

**Date:** November 24th, 2022

**Track:** Del Mar

**By Brad Free**

**BEST BET: Cute Khloe (8th race)**

#### First Race

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**1. Virat**

**2. Trebbiano**

**3. Haskelled**

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Happy Thanksgiving, Del Mar first post 11 a.m. **VIRAT** and nine-start maiden **TREBBIANO** top this maiden turf sprint. **VIRAT** finished second two of his three turf sprints including include a head loss last out going six and one-half furlongs at Santa Anita, and an "off slow" runner-up finish three starts back at DMR. The gelding makes his first start since changing trainers from Phil D'Amato to Peter Miller. His new rider Flavien Prat is due to begin winning turf races; his first 21 turf mounts this meet produced 1 win, 9 seconds. **TREBBIANO** hit the board six of nine including runner-up finishes both tries on the DMR turf. He finished a neck behind the top choice last out. **HASKELLED** returns from an extended layoff adding blinkers and Lasix. Trainer Doug O'Neill is serving a 30-day suspension, **HASKELLED** will run under the name of O'Neill assistant trainer Leandro Mora.

#### Second Race

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**1. El Tigre Terrible**

**2. Palace Prince**

**3. Lookin for Revenge**

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The sprinter **EL TIGRE TERRIBLE** stretches to a mile, drops in class to \$8k claiming and benefits from a 10-pound apprentice allowance. The even-paced style he utilized recently suggests he may apprentice the slower tempo of this two-turn race. Three of his four career wins were at DMR. **PALACE PRINCE** returns from Arizona where he scored an upset victory last out in a claiming race over back-class G2 winner Cleopatra's Strike. Two turns is not an issue for 'PRINCE, who will be grinding late. Class-drop front-runner **LOOKIN FOR REVENGE** and stretch-out **DEVOTED TO YOU** will contest the pace.

#### Third Race

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**1. Gotcha Lookin**

**2. Big Hat Willie**

**3. Spiritist**

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Second-start droppers **GOTCHA LOOKIN** and **BIG HAT WILLIE** top this maiden-claiming sprint. Both move from maiden special-weight to maiden-50, both got a hint of betting support first out. **GOTCHA LOOKIN** did not break well in his summer debut at Gulfstream Park, and now adds blinkers for his first start in three months. **BIG HAT WILLIE** also broke slowly in his debut, at Churchill Downs. He posted a sharp gate workout last Friday at Del Mar. **SPIRITIST** is the fastest entrant based on figures; his 52 Beyer finishing third last out tops the field. He encountered trouble all three starts.

#### Fourth Race

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**1. Overdue**

**2. Southern King**

**3. Opry**

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**OVERDUE** returns to the DMR turf course on which he scored a fast win during the summer meet. Both subsequent starts on other surfaces were bland, but likes it better at DMR, and benefits by the drop from \$40k claiming to \$25k. **SOUTHERN KING** wired similar last out over his preferred turf course, which is SA. The sharp older gelding ran okay over the DMR course in summer. **OPRY** finished in front of 'KING two starts back at DMR, and a neck behind 'KING last out at SA. A pace-presser, **OPRY** got claimed for \$25k last out but the claim was voided when he did not pass a post-race veterinary inspection. **FIRST PREMIO** is usually in the thick of things in the claiming turf ranks.

#### Fifth Race

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**1. Where's Frankie**

**2. Equilove**

**3. Righteously**

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This \$8k claiming sprint is a scramble. **WHERE'S FRANKIE** is an eight-time winner returning to California after a successful summer campaign in Arizona and Minnesota. She has speed to be involved early, although her main pace rival **EQUILOVE** has the same style. The latter plummets from \$25k claiming. She could make things tough for the top choice. **RIGHTEOUSLY** is a six-time winner including two over the DMR track. Late-runner **ROSES R BLUE** has a running style that could play well if the top choices run each other into the ground.

#### Sixth Race

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**1. Sister Otoole****2. Bellstreet Bridie****3. Quattroelle**

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**SISTER OTOOLE** won a \$100k turf marathon on this course in summer, and is the obvious choice to win a similar turf marathon in fall. Her last-out third in a G3 at Keeneland was decent; she is the class of this field. Tepid choice. **BELLSTREET BRIDIE** recently was purchased in Europe for a reported \$311k after winning three of her last four; she arrived in the U.S. last week. If she starts, she would be using this stake against older to prep for the G1 American Oaks vs. 3yo fillies on Dec. 26 at SA. **QUATTROELLE** stretches to a marathon for the first time after a respectable N2X last out at a mile and one-eighth. **LADY JAE** goes from a six and one-half furlongs to 11 furlongs as an interesting upset candidate for a trainer whose horses have been outrunning their odds. **SCARABEA**, runner-up to the top choice in the summer marathon, drops in class after an okay fifth last out in a G1. **DUVET DAY** is not impossible in a stakes race with a history of upset winners. Favorites are only 1-for-8 since this race moved to DMR; 5 Red Carpet winners paid more than \$20.

**Seventh Race**

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**1. Nolo Contesto****2. Nice Guy Clay****3. Rogue Son**

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**NOLO CONTESTO** returns from a layoff of more than a year, and drops to the rock-bottom \$16k claiming N2L level for the first time with fast workouts that suggest he will fire first start back. Negligible wagering value on a dubious selection. **NICE GUY CLAY** also drops. Runner-up two back in a \$32k claiming N2L sprint, he will mix it up early. **ROGUE SON** is the late threat, first time at the bottom. **STAR SAILOR** fits on class, he shortens from a route to a sprint and will rally from behind.

**Eighth Race**

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**1. Cute Khloe****2. The Wild Grazer****3. Shirley's Bane**

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**CUTE KHLOE** should be tough in this turf sprint for 2yo maiden fillies based on a promising runner-up debut in a similar maiden turf sprint at SA. She broke last, waited in traffic on the turn, split horses into the lane, and narrowed the gap to miss by less than a length behind the heavily favored winner. Sharp effort sets her up for a maiden win second time out. She faces a European import with an intriguing last-out company liine. **THE WILD GRAZER** makes her U.S. debut after showing promise in Ireland where she finished third last out in a productive maiden race open to both colts and fillies. The winner Victoria Road won his next three starts including the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. 'GRAZER finished only three and a half lengths behind that top-class 2yo. The challenge for 'GRAZER is distance; five furlongs might be shorter than preferred. Promising maiden nonetheless. **SHIRLEY'S BANE** showed speed and faded in routes. She might like this shorter trip. **HAZANNE** is a Tapit filly with apparently sharp workouts for her debut.