

Del Mar Bottom Line

By John Lies



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RACE ONE

#5 ATTACK was compromised by a poor post position in his most recent outing and finished out of the money. He is capable of better and could be tough in here. Today he drops back into the claiming ranks and lands a top rider while shortening up in distance.

#3 BELLAMY CONCERTO should finish in the money in this event. He finished third as the betting favorite in his most recent start over this track for a higher claiming price. He has speed to be a factor right out of the gate. He represents Hall of Fame connections.

#4 MIDNIGHT MAN might be better than his only start makes him look. He finished last against much tougher horses and has since been gelded. His dam produced four winners including a graded stakes winner on turf. His trainer is winning races down here.

RACE TWO

#4 QUEENOFTHEPALACE was behind horses and never seriously set down to finish in her U.S. debut here last month after arriving from her native New Zealand. Her trainer has been winning at a high percentage here this meet. Expect much better from her today.

#1 TANGELO wilted in a turf marathon last out but should do better in this spot. She won two starts back in a race restricted to horses bred in California. Her regular rider is aboard and having quite a strong season down here. She could be up close or on the lead.

#6 HIKING rallied and finished a close third in her only start in this country here last out. She was bred in Kentucky but began her career in England where she won three turf races at two and three. A step forward today might make her tough to hold off in the lane.

RACE THREE

#8 BEAUMARCHAIS looks well-meant at first asking today. His young sire is off to a good start with juvenile firsters. Horses bred in Florida like this one are often precocious and win early in their careers. He draws a favorable outside post position with a top rider.

#3 QUALITY LINE is worth a look. He too is by a stallion with high early returns from his two-year-old first-time starters. His dam has also produced a juvenile winner and his trainer has been known to pop with surprise newcomers over the years. He could be live.

#2 AMERICAN LEAGUE has the benefit of two starts under his belt. He disappointed in his most recent out over this track but did better first out when third as the betting favorite. A top young rider sticks with him. He could prevail if the firsters fail to fire.

RACE FOUR

#4 BROADWAY NIKA is well spotted. He has won a few races for his current trainer who reclaimed him prior to his last start on the turf. He is better on dirt. He scratched out of the first race here Opening Day and recorded a workout that morning instead.

#6 CARLOT COWBOY is taking an important drop in class. He has caught a wet track three times this year including his last two starts and has never done all that well in the mud. All six of his lifetime wins were on a fast main track. He could wake up in here.

#1 PLANET SUNSHINE is another being lowered to this claiming level who could perk up with a better effort today. He has sprinted twice in blinkers this year but stretches out for his third start while dropping and taking blinkers off. He was once good enough.

RACE FIVE

#9 PUBLIC POLICY is tough to trust but seems like the right pick in here. He has had some chances at this this particular level of competition but usually finishes in the money with a good effort. He may get that consistency rewarded in here as the likely favorite.

#12 JUSTONEMORETHING was second last out and has finished out of the money only twice in just seven lifetime starts. The three-year-old will face older rivals for the first time today, though none has won more than once before. He picks up a top rider.

#11 ULTIMATE LUCK has a fighting chance in here for the current leading trainer at Del Mar. He caught a sloppy track last out and was in contention before finishing fourth against similar rivals. We know he can do better on a fast track. He belongs in the mix.

RACE SIX

#11 JULES JOURNEY has been stuck at this level awhile but is sitting on a win. He really did run well when second by a head here last out while responding nicely for the excellent turf jockey back aboard him today. This race is one furlong shorter than his last.

#3 WEEWINNIN has won some lucrative California-bred stakes races including his last at generous odds more than once throughout his oft interrupted career. He seems to be going well these days and has early speed to be used to his advantage. He fits with these.

#9 TURNOVER has never raced on turf before but is bred to do well on the grass. He has also never been a route of ground before and should impact the pace of this race with his sprint speed. He was third in the slop last out but has won a fast main track before.

RACE SEVEN

#9 MC HOTTIE could be a good gamble. She flashed quite a bit of speed up between horses after steadying in the early stages of her one and only start and didn't completely fold in finishing fourth. She is kin to five winners while a full to a multiple stakes winner.

#3 PLANE LUCKY may be the one to catch. She went right to the lead and set the pace before finishing third in a good debut effort here on Opening Day. Her dam is a blue hen with a total of nine older winning siblings to speak of, four of which were stakes winners.

#8 MILES SISTER tipped her hand as one to follow first out but failed to move forward in her next start finishing a non-threatening fourth as the betting favorite. Today she will add blinkers. All five of her older siblings are winners including a full stakes winner.

RACE EIGHT

#6 PRIZE EXHIBIT has really flourished in her last two starts. She won graded stakes races with an impressive turn of foot and now steps up into the top division for three-year-old fillies on turf. Her jockey clearly gets along with her well. She seems this good.

#8 SUNSET GLOW looked like she'd win her last race turning for home but was no match for the winner and subsequent top selection right back in this race. She will have to find a way to turn the tables on her in order to win. This one is already a Grade I winner.

#3 RATTATAPTAP is the longshot threat in this race. She picks up a Hall of Fame rider this time around who is excellent both on turf and when the big money is down. She did not get a chance to do her most genuine running last out when bottled up down inside.

RACE NINE

#4 WHINE FOR WINE could be along in time here from off what should be a lively pace. He has not started since February for a barn that came to Del Mar loaded with fresh runners. Blinkers come off today under a top young rider enjoying a successful summer.

#2 RULE HE WILL is one of the fastest horses in this race. He didn't do so well on the turf last time but should rebound back on the main track today. He has two wins and a second from three starts on dirt. A strong effort from him would be no surprise at all.

#8 DISTINCTIVE B is on a roll and goes for three straight. He has come to hand in main track sprints like this one after having struggled in turf and distance races earlier in his career. He has also run quite well in his only two starts under the rider aboard today.

RACE TEN

#9 REDHEADS RULE has not raced since March but should be tough in here if she is fit. She has faced some stiff competition in the maiden ranks to date. This will be her first route. She is a half-sister to a Breeders' Cup Turf champion who earned \$3.5-million.

#6 ILLUMINANT figures to do better back on the turf course today under a top rider. By far the best of her three lifetime starts was her only try on the grass when she set the pace before finishing second. Her dam was a multiple stakes winner on the turf as well.

#8 NASHOBA'S CANDY makes her racing debut. She is a half-sister to a multiple Grade I winner of \$1.2-million. Her sire won the Pacific Classic here and gets a healthy percentage of first-out winners. The tote board should offer clues about her readiness.