Date: August 30th, 2026 **Track:** Del Mar

By Brad Free

BEST BET: Run With Liberty (4th race)

First Race

1. Howie's Law	2. Here's Some More	3. Letmein

The speed of the field, **HOWIE'S LAW** is expected to wire this seven-furlong N2L starter. Runaway maiden winner opening weekend, runner-up last out vs. winners at this level, the speedster can be long gone as the controlling speed from the inside post. The challenge is to maintain top form in his third start of the summer meet. **HERE'S SOME MORE**, fourth at this level last out, is not as fast as the top choice on numbers. However, 'MORE could get a great trip positioned second behind the speed. If the favorite falters, HERE'S SOME MORE would get first run. **LETMEIN** and FUMANO'S MAGIC will be rolling late. HERE'S SOME MORE finished in the money both recent starts at this level; FUMANO'S MAGIC goes route to sprint while wheeling back 10 days after splitting the field in a Cal-bred N1X.

Second Race

1. Chiseled in Stone	2. Bel Air Blintzcess	3. Lil Prince Cairo

A creditable runner-up debut by **CHISELED IN STONE** stamps him the one to beat in this turf sprint for 2yo Cal-bred maidens. 'STONE set the pace to deep stretch before getting collared; he is likely to improve with that debut under his belt. But he is no sure thing. **BEL AIR BLINTZCESS** has worked well for her debut. Her Aug. 17 drill looked good on video; she followed with a solid :59.60 gate work. 'BLINTZCESS is from the first crop sired by G1 winner Eight Rings. His first two runners (through Wednesday) won and placed at Wyoming Downs. **LIL PRINCE CAIRO** debuts with a decent work tab including a 1:03 work Aug. 21 that looked better on video than the slow time. 'CAIRO finishing strongly in the workout. He is trained by Carla Gaines, who also entered first-time starter BOTTLED IN BOND. Gaines entered the week 2-for-4 this season with debut 2yos.

Third Race

1. Ro Town	2. Miz Clubcali	3. Chasing Kat

Back-to-back for **RO TOWN**? The mare moves up a notch to $12.5k claiming after a sharp $10k claiming win four weeks ago. She dueled, held by a half-length, and looked strong on the gallop-out. No reason the seven-win veteran cannot make it two straight. She must once again hold off the rally of **MIZ CLUBCALI**, who finished second to her last out. 'CALI had a spot of trouble on the turn, no big deal, and finished okay. In the money each of her last five dirt sprints vs. similar, 'CLUBCALI will be running late. **CHASING KAT** wheels back just 14 days after a fast N3L claiming win that was her first start in nearly a year. She could win if she runs two alike, but the two-week turnaround is a bit quick following her comeback. LADY GREGORY is a 12-time winner dropping in class off a last-place finish in a Cal-bred allowance.

Fourth Race

1. Run With Liberty	2. Cortina d'Amprezzo	3. Waiting For You

A return to turf benefits **RUN WITH LIBERTY** in this N1X mile for 3yo fillies. She won her first two starts on turf in convincing fashion (maiden, Cal-bred allowance), then finished a distant third in a dirt stake. Off three months, returning to preferred footing, she will be tough if she reproduces her Santa Anita turf form on Del Mar turf. **CORTINA D'AMPREZZO** drops from a G2 turf mile in which she did not have a good trip. She was forced to use her speed from post 10, dueled outside, hung tough to deep stretch, then faded in a race that saw the 1-2-3-4 finishers rally from the back. The sixth-place finish by 'D'AMPREZZO was actually not bad. These N1X rivals are easier; the filly won't have to be gunned from post 4. **WAITING FOR YOU** looms an upset candidate based on her better-than-looked fourth-place U.S. debut in May. Her subsequent comeback last month was disappointing, but now she is stringing together successive starts for the first time in the U.S.

Fifth Race

1. Sono Veloce	2. Take Revenge	3. Her Strut

First-time starter **SONO VELOCE** (English translation: "I'm Fast") gets the call in an apparently wide-open sprint for Cal-bred 2yo maiden fillies. She showed speed from the gate Aug. 15 (viewed online), and gets top rider Juan Hernandez for her debut. Maidens trained by Brendan Galvin typically race into condition rather than fire first out, but this Mitole filly might be the exception based on her works. In order to ride SONO VELOCE, Hernandez relinquishes the mount on second-time starter **TAKE REVENGE**. The latter split the field in a creditable debut, and now adds blinkers. She could improve, although she was listed as a vet scratch Aug. 8 and has a corresponding gap in workouts from July 30 to Aug. 20. **HER STRUT**, third and fourth in the first two starts of her career, adds blinkers and switches riders.

Sixth Race

1. Gregory's Pride	2. Daniel's Magic	3. Code Duello

A trio of 8yos top this $32k claim tag; late-running dropper **GREGORY'S PRIDE** gets the call to win from off the pace in a race that sets up for his style. His fourth-place finish last out was flattered when the one-two finishers returned to win their next start. Slightly easier rivals this time for 'PRIDE, who can rally for the win. **DANIEL'S MAGIC**, a six-time winner, moves up a notch from a runner-up finish for $25k claiming. He figures for a forwardly placed trip just off the speed. The third 8yo in the field is **CODE DUELLO**, whose first two starts this summer included a runner-up finish for $40k and a win for $25k. 'DUELLO finished in front of GREGORY'S PRIDE last month. AGENCY looms an upset candidate; he had early traffic trouble in his fourth-place comeback.

Seventh Race

1. Rabeeba	2. She's No Quant	3. Wolf Hill

Lightly raced **RABEEBA**, two-for-two including an allowance dirt mile last month, enters the G3 Torrey Pines for 3yo fillies with much upside. The Curlin filly scored decisive front-running wins both starts, and though she faces other speed in this lineup, it is too soon to dub her a need-the-lead filly. Trainer Bob Baffert won this stakes eight times, most recently in 2024 with Hope Road, who was moving up off a N1X win. Similar pattern with RABEEBA, who can win with a continuation of her upward cycle. **SHE'S NO QUANT** stretches out after winning the Fleet Treat Stakes for Cal-bred sprint fillies her first try on dirt. The multi-surface Pavel filly will try to follow the pattern of Om N Joy, who won the same two stakes (Fleet Treat, Torrey Pines) last year. No reason 'QUANT will not stay a mile, though this is her first route. **WOLF HILL** is a stakes-placed maiden with seven runner-up finishes from 10 starts including the G2 Summertime Oaks two starts back. MOHAVEN set a fast pace and finished second in the Fleet Treat; the pace should be easier than the :44.69 she set last time racing seven furlongs. Front-runners MOHAVEN and top choice RABEEBA could get in each other's way.

Eighth Race

1. Platinum Groove	2. Zuzu's Classic Gal	3. First Light

This turf mile for Cal-bred maiden fillies and mares is a good spot to take a shot at a price. The fifth-place debut by sprint-to-route **PLATINUM GROOVE** was better than it looks; she ran like she will appreciate two turns. 'GROOVE was off slowly, raced near the back, rallied inside, took up while blocked on the rail in the stretch, then finished evenly once clear. It was a good schooling run in a race won by her Jeff Mullins-trained stablemate. With a debut pep under her belt, stretching out in distance, 'GROOVE can mow them down. **ZUZU'S CLASSIC GAL** is likely to vie for favoritism off a pair of runner-up sprints. Her pedigree and even-paced running style suit two turns; she is by Classic Empire and a sibling to route stakes winner Fast Draw Munnings. Her pedigree, and the way she closed ground both sprints, hints that this mile trip will be perfect. **FIRST LIGHT** is similar to the top choice, stretching out from a closing sprint in which she rallied from 10th to fourth and galloped out in front. 'LIGHT also has two-turn experience. She set/pressed the pace and finished fourth her first two starts at this mile distance, she learned to rate and finish last out. JANZ JOY, Mark Glatt-trained stablemate of ZUZU'S CLASSIC GAL, missed by a neck last out in a similar maiden turf mile; she will be pressing the pace and might be listed too low.

Ninth Race

1. The Goat	2. Privman	3. Mirahmadi

A deep field entered this allowance dirt mile. The call is three-time Chilean Group 1 winner **THE GOAT**, dropping in class for his third U.S. start. His first two were okay. He set the pace and finished fourth in a G3 sprint, then uncorked an early move in the G2 San Diego, battled to the eighth pole, then tired to fourth. Not bad. Now he meets easier, worked well since raced, and should produce the best race of his U.S. career, third start back. **PRIVMAN** is making his first start since he won a stakes last October at Santa Anita. G1-placed last fall, two-for-two over the DMR track, with figures that compare favorably to his rivals, PRIVMAN figures as a contender with a pressing trip. He is trained by Bob Baffert, who also entered **MIRAHMADI**. The latter is expected to improve second start back after setting the pace and fading in the San Diego. From the outside post, his only apparent option is to "go." INDISPENSABLE is a John Sadler-trained stablemate of top choice THE GOAT. Those two worked in company Aug. 8 and 15; THE GOAT appeared to go better in both works.

Tenth Race

1. Midway Lane	2. Beyond Stoked	3. Burning Rubber

A dubious return to turf, and a problematic pace scenario, create uncertainty for front-runner/pace-presser **MIDWAY LANE**. His improvement this season coincides with his switch to dirt, but this race is on turf. Runaway maiden winner three back on dirt, entry-level allowance winner two back on dirt, N2X runner-up last out on dirt, he tries turf again at the top of his game while dropping to N3L starter. He might be the speed of the speed, depending on tactics by the stretch-out in post 4. 'LANE is a tepid choice to win with an up-front trip, even though he might be better on dirt. **BEYOND STOKED** was claimed from a N1X/optional $50k turf mile he lost by only three lengths. A closer in a race with pace to run at, he has a high-percent trainer stat in his favor. George Papaprodromou won with 13 of his last 28 first-off-the-claim starters in turf routes. HENRY ADAMS also was claimed from a better-than-looked fourth. The winner of that turf mile wired the field; 'ADAMS closed from the back to miss by only a length. He will roll late. **BURNING RUBBER** is the aforementioned post-4 stretch-out making his first start since being gelded. 'RUBBER will keep the pace honest.