

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.

Sunday, November 15

RACE ONE

#6 SHARED IMAGE is a contender in a race where several runners have a decent chance of winning. She has been claimed in four of her last five starts and today races in blinkers for her current outfit. She has won five races lifetime including one here in July.

#7 GUESSED RIGHT has won three of her last five and today shoots for a hat trick. She ships in from Kentucky and has never raced here before but represents a popular trainer/jockey team. She appears to fit well classwise and has shown she can sprint.

#2 SMOOTH TALKER is the late threat to win from behind. She may prefer a slightly longer distance but has not been out of the exacta in three starts here at Del Mar. She is in good form having won two of her last three and could be dangerous if they go fast early.

RACE TWO

#5 CALIFORNIA CURL is bred to like the turf and races on grass for the first time today. That gives her a right to move forward following some main track sprints where she showed a touch of ability. The fact that this rider sticks with her is a major plus.

#3 LILY KAI should benefit from both a rider switch and a move back to the turf. All four of her siblings have been winners including two on turf and a multiple stakes winner. She set the pace before finishing third in a turf race much like this here this summer.

#4 DRESSED TO A T ran well when second in her only start to date here in September against similar rivals. The mare that beat her came right back to defeat winners at first asking and it is not an easy task to win first out going two turns. She is an obvious threat.

RACE THREE

#4 WARREN'S JOE T. ran big from a tough post here this summer and can win this with a repeat of that effort. He ships back down following two consecutive claims for a trainer that sent out a couple winners here of late. He went to the leading rider for this.

#2 CARLOT COWBOY has been second in his last two starts. He is also winless from nine tries this year but seems good enough to win this one. He has won six times in his career but never at Del Mar before. He has enough tactical speed to lay close up early.

#7 CANT DO THE DANSE seems well meant in this spot. He debuts for a high-percentage barn in Northern California following a claim and has trained along quite steadily for a horse at this level since last raced. His speed makes him the one to catch.

RACE FOUR

#7 URLACHER should be tough to beat at a short price. He has improved with each start and ran a big second behind an impressive winner in his first race around two turns last out. He has an edge on seasoning over the others and need only avoid regression.

#2 DIPLODOCUS is likely to move forward off his debut. He will again be handled by one of the best riders around following an even seventh-place finish in a sprint race. He took a bit of action that day and could be a different animal around two turns this time.

#6 UNINVITED has two starts under his belt and adds blinkers for his third today. He finished a distant third behind the top selection in this race last out while showing improvement off his first race. He is a half-brother to six winners and two stakes winners.

RACE FIVE

#8 ANTHONYSGOTGAME showed he can run with an encouraging second-place finish when claimed in his only start. He broke very poorly before pulling his way right through the field to be close to the leaders and stayed on well despite all the effort.

#6 AFFLUENT ASSET has run nine times before but never at this bottom level for maiden claimers and only once on the main track. He has five in-the-money finishes to speak of and can be competitive sprinting. This barn wins races in Northern California.

#2 CAPTAIN CARCHY is another check-getter with six seconds and thirds to show from his nine-race career. All three of his runner-up efforts have come at this same elongated sprint distance. His last race was his first in seven months. He could improve.

RACE SIX

#4 OIL ran well enough in victory over this sometimes tricky layout that he should be able to strike here. His ability to get to the front is key in this context with the turf rails out and the abbreviated sprint distance is very much in his favor. Come and catch him.

#8 NATIVE TREASURE in winless on turf but finished a good second over this course here in August. A repeat of such an effort puts him in the hunt again here under a leading rider. He has dropped far back early in his last two but has more tactical speed if asked.

#5 DISTINCTIVE B must break well in order to be a factor. He has had some issues out of the gate but seems to have the ability to run well in here if he leaves there in good order. The fact this rider is willing to stick with him means he should not be ignored.

RACE SEVEN

#7 UNBRIDLED SUMMER has early speed and the benefit of three races under her belt to make her dangerous. She fired a winning race here first out but just got nailed late. She regressed wearing blinkers last out but promptly removes them and drew outside.

#6 SWEET HALORY has a right to come out running. She is by a decent win-early stallion and her dam was a multiple graded stakes winner. She has also produced four winners herself and the fact this barn looks to this rider points to positive vibes today.

#5 CEEME RUN WILD ran on for third at long odds in her only start here this summer. Her stablemate was the runner-up in that event. She should benefit from getting off the rail and this barn has good success when looking to this rider. Both of them are excellent.

RACE EIGHT

#7 PRETTY N COOL deserves top billing as the one to beat. She became a graded stakes winner here in only her second start following an impressive debut win, then finished second in the Del Mar Debutante behind the likely champion two-year-old filly.

#3 LUCKY FOLIE is clearly the one to fear most. Her maiden win here in late summer was quite emphatic and flattered by a next-out winner behind her. She then performed well when second in a turf route last out and should be very effective at this distance.

#1 SURFSIDE TIARA became a stakes winner last out and has won two of four starts. She posted a sharp maiden win here over the summer and figures to benefit from a lively pace should that develop in front of her. Look for a late bid from her down the lane.

RACE NINE

#2 DURANGO FLIER has several things going for him. He finished third in a key race against similar last out that produced a couple return winners including one here this week. The barn is doing well and hits at a high percentage when looking to this rider.

#1 RAINBOW NORTH exits the same key race as the top choice and should benefit from a ground-saving trip. He turned in a second-place effort on this turf course here in July at this same level that would threaten these if duplicated. He belongs in the mix.

#8 SMOKEY'S LEGACY has only raced on turf a few times but might be best on this surface. He has never run in a turf route before but rallied to be a close second down the hillside turf course last out and has run well over a mile before. He has a fighting chance.