

Date: September 10th, 2022

Track: Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Kitty Kitana (11th race)

First Race

1. Multi Platinum

2. Baladi

3. Moraweth

First post 1 p.m. **MULTI PLATINUM** meets less speed than he faced last month in a similar spot. He was wheeling back in seven days, dueled on the lead at seven furlongs, and tired to fourth. Now he shortens to six furlongs, has had a month between starts, and gets a softer pace scenario. Long gone? Trouble-prone **BALADI** might have made the lead too soon last out. He rallied to the front in midstretch, then got collared while holding second. Good comeback anyway by the gray, who will be rolling late. **MORAWETH** finished second and was claimed two weeks ago. This group is within reach. **SANTOS TO WILSON** fits, but seems less effective on dirt.

Second Race

1. Established

2. El Tigre Terrible

3. Tizhotndusty

ESTABLISHED misfired on turf, but his win two back on dirt at this \$20k claiming level would be fast enough. He was claimed for \$32k last out, returns immediately to his winning level, and enters as the fastest in the field. Trainer Jonathan Wong is 5-for-9 first off the claim on dirt this meet per Formulator. **EL TIGRE TERRIBLE** returns from an eight-month layoff while entered with the "no-claim" waiver. The veteran gelding is a three-time winner over the Del Mar track including a career-best win two years ago in the Real Good Deal Stakes for Calbred 3yos. **TIZHOTNDUSTY** dueled inside and held third in an improved effort second start back. Slight drop from \$25k claiming to \$20k helps. **BLACK STORM** will be running late.

Third Race

1. Gregory's Pride

2. Straight No Chaser

3. Commander Khai

Runner-up four straight, in the money seven straight without a win, **GREGORY'S PRIDE** is overdue for a N1X turf sprint win. Fastest on numbers, his closing style suits the pace scenario. The speedsters in posts 1-2 could set it up. Rail-drawn **STRAIGHT NO CHASER** led gate to wire first out, and it turns out he beat a good field of maidens. The fourth- and sixth-place finishers returned to win MSWs, the ninth- and tenth-place finishers returned to win maiden-claiming races. 'CHASER is a threat up front first against winners, but he faces a tough pace foe to his outside. **COMMANDER KHAI** goes route to sprint; his best races were one turn. **ENCROACHMENT** is the aforementioned pace rival in post 2. He and rail-drawn **STRAIGHT TO CHASER** insure honest splits.

Fourth Race

1. Flying Fred

2. Maynard

3. Careless Kitten

Weak field of two-turn maiden-20s, and dropper **FLYING FRED** is the tepid choice. A nine-start maiden, he has never raced at this low level and his best figures are close to the 65 Beyer par for this level. **MAYNARD** also drops, though he is uncertain on dirt. His only dirt race was the worst of his five-start career. Second preference, nonetheless. **CARELESS KITTEN** stretches out from sprints, he "won" a maiden route last fall but was disqualified for interference.

Fifth Race

1. Midnight Jostar

2. Coalinga Road

3. Relaxed Artist

Habitual slow starter **MIDNIGHT JOSTAR** ran okay last time in a similar N1X turf mile, he finished third as the favorite. The race was weird. The fast-pace front-runner wired the field, 'JOSTAR made up 12 lengths the final half-mile. Back at the same level, over the course on which he has won twice, he can blast home for the win. **COALINGA ROAD** finished second last out, in front of the top choice, to prove he can be effective around two turns. Rider switch to Joe Bravo after the troubled trip. **RELAXED ARTIST** showed promise in his U.S. debut in winter, rallying from last to second in a downhill turf sprint. First start since, the lightly raced colt figures to be forwardly placed. **BANG FOR YOUR BUCK** missed by a head last out in a \$150k Calbred stake, the winner returned to win a N1X.

Sixth Race

1. Hejazi**2. Fort Bragg****3. Speed Boat Beach**

Also-eligible **HEJAZI** ran like a 2-year-old that needed the start in his debut, runner-up at odds-on. The \$3.55 million colt is likely to improve second time out. He is trained by Bob Baffert, who also entered two first-time starters in the body of the race. **FORT BRAGG** is a Tapit colt with sharp works including a team drill Aug. 28 with National Treasure, who scored a fast debut win last weekend. The third Baffert entrant is **SPEED BOAT BEACH**, whose fast works signal readiness. **FLEET FEET** finished sixth in a Grade 3 in his career debut. Now he drops into a maiden race.

Seventh Race

1. Havana Angel**2. Thebestisyettobe****3. Comanche Country**

Group 3-placed in European, **HAVANA ANGEL** makes her U.S. debut as the class of this stakes race. Purchased at a summer auction in France for a reported \$335k, she has been stabled in California for weeks to target this race for trainer Leonard Powell. The filly's third last out was validated when the runner-up won a listed race two starts later; the fourth-place finisher won a minor race two starts later. All five starts by 'ANGEL were on straightaways, now she must negotiate two turns. **THEBESTISYETTOBE** won her only start in Ireland; the two-three finishers from that maiden race won next out. Lightly raced filly making just her second career start. **COMANCHE COUNTRY** has something the top pair lack. That is, a start in the U.S. She dropped from a G3 in Ireland to make her U.S. debut in late July, and rallied to a solid maiden win. She is a late threat.

Eighth Race

1. Home Cooking**2. And Tell Me Nolies****3. Vegas Magic**

Impressive maiden winner **HOME COOKING** is the choice in the G1 Del Mar Debutante. After showing speed and fading first out, she removed blinkers second out and did everything right. She took dirt inside, angled outside into the lane, and ran away to win by more than nine. She worked well since for Baffert, who won this race 10 times including the last three. **AND TELL ME NOLIES** also improved second out. She added blinkers, pressed the pace inside with improved speed, fought back through the lane and turned back the odds-on favorite. Sharp win by an improving filly who should be forwardly placed in a field short on serious pace. **VEGAS MAGIC** is 3-for-3 with two stakes wins including the G2 Sorrento on this track. She is a consummate pro who can race inside and behind rivals. Like many in this field, the figures earned by **VEGAS MAGIC** are modest, but she "wants" to win. **ICE DANCING** ran well for third in her debut, the maiden could upset second out. She was not quick, raced wide, was green in the lane, but finished well. She should improve a ton second time out.

Ninth Race

1. Going Global**2. Going to Vegas****3. Park Avenue**

GOING GLOBAL is 8-for-10 on turf since she was imported from Europe, her two best stakes wins were on the DMR course including a dominating three-length win last out in a G2. Sharp filly still the queen of the California turf division and a logical choice in this G2. **GOING TO VEGAS** defeated the top choice in May, which was the most recent start by 'VEGAS. The layoff is not an issue, she runs well fresh and has more tactical speed than her top-choice stablemate. 'VEGAS is likely to be positioned second behind the pacesetter, and get first run when the leader tires. **PARK AVENUE** has been less effective without the anti-bleeding medication Lasix, but she could be loose on the lead. If she gets comfortable, without pressure, she could steal it. **BELLAMORE** looms the late-running upset candidate as she shortens from a third-place finish in a mile and three-eighths turf stake, to a mile and one-eighth. She will rally late at a price.

Tenth Race

1. Moose Mitchell**2. Tahoe Secrets****3. Tizlightning**

MOOSE MITCHELL dominated \$25k claiming 3yos by nearly three lengths, and can handle the raise to this age-restricted \$40k claiming sprint. His figure (80 Beyer) was validated when third place Prayer of Jabez won next out while improving his figure one point. 'MITCHELL was claimed off the win, and can fire right back with a front-running/pace-pressing trip. **TAHOE SECRETS** finished a respectable third last out against older in his first against winners; he pressed the pace and held best of the speed. These claiming 3yos might be easier, he should be forwardly placed. **TIZLIGHTNING** returns to preferred footing, which is dirt. He drops in class third start back from a layoff. **AS A MATTER OF FACT**, overmatched in a stake last out, is back where he fits. His allowance win two starts back at Pleasanton is among the fastest in the field.

Eleventh Race

1. Kitty Kitana**2. Leisurewear****3. Velvet**

Second start back from a layoff, second time running long, **KITTY KITANA** looks tough in this maiden turf route. She had been off nearly six months when she missed by a head in a similar spot. Solid works since, rider switch to Flavien Prat, 'KITANA enters as the most probable winner on the card. **LEISUREWEAR** is a 10-start maiden who finished in the money all four turf routes. She will get there sooner or later. **VELVET**, beaten favorite four straight, finished only a length and a quarter behind the top choice last out after early trouble. **AUTOMAX** rallied to second in a promising debut, albeit a sprint. Sharp workouts continue, likely improvement second time out.