



### **Flawless Country (Southwind Frank-Aleah Hanover-Donato Hanover)**

Flawless Country worked out a second-over trip in the second Hambletonian Oaks elimination and turned it into a fourth-place result. She finished a length and a quarter behind winner Awesome Trix and was clocked in 1:53 flat.

In 2020 Flawless Country won a division of the Arden Downs at The Meadows, two Pennsylvania Sire Stakes legs at The Meadows and Pocono, the Pennsylvania Sire Stakes Championship at Pocono, and a Grand Circuit Stakes event at The Red Mile. She hasn't been to the winner's circle in six starts this year, with a best finish of third in PaSS action at Harrah's Philadelphia and Pocono. Overall, she has a record of 5-4-2, has banked \$462,579, and has a mark of 1:53 at The Red Mile.

#### **Quote**

**Prior to this season, trainer-driver Ake Svanstedt said:** "She raced very good [last year]. She has a big heart and has focus when she gets behind the gate. She can be a little lazy when we train her, but when she gets behind the gate she has focus and a really big heart. She grew. She is taller now and looks good. She was a sound horse all season. She raced good until the end."

#### **Breeding Notes**

Flawless Country would be the first Hambletonian Oaks champion for sire Southwind Frank, whose initial crop are 3-year-olds this year. Her dam, Aleah Hanover, is a half-sister to \$1.3M+ earner Cruzado Dela Noche (by Muscle Massive). Cruzado Dela Noche raced in the eliminations for the 2015 Hambletonian but finished ninth and did not advance to the final.

Bred by Christian Stoltzfus, Flawless Country sold for \$100,000 as HIP 751 at the 2019 Standardbred Horse Sale in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She would be Stoltzfus's first Hambletonian Oaks champion.

#### **Trainer-Driver Bio**

## **AKE SVANSTEDT**

**Born: 11/18/1958 – Birthplace: Sweden – Resides: Columbus, NJ**

**Hambletonian wins (1): Perfect Spirit, 2017.**

Ake Svanstedt trained and drove Perfect Spirit, who won the 2017 Hambletonian when What The Hill was disqualified for interference in the stretch. It was the first disqualification of a winner in Hambletonian history.

Svanstedt-trained Back Of The Neck, driven by Scott Zeron, finished third in the 2020 Hambletonian final behind filly Ramona Hill and Ready For Moni. He had two finalists in 2019. Soul Strong, driven by Dexter Dunn, finished fourth and Marseille, driven by Svanstedt, was sixth.

Previous stars for Svanstedt included Dan Patch Award winner Sebastian K, who became the then-fastest trotter in history when he went a mile in 1:49 in 2014. Svanstedt has trained a record four trotters to win races in 1:49.4 or faster, with two-time Dan Patch Award-winner Six Pack, Darling Mearas S, and Plunge Blue Chip joining Sebastian K.

Svanstedt moved to the U.S. from Sweden in 2014. His training stable set a career high with \$5.21 million in purses in 2020, ranking fourth in North America. He has exceeded \$4 million in four of the past five years.

As a trainer, he has won more than 700 career races in North America and \$30 million in purses. As a driver, he has topped 400 victories and \$20 million.

Svanstedt was Sweden's Trainer of the Year five times and Driver of the Year on three occasions. He won 6,306 races as a driver in Sweden and 5,384 as a trainer. In 2017, he was inducted in Sweden's Hall of Fame.

During his career overseas, Svanstedt won the Elitlopp twice, with Torvald Palema in 2009 and Gidde Palema in 2004, the Copenhagen Cup three times and both the Oslo Grand Prix and Olympic Trot four times.

Svanstedt grew up with horses in Sweden. His father, who was in the timber business, used horses for work and raced cold-blooded trotters. Svanstedt began his professional career at the age of 24 and within several years was the champion at his home track in Bergsaker.

### **Owner Bio**

**Ake Svanstedt Inc., Wolfgang A Stable Inc., Wrightstown, NJ; Borje Nasstrom, Falkoping, Sweden**

Flawless Country would be the first Hambletonian Oaks champion for any of her owners. Wolfgang A Stable Inc. is the nom de course of Tore Borgersen.