

# 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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Saturday, November 4

## **RACE ONE**

**#1 ON LEAVE** might get a perfect trip in this race. She ought to have a chance to save ground and stalk what should be a lively pace. That could make the difference in a close call.

**#7 KITTEN'S ROAR** has the class to be tough in this event. She has been racing over longer distances than this one of late but can act over a mile. She won nicely two starts back.

**#11 ALJAZZI** races on Lasix for the first time. She was no factor at the very top level in her native England last out but may well very fit with this group. She merits a close look in the paddock.

## **RACE TWO**

**#1 SMOKEM** has the perfect style to excel at this seven-furlong distance. He has never run a bad race and was second in a pair of stakes races here this summer after winning first out.

**#2 NIGHT AT THE OPERA** could be tough in here. The Northern California invader cuts back to one turn following a solid second-place effort in a stakes route and a sprint debut win.

**#5 LUCKY ROMANO** has a shot if he runs as well as he did when he broke his maiden by eight lengths against maiden claimers here this summer. He also ran well up north in his last start.

### **RACE THREE**

**#10 MARCH X PRESS** will try to mow them down from off the pace. She finished fourth going a mile in a Grade I event last out while chasing home two next out stakes winners.

**#5 SOUND AND SILENCE** brings an excellent record of four wins and two seconds from eight starts overseas. It is noteworthy when a juvenile shows the ability to win multiple races.

**#8 OUT OF THE FLAMES** is interesting at attractive betting odds. She came within a length of defeating the rival listed just above despite having dwelt at the start in their last meeting.

### **RACE FOUR**

**#1 HEAVENLY LOVE** was visually impressive when she won a Grade I route on the main track in just her third start. She is clearly getting good at the right time and has some talent.

**#7 MOONSHINE MEMORIES** is unbeaten in three starts including a Grade I prep for this here this summer. She also found a way to win last out over a tiring surface in a strung-out field.

**#13 SEPARATIONOFPOWERS** delivered a big win in her third start last out to stamp her as a serious contender. The post she drew is a concern but she has speed to get position.

### **RACE FIVE**

**#3 LADY AURELIA** is a world class turf sprinter with five wins from seven starts. The powerful filly definitely has a fan club and attempts to turn the tables following a tough loss.

**#6 MARSHA** produced a devastating kick to run down the top selection above and nail her right on the money last out in France. The rematch figures to be stirring and she is consistent.

**#1 DISCO PARTNER** is the American of note and drew well to hug the rail and try to fend off the European stars. This is a sharp distance for him but he enters in top career form.

## RACE SIX

**#12 SKYE DIAMONDS** has proven an outstanding claim and is likely good enough in current form to win this event. A repeat of her last win here over the summer would make her tough.

**#11 UNIQUE BELLA** is the one to beat. This is a good distance for the imposing gray filly and she returned from a seven-month layoff to win easily in a comeback prep for this event.

**#7 BY THE MOON** earned a Grade I win at this distance in her last start while defeating numerous rivals she faces again today. Her overall record at seven furlongs also makes her intriguing.

## RACE SEVEN

**#9 LADY ELI** is a remarkable mare and an incredible success story after battling back from laminitis. She was beaten by a nose in this race a year ago and has won her last three starts.

**#7 DACITA** should appreciate a firm turf course and can really kick home when she can feel her feet rattle over the course. At times she has delivered performances good enough to win this.

**#6 CAMBODIA** has a big look in here. She has developed steadily into this caliber of turf horse over the last year and was very convincing winning a pair of graded stakes here this summer.

## RACE EIGHT

**#2 DREFONG** had miserable luck here in July but put that behind him with a win out East in August to show he was not shaken off his game. The win machine might just be too fast.

**#8 ROY H** has turned into a beast in main track sprints over the last year while well managed by his connections. He was unlucky not to have won a major prep for this here in July.

**#10 IMPERIAL HINT** could be this good. He has won by daylight in five straight races while lightly raced over the last twelve months. His outside post position may work to his advantage.

## **RACE NINE**

**#10 RIBCHESTER** brings an outstanding record to this event and deserves to be at the top of the list. He has achieved some top-shelf victories over various courses throughout Europe.

**#12 ROLY POLY** returns to the United States for another go in the Breeders' Cup after failing to show her best as a juvenile filly last year. She has come back even better overseas at three.

**#5 WORLD APPROVAL** was a Canadian Grade I winner last out and looks like the strongest American contender on paper. He has never been better than he is now and just wins races.

## **RACE TEN**

**#11 BOLT D'ORO** is regarded by many as the most likely winner on today's entire program. His win over a tiring surface last out made him look like he was in a different league.

**#1 U S NAVY FLAG** has never raced on dirt but proved his worth in Europe as a turf runner. He will race on Lasix for the first time as he shows what he can do on the main track.

**#2 SOLOMINI** was no match for the top selection above last out but has promise. He ran a very good second making only his second start following a solid sprint win here in September.

## **RACE ELEVEN**

**#5 ULYSSES** was fourth in this race last year but has burgeoned into a much stronger runner this year in Europe. He was third in a most prestigious event there last out and looks imposing.

**#12 BEACH PATROL** served warning with a career best romp last out that he could be the right horse in here. He was second last fall over this course in the Hollywood Derby at three.

**#3 HIGHLAND REEL** is the defending champion. It is possible that he is not in quite the same form now as he was a year ago when he opened up on the lead and never looked back.

## **RACE TWELVE**

**#5 GUN RUNNER** will be tough to beat if he handles this track as well as he has others throughout the year. His consistency is remarkable and he has gotten stronger as a four year old.

**#1 ARROGATE** is last year's Classic winner. He fizzled in one local start following an unbelievably strong Dubai World Cup win but ran better in the Pacific Classic while still not his best.

**#8 WEST COAST** is the three-year-old that has gotten very good in the latter half of the year and hopes to match the older horses in this field. We know that he can get a mile and a quarter.