

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

#3 SWEETWATER GAL has found her niche as a late-running sprinter. That should serve her well because this race is loaded with early speed. She takes one small step up the class ladder today in search of three consecutive wins under the same rider.

#6 PUBLIC HOUSE is one of two runners entered by the same trainer while cutting back from a route to a sprint. That should put her off the pace and in a good position to pass horses much like she did when finishing third in a comeback prep here in August.

#2 TUSCANY BEAUTY likes to go to the front and has finished second in two of her last three starts. She guarantees the pace will be lively and contested. Both of her career wins have come in main track sprints at this distance. She could be tough to catch.

RACE TWO

#4 RADIO CHATTER is eligible to show improvement because she is racing for a high-percentage trainer that does well with new acquisitions for the first time. She showed little in two prior outs but removes blinkers and could be better than shown.

#2 RAMONA LOVER is knocking on the door for a win. She has been second in her last two starts including her most recent out under the same apprentice and in the money in four of six lifetime starts. She also finished ahead of two next-out winners last out.

#9 BONA FIDE IMAGE has had many chances and collected second or third money eight times before. She finished third in the same semi-key race where the selection above finished second last out. It is possible things will go just right for her this time.

RACE THREE

#1 STREET ZOMBIE is a good gamble in a race like this without much form to go on. The colt came running late and finished a willing second in his only start up north last month. Today he moves to the turf with a green pedigree and one of the best turf riders.

#6 AFLEET ASCENT is a major contender. His third-place finish in his only start shows that he has early speed and can run a bit. He also has a right to improve on the turf. His dam won a pair of races on the lawn and has produced three turf winners.

#4 JIMMY CHILA could be live at first asking. His young sire is off to a strong start with his two-year-old first-time starters and his dam was both bred to like the grass and won on it in her career. His most recent gate workout jumps off the page with readiness.

RACE FOUR

#3 FRACAS seems to have progressed since she raced twice here this summer. The way she won in her last and only start for a claiming price makes her look like a strong fit in here as she steps up to face winners. This should be a good distance for her stalking style.

#5 BOSS MOVE has a win and two seconds in only three starts and broke her maiden by a wide margin here in late August. She is reunited with the same rider aboard her that day and should get a good trip. The pace will be honest and she should be placed just behind.

#8 CUTE KNOWS CUTE is another contender in a competitive race. She was out of her league in a turf route at the stakes level last out in a field that included two next-out stakes winners. Her trainer is still coming down off a huge Breeders' Cup weekend.

RACE FIVE

#8 MISS BOOM BOOM should be tough as she drops to this claiming level. She has been second in two of three starts over this course and picks up one of the very best to guide her around the turf course. Both of her wins this year were against claiming rivals.

#7 ROSIE MY ROSIE has always been a win type but earned her first career turf win last out under this rider. She has shown the ability to put together back-to-back wins in her career before. Her connections have her spotted at a level where she can win again.

#1 WELL CAUGHT is interesting at a price because of her trainer and an inside post in a turf race with the rails out twenty-four feet. This barn has been successful for years with new acquisitions like this one that have been given a little time since their last race.

RACE SIX

#8 TIZ WONDERFULLY is stretching out around two turns with two sprint races under her belt here this summer. The fact she sprinted evenly bodes well as she attempts to go longer today. She also exits a race which did produce two next-out winners.

#2 SHOOK is likely to improve making her second start today for a top barn. She broke slowly before finishing a distant fourth in her only out but is bred top and bottom to run long. Her dam won two routes and two of her four winning siblings won going two turns.

#7 MILLIE JOEL is a price play to consider. She was claimed out of her career debut and showed speed in blinkers in her only other start before finishing fourth. That should put her out towards the front as she stretches out here at an often speed-friendly distance.

RACE SEVEN

#7 BATTLEGROUNDS STATE has only made three starts but might be the best horse in this field and able to overcome her inexperience as she faces winners for the first time. She has done better with each start and won well enough on turf under this rider last out.

#5 LADY ESPIONAGE returns to the grass and is probably best on the turf. Her best races have come in sprints down the hillside turf course but many horses that win over that course can get a mile on this one. We also know that she runs well when fresh.

#6 WINEMENOW has finished second or third in three consecutive races at this state-bred allowance level. She has the looks of a closing sprinter but has had only one try around two turns in her career and five furlongs has been a little too short for her.

RACE EIGHT

#9 WILD EDIE is bred to win early in her career. Her sire is becoming known for his two-year-old debut winners amongst other things and this filly is related to four winners out of a winning dam. She shows one local work after training in Northern California.

#1 TAKE CHARGE GAL could be live in this spot. She figures to come running out of the rail slot adding blinkers for just her second lifetime start and first out on this circuit. Both of her two siblings to race have been winners and she hails from a sharp stable.

#10 LINE DRIVE could be caught wide from that post at this distance but does have early speed. She ought to wake up at this level after failing to keep up with tougher maidens in two starts. One of her three winning siblings was a multiple stakes winner.