

# 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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Sunday, August 7

## **RACE ONE**

**#2 KYANKES** drops in class to what could be a winning level for her today. This barn has been making all the right moves here this meet and both of her wins have come under the top rider taking the reins today. Her speed should make her dangerous at this distance.

**#4 AUDRA** is a contender at this level. She has won going seven furlongs before and also won for this barn just two starts back in her second start for these connections. She continues to rattle off short bullet workouts in the mornings and has the leading rider.

**#6 FRUITY** helps make this race competitive. She enters off a win and a claim out of her last race for a barn that is having a winning season at Del Mar. It was her first race on dirt. The closing style she used to win that race should be effective over this distance.

## **RACE TWO**

**#6 DOODETTA** has been fairly consistent in turf sprints around this level. She is unplaced in three starts over this course but did not run bad in one start at this distance. She was placed second last out in a key race that has produced three next-out winners.

**#3 PEARL DE VERE** fits well in here. She is winless since connecting three straight over the winter but has been freshened about sixty days since her last race. Her lifetime record on the turf is tough to ignore and her jockey has been riding very well this meet.

**#2 COMPEL** is interesting at a price. She figures to appreciate the turn back from route races because her lone win in the U.S. came in a turf sprint. She also won at this five-furlong distance in Europe before coming to this country. This rider has been getting hot.

### RACE THREE

**#1 ALWAYS DANGEROUS** drops to the bottom maiden claiming level for the first time today for a leading stable. She has raced only four times before while in the money twice and never before against this easier caliber. She must deal with the rail post.

**#4 IF YOU BELIEVE** also hails from a leading stable and has finished second or third twice before. One of those placings was at this level two starts back and her last race came around two turns. It looks like she is better sprinting and should do well in here.

**#3 BUZZER BEATER** has lost eleven times but is not without a chance today. She has been in the money six times before while racing at tracks like Monmouth, Oaklawn and Churchill Downs. This marks her first start in Southern California following a claim.

### RACE FOUR

**#4 EZIO** is one of two proven win types in this group with nine victories to his credit. The fact that he can win on the main track gives him the edge as he ships down from the Northern California fair circuit in search of back-to-back wins. He should be rolling late.

**#2 NAHEM** is an old pro but has earned all of his cash in turf and synthetic track races. He managed a third-place finish on the main track here just nine days ago and is back quickly following a claim. His class and current form still make him a solid threat.

**#1 MR. CARTAGENA** was eased in his last race and is out to put that debacle behind him. The front runner gets a big break in the weights today as he makes his second start for these connections and can get brave when he makes the lead. He has won here before.

### RACE FIVE

**#5 NOTED AND QUOTED** should appreciate the fact that this race is a full eighth of a mile longer than her first race when she finished fourth. She broke a bit slowly that day and was coming on at the end in a race that is turning out to be somewhat productive.

**#7 CYNTHIANA** looks live first out. She is by a solid win-early stallion and draws a favorable outside post position for a newcomer. She popped out of the gate four days ago to put her on her toes for this and cap off a very steady worktab. The odds may tell more.

**#4 FORTUNATE QUEEN** is one of two runners in the field from one of the best barns in the business. This homebred first-time starter is bred top and bottom to win early in her career. The presence of four straight gate workouts on her ledger is a bit of a concern.

## RACE SIX

**#6 SAINT DERMOT** is getting good right now for a hot barn. Each of his four races under this rider since joining this stable in March has been better and better with a good win last out. He has also been raised shrewdly back up the ranks without getting claimed.

**#4 TRIBAL JEWEL** is a tough horse and knows how to win. He races for the optional claiming price attached to the allowance conditions because he already has won at this level. This is a rematch with the top selection in this race after they ran one-two last time.

**#5 GOT EVEN** should not be overlooked. He consistently shows speed and finished third in a race at this level here on Opening Day. He is definitely one to consider for the exacta, trifecta and superfecta. He often comes in the money but seldom wins these days.

## RACE SEVEN

**#8 ENTRECHAT** was visually impressive in winning over this course here the first weekend of the meet. It proved that she is very good right now and more than a one dimensional sprinter down the hillside course. She might be ready to win a stakes race.

**#3 ELEKTRUM** is the class of the field and the one to beat. She has been a graded stakes performer on the turf for more than a year on this circuit and won one of those over this course last summer. This will be her third start of the year off a layoff.

**#1 JUNO** is very interesting in this spot. She was unbeaten in five starts in Brazil before coming to the U.S. and finishing third in a key main track sprint where she finished ahead of two next-out winners. She now stretches out on the turf and keeps the leading rider.

## RACE EIGHT

**#1 CHAO CHOM** won like a future stakes horse here about three weeks ago in her second lifetime start. The performance was good enough to expect that she can win this race at the state-bred allowance level. The rail is always a concern but she has speed.

**#8 DIS SMART CAT** has never finished out of the money in four starts with two wins. She has been the beaten favorite however in both of her starts against winners since breaking her maiden in May. She has a lot of speed and a Hall of Fame rider aboard.

**#4 EASTER FEVER** has won more races than any other this field including her most recent one here about two weeks ago and two of her last three. Those wins have come in claiming races. Today she tries this rich state-bred level first off the claim for a hot barn.

## **RACE NINE**

**#9 MIDNIGHT SWINGER** woke up going long on the turf and came a neck shy of winning in her last start. She seems to be coming to hand at this stage and a step forward off her last would make her tough to beat. This stable is loaded with live horses today.

**#3 ANGEL ON POINT** picks up one of the hottest riders in the room these days. That could make a difference as she races for the fifth time while unplaced so far. Her pair of one-mile turf races wasn't bad and there is some ability there. She raced wide last out.

**#8 VICTORIA FALLS** may also benefit from the services of a leading rider today. She pulled and steadied early in her last race before faltering but is capable of better. She was second in all of her first three races including one off the layoff going a mile on turf.