

Date: July 26th, 2025**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Self Sufficient (2nd race)****First Race****1. Broski****2. Tempus Volat****3. Lorenzo Bernini**

BROSKI, a nine-start maiden, is the reluctant selection in a maiden turf mile that looks soft. In the money his last six starts, he enters as simply the fastest in the field with an edge in current form. The horse he defeated last out, Broski, is a contender vs. winners in race 11. **TEMPUS VOLAT** showed run both starts early this year in the Midwest, third in Louisiana and fourth in Kentucky. He makes his first California start for new trainer Leonard Powell. Since summer 2021, Powell won with 8 of 20 MSW turf-route starters at Del Mar. **LORENZO BERNINI** may have only been prepping in his fourth-place debut in a dirt sprint. 'BERNINI is a sibling to graded turf stakes winners Arklow and Maraud, so the switch to turf could move him up. First-time starter **JIBILIAN** is a Quality Road gelding produced by a stakes-winning turf mare.

Second Race**1. Self Sufficient****2. Hard to Figure****3. Jaguar Jon**

SELF SUFFICIENT is the obvious choice in this \$25k claiming N2L sprint; his main rival **HARD TO FIGURE** is buried on the rail. **SELF SUFFICIENT** drops for the first time into a claiming race, he was gelded since raced, runs well fresh and is a proven sprinter. All systems go on the drop. **HARD TO FIGURE** also drops to claiming. The inside post is a challenge, but on class and speed figures he and the top choice are closely matched. **JAGUAR JON** figures off his third-place finish two starts back at Santa Anita. He misfired last out in a state-bred allowance at Los Alamitos, but these are easier. **CITY OF ANGELS** makes his first start in more than a year; he is another who is first-time claiming.

Third Race**1. Summer Lake****2. Mirinda****3. No Cap**

This allowance turf sprint for Cal-bred fillies and mares is a split of race 5. **SUMMER LAKE** returns to the state-bred ranks after open N1X company was too tough. She has won this condition; she entered for the \$20k optional claim tag and figures for a pressing trip just off the abundant pace. **MIRINDA** is pure gas; she set the pace each of her last five starts since switching to jockey Edwin Maldonado. Runner-up last out racing five and one-half furlongs at Los Alamitos. **MIRINDA** shortens to five furlongs as the speed of the speed. The uncertainty is turf; she surrendered in both previous turf starts. Second preference nonetheless. **NO CAP** returns from a two-month break; she ran well this season on dirt at Santa Anita; her two turf sprints last fall were not bad. **CAYUCOS** is speed, first start in three months. Five furlongs is perfect, but she will have company on the lead.

Fourth Race**1. Brant****2. Balboa****3. Civil Liberty**

BRANT, a \$3 million spring purchase at a 2yo sale, makes his debut with a series of fast works for trainer Bob Baffert. Juvenile debut progeny by Gun Runner have won at a 19 percent clip; Baffert debut 2yos with fast works typically fire. Baffert also entered **BALBOA**, whose sire Not This Time gets 18 percent winners with debut 2yos. **BALBOA** has posted fast work times; he is the first runner from a dam who won her career debut by more than four lengths. **CIVIL LIBERTY** appears to have worked well for his debut. His first-crop sire Independence Hall has had 10 starters through midweek; none won first out. **L RANKIN** is the only experienced runner in the field. He finished second with a compromising trip in his debut last month at LRC. This maiden field is considerably tougher.

Fifth Race**1. Blue Wildcat****2. Dorie Miller****3. Young Love**

This allowance turf sprint for Cal-bred fillies and mares is a split of race 3. Despite uncertainty regarding the pace scenario, the call is late-runner **BLUE WILDCAT**. In the money five straight at this class level at longer distances, 'WILDCAT' is due for a win even shortening to five furlongs. She will need pace to flatter her closing rally, and she may or may not get it. The earlier split of this (race 3) had plenty of pace. Less pace in this division. **DORIE MILLER** also rallies from behind. Her recent races are decent, her speed figures suit the level,

Sixth Race

1. Issa Court
2. Nothing Is Forever
3. Big Celebration

Third last out vs. open N1X rivals at LRC, **ISSA COURT** drops to Cal-bred N1X, running for the \$20k optional claim tag. He won this condition in 2023, he returned to form his most recent start, and looks tough third start back from a layoff. **NOTHING IS FOREVER** ran poorly in the same race as the top choice, but maybe 'FOREVER simply did not like the LRC racetrack. He scored a decisive Cal-bred N1X allowance win two back on SA dirt, and figures as an off-the-pace contender based on that win. Like the top choice, 'FOREVER is entered for the optional \$20k tag. **BIG CELEBRATION** returns to preferred dirt footing. He won this condition two back at SA. Tough outside post, however. A **FLEET RIDE** looms an upset candidate running long on dirt for the first time.

Seventh Race

1. City Lady
2. Got the Ring
3. Kizazi

A wide-open field of maiden 2yo fillies race a mile on turf; first-timer **CITY LADY** gets the call for the productive trainer-jockey combo of Michael McCarthy and Flavien Prat. They teamed twice the past five years with debut 2yos in turf routes at DMR summer, and won both (Formidable Man, 2023; Malibu Coast, 2022). 'LADY faces a field filled with questions. That includes second-time starter **GOT THE RING**, who actually ran okay in a turf sprint first out. She pressed the pace and tired to fourth. Bred to route, with a race under belt, 'RING might be the one they have to catch. **KIZAZI** exits a highly rated dirt sprint won by precocious Himika, an early favorite for the G3 Sorrento on Aug. 10. **KIZAZI** finished a respectable third in her debut, and can improve. **SOARING ANGEL** is by hot first-drop sire Knicks Go; she is a sibling to G1 turf winner Johannes.

Eighth Race

1. Nysos
2. Express Train
3. Hall of Fame

NYSOS, the country's most highly publicized G3 winner, stretches to a mile and a sixteenth after crushing a seven-furlong stakes with a 108 Beyer at SA. **NYSOS** trained super since his start two months ago, he won his only previous route by open lengths, and he has speed but also is versatile. The 124-pound top weight might be any type. The 8yo veteran **EXPRESS TRAIN** makes his first start since a runner-up finish in the G1 Santa Anita Hcp nearly five months ago. 'TRAIN reportedly has worked well for his comeback, he is 3-for-7 over the DMR surface including a win in this stakes in 2021. The possibility of a contested pace benefits the pressing/stalking style of **EXPRESS TRAIN**. **HALL OF FAME** makes his California debut after running well against good company this spring in the Midwest. He popped triple-digit Beyer figs four successive starts in winter and spring, therefore enters among this among the fastest in the field. **MIRAHMADI** is speed, possibly the speed of the speed. He is always a threat on the front end. **MIDNIGHT MAMMOTH** will be forwardly placed from the rail.

Ninth Race

1. Spicybug
2. Pushiness
3. Uncorked

Michael McCarthy-trained duo of pace-presser **SPICYBUG** and speedball **PUSHINESS** are well-spotted in this filly-mare turf-sprint stakes. **SPICYBUG** has not raced in a year, but she runs well fresh, her figures fit this level, and she could drop into a cozy trip positioned right behind the speed. The challenge is firing without Lasix. In her four best races, she was treated with Lasix. **PUSHINESS** will take them as far as she can. A pedal-to-the-metal speedster, **PUSHINESS** led to deep stretch before finishing second both recent turf starts in longer races at SA. The cutback to five furlongs benefits; she could wire the field depending on pressure applied by front-runner **IMABOUTAGO** in post 3. Third preference is off-the-pace runner **UNCORKED**, runner-up in a similar turf sprint last out. Five furlongs might be too short, but **UNCORKED** will be rolling late. **ANG N ASH** likes the DMR course and looms an upset contender from off the pace. **IMABOUTAGO** is the aforementioned pace rival for **PUSHINESS**. The two speedsters could make things difficult on each other.

Tenth Race

1. World Record
2. Hejazi
3. Dr. Venkman

Kentucky shipper **WORLD RECORD** and locally based **HEJAZI** top this G1 sprint. The call is **WORLD RECORD**, whose runner-up last out in a G3 was better than the low figure (86 Beyer). He was expected to get a pressing trip, but duelled three-wide, put away odds-on favorite Skelly, then got worn down. Good try by a colt who has targeted this race the past two months. 'RECORD can win with a front-running/pressing trip outside **HEJAZI**. The latter ran well in his comeback, runner-up racing for the first time in more than a year. He

dueled and missed, but worked well since and will use his speed. Runner-up in the G1 Malibu in late 2023, HEJAZI fits with this modest bunch. **DR. VENKMAN** was compromised by the inside post finishing second last out in a Kentucky sprint stakes won by ROLL ON BIG JOE. DMR horse for course DR. VENKMAN won 3 of 4 at this track; his only off-the-board finish was the Pacific Classic at a distance that was too far. ROLL ON BIG JOE has four wins and two seconds from his last six starts including a pair of G3 wins. New York shipper CRAZY MASON will be flying late.

Eleventh Race

1. Suchet	2. Cuban Confusion	3. Rexford
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SUCHET, an import from France, can win this N1X turf mile in his U.S. debut. His form at Chantilly is solid, in the money both recent starts. He has worked regularly since his arrival in California; he is a two-time winner still eligible to the first allowance condition due to low purses overseas. SUCHET adds Lasix, and posted three recent works that suggest he will fire first start in the U.S. The challenge is pace. This field is loaded with speed; SUCHET was a front-runner overseas. Perhaps he can tuck into a rail trip just off the speed. **CUBAN CONFUSION**, nose maiden winner over race-1 contender Broski, faces winners for the first time in the U.S. His pressing style should play well in a field with pace. And if Broski wins race 1, 'CONFUSION can be upgraded. **REXFORD** is primarily a sprinter, but his sharp form suggests he will stay a mile. He can rally from behind. Comebacker BIG BET JAFINSAFA is a first-time gelding in a race with pace to flatter his closing kick. FLYOVER and A DAY TO REMEMBER are speed, as is CARVER.