Date: November 22nd, 2026 **Track:** Del Mar

By Steve Andersen

BEST BET: Awsome Amy (2nd race)

First Race

1. Finiball	2. Mighty Toro	3. Fuzzy Stare

FINIBALL starts from the outside in a $50,000 claimer for maidens at a mile on turf, and the draw may work in favor of a gelding who is winless in three starts. Finiball is a closer and there is sufficient speed in this field of nine for him to follow. Jockey Umberto Rispoli should be able to save some ground, which was certainly not the case when Finiball finished last of nine in a maiden race at a mile on turf at Santa Anita on Oct. 11. In his preceding start, at Del Mar in August, Finiball closed from off the pace to finish third in a $50,000 claimer for maidens. In that race, Finiball finished behind runner-up **MIGHTY TORO**, who was beaten as the 7-10 favorite. On Oct. 23 at Santa Anita, Mighty Toro was again second in a $50,000 claimer for maidens at a mile on turf at odds of 3-10. In both races, Mighty Toro led or disputed the pace and was beaten less than a length. Winless in six starts, he could have a breakthrough win in this race, but will do so at a short price. He is worth opposing. **FUZZY STARE** was second by a half-length in a $50,000 claimer for maidens at 6 1-2 furlongs on turf at Santa Anita on Oct. 12, the closest he has come to winning in seven races. Fuzzy Stare is quick enough to set the pace, and starts at a mile on turf for the first time in this field.

Second Race

1. Awsome Amy	2. Another Warrior	3. Lovely Maya

It will not take much of an effort to win this $32,000 claimer for maiden 2-year-olds at 6 1-2 furlongs. **AWSOME AMY** has a good draw in post 6 in a field of seven to win his fourth start. Awsome Amy is likely to track **ANOTHER WARRIOR**, a gelding who has shown speed at times. Another Warrior drew the inside post, which is likely to lead to a forward position in the early furlongs. Awsome Amy raced as a stalker in his last start at Santa Anita on Nov. 1, and finished third by 1 1-2 lengths, the closest he has come to a win. He was a well-beaten second at a mile on Oct. 12, so this distance should not be an issue. Another Warrior starts for his lowest level of competition in this field, his fourth start. He was not a factor when ninth of 10 in a six-furlong maiden race on turf at Santa Anita last month, and can benefit by racing against a lesser class of runners. **LOVELY MAYA**, the only filly in the field, was second in her debut at Los Al in September, but no factor when fifth in two races at this level at the Santa Anita autumn meeting, starting from the inside post in both races. Having a speedy runner such as Another Warrior to chase early may help her chances for a top three finish.

Third Race

1. Amigo G A	2. Jack Fish	3. Sirnami

In this massive field of 12, a trouble-free trip will play an important role in the outcome of an allowance race for statebreds at five furlongs on turf. A surprise winner is quite possible. **AMIGO G A** was the 57-1 winner of a $25,000 claimer for nonwinners of two at five furlongs on turf at Del Mar in August, and a fast-closing second in a $30,000 claimer for nonwinners of three on turf at Santa Anita on Oct. 23. Jockey Edgar Payeras was aboard for those wins and has the mount on Sunday. Amigo G A starts from post 4, which should lead to a favorable trip for a gelding who runs from slightly off the pace. **JACK FISH** is likely to have a similar trip. The winner of a five-furlong turf race at Del Mar in August 2025, Jack Fish was fourth by a half-length in an allowance race for statebreds at five furlongs on turf on Sept. 6 in his last start. **SIRNAMI** starts from the inside post, which is not an ideal draw for his first appearance against winners. Sirnami tends to run from off the pace. Jockey Drayden Van Dyke will need a fortunate trip for Sirnami to run in the first three. The gelding did finish well to win a $50,000 claimer for maidens at six furlongs on turf at Santa Anita on Oct. 25 in his eighth start.

Fourth Race

1. Dear Diary	**2. Dragon Reign**	**3. Bunners**

This could be remembered as a productive six-furlong maiden race for 2-year-old fillies. **DEAR DIARY** is a narrow selection on the basis of her experience during the Del Mar summer meeting. Trained by Richard Mandella, Dear Diary closed well to finish second in her debut on Aug. 22, but was sixth of nine when she was ambitiously entered in the Grade 1 Del Mar Debutante on Sept. 5. In recent weeks, Dear Diary has worked quickly at Santa Anita. **DRAGON REIGN** was listed as scratched because of illness at Santa Anita on Nov. 1, and has her debut in this competitive field. Trained by Michael McCarthy, Dragon Reign is the first foal to race out of Ce Ce, the champion female sprinter of 2021. Dragon Reign worked a sharp half-mile in 46.60 seconds from the gate at Santa Anita on Nov. 13. The well-bred **BUNNERS** drew the inside post for her debut, a tough draw that will require a good trip for a win. Bunners is by Girvin, who wins with an above-average 17 percent of his first-time starters. The filly is out of Indian Blessing, the champion 2-year-old filly of 2007 and champion female sprinter of 2008. Bunners is trained by Bob Baffert, who has won with four of his last 10 first-time runners. Mandella also starts Rahab, who is by top stallion Into Mischief and has had a steady list of works since mid-October. The booking of leading rider Joel Rosario will draw attention to Rahab.

Fifth Race

1. Coast Village	**2. Paddock Buzz**	**3. Minnie Riperton**

There are several statebred 2-year-old fillies capable of winning this maiden race at five furlongs on turf. Of the 14 entrants, including two on the also-eligible list, there are 12 first-time runners. **COAST VILLAGE** is the preference. Trained by Ryan Hanson, she had two quick half-mile workouts from the gate at Santa Anita in late October and will be ridden by Joel Rosario. Coast Village drew post 11, which will require a quick start to avoid a wide trip in an abbreviated race. **PADDOCK BUZZ** has a better draw in post 6 for her debut. She is trained by Dan Blacker, who has yet to have a winner with a first-time starter this year. Paddock Buzz is by Grazen, who has a fine record with turf sprinters, and is a half-sister to Opening Buzz, who won her debut at Golden Gate Fields in 2022 and was later a minor stakes winner at Turfway Park. **MINNIE RIPERTON** is stuck on the also-eligible list. If she draws into the field, she will have a difficult post, but is worth

consideration. Minnie Riperton is by Mo Forza, who has a good record with turf sprinters, and is out of Tough Sunday, who won her debut and was a four-time stakes winner. Minnie Riperton is a full-sister to the five-time winner Bronko Nagurski.

Sixth Race

1. Doo Wop Don	2. Perfecto Amor	3. Midnite Musket

A return to a sprint may result in a second win in three starts this year for **DOO WOP DON**, a 14-time winner in his 49-race career. Doo Wop Don won his first start of 2026 in an $8,000 claimer at 5 1-2 furlongs at Santa Anita on Oct. 2, but was only fourth of eight in a $12,500 claimer at a mile on Nov. 1 when he started from an inside post. In this $8,000 claimer at 5 1-2 furlongs, Doo Wop Don starts from post 12. It is not an optimal draw, but Doo Wop Don tends to race as a stalker, which could result in saving some ground early in this open race. Doo Wop Don will be ridden by Joel Rosario, who has a strong book of mounts on Sunday. **PERFECTO AMOR** is on a two-race winning streak. He won a $5,000 claimer at 4 1-2 furlongs at the evening meeting at Los Al on Oct. 10 from slightly off the pace, and displayed a similar style with a win in an $8,000 claimer at 1,000 yards at Los Al on Nov. 1. Though winless in six starts at Del Mar, Perfecto Amor can produce a surprise finish as a stalker. **MIDNITE MUSKET** is expected to lead. He finished third by seven lengths in a $10,000 claimer at six furlongs at Santa Anita on Oct. 31, fading in the final furlong. A slightly shorter race should work in favor of a gelding who won a $6,250 claimer at five furlongs at the Los Al daytime meeting in September.

Seventh Race

1. Matt At Five	2. Regal Patriot	3. Incanto

MATT AT FIVE has won four six-furlong races on turf and dirt since mid-May, and will start in the shortest race of his career in this competitive allowance race at five furlongs on turf. Matt At Five has won by leading throughout and as a stalker, an important point considering there is ample speed in this field of eight. In his last start, Matt At Five closed from fourth of seven to win an allowance race at six furlongs on turf. He will need to be equally as sharp to beat this field. **REGAL PATRIOT** is one of those runners likely to contest the lead. A 10-time winner in 23 starts, Regal Patriot has won 3 of 6 starts in five-furlong turf races at Del Mar since the summer of 2025, including a $32,000 claimer on Aug. 30 in which led throughout. He was a good second in a starter allowance at six furlongs on turf at Santa Anita on Oct. 18, leading to the final strides. Race winner Known Idea returned to win his fourth consecutive start at Del Mar on Nov. 15. **INCANTO** was sixth of eight in the Grade 2 Green Flash Handicap at five furlongs on turf on Aug. 22 in the track's premier turf sprint. Incanto was later third in an allowance race at six furlongs on turf at Santa Anita on Oct. 12. To win this, Incanto needs a favorable trip from off the pace, which is possible.

Eighth Race

1. Imnotvanillasky	2. Tropical Rain Day	3. Low La Bunny

The 3-year-old filly **IMNOTVANILLASKY** showed slight improvement from her first start of the year to her second when she finished a well-beaten second in a $50,000 claiming race for statebred maiden fillies and mares at 5 1-2 furlongs at Santa Anita on Oct. 23. She returns against a similar

field, but this time should be helped by a slightly longer race at six furlongs. Imnotvanillasky has a closing style and will have a pace to follow from runners such as Queen of Bantry and **TROPICAL RAIN DAY**. This is the second start of 2026 for Tropical Rain Day, who set the pace before fading to finish fourth by three lengths in a $50,000 claiming race for statebred maiden fillies and mares at six furlongs on turf on Oct. 30. She was as close as a nose away from a win in 2025. The concern is that she is winless in 12 starts and has had plenty of chances to achieve her first victory. **LOW LA BUNNY** was third by a length in a race at this maiden claiming level on dirt at Del Mar in August, but did not fare as well when seventh of eight in a one-mile maiden race on turf for statebred fillies and mares at Santa Anita on Sept. 27. A return to a maiden claimer on dirt is a better fit for a filly who races from slightly off the pace.

Ninth Race

1. Zalamo	**2. Amplitude**	**3. Lahaina Flavor**

ZALAMO will need racing luck to win this $25,000 claimer at 1 1-16 miles on turf. He is a closer who starts in an open field of 12 with many contenders. There should be sufficient speed for Zalamo to follow. Claimed by Dean Pederson for $25,000 on Sept. 6, Zalamo has lost four starts since a late rally led to a win in a $32,000 claimer at a mile on turf at Santa Anita in May. In his most recent start, Zalamo closed from 10th of 12 to finish fourth by 1 3-4 lengths in a race that did not have a rapid pace. In this field, Calm Sea, who starts from the inside post, and the Louisiana shipper Neon Lights are likely to race in front. **AMPLITUDE** is another closer capable of making a solid late run. Winless in three starts since a starter allowance at Santa Anita in May, Amplitude was eighth in a one-mile race at Santa Anita on Oct. 10, but was beaten only 2 3-4 lengths. A slightly longer races helps Amplitude. **LAHAINA FLAVOR** is winless in nine starts since an allowance race on turf at Santa Anita in June 2025. Trained by Paddy Gallagher, Lahaina Flavor has been fourth in his last two starts, racing closest to the front at the finish. Lahaina Flavor is another contender who will benefit from a longer race.