

# 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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Thursday, August 11

## **RACE ONE**

**#1 GAVIN STREETSENSE** might be able to win despite the fact that he drew the dreaded rail. He has been second twice and gelded since his last start. He drops to this maiden claiming price for the first time for a hot trainer with one of the leading riders.

**#5 AGRONOMY** is knocking on the door and an obvious threat. He responded to a drop to this level with a second-place effort last out over this track. He posted a bullet morning workout after that race for one of the leading stables here at Del Mar and has early speed.

**#4 SUPER TOUCH** is making his first start this meet. He has finished in the money in three of five starts and found maiden allowance horses a bit too tough last out. The return to the claiming ranks seems suitable and this barn has been winning races this summer.

## **RACE TWO**

**#6 THIRD BRIGADE** broke his maiden here opening weekend in his third lifetime start. His early speed should have him forwardly placed as he tries two turns in his first start against winners today. The three-year-old has room to develop and a rider doing well.

**#5 WRIGHTWOOD** was coming on fast at the end of his last race here last month and galloped out in front past the wire as if he will appreciate this longer distance. He may be more comfortable racing without blinkers today and could be rounding back into form.

**#4 FAR OUT KAILEE** was never going to beat the winner in his most recent out here three weeks ago but was clearly second best. Today he picks up one of the leading riders. He was claimed out of his last race by a trainer with good such numbers out of state.

### **RACE THREE**

**#9 DONJI** must avoid losing too much ground from a poor post position. He can win this turf event off his sharp current form in Northern California. The conditions of this starter allowance race suit him favorably and he won on the turf when claimed two starts back.

**#7 LAST ONE STANDING** is racing against older horses for the first time. The three-year-old has registered both of his career wins on the grass but has been racing on the main track since March. He moves back to the lawn today for a very sharp stable.

**#2 BIRD E HOUSE** could be the longshot threat. He did not run badly despite having to go wide into the stretch last out against a field arguably tougher than this one. He seems to like it here and won a race over this course last year when he was a huge longshot.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#4 ENTER THE CODE** is worth another try today. He rattled off a fast workout in blinkers before his last race when bet to favoritism but faded down the stretch after engaging in a pace battle from the rail. Today he gets off the inside and switches riders.

**#6 EICHEL** is listed as a gelding for the first time after having finished second or third three times in four starts. He has not been close to the winner late in any of his races but still is eligible to do well in this spot. He has enough speed to gun for the early lead.

**#1 TOY'S PARTY** makes his racing debut from the inside post position. He is by a good win-early sire and out of a dam that has produced three winners. He seems to have trained along steadily towards this race over the last month for a solid winning outfit.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#8 BACK TO BAKO** is a contender in a competitive race. The jockey aboard him today has had success on him before and this horse pulled against another rider in his most recent out. He still did not run poorly on that occasion here last month in a deep field.

**#6 RYE** blew past a field of California-breds here on Opening Day in his first start in Southern California. It also marked his first race against older horses and he was visually impressive for the level. He seems to be getting good right now and fits well in here.

**#7 CHRIS AND DAVE** earned a hard-fought win over this course here just six days ago and wheels back quickly while the blood is pumping. He has been creeping up the class ladder over his last several starts and delivered first off the claim last out at decent odds.

## **RACE SIX**

**#4 HER ROYALNESS** has recorded some fast morning workouts in prep for her racing debut here today. Her trainer sends them fit and ready and they look to a Hall of Fame rider for this homebred with a win-early pedigree. She looks live here first time out.

**#8 SECRET THORN** looks like she may be a runner. The first-time starter has logged some strong morning drills and is a product of a successful owner/breeder operation here in the state. She is related to three winners and has a hustling rider aboard for the debut.

**#5 FUNNY PAPER** could be worth considering at a price. She has some things going for her including fast workouts, some pedigree to win early in her career and a trainer who can send them ready and is having a good meet. She trained up north earlier this summer.

## **RACE SEVEN**

**#6 RUN LIKE THE BOSS** was unlucky not to have won or been right there in her last race here going this same trip. She just didn't have a clean trip and will hope for better luck here against similar. They may be on the right track sprinting her on the turf.

**#4 MOONIE** was second by a neck in a race identical to this one here last month. She has shown she is good at coming in second having done it seven times in her career with two wins. The same solid rider sticks with her and another honest effort puts her in it.

**#8 STAR OF MUNSTER** likes to win races. She runs on the turf for the first time today after having won six races on the main track. She has the quickness to be effective over this abbreviated distance and many progeny of her sire do very well on the grass.

## **RACE EIGHT**

**#5 ADIR** is improving and finished a decent second here two weeks ago in a race just like this one despite racing wide into the first turn. The services of a leading rider only help his chances of improving further. He has more upside than some others in the field.

**#8 PRINCELY WARRIOR** should move forward around two turns. He was no threat in a main track sprint here two weeks ago but retains the leading rider for his second start today. His stakes-winning dam won three route races and has produced a route winner.

**#4 CLICKJAB** takes the plunge from maiden special weights to the bottom maiden claiming level on this circuit. It seems warranted as he has come close but lost twelve times in his career and not raced since May. He may be able to break through in here.