

# Del Mar Bottom Line

*By John Lies*



John began working at Del Mar in 1993 and has provided analysis on simulcast television for over a decade. Last 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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## RACE ONE

**#4 WHERE'S THE D** is one of several contenders in a competitive race where the best horses look evenly matched. She finished well to pick up second after a poor start in her first start off the claim for these connections last out. The leading rider stays aboard.

**#1 SOUTHERN TREASURE** is in search of three straight wins today following a victory over this track here last month. Seven of her eight lifetime wins have come in her last nine starts. She has won both of her starts on dirt and may prove another solid claim.

**#6 KRISTIE'S HEART** will try to extend her win streak to five in her first start off the claim. She did not race between January and June of this year but returned no less sharp and won easily last out over a field that included two next-out winners. She drew well.

## RACE TWO

**#2 JONNY'S CHOICE** loves Del Mar and has won all three of his starts here. He was claimed last out by one of the sharpest barns in the game with such runners. It appears they have taken the time to get him as good as they can for a run at the win today.

**#1 OVER ACHIEVER** has not raced since March but was last seen winning by nearly ten lengths. The fact that he went right to the sidelines for new connections off such a romping win is a concern. It is a good sign that he is brought back at a higher level.

**#7 PAPA TURF** exits a key race that has produced no less than four next-out winners. He only beat one horse that day but drops into an easier spot today. This is only his second start for his current trainer and the barn is having another solid Del Mar meet.

### **RACE THREE**

**#6 RELENTLESS MISS** is spotted for action under a top rider in her first local start. She finished third in a maiden claiming race on the turf much like this one two starts back at Aqueduct in New York. She races for bonus purse money as an out-of-state shipper.

**#9 ARCH OF TROY** is one to consider at decent odds. She will race both on turf and over a distance of ground for the first time today following two sprint races and finished third in her most recent. Her turf-winning dam has also produced a stakes winner on turf.

**#5 GIFT GIVER LINDA** should not be overlooked. She made one inconclusive start near Chicago over a synthetic surface and finished fifth after getting squeezed at the start. She is eligible to show some speed this time around and might fit in this context.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#11 SINDYS LUCK** nearly pulled off a big upset at this same class level last out after setting all the pace. It was his first start against restricted claimers like these. The fact he picks up a leading rider only helps his cause and he drew a good post at the distance.

**#7 ZARQA STAR** was claimed last out by a sharp outfit and finished a decent third in that race at this same level. The extra furlong may be to his advantage after a willing finish over a shorter distance. He has been in the money in three of four local starts.

**#8 STRONG VALUES** is very consistent. He has not finished out of the money in five starts this year including two wins and a good second over this track under this rider last out. This barn won a very important stakes race in the Pacific Northwest last weekend.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#1 SING A SOLO** got no help at the draw when landing the rail but could be live at first asking. All three of her siblings are winners including a multiple stakes winner in California. This barn is having a good meet and can strike at a price with new faces.

**#7 SUPER PATRIOT** is not necessarily cut out to win first out but should not be ignored for these connections. She cost a good amount of money for a state-bred at auction this spring and has recorded sharp moves from the gate in her last three workouts.

**#8 MY CLAW** is the only horse in the race that has started before and did so over this track. She finished fifth in an eight-horse field where the runner-up was a prompt next-out winner here at Del Mar. Her dam was a multiple stakes winner. She could improve.

## RACE SIX

**#1 MY PI ROMANCER** may offer a bit of value at the windows. The well-bred filly showed promise over the winter in turf routes but went to the shelf following a pair of subpar efforts this spring. She could be dangerous on the lead if she comes back well.

**#4 SEA SMOKE** is the obvious threat following a second-place finish in a very similar turf race here last month. This race is of the same caliber but a sixteenth of a mile shorter. She also demonstrated the ability to come from behind after having been a front runner.

**#2 MOONSHINE ANNIE** was a better-than-looked fourth two starts back and returned with another decent fourth-place finish last out. She exits the same race as the selection just above in a rematch of some familiar rivals. Her rider is one of the best on the turf.

## RACE SEVEN

**#2 NOTED AND QUOTED** should be very tough in this allowance race. She has kept nothing but stakes company since breaking her maiden by over nine lengths here last summer. It is not often that a Grade I winner is eligible to an allowance race like this.

**#6 AVICII** is very consistent. She has not finished out of the money in eight starts this year and finished a respectable second over this track last out going one mile. She is at least as good in races around one turn and cuts back in distance today. She is a fit.

**#3 AUNTJENN** should do better switching back to the dirt following a dud on the turf last out. She won very nicely on the main track at this distance two starts back and owns a win over this track. Her trainer appears to have two solid runners entered in this event.

## RACE EIGHT

**#4 FALL HARVEST** faces a number of trial maidens as he makes just his third lifetime start. This will be his first start on the main track and his pedigree does not demand that he be a turf runner. He may be able to shake loose early under a lightweight apprentice.

**#8 SUNDAY SUNDAY** is the one to fear most off his second-place finish last out over this track. This race is identical in nature and he won't have to improve by leaps and bounds to competitive against these right back. The same rider is back aboard as well.

**#9 GO GHETTO** has had many chances but seems fast enough to either win or be tough in this race. He has done well enough finishing second twice in five starts this year to expect that he could win on this circuit. He is switching up to a main track route for this.