

Date: August 3rd, 2025

Track: Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Liberation (10th race)

First Race

1. Buetane	2. Medici	3. Falcon Jet
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BUETANE, a 2yo colt trained by Bob Baffert, has worked well for his debut and figures to come out firing likes most first-timers from this stable. **BUETANE** is by Tiz the Law (16 percent winners debut 2yos); his dam produced two debut winners. **MEDICI** is a well-regarded Richard Mandella-trained firster by Into Mischief (15 percent winners debut 2yos). The colt's G1-winning turf dam has produced two debut winners. **FALCON JET** is the "other Baffert," a son of Justify (18 percent winners debut 2yos) who worked in company with **BUETANE** on July 20. **BUETANE** was slightly best in the work. **CHARLIE'S CURLIN** debuts with a series of fast works, though maidens from this stable typically race into shape rather than fire first out.

Second Race

1. Formula Rossa	2. Wishtheyallcouldbe	3. Jensco
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An outstanding debut by **FORMULA ROSSA** stamps her the likely winner of this entry-level allowance sprint. 'ROSSA dazzled first out. She pressed a fast pace and ran away by four lengths, earning a big figure that was subsequently validated. Two behind 'ROSSA won next out; two others finished second next out. 'ROSSA has been off more than five months but runs well fresh and is simply the fastest in the field. **WISHTHEYALLCOULDBE** is a nine-time winner including four over the Del Mar track. She has won this N1X condition; she is eligible again because she entered for the optional \$40k claim tag. Fast recent works, outside post, pressing style, she'll be in the hunt from the get-go. **JENSCO** returns from a long layoff with fast workouts and a history of running well fresh over the DMR surface. She won a maiden race here two summers ago returning from a layoff.

Third Race

1. Subic Boy	2. Keithing Thunder	3. Fix It Quick
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SUBIC BOY is ready to stretch out and win this Cal-bred maiden dirt mile after two midpack finishes in sprints. He has been begging for two turns, and ran better than looked last out. He broke slow, got keen and went one-paced to finish an okay fourth. 'BOY figures to be forwardly placed pressing the slower route pace. **KEITHING THUNDER** will vie for favoritism off a pair of runner-up sprints at Santa Anita. He adds blinkers and certainly will contest the pace. Not sure how far he wants to run, however. **FIX IT QUICK**, gelded since an okay third-place finish his most recent start in late June, will be grinding late. **BAZOOKA CHARLIE** and **ZAGREUS** have speed to keep the pace honest.

Fourth Race

1. White Mountain	2. Silver N Black	3. Fast Service
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WHITE MOUNTAIN is the tepid choice in this weak \$10k claiming N2L dirt mile, based on his last-out fourth vs. similar and runner-up three starts back also vs. similar. He chased the pace last time, took off after the leader on the far turn, then flattened out. Not a bad effort, actually. 'MOUNTAIN can be forwardly placed, he also can rally, and looks best of a soft lot. **SILVER N BLACK**, maiden-claiming winner two back in his 19th start, adds blinkers and is reunited with Edwin Maldonado, who rode him to second- and third-place finishes last winter and last summer over the DMR track. **FAST SERVICE** stretches out first off the claim. He ran well finishing second in a route race three starts back. 'SERVICE finished in the money his last seven starts, albeit against easier rivals. **GENTLEMEN'S CLUB** finished in front of top choice **WHITE MOUNTAIN** last out and will be passing horses late.

Fifth Race

1. Godavri	2. Penny Worth	3. Naturally Blonde
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Also-eligible **GODAVRI** will be tough if she draws in, based on back-to-back runner-up finishes in similar Cal-bred maiden turf sprints this spring at SA. **GODAVRI** finished clear of third both races, her up-front running style suits the speed-friendly DMR course profile for five furlongs on turf. If the favorite does not draw in, this is anyone's race. **PENNY WORTH** might be worth a shot second time out, following an okay fifth-place debut in which she raced greenly and split the field. She worked well since, and maidens trained by Phil

Sixth Race

1. Going Viral
2. Fine Tuned
3. Rocksalot

This maiden starter allowance (maidens who raced for a \$12.5k claim tag or less) is a new class level at DMR. The race drew a slow cast. **GOING VIRAL** finished a creditable second last out in his first try at the \$12.5k level. He was claimed off the effort, and then gelded. If he runs two alike, he can win. **FINE TUNED** hit the board four of seven starts in the Midwest; he was claimed from a third-place finish for \$10k last out and has speed to be forwardly placed. **ROCKSALOT** showed speed second out and finished third while improving over his debut.

Seventh Race

1. Freedom's Not Free
2. The Padre
3. Maaz

Consistent **FREEDOM'S NOT FREE** enters this non-graded turf stakes for 3yos as the class of the field, with a pace advantage in a field short on speed. 'FREE can set the pace or press likely slow fractions. A two-time stakes winner at SA, 'FREE drops from a \$250k stakes at Churchill Downs in which he led to deep stretch and finished third by a length. Easier foes here, soft trip expected setting/pressing tepid fractions. Two lightly raced European imports who lost their U.S. debut in allowance races are upset candidates. **THE PADRE** uncorked a 22.95-second final quarter to finish second in his first local start; he rallied from last of 10 to miss by only a half-length. He will be flying late. **MAAZ** finished fifth in the same allowance race; that was his first start in four months. Expect an improved effort second out. **GAME WARRIOR** was an opportunistic winner of the Oceanside Stakes on opening day. He got a ground-saving trip, split foes in the lane, and upset the unlucky two-three finishers who both had significant trouble.

Eighth Race

1. Night Time
2. Halo Rando
3. Carol's Comic

Based on his 86-Beyer claiming win last out for a \$16k tag, **NIGHT TIME** is the choice in this \$10k claiming sprint. The veteran is an eight-time winner and simply the fastest in the field. **HALO RANDO** disappointed last out in a weird LRC race that was dominated by the fast-pace front-runner. 'RANDO merely chased and faded. He might not have cared for the racetrack; he ran races this winter and spring at SA that would be competitive here. 'RANDO and top choice **NIGHT TIME** are expected to rally from behind, along with class dropper **CAROL'S COMIC**. Front-runners include **GOLDEN SUNRISE**, **DEVIL BE ME** and **IN SUSPENSE**. The pace should be contested; the race could fall apart for a late-runner.

Ninth Race

1. Calm Down Kimmie
2. Sexy Blue
3. Sei Bella

Also-eligible **CALM DOWN KIMMIE**, in the money twice vs. Cal-bred MSW rivals, drops a notch to Cal-bred maiden-50 and adds blinkers. If she draws in, she can be gone. **SEXY BLUE** also has speed, perhaps enough to make the lead if the top choice does not run. This is the eighth career start for 'BLUE, runner-up twice from four tries at this class level. **SEI BELLA** fits off her low-rated third last out at LRC; **GRETAS GHOST** is back with maiden-claiming rivals after being overmatched in a Cal-bred MSW turf route last out. **STRAKER** drops in class for her second start back. She has a right to improve.

Tenth Race

1. Liberation
2. Tapatia Mia
3. Jasmina

LIBERATION, a Cal-bred 2yo filly with a Kentucky pedigree, should be heavily favored in this state-bred stakes based on her sharp debut at SA. Sired by Omaha Beach and a sibling to a G3 route winner, **LIBERATION** finished well to win going away by almost two lengths. That race was four and one-half furlongs, she benefits by the added distance of this five-furlong race. With two solid works over the DMR track, a pressing style, and comfortably drawn near the outside (post 6 of 8), John Sadler-trained **LIBERATION** enters as the most probable winner on the card. **TAPATIA MIA** won the first 2yo race of the season in California, a come-from-behind win May 2 at SA. She has not started since, because there has not been a race for her. 'MIA returns from the break for trainer Steve Knapp, who won this stakes last year with another Stay Thirsty filly (In the Air Tonight) who had not raced since May. **JASMINA** followed her better-than-looked fifth-place debut on turf with an impressive maiden win on dirt at Los Alamitos. She ran fast, earned a decent figure, and sharpened her speed last weekend with a 36-flat bullet work at DMR. **MUSTANG KNICKY** ran like a short filly finishing fifth in her debut. With a race under her belt, the maiden should make a forward move.

Eleventh Race

1. Mo Holland Drive

2. Sagunto

3. Love the Pressure

With two sprints under his belt, **MO HOLLAND DRIVE** is ready to stretch out and win this turf mile for Cal-bred maiden 2yos. 'DRIVE finished an okay fourth both sprints; he is bred to run long on turf. His sire Mo Forza was a top turf miler; his dam Awesome Drive won a pair of high-level claiming turf routes. **SAGUNTO** chased and faded in his debut, but he also is likely to improve at this longer trip. He is by Nyquist; his dam broke her maiden on turf and is a sibling to turf-route stakes winners Slow Down Andy and Team Merchants. **LOVE THE PRESSURE** improved second out, runner-up by a length racing five furlongs on dirt. Sired by a Kentucky Derby winner, produced by an In Excess mare, long on turf should be fine. **BENNY AND THE JET** ran better than the line looks in his fifth-place debut. He broke from the rail, took dirt while racing greenly, appeared uncomfortable much of the trip, and finished evenly to split the field. Two turns is what the Clubhouse Ride colt wants; tab for improvement adding blinkers.