

# Del Mar Bottom Line

*By John Lies*



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Wednesday, August 5

## RACE ONE

**#6 CHIPS ALL IN** returns to his preferred surface today. He is a graded stakes winner sprinting on turf and has made most of his nearly half-million in career earnings on the grass while winning seven races. This will mark his third start off of a layoff.

**#1 NO SILENT** is another capable turf sprinter. He drops into the claiming ranks today and has been sparingly campaigned throughout his career. He has not won a race in some time but the presence of a leading rider helps his cause to end that streak.

**#2 PAT THE BEAR** is quick early and should do well over this abbreviated distance for older horses. Only once before has he competed on turf and he finished a game second while defeating a next-out winner. He seems able to do well in this spot.

## RACE TWO

**#5 MEMPHIS** should pick his feet up off the ground because he is dropping several levels in class today. He has always been more of an in-the-money finisher than a win type. He did post consecutive wins last fall though and has faced tougher rivals since.

**#9 JUSTIFICATION** returned to this circuit and finished fourth here in his most recent start. He usually puts in a late run from far back and should find this elongated sprint distance a bit more to his liking. He can win this if the pace sets up for him.

**#6 CONGREGATIONALIST** is not without a look in here. He does have early speed and is another dropping class in search of a win. His rider was the last one to win on him just a few starts back. He has also done well over this distance before.

### **RACE THREE**

**#1 BOOK THIRTY FOUR** should hit hard in this spot. He has run into some tough horses in two starts since breaking his maiden in May. The drop in class today should prove significant and he picks up a leading rider for a leading barn. Expect much better.

**#6 MARKET NOTES** looks like one of the better horses in this event. He came wide into the stretch of a race here Opening Day and failed to threaten but seems able to do better. He returns to the claiming ranks today and finished second at this level two back.

**#8 PROUD CAPTIVE** is fresh off a maiden win over this track in his third and most recent start. That was his first try in a main track route. He was claimed on that afternoon and now faces winners for the first time in a new stable. The same rider is back aboard.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#9 YA YA GIRL** could be ready to win today. She has finished either second or third in three starts in maiden claiming turf events like this one. Her excellent rider had a chance to get to know her in her last two starts. The wide post position could be a concern.

**#1 KATY DRAMA** came within a nose of winning a similar race two starts back. She was not as strong when finishing fifth in her last start when unable to threaten from a wide post position. She may either show more speed or get a chance to save ground here.

**#8 DEL MAR ANN** could be live at a price. Her debut effort was one to grow on and she is bred to handle the turf route she is being asked to negotiate in here. She adds blinkers under a skilled turf rider for a barn whose maidens often improve with racing.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#8 LILY POD** may be the one to beat in here. She did all but win her one and only start when finishing second as the favorite after pressing the pace and opening up into the stretch. She may be a more fit horse today but may not have to be in order to win this.

**#1 EXPLICABLE** has finished in the money in four of her five lifetime starts. She is quick enough to use her speed and get position from the inside gate. The top selection in this race also appears to be her main speed rival on paper. She seems like a must-use.

**#5 AUDRA** has a license to come out running. She hails from a successful stable as she makes her racing debut today off a steady string of morning workouts. The tote board may offer more clues about her readiness to win first out. Wouldn't overlook this one.

## RACE SIX

**#1 MRAZEK** deserves top billing in this stakes race for two-year-olds bred in California. He has finished second in two other juvenile stakes events after winning impressively in his first start. Those last two were not restricted in company like this race today.

**#2 RALIS** is probably better than his last race makes him look. He was favored in stakes company off the strength of his maiden win but beat only one horse after getting outrun early from the outside. An effort like the one two starts back would make him a threat.

**#3 GETOFFMYBACK** served warning in his debut that he could be tough to beat in his second start and he was. The win didn't break any records but was a progressive step forward, and it may have been stronger than the clocking or win margin might suggest.

## RACE SEVEN

**#8 TARA'S TANGO** should be very tough in this event. She won like a good thing in her career debut here last summer before going to the sidelines for the rest of the year. She has run in three stakes races this year and finished a good second in all three.

**#9 CONQUEST CURLGIRL** returns to the main track after finishing third in a turf race here last out. She did well on the dirt in three prior starts including a maiden win and a third in a graded stakes race where the top pick in this race was the runner-up.

**#7 SAVANNAH SKY** has a habit of leaving the gate slowly. She was able to overcome that when breaking her maiden two starts back as a heavy favorite, but unable to overcome that disadvantage against a tougher group last out. She does have ability.

## RACE EIGHT

**#2 DIVINE TALE** may be able to win for the first time against this field. She has been knocking on the door with three in-the-money placings from as many starts this year at age five. Look for her to settle off the pace and come down the lane with a good finish.

**#3 TAKE IT EASYPLEASE** finished second in her last start and fits with these. It was the first time she ran in a claiming race and the first time she finished in-the-money from five career starts so far. She seems able to do well against this group at this point.

**#4 AVO** will race with blinkers on for the first time today. She too perked up to finish second in her most recent and first race for a claiming price. Her jockey is riding as well as ever and bringing home many winners of late. She would be no surprise for the win.