

Del Mar Bottom Line

By John Lies



John has worked at Del Mar since 1993 and currently serves as on-track & simulcast television host. He is Track Announcer at Lone Star Park, Kentucky Downs and Will Rogers Downs and has called races at all Southern California racetracks. Follow him on Twitter @johnjlies.

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RACE ONE

#7 YA YA GIRL is overdue for her first career win and could easily notch that in this event. She has been the beaten favorite on turf in her last three straight against similar company but ran well and finished in the money on all three occasions under this rider.

#4 BOAT DRINKS should do better today than her last two starts because those were dirt races and she is switching back to the turf. She finished in the money in all of her first four career starts down the hillside turf course. She also drops into a claiming race.

#2 CARNIVAL LIGHTS hails from a high-percentage barn that entered two contenders in this one. She has no early speed but seems good enough to pose a late threat against this group. She finished only a nose behind the top pick in this event last time out.

RACE TWO

#3 PANTHER CREEK was an easy winner of his second lifetime start here last out. He cashed in on Del Mar's Ship and Win program after getting a useful prep under his belt in one start in his native Texas. He attracted the leading jockey aboard today off that win.

#4 BULLY PULPIT returned a hefty mutuel when he defeated California-breds here last out in his third start. He has improved with each race and may well have room to progress further against winners today. He may be as quick early in the race as any runner in here.

#5 FAMILY CODE is one of the three runners in this field that won here in their last start. He was flattered when the second-place finisher behind him stepped up into a non-claiming event and won his next start. He also won despite breaking a bit slowly.

RACE THREE

#2 GAVIN STREETSENSE showed that he can run in his only start. He came out firing from the inside post position and ran gamely all the way to finish as the runner-up. He was well clear of the third horse that day and is bred to handle today's longer distance.

#4 LETITHAPPEN ran into a future stakes horse last out but did defeat the others in that group to finish second. He took a step forward off his debut that day and now stretches out to a route of ground with two sprints under his belt. He is an obvious threat.

#10 ON FIRE drew a poor post for a race at this distance. He showed enough ability in his one sprint race here this meet to expect he could be dangerous if he can avoid getting caught too wide into the first turn. He does have early speed to try and get position.

RACE FOUR

#8 PERSUASIVE PAUL likes to win races. He has developed into a very consistent performer in races that were not longer than one mile in distance. He has won two of his last three under today's leading rider and has recorded half of his lifetime wins on turf.

#9 HOBBITS HERO perked up and won over this course last out in a solid return to winning form. He has won five of ten lifetime starts while four for six in turf events. He has early speed to get in the race from the outside gate and can string victories together.

#1 ANYTHINGSCOOKIN had a right to need his last race because it was his first in about eighteen months. He showed his customary early foot that day and carved out the fractions before fading to finish fifth. He hails from the current leading barn this season.

RACE FIVE

#8 KISS AT MIDNIGHT seems good enough to win a race at this level of competition. Horses bred in California like these can run for big purse money in races like this. She has never finished worse than third in her career and ran second in stakes race last out.

#5 Q'VIVA should do better over this shorter distance today. She has been trying longer races of late but her best ones overall seem to be around one turn like this race is. She did race just seven days ago and is unproven on dirt but reclaims the leading rider this time.

#3 SADIE CLARE served warning in her only start this spring that she has ability. She won here last out in her next start despite again breaking slowly and having to come from far behind to win it. She may not be able to afford that today but has room to improve.

RACE SIX

#5 DIABLO CABALLERO looks a little like his stablemate in the very previous race in that he is cutting back to a main track sprint from recent turf distance races and figures to appreciate the cutback. This one however has proven that he can act on the main track.

#7 WORLDWIDE finished third in a productive maiden race first out before running second in a good try over this track in his only other start. He may not have to improve drastically to be a factor in this race but has room to do so. He figures right in the mix.

#2 COOL GREEN kicks off his racing career today. He is bred to be useful as one of his three winning siblings was a stakes winner in California. His young sire is still in search of his first debut winner from progeny to race. He has been training off site for this debut.

RACE SEVEN

#7 MOTOWN MEN looks tough in this spot. The six-year-old gelding has won seven times and three of five races this year since claimed. He was overmatched in a Grade I two starts ago but finished third in another graded stakes race for his current connections.

#6 SMOOTH RUNNER is very talented and unbeaten in two starts. He lacks the seasoning of some of the others in this field but makes up for it on raw ability. His last win was quite solid considering he handled both tougher winners and two turns at once.

#2 BIG CAZANOVA is trying to turn his form back around. He won a graded stakes event here last fall over the Polytrack, a surface he was very good on, but is unplaced in four starts since. He has won on dirt before. His trainer is usually in it to win.

RACE EIGHT

#6 WHERE'S BUBBA could be live at a decent price to close out the card. He sports a win-early pedigree and appears to have logged a very steady and complete series of morning workouts in prep for this. His jock can hustle and his trainer is winning races.

#11 BALLPLAYER has a right to come out running. His dam has been a good producer and thrown six winners from prior foals including two full siblings to this runner. His Kentucky Derby winning sire is also above average in the category of first-out winners.

#3 MISTER EXCHANGE is another new face worth checking out in this spot. The homebred hails from a winning stable that can strike first out despite less than flashy workouts. His last five drills came over this surface with three of them out of the gate.