

# DEL MAR FEATURE RACE OF THE DAY

By Frank R. Scatoni

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**Date:** 11/1/20

**Race 8:** \$75K Let It Ride for 3-year-olds only going 8-furlongs on the lawn

**Post:** approx. post 4:00 p.m. PST

## OVERVIEW

First off, I hope you all set your clocks back one hour! Also, don't forget that today is the first of our Sunday Seminar "Best Bet" live-streams, where I will host a wagering-centric seminar that focuses on the best opportunities on today's Sunday card. My first guest is one of the sharpest and most respected players out there: Leo Vukmanovich (@Vukman). Be sure to tune in at 11:00 a.m. PST to catch the live-stream of the event. Here is a link to the DMTC web page with more info (and be sure to follow me @ScatoniSureShot on Twitter for updates): <https://www.dmtc.com/calendar/detail/bestbet>.

Okay, let's get to today's featured contest race, the \$75K Let It Ride, a one-mile turf affair restricted to 3-year-olds only who have not won a sweepstakes of \$60K (other than state-bred) at one mile or over since April 1.

**#1 GOALIE (12/1)** should be sitting on a peak race, making the second start of his form cycle after prepping in a 5.5-furlong turf sprint, where he looked like he was just out for a spin after a five-month layoff. His two-turn form isn't bad, but he needed every inch of 9-panels to get up and break his maiden—and he's still eligible for an N1X! That said, he's a half to the multiple graded-stakes winner Midnight Storm, so this lightly raced 3-year-old still has plenty of room to grow—and it should be noted that he beat Heywoods Beach two back, so if this one takes a big step forward today, we're looking at an upset special! GRADE: A.

**#2 LANE WAY (4/1)** needed six tries to break his maiden (having a little hang in him), but he did finally break through over this course back in August, showing a nice stretch run to prevail by a neck in just his second turf try. His first try against winners was a very good second against older N1X types with a "kiss of death" stalking journey, and I think he can continue to move forward, so I expect him to be running on through the lane while saving ground tracking the pace. You can certainly make him an "A," but I think he might be shorter than 4/1. GRADE: B.

**#3 STRONGCONSTITUTION (4/1)**, the first O'Neill entrant, has run some fast races on dirt, but he does have a turf win, so he can act on both surfaces. He also has tactical speed, so he should get the right trip in here. That said, he's had perfect trips in his two recent two-turn dirt races, and he lacked the necessary oomph late. I also suspect he'll take a fair share of money off some gaudy speed figures, making him a little bit of an underlay to me. GRADE: B.

**#4 ROOKIE MISTAKE (12/1)**, the second O'Neill runner, has done fine work against Cal-breds, but his three wins have come sprinting, so we'll see how he handles two turns on the turf today. He did run an okay fourth in the Oceanside here over the summer, but he saved ground and lacked the needed kick to crack the trifecta that day. He usually shows up for business, but others seem more likely for the win. GRADE: C.

**#5 HEYWOODS BEACH (7/2)** looked good beating age-restricted N1X types two back over this course and distance, so he's a fit here while projecting a good tracking trip. Toss his last race where he was wide throughout in a Grade 2 and toss his run in the Oceanside, where he had a similarly wide journey. I can see Rispoli giving this guy a perfect trip, and his best race is certainly good enough—especially when you throw in the fact that the two times Rispoli has ridden him, he's won! GRADE: A.

**#6 DOMINANT SOUL (8/1)** likes to wing it on the front end, so you can expect him to be carving out the early fractions while being pressed by Margot's Boy. He should be fit cutting back from a few longer races, but that just means he's going to have to run faster earlier while going a mile today. GRADE: X.

**#7 MARGOT'S BOY (3/1)** is a really cool Cal-bred who should also be fit cutting back after two 9-furlong races, but he also likes to be up on the early pace, so we'll see if he makes the lead today or if he tries to stalk Dominant Soul. Either way, he'll have to show more starch in the lane, since all three of his wins came loose on the lead, and there are several foes in here who will be taking dead aim on him. GRADE: B.

**#8 I'M LEAVING YOU (30/1)** looked good wiring \$62.5K maiden-claimers back in the spring, but he hasn't been able to hit the board since then. I can see him stalking the pace today and flattening out. GRADE: X.

**#9 LURE HIM IN (12/1)** was doing fine work against claimers back East when Hess claimed him for \$40K and tried him in a 7.5-furlong stakes race at Gulfstream Park. He responded positively to the barn change, finishing second at 10/1 in that race, so seemingly, he would fit okay here in a similar spot. That said, he's going to have to work out a trip from this post, and I think that might prove a problem today. GRADE: X.

**#10 JAMMERS JUSTICE (15/1)** was claimed for \$4K four back, so his class is in question, but trainer Reina Gonzalez has done a good job with him, saddling him to starter-allowance and N1X victories on both turf and synth up north at Golden Gate. I'd say that's a pretty darn good claim—but the waters get much deeper today, and we'll see how this one stacks up on this circuit against the likes of these. GRADE: X.

### **CONCLUSION**

I know **#1 GOALIE** needs to improve a lot today to put up numbers equal to or better than the top few in here, but I don't think that's impossible as a lightly raced 3-year-old who looks like he was pointed to this spot. Plus, he's going to be great value in here. None of the logical contenders are standouts to me, so it makes sense to look for a horse who can move forward today, whereas we already know what the others are capable of.

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