

# 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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Thursday, November 2

## RACE ONE

**#7 MISCHIEVIOUS LASS** has a chance to start the day off with an upset. She was green but finished third in a main track sprint in her only start while closing ground up the rail and galloping out far in front past the finish. She picks up a star out-of-town rider.

**#2 LUMINOSO** showed marked improvement on turf in her second start and earned place money with a solid finish under the same top rider back aboard today. She will stretch out over a distance for the first time with the benefit of two races under her belt.

**#5 SAPPHO** has been second in two of three lifetime starts including her only start in this country last time out. She missed by only a neck coming from off the pace that day though she was given every chance to get up and win. She retains an excellent jockey.

## RACE TWO

**#3 SWISS MINISTER** might be sharp enough to step up and win right back at a decent price. He was full of run when winning last out for his current trainer and has developed into a semi pro. He has yet to win at Del Mar but has been third here three times before.

**#6 EL SUPER** threw in the towel last out but is capable of much better. He is reunited with the rider who guided him to back-to-back wins this summer including one race over this track. He turns back in distance and figures to use his early speed as a weapon.

**#2 JES JAA** is good enough to win this race. He won both of his starts here this summer in easy fashion and has been first or second in two of three starts over this elongated sprint distance. He finished fourth in his most recent start as the beaten favorite.

### **RACE THREE**

**#6 GOODTHINGSTAKETIME** seems likely to earn her maiden win in this spot. The Irish import was pre-entered in an overfilled Breeders' Cup race and did not get into the body of the field. She was once second in group company overseas and has potential.

**#5 D D'S LUTE** will race both on turf and with blinkers for the first time while switching to a hot apprentice rider. Her last race may not be a true indicator of what she can do over a route of ground. Her dam has produced a pair of winners on the turf.

**#4 CAMINO SONG** may have more room to improve and finished fourth in her second U.S. start last out. She seemed to lose her punch while attempting to rally wide down the stretch in that race. It is possible she will be more focused racing in blinkers this time.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#2 ROYAL TRUMP** has been second in his last two starts and seems ready to win today. He has raced four times and improved with each subsequent start. His last race was his first for these connections and he finished in front of a next-out winner.

**#1 TIME FOR CIOPPINO** was in over his head last out but fits much better in this maiden claiming event. He has early speed and could use that to his advantage from the inside post at this short distance. He did finish in the money twice earlier this year.

**#5 LUKE'S ON FIRE** made progress in his second and most recent start finishing a decent second. He can probably compete with the likes of these and could be dangerous with further improvement. His dam was a multiple stakes winner of fifteen races.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#4 BE MINE** has not raced in over a year but showed much promise when last seen. She twice came within a head of becoming a graded stakes winner on turf at age three. The fact she won her debut and her trainer's success rate earn her the benefit of the doubt.

**#7 SALSITA** has won over this turf course four times before. She clearly likes it down here but also boasts a professional lifetime record with nine wins on three different surfaces and eight seconds overall. Look for her to settle back early and come running.

**#9 GIRL DOWNSTAIRS** got into a tug of war with the rider in her last start and faded in the stretch. The same exceptional turf pilot got along much better with her in two prior starts this summer including a local win. One of her best efforts could beat this group.

## RACE SIX

**#6 BETDESILVERGOLD** might be tough to catch at this short distance. She seems best on the main track and proved she belongs on this circuit last out with a good try on the lead before getting tagged late. She should appreciate the fact she will carry light weight.

**#3 LADY NINJA** has earned both of her lifetime wins in her only two appearances in main track sprints. One of those came over this track in August and both were against older rivals. This spot is restricted to three-year-olds and seems like a good one for her.

**#2 SLY HUMOR** has won more races than any other in the field. She should be respected for that reason alone and will try to strike twice for these connections after she won first off the claim last out. She has early speed and has won twice at this distance.

## RACE SEVEN

**#10 A RED TIE DAY** has the class to win this race just as he did a year ago. He dropped into the claiming ranks last out and delivered a winning performance which could serve as a confidence builder. He offers decent wagering value and loves the one-mile distance.

**#9 HE WILL** can be tough to figure and possibly a tricky horse to ride. He did not have a great trip last out after breaking a bit slowly and causing some of his own trouble. He switches to another rider that has won with him before to try and break his losing streak.

**#3 FOREVER JUANITO** could be the sleeper. He too has not won a race in quite some time but has run very well in at least two of four starts this year when he finished second. His last win came over this turf course at this distance and he should be forwardly placed.

## RACE EIGHT

**#6 TYBEE ISLAND** will race in blinkers for the first time in his career. He broke well when sent off favored last out here in August before dropping back conspicuously and coming on again at the end while widest of all. It looks like he has been training well.

**#11 CHIN TU** could be a knockout. He lands an outside post this time and seems to be getting a little better with each start. He dueled from the rail with the eventual winner last out and tried hard before weakening late. His speed makes him interesting at long odds.

**#10 GATOR DON'T PLAY** represents a high percentage trainer with two runners entered in this event. He split the field in one start this March and returns to the races at this bottom maiden claiming level. He has recorded some recent bullet workouts.