Date: August 28th, 2026 **Track:** Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Just Work It Out (8th race)

First Race

1. Smokin Hot Stuff	2. Sugar Lovin	3. Debby's Gal

Runner-up in her California debut, **SMOKIN HOT STUFF** drops slightly in class as the logical choice in this maiden-40 sprint. Her comeback, which was her first start at Del Mar, was solid. She chased the pace set by next-out winner My Girl Mia, got the best of that rival, then was worn down while finishing more than five lengths clear of third. If she runs two alike, 'STUFF should win at a short price. **SUGAR LOVIN**, third vs. similar as the odds-on favorite, returns from a two-month break with apparently solid works at San Luis Rey Downs. Her first two starts were only okay, this is her first try over the DMR surface, and she has speed to be forwardly placed. **DEBBY'S GAL** is a seven-start maiden with four in-the-money finishes. Her runner-up finish two months ago in Kentucky was validated when the winner returned with a pair of runner-up finishes in starter allowance races.

Second Race

1. Tam's Little Angel	2. Invincible Molly	3. Little Tinker Elle

TAM'S LITTLE ANGEL, an 11-win veteran mare, can win this $25k claiming turf sprint if she reproduces either of her last two starts. Runner-up two back at Santa Anita, she finished a clear second last out against a similar field. 'ANGEL has tactical speed to create her own trip forwardly placed. **INVINCIBLE MOLLY** lost to the top choice by nearly two lengths last out, but that was the first start by 'MOLLY in nearly three months. With a race under her belt, speed to be positioned close to the top choice, 'MOLLY figures to narrow the gap if not score an outright upset. The "outclassed" longshot **LITTLE TINKER ELLE** is a low-level claiming filly with speed, trying grass for the first time. She is likely to set the pace, although progeny of Maximum Security are just 1-for-29 in turf sprints according to Formulator. ELITE HEAT moves up to open company after a solid N2L claiming win here two weeks ago.

Third Race

1. I Know Nothing	2. Pro Payne	3. Blame Ashley

Six furlongs can be a testing distance for summer 2yo maidens, but the longer trip should be perfect for **I KNOW NOTHING**. The no-speed filly rallied from far back to finish third last out at five and one-half furlongs, which was her first start at DMR after a pair of closing efforts in Kentucky (second, fourth). 'NOTHING can upset a rival who finished more than two lengths in front of her last out. That is **PRO PAYNE**, an improving filly who missed by a neck in the best race of her career. The knock on 'PAYNE is this race is already her third start of the summer meet. But she is getting better, and might also like this 6f trip. First-time starter **BLAME ASHLEY** debuts with a series of good-

looking workouts; JUST LIBERTY is likely to improve off her eighth-place debut on turf at Indiana Grand. Trainer Doug O'Neill won with three of his last five second-start maiden 2yos this meet including $29.20 Dang Son and $28 Dee Snook.

Fourth Race

1. Sand Bagger	2. Bee Eye Gee	3. Prince of Del Mar

This turf mile, $25k claiming non-winners of two, is a complete scramble. In a race that could go any number of ways, the call is **SAND BAGGER**. She finished fourth last out in a similar race that was her first start in two and a half months. Claimed by Peter Miller, two previous efforts (fifth, second) against better at Santa Anita would be fast enough. **BEE EYE GEE** is probably a reach at this mile distance, but he ran okay in a sprint comeback, and his third-place finish three back in a turf route puts him in the hunt. **PRINCE OF DEL MAR** drops after facing allowance and starter allowance foes in recent races. REDIAL goes first off the re-claim, and switches surfaces. Although his three previous starts on turf were not good, he has improved since.

Fifth Race

1. Glory'z Clubhouse	2. Mustang Knicky	3. Rousing Rhythm

Second-time starter **GLORY'Z CLUBHOUSE** gets the call in this Cal-bred maiden-50 sprint, based on her promising fourth-place debut at the same level. She broke dead last, losing approximately eight lengths, trailed the field, then finished willingly to miss by only four. The race was not fast, but 'CLUBHOUSE ran well after the slow start, and may only need a clean takeoff. **MUSTANG KNICKY** does have speed, and is dropping for the first time into a maiden-claiming race after four misses vs. Cal-bred maidens and/or stakes rivals. The "best speed" in the field, 'KNICKY could be gone on the drop. However, this is already her third start of the meet. **ROUSING RHYTHM** looms an upset candidate after finishing ninth from the rail first out; she drew post 7 here. The race she exits produced at least two next-out winners. I'M NO SWIFTY is speed on the rail, but he squandered a midstretch lead last out after breaking from the outside, and now will be on the receiving end of pace pressure.

Sixth Race

1. Deluge	2. On Edge	3. Golden Bee

Well-regarded 2yo fillies **DELUGE** an **ON EDGE** debut at five furlongs on turf; the call is fast-working DE LUGE. Her works on the main track are sharp, and though progeny of Maximus Mischief generally prefer dirt, this filly is training like she means business first time out. Trained by Bob Baffert, DE LUGE reportedly is "very fast." Her main rival is John Sadler-trained ON EDGE, a Flightline filly produced by Sadler's multiple graded stakes winner Edgeway. Sadler fired once already this meet with a 2yo Flightline firster. The colt Inshallah wired the field on dirt; expectations are high for ON EDGE. **GOLDEN BEE** ran super in her debut, rallying from well off the pace to finish second. 'BEE has an experience advantage over the top pair, and maidens trained by Dan Blacker tend to improve with racing.

Seventh Race

1. Simple Song	2. Speedy Wilson	3. The Last Straw

After a fast pace and inside post foiled **SIMPLE SONG** last out, the front-runner/pace-presser moves to the outside post and catches a field otherwise light on speed. 'SONG finished second two starts back in the G3 Triple Bend; his most recent start was a pace-compromised sixth-place finish from the DMR rail. From inside to outside, with Beyer Speed Figures in the low 90s, 'SONG can win with an up-front trip. He will have to hold off the rally of come-from-behinder **SPEEDY WILSON**. The latter finished almost 10 lengths in front of SIMPLE SONG last out, and benefits by the additional half-furlong of this six and-half furlong race. A three-time winner over the DMR track including a pair of Cal-bred stakes two years ago as a juvenile, 'WILSON will be rolling late. **THE LAST STRAW** returns from a break of nearly three months; he was compromised by the rail when he finished last of five his most recent start in the Triple Bend. Off since, working well, he runs well fresh and should be within striking range of the pacesetter. MR. DISRESPECTFUL benefits by a return to a dirt sprint after he faltered in a two-turn grass race.

Eighth Race

1. Just Work It Out	2. Miss Mo Brown	3. Big Blast

JUST WORK IT OUT and **MISS MO BROWN** both showed promise in their dirt-sprint career debuts; both are likely to improve stretching to a route in this turf mile for Cal-bred maiden 2yo fillies. JUST WORK IT OUT, by Kentucky stallion Justify, gets the call off her runner-up debut. She pressed the pace inside, dropped back, angled outside to re-engage, then tired while finishing more than three lengths clear of third. Bred to run long on turf, this mile race should be in her wheelhouse. She looks like the most probable winner on the card. MISS MO BROWN ran very well in her debut at five furlongs on turf. Void of speed, she trailed the field, was still positioned last at the eighth pole, then flew late to miss by only a length and a quarter. Sired by Mo Forza, she is likely to improve at this longer trip. **BIG BLAST** raced evenly for third in the same race as the top choice. 'BLAST has turf influence in her pedigree, and her even-paced style suggests two turns will be her deal.