



JAKE

Bay, c, 3 by Muscle Hill – Poster Pin Up by Andover Hall

OWNER: Determination, Montreal, QC
BREEDER: Joyce & Richard McClelland, OH
SALE INFO: Standardbred Horse Sale \$100,000
TRAINER: Luc Blais
DRIVER: Daniel Dube

YEAR	STARTS	1ST	2ND	3RD	EARNINGS	MARK
2017	5	1	2	1	\$18,248	Q1:54.4 Moh
2016	10	2	2	4	\$157,065	1:55.4 Lex
LIFETIME	15	3	4	5	\$175,313	3,Q,1:54.4 Moh

Luc Blais, a native of Lochaber Ouest, Quebec and who is seeking his first Hambletonian champion, is coming off a solid year in which he ranked fifth in Canada's trainer earnings with \$1.78 million.

The 55-year-old Blais had worked with a number of stakes winners at Yves Filion's Bayama Farms in Quebec before starting his own stable. His best-known recent successes include two-time O'Brien Award-winning trotter and millionaire Intimidate and Ontario Sire Stakes champion trotter Emoticon Hanover.

The recently retired Intimidate is responsible for Blais's personal highlight, when he was supplemented to the Breeders Crown and powered past Hambletonian Market Share to grab the \$500,000 final.

Dube's last drive in a Hambo heat was with Workout Wonder in 2015, finishing sixth. Dube did drive Make It Happen to a third-place Hambo final finish in 2008.

"He raced good the last time out and I think he will be alright coming from the outside post, Dube said via phone call Wednesday. "I can do whatever I want with him. In these eliminations, you need a little bit of racing luck to make the final. We just have to get there."

Dube finished second with Jake in a \$15,000 race back on July 29th.

"This is the best race. I can't explain it. For us to get to the final and have a chance to win, it would mean a lot to me and a dream come true," Dube said.

Determination Stable is Serge Godin of Westmount, Quebec. Godin founded CGI Group, a Canadian global information technology company, in 1976, and remains its executive chairman. Outside CGI, Godin has endowed a family foundation focused on poverty reduction and also owns a Westmount, Que., horse-racing stable called Determination. In 2016 he was elevated from a member of the Order of Canada to an officer.

Breeders Joyce and Richard McClelland were co-owners on 2015 Hambo winner Pinkman. Long-time owners and breeders, Joyce McClelland also owned the great 1987 Breeders Crown champion Call For Rain. Sire Muscle Hill won the 2009 Hambo and sired 2014 winner Trixtion and 2016 winner Marion Marauder.