

Date: August 12th, 2021**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Grit and Curiosity (2nd race)****First Race**

1. Direct Line	2. Allaboutthemoney	3. Raisebeforetheflop
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Unraced since January, **DIRECT LINE** gets the call in this wide-open maiden-40 route. He ran fairly well his only previous comeback, missing by less than five lengths in a maiden special-weight on turf, followed by a runner-up finish in a MSW dirt route that might be good enough. He figures for a forwardly placed trip. **ALLABOUTTHEMONEY** employs an opposite running style; he will rally from behind while dropping to the lowest level of his career. The last 11 runners trained by Vladimir Cerin produced 3 wins and 3 seconds.

RAISEBEFORETHEFLOP figures to vie for favoritism while stretching to a route for the first time, dropping in class, and adding Lasix. **MONGOLIAN FORD** is fast enough if he reproduces his April highly rated runner-up finish.

Second Race

1. Grit and Curiosity	2. Barristan The Bold	3. Ian Glass
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GRIT AND CURIOSITY drops in for a tag, first start since March. He runs well fresh, he has run well against tougher than these \$32k claiming sprinters, he has tactical speed and his trainer-jockey combo is among the most productive in SoCal. Peter Miller and Flavien Prat have won at a 27 percent clip the past five years (122 for 449). **BARRISTAN THE BOLD** also drops in class for his first start since March. Back-to-back fourths his first two U.S. starts in late 2019/early 2020 are fast enough. However, he is a deep closer who faces a challenging course profile. Most turf sprints this season were won from a forward position (17 turf sprints: 9 wire-to-wire, 6 winners positioned 2-3-4). **IAN GLASS** is a six-time winner who won three of his last four including a pair of claiming turf sprints vs. similar at Santa Anita. This is his first start in two and a half months. **PSYCHO DAR**, runner-up to **IAN GLASS** two back, has run races that put him in the picture.

Third Race

1. Super Renee	2. Sip Sip Hooray	3. My Sweet Mary
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The experienced runners in this maiden-claiming sprint for 2yo fillies are modest. This is an ideal spot for first-time starter **SUPER RENEE**. She has worked fairly well, trainer Kristin Mulhall pops occasionally with rookies, and the filly gets a weight break under apprentice Jessica Pyfer, who has worked her in the morning. All systems go. **SIP SIP HOORAY** followed her troubled debut with an okay third next out. Though not particularly quick, she is improving and 2yos from this stable continue to outrun their odds. Her trainer is Walther Solis, who also entered **MY SWEET MARY**. The latter pressed and faded to fourth in an improved second career start. She has a bit more speed than her stablemate. **JACRODA'S DEVIL** split the field in an okay debut. She drops from maiden-50 to maiden-32 and likely to improve second time out.

Fourth Race

1. Dendera	2. Abhita	3. Warren's Showgirl
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DENDERA was not disgraced in her fifth-place debut, a dirt sprint that sets her up for a stretch-out to a mile on turf. **DENDERA** was pushed along to maintain position first out, and split the field. The pace of this grass route should be slower, therefore she will not need to be asked early. She has turf influence in her pedigree (dam by Scat Daddy). Improvement likely at this longer distance, new footing.

ABHITA was merely prepping in her debut in the same race as the top choice. **ABHITA** broke slowly and raced at the back. She is likely to improve running two turns on turf, sired by Clubhouse Ride. Her trainer is Craig Lewis, who also entered also-eligible Clubhouse Ride second-time starter **WARREN'S SHOWGIRL**. The latter is a full sister to multiple stakes winner Warren's Showtime, who won her second career start when she stretched out and switched to turf. Also-eligible **DISTORTED DIVA** finished a creditable second last out on turf. Tough outside post, however.

Fifth Race

1. American Dancer	2. Next Revolt	3. Boyson
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Overmatched and unplaced last out in a turf allowance, **AMERICAN DANCER** returns to preferred dirt footing and returns the claiming

ranks. His dirt-route form is solid including a runaway win two back in a \$25k claiming N2L mile at Santa Anita that would be fast enough to win this \$20k claiming N31. He has speed, but also is versatile and could tuck in just off the pace. **NEXT REVOLT** stretches back to a route and is reunited with Prat. The last time Prat rode 'REVOLT' he won a sprint by more than four lengths. The gelding broke his maiden running two turns over the DMR track last summer. Northern California shipper **BOYSON** will be rolling late; **QUESTION AUTHORITY** stretches back to a mile after a respectable fifth in an opening-week sprint.

Sixth Race

1. Shylock Eddie

2. Acai

3. Rain Diva

In a difficult race for Cal-bred filly-mare allowance turf sprinters, **SHYLOCK EDDIE** gets the call. Her runner-up finish two starts back, which was the only time she was ridden by Umberto Rispoli, she ran fast enough to handle this group. Her closing style is a challenge; most turf sprints this summer have been won by front-runners and pace-pressers. Only 2 of 17 turf sprints won by closers (15 winners were positioned in the top four). **ACAI** does have speed, and turns to preferred turf footing after a misfire on dirt. She ran well over this turf course in fall, she has speed and an outside post and will be pressing the pace. **RAIN DIVA** is pure speed, but her turf form is uncertain. She did not finish in the money any four grass starts, but she set the pace to deep stretch last time going six furlongs on turf. She cuts back to five and has a shot up front. D'S LOVELY SOPHIA will rally from far back.

Seventh Race

1. Joe Don Looney

2. Half Right

3. Goldeneyed

A fast pace against good company foiled **JOE DON LOONEY** three weeks ago, but now he returns to the claiming ranks and moves to an outside post (8 of 11). He won over the DMR track last summer; his most recent win this year was the last time he raced for a tag against 3yos. Same conditions here. **HALF RIGHT** was claimed from a runner-up finish opening weekend against similar. With tactical speed and a good race over the track, he is an obvious contender. **GOLDENEYED** finished an okay fourth in his first local start. He moves closer to the outside and figures for a pressing trip. **CARPE DONUM** scratched from a starter allowance on Saturday to go for a tag. He wired maiden-30s last out and should show speed from the rail.

Eighth Race

1. Hockey Dad

2. Numero Dix

3. War Machine

HOCKEY DAD gets the nod in this N1X turf mile after a fine fourth in the Oceanside Stakes. He set the pace, dug in late and missed by less than a length. Good effort against better company. However, he is a front-runner/presser racing over a closers-friendly turf course. **NUMERO DIX** makes his U.S. debut with Lasix after winning one of four in France. His last two workouts were in company with Sword Zorro, who finished first (disqualified) Sunday in the G3 La Jolla. 'DIX is "dropping in class" from the workout against a good foe into an entry-level allowance. Lightly raced and well-bred **WAR MACHINE** (by War Front, sibling to a G1 winner) won his comeback last month at Woodbine. The two-three finishers in that race are 0-for-10, therefore this jump up into allowance company is steep. But he has upside, making just the third start of his career. Also-eligible **MOHAWK KING** finished second all three U.S. starts. Tough outside post for the front-runner.