

# 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 14

## **RACE ONE**

**#2 SPINDLE** should be tough to beat if she repeats her last race when she ran second despite traffic trouble here a little over two weeks ago. She steps up one level today following a claim and doesn't meet a very deep field while picking up the leading rider.

**#5 REALLY A GEM** is out to make amends after she wilted going two turns in a maiden special weight. She had finished second in both of her two prior outings. They were her only other starts for a claiming price and one of those was a main track sprint.

**#3 SPACE CADET** represents one of the leading stables and is ridden by one of the top jockeys. She has raced three times before today and finished in the money twice. Today she cuts back to a sprint after setting the pace in a one-mile event and finishing third.

## **RACE TWO**

**#6 LUCKARACK** has won eighteen races in his career. The eight-year-old won at this short distance in Northern California just two starts back and has won four turf races in his career. He is well spotted for big money in a race restricted to California-breds.

**#5 MIDNIGHT RAMBLER** is a lightly-raced sort making only his sixth lifetime start and third of this year. He has room to progress but has never beaten winners before. He finished third in a decent effort over this course last out against very similar company.

**#4 TRUST UR INTUITION** is a mare racing against the boys. She has experience in these five furlong turf races and missed by less than a length in her only start here at Del Mar last out. Today she picks up a red hot rider and can lay closer early than last time.

### **RACE THREE**

**#4 IB MIKE** is back at the level where he just finished second here last out under this same top rider. The seven-time winner has finished in the exacta in five of seven starts this year. He has also finished second and been claimed in each of his last two starts.

**#5 OVERCOMER** is fresh off a win here opening weekend and has won three of five lifetime starts. His last race was his first since last September and he held on gamely after opening up into the stretch. It has been a very productive summer for the jockey aboard.

**#1 COYOTE FLY** must overcome the rail in order to make it back-to-back wins. He defeated the top selection in this race here last out by taking the lead and holding onto it at this same distance. Back aboard is a new name this summer who is riding very well.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#11 BEDEVILED** seems ready to win. He is at risk of losing valuable ground from the outside post but looks like the one to beat off his last few tries. He missed by a nose under the rider getting back on him today just two back going this same turf distance.

**#9 FELDINI** races on turf for the first time today. His sire won the Del Mar Derby here on the turf course and finished second in the Pacific Classic on Polytrack in his final career start. His progeny are doing well on turf. This colt enters off two good efforts.

**#3 EXHALE** is likely to improve today in his second start. He was bet to mild favoritism in his debut here in a main track sprint last out but spun his wheels and finished fifth. He is by an excellent turf stallion and stretches out today under the same Half of Fame rider.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#4 ALLSQUARE** should be thrilled to escape the shadow of her extremely talented stablemate after finishing second behind her in two straight stakes races. This three-year-old filly races at this allowance level for the first time today and should be very tough.

**#2 CORDIALITY** is on a win streak. She has not lost since March and taken four in a row. She keeps stepping up to take on better and keeps beating them time and time again. She is clearly a hot commodity and has been claimed out of her last three straight races.

**#1 MELANISTIC** has won eleven races and earned some good money in her career. The seven-year-old mare last won a race here last summer but was disqualified on that occasion. She has not raced at this restricted California-bred level for some time.

## RACE SIX

**#7 ZINVOR** has a lot going for him as a winning candidate. He has won both of his starts on this course including his most recent here three weeks ago. He was claimed that day by one of the hottest barns on the grounds and is good enough to win at this level.

**#5 HOBBITS HERO** likes to win races. Eight of his nine lifetime victories have come on the turf course. He typically shows early speed and usually sets the pace but does not have to be handed a lead in order to win. He always runs well under this top rider.

**#4 TUCO** has not raced since February. The Irish-bred import raced six times in England before coming to the U.S. and was second in his most recent start. He has never beaten winners before but has finished out of the money only once in his eight-race career.

## RACE SEVEN

**#9 AURA ROSE** is one to watch at a square price as she makes her debut. Her sire has been awesome with juvenile first-time starters so far and is proving himself a very successful stud. She is a half-sister to a stakes winner and lands one of the top riders.

**#8 AMERICAN GAL** is one of two first-time starters in this field from a marquee stable. She too is by an excellent win-early stallion and her dam had some class as a Grade II-placed stakes horse. This barn means business when using this leading rider.

**#5 FACT OF LIFE** has a right to be live here as well. The betting could tell more about this one's chances here first out but she should not be ignored in case the bettors forget her. She has the services of the meet's leading jockey and her sire was awfully fast.

## RACE EIGHT

**#11 MAJESTIC HEAT** might be the right one in this competitive race for state-breds. Her only start this year resulted in a clear win under this rider as the even-money favorite in only her second start for her current trainer. She may be ready to win a stakes race.

**#3 SINGING KITTY** has earned more money in turf races than any other in this field. She has not won since last fall but has been competitive and finished second in a stakes race much like this one in May. Look for her to tuck in behind the leaders and finish well.

**#6 LILY KAI** has a chance in this spot. She comes out of a marathon turf race here last month where she finished third but this is probably a better distance for her. She has been pretty consistent in turf races this year and this barn is quietly having a very good meet.

## **RACE NINE**

**#8 RESISTANCEISFUTILE** looks ready to break his maiden. He was off the track from November until July of this year but was third in his comeback and then second last out over this track. This barn won a race here on Friday. The leading rider takes the call.

**#3 LEGITIMATE** is another knocking on the door for a win. He has raced eleven times before but now been second in his last two and missed by only nose two starts back. He has traded decisions with the top pick in this race the last two times they have raced.

**#11 AWESOME IMAGE** comes down from Northern California and could spoil the tea party. He was a distant second last out in only his second start on the main track and his first start for a claiming price. That makes his 0-for-7 lifetime mark a bit less concerning.