

## DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY

By Frank R. Scatoni  
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**Date:** 9/5/21

**Race 7:** \$40K optional-claiming/N1X for fillies & mares going 8-furlongs on turf (rails at 0-ft.)

**Post:** approx. post 4:37 p.m. PDT

### OVERVIEW

What a nice, competitive entry-level allowance today for fillies and mares going 8-furlongs on the turf. We've got a European invader, some decent Cal-breds, and plenty of other runners to land on in this wide-open affair. Let's go price-shopping. (Oh, reminder: tune into "Best Bet" as I will be joined today by Jerry Weseloh, co-owner of Brandothebartender. Start time at 11:00 a.m. PDT.)

#1 FEARLESS GIRL (IRE) (7/2) has done good work on "soft" and "good" ground overseas, so we'll see how she handles firm SoCal turf. D'Amato is lethal with these types of imports and Rispoli bothers to ride. That tells me this one will be ready to fire off the boat, but the price will be short, so I'm a little hesitant to make her a top selection. GRADE: B.

#2 **ULTIMATE HY (6/1)** is a Cal-bred who has shown tenacity and a nice late kick. She was 10/1 at this level last time but managed a good fourth while breaking from the 10-hole. She moves inside today, and I expect her to run a very good race. GRADE: A.

#3 FROSE (15/1) was 10/1 against age-restricted N1X foes back in October, and she ran an okay fifth, but she coughed it up in the lane—and then had to hit the shelf. She's now coming off a long layoff against older runners, so I'm fine watching one. GRADE: X.

#4 DEL MAR DRAMA (15/1) has had several tries at this level, to no avail. She is cutting back a smidge, so at least you know she'll be fit—but she seems better suited to the exotics. GRADE: X.

#5 **LUCKY PERIDOT (10/1)** is the wiseguy play in here. I liked her last time when she was stuck inside on dirt and never got a chance to show her best stuff at this level. Maker took her for \$40K and runs her right back at the level—but this time on turf, where she has done very good work (but has been a little camera shy). I expect her to outrun her odds today, especially with Bravo riding through the claim. GRADE: A.

#6 MISS COSTA RICA (5/1) is a 3-year-old who was 10/1 against her own age group last time and could only finish fifth. It wasn't the greatest effort, but in her defense, she was coming off a long layoff, so she has license to improve. Will it be enough against older horses? Well, it's hard to ignore a Prat/Baltas production, but 5/1 seems a little short in this big competitive field. GRADE: C.

#7 TRICKLE IN (8/1) should get a good forwardly placed trip while also enjoying some class relief after squaring off against much tougher N2X types last time. I expect her to be in the hunt late, but I'm not crazy about the fact that this former stakes winner is being let go by O'Neill to anyone with the \$40K to claim her. GRADE: B.

#8 RESARCIO (15/1) showed a very nice late kick when breaking her maiden over this course last summer—and therein lies the rub: will she be ready to take a big step forward against winners for the first time while coming off a July 2020 layoff? With bug-girl Pyfer in the irons, I'm thinking this gal will probably need one. GRADE: X.

#9 NEW HEAT (20/1) is a Cal-bred who has failed three times at this level—and I think she will fail again, having to break from the nine-hole today. That said, she does have a decent late kick, so if Cedillo just finds the rail and makes one big run if a seam opens up, maybe she can contend for a slice, but she'll need a big step forward for the W. GRADE: X.

#10 ZYDECO MAMA (4/1) was 13/1 at this level last time, and she ran third, getting outfinished late despite a perfect stalking trip. She does cut back a smidge, so she'll be more fit in her second try versus winners today. I can see Maldonado getting her out to stalk the pace; will she then have enough left late to fend off the closers? I'm going to vote no. GRADE: C.

#11 NORMA JEAN B. (6/1) took forever to break her maiden, but she did it in style last time when holding sway over seven other fillies when winning at 2/1. The waters get much deeper today—but I will say this; this gal tries every time she steps on the track, so she has that in her favor. Still, the post is no picnic, so I'm fine letting her beat me. GRADE: X.

### **CONCLUSION**

I'll take **#5 LUCKY PERIDOT** as my top pick at 10/1. Her best races are good enough to win at this level, and I'm willing to draw a line through her last race on dirt. If you don't buy what I'm selling on her, **#2 ULTIMATE HY** at 6/1 is a solid alternative.

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