

Del Mar Bottom Line

By John Lies



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RACE ONE

#8 ADAIR is a candidate to win first out for a leading stable that has two strong entries in this event. He draws a favorable outside post position and lands a hustling apprentice rider who has won a couple races for this barn. He also has four winning older siblings.

#7 ROPER returns from a seven-month layoff for a different trainer after having raced ten times in his career with three in-the-money finishes. He missed by only a nose two races back and doesn't appear to have much to beat at this bottom maiden claiming level.

#3 SPIRIT WORLD improved in his second try and ran second at a big price. The extra distance of this event should help him based on the way he finished last out. One of his four winning siblings was a multiple stakes winner. Today he picks up a leading jockey.

RACE TWO

#4 TULIRA CASTLE is the obvious choice. He is on a roll at or around this competitive claiming level and goes for four straight wins today. He has been claimed in four of his last five races and goes from one winning stable to another. His rider knows him well.

#1 ALEX ROSSI seeks his first U.S. win. He ran well last out against tougher horses in a short field. His early speed is an advantage at this distance and the rider upgrade he benefits from today should not be underestimated. He also comes out of a red hot barn.

#6 AIRFOIL can be competitive at this level. His trainer has sent out a couple winners here this meet and he just finished second over this track earlier in the month around one turn. He has never won at Del Mar or going a mile but does seem best on the main track.

RACE THREE

#10 LAUREN'S LADD is a good gamble. He faced a tough field of maidens in a useful main track sprint first out and is bred top and bottom to excel going long on grass. He also gave the visual impression he should move forward with the move to a turf route.

#8 PATH OF DAVID exits a key race in Kentucky that produced three next-out winners. He chased home two of them as the third-place finisher and has improved in his last two going long on turf. Today he races without blinkers while listed as a gelding.

#12 ARCHAEO got no help when he landed in the outside post. His effort two starts back down the hillside turf course was promising enough to make him a threat to win this and he did not have a perfect trip here last out. He switches to another talented rider.

RACE FOUR

#7 DEMONSLAYER makes his racing debut with a pedigree to win first out. His sire is well known for success in that category and this guy has logged a steady series of drills for his first start today. Both his trainer and jockey win races and hit very hard as a combo.

#2 LYMEBYRD is another with strong credentials to do well as he races for the first time. His jockey has been riding very well here this fall and he too is the son of a stallion whose progeny win at an above-average rate first time out. This barn can send one ready.

#8 ETAILER is one of two in the race for his owner and trainer and appears to have kept company with that rival in many of his morning workouts in prep for this. He lands the rider that has had so much success this year with these connections and draws outside.

RACE FIVE

#6 JEREMY'S LEGACY looked spectacular when she made her U.S. debut here just seven days ago on this turf course. The manner in which she won gave the impression that she has a bright future and could easily be good enough to win a race of this caliber.

#3 RIRI is two-for-two and has been dominant winning on both occasions. She also has a win over this course under her belt and retains the same top rider. She is one of four horses entered in this stakes race by her trainer. She has tactical speed to get position.

#10 MOKAT is another who was visually impressive winning over this course here at the meet. The effort was strong enough to make her a solid candidate here and her pilot is awesome over the lawn. She was also flattered by a next-out winner behind her last out.

RACE SIX

#1 SIR BARCLAY has a chance for a mild upset. He is stretching out off sprint races and should use his speed to his benefit at this one-mile distance. He drew well to do so. The horse he dueled with here last out came back and won on the raise against tougher.

#8 STORM COMIN THRU looks like the one to beat. He is winless in eight starts this year but consistently runs fast enough to make him a contender at this level. His lack of speed is a concern but he has the best of connections and has always run well at Del Mar.

#6 ROMAN TIZZY is good enough to take this. His winning effort here in August for this same trainer who reclaimed him two back makes him a threat to win this under a leading rider. He has tactical speed and may not have to race as wide today as last time.

RACE SEVEN

#5 OM is the Del Mar Derby winner who has developed into a front-running machine on the turf. He goes for three straight wins today at the same distance while stepping up to this top Grade I level. This Hall of Fame rider gets along famously with him as well.

#4 CHIROPRACTOR is well prepared for success as he makes his stakes debut. His last effort served as great prep for this finishing a close second against tough older horses at this same distance. He seems primed to deliver a big effort and get a big piece of this.

#6 FUNDAMENTAL had miserable racing luck in his most recent start in Kentucky. He was looking for racing room towards the inside in midstretch and got stopped cold in a race he could have won with clear sailing. His trainer entered four runners in this event.

RACE EIGHT

#3 DORTMUND was one of the big names on the Kentucky Derby trail this year and finished a gallant third in his Run for the Roses. He was given a break following the Preakness and returned last month to defeat older horses with aplomb at first asking.

#4 IRON FIST is another talented three-year-old and was won all three of his starts facing older horses. He seems well spotted in this particular event. Today he will race without blinkers despite the fact that he won wearing them here over this track last out.

#7 IMPERATIVE has danced some big dances. His claim to fame was a big-money win in a race about eighteen months ago and he has not posed for pictures since. His career earnings narrowly best the top selection and he does get away from some good ones.

RACE NINE

#7 WHAT A VIEW should be tough to beat and a factor right from the start. He has shown he is best as a front-running turf router and suffered a very tough loss last out in a desperately close photo finish under a controversial ride. He can make amends in here.

#11 SECOND SUMMER should move forward off his last race over a course that was not kind to his closing style. He has run well in all three of his races over this course and may have some upside as he faces winners for only the second time. He can win this.

#6 HUNT is another contender who can move forward today dropping out of the same stakes race as the second pick. He finished second over this course in August in a good effort behind a horse who was scheduled to start today in the Grade I Hollywood Derby.