

# Del Mar Bottom Line

*By John Lies*



John began working at Del Mar in 1993 and has provided analysis on simulcast television for nearly a decade. This year he joined Will Rogers Downs and Fair Meadows as the racing secretary, announcer and oddsmaker and has called races at all Southern California racetracks.

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Friday, July 29

## RACE ONE

**#7 SPINDLE** drops into the maiden claiming ranks for the first time. She may be good enough to win at this level and was third in a turf sprint in her best showing so far. The full sister to a local stakes winner hails from a barn with two runners entered in this race.

**#2 SWEETWATER GAL** is seeking her proper level in her first start off the claim. This barn is off to a good start here this meet and she looks like a fit at this class level. She has only raced twice before today and showed much improved speed in her second start.

**#9 SHAKTI** is worth a look on the tote board and perhaps a use if she is taking action. Her form went south before she went to the sidelines this winter but she showed ability on this track last year and may fire fresh. She also lands a leading rider on the class drop.

## RACE TWO

**#1 MY CALIFORNIA** will be tough to beat if she runs like she did last time. One of the horses in this race finished third while nine lengths behind her that day before returning to win convincingly here on Opening Day. The rail post position is the main concern.

**#3 I'LL BE AROUND** took the lead and never looked back winning here two weeks ago. She showed some ability in her first start but took a big step forward in winning second out. It is likely the early pace of this race will be livelier than that of her last.

**#2 CIOPPINO PASADINO** is very quick and should not be overlooked. She sprinted clear and registered a sharp tally in her career debut, then went to the front before giving way to stakes horses last out. This stakes race is restricted to horses bred in California.

### **RACE THREE**

**#6 KATY DRAMA** could pay quick dividends for her new connections. She is back just six days following a fourth-place finish and claim out of that race. The move to two turns may be a good one as she recorded her lone win via DQ here on this track going a mile.

**#5 APPEALING LADY** fits well with these conditioned claimers that have not won twice before. She was second against very similar rivals in her first start after breaking her maiden this winter and switches back to strong journeyman rider this afternoon.

**#4 SIZZLING BEL** ships down from Northern California for an outfit that does well off the claim and has sent out a couple of winners here this meet. She was third in her only start on the main track and has been racing on turf and synthetic surfaces since then.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#8 YOU MISSED IT** stretches out to a turf route with two main track sprints under her belt. She ran well on both occasions showing speed and finishing in the money. Her lone sibling won at two and on the turf. Her pedigree indicates she should take to this trip.

**#1 WITH HONORS** makes her racing debut. The well-bred filly had a particularly strong workout from the starting gate here six days ago to cap off her morning preps. It is not often that horses win first time out going a route of ground but it does happen.

**#7 SIMMY'S TEMPLE** is worth a long look. She makes her U.S. debut off one start in her native England this spring when she finished second at long odds in a full field. She picks up a top rider off a slow but steady string of morning workouts on the main track.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#2 JONNY'S CHOICE** might be the right pick in this bottom level claiming event. He drops several levels today and his win in April against comparable opponents makes him the one to beat facing this particular group today. He has never raced on this track before.

**#7 NAHEM** has never been much on the main track in his career but might be competitive at this level. The eight-year-old has made some money over the years as a pro in turf and synthetic races. Today he debuts for a popular trainer/rider combo.

**#6 CANT DO THE DANSE** is a longshot who has it in him to surprise if he is up to a good race. His recent ones have been poor but he won his only start over this track in wire-to-wire fashion last fall when he was on his game. He could get loose on the lead.

## RACE SIX

**#5 DOUBELIEVENMAGIC** tipped her hand in one start in Florida this spring. She finished a promising second behind a next-out winner while rallying from far back. Today she ships west for the team busily preparing a contender for the Pacific Classic.

**#10 C.C. ZIPP** is bred to like the turf. She has lost seven races sprinting on the main track while in the money four times and tries this new element. She definitely has enough speed to try and make the lead from the outside if the rider chooses to ask her.

**#9 KIHEI SUNSET** gets a pivotal rider change for her second start of the year. Her leading pilot has been very successful with his riding style on the turf and she finished a good second over this course last fall before going to the shelf. Look for better today.

## RACE SEVEN

**#8 YODELERS WAY** could rebound today because he is drawn outside and picks up one of the leading riders. His odds figure to be generous in a race loaded with unknowns. He has shown good speed in three starts and his second-place effort two back was solid.

**#2 AMODEI** was sent off as the favorite in his one and only start and finished a decent second after going for the early lead. Today he will race with blinkers on for a top jockey and trainer. It is quite possible he will benefit from the equipment change and improve.

**#5 ELWOOD J** has a right to win first out. His trainer is known for winning with first-time starters and he is bred to win early in his career. He has logged three consecutive morning workouts from the starting gate in prep for this including one that was a bullet.

## RACE EIGHT

**#2 WITH A TWIST** is an eight-year-old mare that loves to win races and loves the Del Mar turf course. She won a pair of turf routes much like this one here last fall and has become very consistent. Her last race came over a distance that was too short for her.

**#5 INTOXICATING MOVE** fits well here and is a major player. Her last race was okay but she is better on turf and moves back to the grass today. She has two wins and a second over this course. This barn won a stakes here this week and looks to a top rider.

**#8 SWISS SKIMMER** can be dangerous as a front-running force. She too switches back to her preferred surface after faltering on the main track last out. Her game is to go to the front in these two-turn turf claiming events and she is definitely good enough to win this.