

Date: August 28th, 2025

Track: Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Can't Sleep (6th race)

First Race

1. Big Juanito	2. Brother Tony	3. Majestic Palisades
----------------	-----------------	-----------------------

BIG JUANITO will be tough in this \$10k N3L claiming dirt mile if he reproduces his six-length crusher early this month in a N2L claiming dirt mile. Although he may not get same fast pace that he benefitted from last out, he has natural speed to race within striking range, and he clearly relishes the Del Mar surface. Likely repeat winner if he runs two alike. **BROTHER TONY**, fast maiden-40 winner two back at Los Alamitos, returns to dirt after a misfire on turf. The speed figure he earned in his maiden win, and his figures last winter at Oaklawn Park, make him a contender. **TONY** entered a N2L claiming race Sunday, but was stuck on the also-eligible list, which is why he is re-entered in this N3L claiming race. **MAJESTIC PALISADES** is back doing what he does best, which is route. He also entered the Sunday N2L race, but was stuck on the AEs.

Second Race

1. Time to Shine	2. Upcharge	3. Cloudy Women
------------------	-------------	-----------------

TIME TO SHINE, who missed by a nose last out in her first try against winners, is the choice in this N2L starter turf mile. She ran well enough to win last out. **SHINE** tucked third on the rail, had to wait for room, rallied late and just got collared. Solid effort by the 3yo filly, who has improved since adding blinkers two back (maiden win, N2L runner-up). **UPCHARGE** exits the same race as the top choice, third with a three-wide trip. She rallied to the lead in the stretch, but the top pair ran away. Decent effort by **UPCHARGE**, who will rally from behind. **CLOUDY WOMEN** is uncertain around two turns; her only route was the lowest finish position (seventh) of her career. But she returns from a three-month break after a career-best win in a maiden-50 turf sprint, she has gradually improved through her career, and her last was her best yet. She probably deserves a second chance to run long.

Third Race

1. Severe Clear	2. Smiling Rapper	3. Violences Ohr
-----------------	-------------------	------------------

The pick six begins with a bottom-class dirt mile, \$12.5k maiden-claiming fillies and mares. **SEVERE CLEAR** looks best of a weak lot. Claimed for \$20k from a midpack finish, the class drop off the claim makes sense considering her sixth-place finish. Based on figures, **CLEAR** is the "least slow" in the lineup. **SMILING RAPPER**, closing third last out in in a \$12.5k maiden-claiming starter sprint, stretches out for the first time in the eighth start of her career. She is by Smiling Tiger, but could get stamina from her female family. Her dam is by Dynaformer. **RAPPER** might like this two-turn trip. **VIOLENCES OHR** drops to the bottom after she split the field in a maiden-20 that was her first start in California. She is likely to improve second try over the DMR track, while facing easier company. She is third preference, but a "must use."

Fourth Race

1. Jack Fish	2. Crime Lord	3. Tom Mix
--------------	---------------	------------

JACK FISH enters this turf sprint for Cal-bred maidens as the obvious choice. He ran super setting the pace and finishing second in his debut two back on dirt, then improved when he set the pace to deep stretch in a DMR turf sprint. He finished more than six lengths clear of third, earned a figure that exceeds the Beyer par, and he looks like the speed of the field. Although the turf-sprint speed bias has dissipated, front-runners still win their fair share. Long gone? Also-eligible **CRIME LORD**, Peter Miller-trained stablemate of the top choice, figures to improve off his last-place debut. He was well-bet, flashed speed, then took dirt, and backed up. He adds blinkers, he worked in them since raced, and sired by Street Boss the switch to turf makes sense. The large-sized first-time starter **TOM MIX** has trained well at Los Alamitos for his career debut, although expectations are he will do better when he stretches to two turns. He is a sibling to stakes winners Connie Swingle, S Y Sky and Grazen Sky. First-timers **DANE THE GREAT** and **SIR PERCIVAL** have decent-looking works.

Fifth Race

1. Bear's Board	2. Not Happy	3. Dragon Kat
-----------------	--------------	---------------

A respectable runner-up debut by **BEAR'S BOARD** in a maiden-30 at Colonial Downs makes the 2yo filly the one to beat in this soft maiden-32. Turns out she ran against a good field at CNL. The winner returned to finish second in a stakes; the third-place finisher returned to finish second in a maiden-claiming race. **BEAR'S BOARD** posted four works over the DMR track for new trainer Doug O'Neill, and adds blinkers. Also-eligible **NOT HAPPY** could vie for favoritism if she draws in. She showed speed vs. special-weight maidens both starts this meet, and now drops in for a tag. If she starts, she might be the speed of the field. **DRAGON KAT** set the pace to deep stretch and tired to fifth in a decent debut early this month. She is likely to improve second time out, and she certainly will influence the pace scenario.

Sixth Race

1. Can't Sleep	2. Miss Mandalay	3. The Wild Grazer
----------------	------------------	--------------------

The choices in this N1X turf sprint are **CAN'T SLEEP** and **MISS MANDALAY**, three-two last out in a similar race. Lightly raced **CAN'T SLEEP** gets the call to turn the tables in her third start following a layoff. She had trouble two back in her comeback, then took a big step forward on the DMR turf. She chased three-wide, lost ground, finished evenly and missed by only a half-length while earning the highest figure of her five-start career. By the outstanding turf-sprint sire Om, 'SLEEP can turn the tables on her rival. But **MISS MANDALAY** ran well in her own right. She had to wait for room inside, angled out, and finished a neck in front of **CAN'T SLEEP**. Both fillies ran well, both are qualified to win. Also-eligible **THE WILD GRAZER**, a stakes-placed comebacker who is the "best horse" in the field, returns from a 15-month layoff. She has won this entry-level allowance condition; she is entered for the optional \$50k claim tag and will be rolling late if she draws in. **THERMAL** will roll early from the inside post. The front-runner will be under pressure from fellow speedster **MIRACLE BALL**, however.

Seventh Race

1. Where's the Loot	2. Leyas Candy	3. Shashashakemeup
---------------------	----------------	--------------------

WHERE'S THE LOOT drops in for a low claim tag after a pair of okay tries vs. allowance foes. He is fast enough for this \$8k claiming level based on his creditable effort three starts back at SA; he has enough speed to drop in before getting caught wide. He breaks from post 12 in this five and one-half furlong race that looks wide open. **LEYAS CANDY** has his claim price cut in half after finishing fifth for \$16k. His form seems to be regressing, but he has never raced this low. **SHASHASHAKEMEUP** returns from an 11-month layoff while employing the no-claim waiver. He once was good enough, his works at San Luis Rey look good on paper, and it's an optimistic sign his connections bring him back without risking him for a tag. **INSTINCT D'ORO** is speed.

Eighth Race

1. Druliner	2. Blame It On Abby	3. It's a Fairlife
-------------	---------------------	--------------------

DRULINER is ready to stretch out and win this turf mile for 2yo Cal-bred maiden fillies after a pair of respectable dirt sprints. She broke last and closed from tenth to fourth in her debut, then improved a bunch second time out. **DRULINER** produced more speed, got sandwiched between rivals, waited for room on the turn, and finished okay. Decent fourth-place finish with a higher figure than her debut. Sired by Clubhouse Ride, produced by a Ghostzapper mare, two turns should be ideal. **BLAME IT ON ABBY** also stretches out from a pair of dirt sprints. Third with an uncomfortable trip in her debut, followed by a wide-trip sixth, 'ABBY runs as if she is begging for two turns. Sired by Blame, the distance seems reasonable. This race is actually a close call between the top pair. First-time starter **IT'S A FAIRLIFE**, sibling to Cal-bred stakes winners Rose Dawson and Ruby Bradley, has trained well for her debut.