regret Stakes on July 19 will bookend the three-day weekend that will feature eight stakes races overall.