

**Date:** July 29th, 2023**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Like No Other (6th race)****First Race****1. Heartland****2. A Day to Remember****3. Head Lad**

The inside post complicates matters for well-bred, fast-working 2yo **HEARTLAND**; the Justify sibling to 2016 BC Juvenile winner/champion 2yo Classic Empire gets the call despite the opening-week pro-outside track bias. **HEARTLAND** has worked fast for Bob Baffert. The colt's dam also produced stakes winners Uptown Swirl and Anytime Magic. **HEARTLAND** should fire first out. **A DAY TO REMEMBER** drew the favorable outside post and will debut with high expectations. Sired by American Pharoah and produced by stakes winner Kindle, **REMEMBER** has been working well for his debut for trainer Mark Glatt, and holds the advantage on post position. **HEAD LAD**, stablemate of the top choice, also has been working fast for his debut. Doug O'Neill, who won the first open 2yo MSW race last weekend with longshot Raging Torrent, sends out **FLIGHT WAY** and **INVINCIBLE**.

**Second Race****1. Cherubic Factor****2. Standing O****3. Arman**

A lively pace scenario in this N2X turf sprint benefits the closing style of **CHERUBIC FACTOR**, an improved older gelding this year. He fired every start including a decisive N1X last out. Although that race is unproductive so far (four ran back, none hit board), **FACTOR** is sharp, working well, with a versatile style to rally from midpack cutting back to five furlongs. **STANDING O** finished in the money both starts this spring at this N2X level despite imperfect trips. Although five furlongs might be shorter than he wants (same as the top choice), this field does include speed to flatter their kicks. **ARMAN** was in tough last out in a G1; he finished last. But his allowance win three back and stakes third two back compare favorably. Turf should be fine for the Bolt d'Oro colt who is the only 3yo in the field. Blinkers on.

**Third Race****1. Only One America****2. Just a Guess****3. Mr. Chivas**

The only filly in this field of Cal-bred 2yos, **ONLY ONE AMERICA** makes her debut for a trainer who can fire with firsters. Beyond solid works, she is bred to win early. Juvenile progeny of Marking won 20 percent of debut starts (10 for 49), the dam of **AMERICA** won her debut and has one debut winner from three runners. Looks like a "go" for the Peter Miller-trained filly, who got stuck on the also-eligible list twice last week against Cal-bred maiden fillies. That may explain why she debuts vs. colts. The colt **JUST A GUESS** also is bred to win early. Sired by Nyquist (16 percent debut 2yos), his dam produced two runners who both won first out. **MR. CHIVAS** has something the top pair lack. That is, racing experience. Runner-up his last two starts, he finished more than four clear of third last out. **HELEN'S SUN** appears to have worked well; the Goldencents colt is a sib to stakes winner Teddy's Barino. His trainer Michael McCarthy has a gaggle of 2yos this summer; McCarthy is 5-for-17 the past year+ with 2yo firsters at five furlongs.

**Fourth Race****1. Awesome Taylor****2. Race Judicata****3. Renegade Princess**

**AWESOME TAYLOR** drops to \$16k claiming fillies and mares, facing many rivals in uncertain form. **TAYLOR** defeated decent rivals on turf two back, and she also handles dirt. **RACE JUDICATA** drops to claiming for the first time since her 2021 maiden win. The mare has speed, and with a five-pound apprentice she is likely to be positioned in the leading flight if not set the pace outright. **RENEGADE PRINCESS** finished third in a pair of small-field \$12.5k claiming routes at Santa Anita; she figures as a contender evenly while moving up a notch in claim price. **WHISTLER'S STYLE** will rally late, dropping in class for her first start in two months.

**Fifth Race****1. Loterie****2. Angiolleta****3. Roscoe Village**

**LOTERIE** finished third in her debut in May in Ireland, she makes her U.S. debut for a stable that does well with maiden imports. Trainer Phil D'Amato's last 12 turf maidens making their U.S. debut produced five wins, five seconds. **ANGIOLLETA** also ran well overseas; she makes her U.S. debut for O'Neill off a runner-up finish in France. **ROSCOE VILLAGE** stretches out from a pair of sprints in Florida, and

while PINK WHITNEY merely ran around the track in a prep race first out. The sibling to G3 winner Tall Boy can improve at this longer trip.

### Sixth Race

#### 1. Like No Other

#### 2. Sugar Sugar

#### 3. Summertime Rose

**LIKE NO OTHER** seems a standout for high-percent trainer Andy Mathis, dropping to \$16k claiming N2L after being claimed two back for \$20k. Her third in a starter allowance last out was okay; she enters this restricted claiming sprint as simply the fastest in the field. That probably means speed-figure underlay. **SUGAR SUGAR** will be running late while returning to the DMR surface on which she finished in the money both tries. **SUMMERTIME ROSE** was claimed from a maiden-30 win going a mile at Ellis Park. The cutback to six and a half might be a challenge for a filly who has never run short. Third preference, nonetheless.

### Seventh Race

#### 1. Cute Khloe

#### 2. Warren's Paradise

#### 3. Exclusive Joni

This maiden-62.5k turf route is a scramble. **CUTE KHLOE** ran well on the DMR twice last summer as a 2yo, she stretches out from a midpack finished in a MSW at Ellis Park and should be forwardly placed in a race with an uncertain pace scenario. **WARREN'S PARADISE** finished third both turf mile starts here last summer. This is the Clubhouse Ride filly's first start since August. **EXCLUSIVE JONI** returns to what seems to be her preferred turf surface first off the claim. **ADELIE** drops to maiden-claiming race and should rally late.

### Eighth Race

#### 1. American Admiral

#### 2. Defunded

#### 3. Missed the Cut

The improved gelding **AMERICAN ADMIRAL** might upset this G2, based on his fast recent allowance win at SA. He trained well since including a sharp team drill last week at DMR, and gets a weight break at 118 pounds. A large gelding in peak form, 'ADMIRAL can win from midpack if he runs two alike. G1 winner **DEFUNDED** is the 125-pound highweight and class of the field. Although a mile and sixteenth is a touch shorter than preferred, he should be forwardly placed. If/when likely pacesetter **BRICKYARD RIDE** falters, **DEFUNDED** would get first run. **MISSED THE CUT** ran well in his U.S. debut on dirt, runner-up with a wide trip behind the top choice. A 4-for-8 import from Europe, 'CUT fits off his November 2022 stakes win in England. He defeated Algiers, who subsequently won two Group 2s and finished second in the G1 Dubai World Cup. **MISSED THE CUT** is similar to **DEFUNDED** in that both want a longer distance and are expected to peak Sept. 2 in the Pacific Classic at a mile and one-quarter. **BRICKYARD RIDE** is the speed, stretching to a route for the first time since a seven-length smasher in a Cal-bred stakes in February 2022. That was the only dirt route of his career. An eight-time stakes winner (seven sprints), the challenge is surface. DMR has never been his favorite track. **SLOW DOWN ANDY** should be forwardly placed if he uses his speed from the rail as expected. Enigmatic **ROYAL SHIP** won this race last year, his recent Golden Gate misfire is a toss.

### Ninth Race

#### 1. Ultimate Hy

#### 2. Impact Warrior

#### 3. Gimme Mo Baby

**ULTIMATE HY**, a trouble-prone grey who finished second three straight at this N1X level, is again the horse to beat returning to turf. Wide trips and traffic trouble aside, she packs a wallop in the stretch. In her runner-up turf mile two starts back at Santa Anita, she ran faster each successive quarter (:24.51, :24.28, :23.74, :23.12). A similar effort would probably be good enough here. **IMPACT WARRIOR** makes her U.S. debut for a stable that wins regularly with European imports. D'Amato won a turf allowance opening week with an Irish import; 'WARRIOR faced good company this spring in Ireland. **GIMME MO BABY** was only prepping last month in a downhill sprint; she stretches to the mile distance of her career-best effort finishing fourth with a wide trip last fall in a G3. **SUNSHINE BABE** will be rolling late.

### Tenth Race

#### 1. Dr. Schivel

#### 2. The Chosen Vron

#### 3. Anarchist

**DR. SCHIVEL**, better-than-looked fifth in G1 Met Mile, meets easier, shortens to 6f, and returns to the track on which he won a pair of Grade 1s including this stakes two summers ago. Furthermore, he is favorably drawn outside. His Met Mile was actually okay. He was sandwiched in a duel, sucked back, re-rallied and split the field. He worked well since, his 105-Beyer allowance win two back is the highest-rated race in California this year. His versatility and post allow him to rally in a race likely to unfold at a quick pack. **THE CHOSEN VRON** would be moving to G1 off seven consecutive stakes wins against Cal-breds. He enters off a two-month break, the same timeframe that preceded his five-length romp last out. 'VRON will run here, or next weekend in a Cal-bred stakes. Top contender in either

race. **ANARCHIST** finished second last out at Belmont Park in a G1 won by BC Sprint winner Elite Power, who has won seven straight and is favored in a G1 on Sat at Saratoga. **ANARCHIST** finished less than two lengths behind that rival, has speed and versatility. **PEACEFUL WATERS**, \$310k auction purchase this spring, is an allowance-caliber sprinter who has been working super for his comeback. Outside post fine. **SPIRIT OF MAKENA**, four-for-five including successive graded stakes at seven furlongs, shortens to six in peak form. He probably wants longer, but he won a N1X at six furlongs this winter. **KID CORLEONE** is quick. The 9yo \$2 million earner **C Z ROCKET** is a tough old dude you have to respect.

### Eleventh Race

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#### 1. Smooth Salute

#### 2. Hula Candy

#### 3. Caribbean King

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**SMOOTH SALUTE**, full to G1 winner Smooth Like Strait, is ready for a maiden win third time out. He split a maiden turf-sprint field in his debut, then improved second out stretching to nine furlongs. He rallied to the lead in the lane and finished fourth. Solid. He cuts back to a mile, and has worked well. **HULA CANDY** looms an upsetter after a pair of tough trips. He broke far behind the field and finished a closing fifth in his debut at six furlongs, then was compromised by a wide trip finishing seventh at one mile. A 5yo maiden making his third start, he is an off-the-pace upset candidate. **CARIBBEAN KING** is racing into shape; he followed his fourth-place sprint debut with a creditable third at a mile. **WATSONVILLE** stretches out from a respectable runner-up sprint after encountering early trouble. He is bred to run long.