

Del Mar Bottom Line

By John Lies



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Thursday, August 13

RACE ONE

#1 ALYESKA did well enough in her one and only start to date to be taken seriously in this spot. She broke a bit slowly from the rail post that day before splitting horses into the stretch and finishing with interest. She defeated two next-out winners that day as well.

#3 CANADIAN EXCHANGE has raced five times before but never for this low of a claiming price. She switches from both turf to dirt and a route to a sprint race today as well. One positive is that a leading young rider sticks with her. She does have speed.

#4 TRIPLE VANILLA makes her racing debut with a right to be live first out. Her sire gets a high percentage of first-out winners from his progeny. This barn has also been getting a healthy number of debut winners this year and lands their go-to rider aboard.

RACE TWO

#5 LITTLE EMMA has won two of her three lifetime starts including one over this track last out. She is one of only two multiple winners in this field. Today she will race over a route of ground for the first time and has speed to be a factor right from the start.

#6 SUMMER VEIL is fresh off a good second-place finish on the turf course here last out. She set the pace that day before getting outfinished and recorded her lone win in wire-to-wire fashion. Her trainer is having a productive meet here and takes blinkers off.

#4 TWINKLE TOES won her last two starts but was disqualified and placed third for bumping in her most recent out. That race was restricted to non-winners of two races lifetime but against older horses. This one is restricted to horses all three years of age.

RACE THREE

#9 IMFLATOUTSWEET finished a useful third in her only start here when she caught both a sloppy track and a runaway winner. Today she will stretch out and move to the turf for an excellent trainer and jockey. Her dam was a graded stakes winner on turf at two.

#5 STRAIGHT N STRONG also finished third in her debut. She went to the front that day and set the pace in a race where the second-place finisher came back to win next out. She too has a leading jockey and a winning stable in her corner as she tries a turf route.

#7 COVER SONG cost a pretty penny and is eligible to improve a bunch off her one and only start, mainly because she is moving to the turf. Her dam earned over a million dollars on turf in Europe as a multiple Group I winner. She picks up a Hall of Fame rider.

RACE FOUR

#9 SHAKAHARI can do better today than he did last time. He was not asked for early speed from his inside post position that day in a race at this same level and finished an even fourth. Today he switches riders for a new barn off the claim and draws outside.

#8 ALPINE LUCK is taking a notable drop in class today after having been claimed out of his last two races. This race today is for horses that have never won three races before unlike his last two. He finished second the last three times he raced at this same level.

#10 HIDDEN ZENSATION is adding blinkers today in his first start for his new trainer following a claim. He broke his maiden over Polytrack her last summer but has won on dirt since then. He is also taking a hidden class drop while going up in claiming price.

RACE FIVE

#3 INTOXICATING MOVE should be tough in this competitive event. Her last race is a toss out because it was on dirt and she is strictly a turf runner. She fits well at this level of competition and has the right rider to guide her home. She comes from out of the pack.

#1 AGUSTINA DE ARAGON is a very consistent mare. She usually puts in a late run and has been out of the top three only once this year in eight starts. She finished second over this course here last out following a productive Northern California campaign.

#8 ZANBO has a strong record over the Del Mar turf course with three wins and six in-the-money finishes to show from eight starts. She was reclaimed last out by the last trainer to win with her while reunited today with the same rider who last won on her.

RACE SIX

#1 SOONER TIME was convincing winning her career debut over this track three weeks ago. She was also entered into a stakes race for two-year-old fillies here yesterday. She does land the rail this time around. Her jockey is riding at the top of his game.

#5 GYPSY'S RULE won by an even bigger margin than the top selection in this race when winning her one and only start here last month. The clocking was not particularly fast and the opposition was modest but she may well be able to run with this group.

#7 AIMING STRAIGHT did not get out of the gate well when trying stakes company in her last start and failed to threaten. She is capable of better, such as when she got out to set the pace and won two starts back. She has not raced for a claiming price before today.

RACE SEVEN

#6 RAINBOW NORTH has run well enough in his last two starts on turf to make him one of the favorites to win this race. A repeat of his runner-up showing here two weeks ago may well be too much for any in here to overhaul. His rider is having a big summer.

#8 UNUSUALLY GREEN will be closing from out of the pack down the stretch. He often runs well enough to win a race against a group like this but still has just one win from fourteen starts with four seconds. He likes the turf and his rider is one of the best.

#9 TEMPLE KEYS was in a tough stakes race here last out and never picked up his feet. He showed he can do much better when he finished second in another stakes race for California-breds two starts back at long odds. He may well bounce back in this spot.

RACE EIGHT

#12 BROWNHAWK is worth watching on the tote board and using in multi-race wagers as a potential longshot in this race. The first-time starter drew favorably outside with a win-early pedigree for a win-early outfit. His morning workouts also whisper readiness.

#7 SON OF ELEANOR returns to the races at age three today after having raced twice in Minnesota last summer. He was second in his debut and is listed as a gelding for the first time today. He has a half sibling who won multiple stakes races here at age two.

#9 SWISS CHEESE is another with a license to be live today at first asking. He got his foundation up north before shipping down here for his last three workouts. The fact he has not raced until age four is a concern. His human connections make a winning team.