

# 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. The local native also serves as Racing Secretary in Oklahoma at Will Rogers Downs and Fair Meadows and has been the voice of Kentucky Downs each September since 2008.

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Friday, August 10

## **RACE ONE**

**#4 AUNT LUBIE** is stretching out following two sprints and may be ready to show her best. She finished an improved third in her second start in a field that included a pair of next-out winners. She will race with blinkers on and retains the leading rider at the meet.

**#5 NOW BLESSED** is making her first start around two turns like the top selection above. She hails from one of the leading stables and is related to five winners including a Grade II-winning stallion. She is the only four-year-old in the field and does have speed.

**#2 CONVINCENCE** ran by far her best race last time out when she finished second in her third lifetime start. She was also the beaten favorite in a five-horse field on that afternoon. She still seems progressive and another step forward puts her in the hunt.

## **RACE TWO**

**#1 STOP THE VIOLENCE** became eligible for this condition by slipping into a claiming race here about three weeks ago. He faded to fourth as the betting choice but may not want to run that far. His trainer sends out a whole lot of winners in turf sprints.

**#2 CANDYMAN GARRET** has speed for this distance. He broke his maiden on the main track here last summer as a two-year-old then disappeared before finishing third in a decent comeback last month. His sire wins with firsters on turf and his dam won on grass.

**#3 ISEE IT IN HISEYES** is one of four contenders in this field that has never raced on the turf. His sire gets decent returns in that category. He was overmatched in a stakes races here two weeks ago but finished second two starts back in a race more like this one.

### RACE THREE

**#7 POSITIVE NUMBERS** is interesting as he makes a return to the races. This barn has been sending out live runners this meet and has been winning with this apprentice rider. He will race both for a claiming price and as a gelding for the first time in this spot.

**#4 IMAGINEIAMFASTEST** has been second in two of his last three. He ran into a real crusher for the level last time but should find this field more his speed. He has finished in the money in four of his eight lifetime starts though the losses are starting to pile up.

**#6 LION COMMAND** is not a good gate horse but has some ability and may put things together one of these days. He has only raced on the dirt a handful of times and finished third in three of those races including his most recent. This is his third start off a layoff.

### RACE FOUR

**#2 TUSCANY BEAUTY** suffered a tough loss last out when second while in search of back-to-back wins but enters in sharp form. Her rider is having a good meet and appears to have chosen this mount over another. She has been second in both of her local starts.

**#1 LOOKINFORADANGER** won last out when shortening up to this same distance on the main track for the first time in her career. The win looks stronger now that three next-out winners have emerged from that field. She is inconsistent but capable of winning.

**#4 ADIOS CALI** could perk up first off the claim today for a barn that strikes with a high rate of such winners. She finished third in a decent race over the track here three weeks ago and had a bit of trouble. Do not be surprised if she runs very well today.

### RACE FIVE

**#5 ASK THE CUSTOMER** ran on for second after a slow start while making her debut in Maryland in June. That race was only five furlongs and she seems like the type that will be better going a route of ground. She represents a potent jockey/trainer combo.

**#7 ANGEL ALESSANDRA** has the leading rider and the leading trainer in her corner as she makes her second start. She split a field of ten in her debut here Opening Day and ran into a couple of very nice fillies. Her Grade III winning dam has produced a turf winner.

**#1 BARBADOLLA** exits the same tough race as the selection above and has a right to improve off what seems like merely a prep. She is related to a Grade III winner on turf and her dam was a stakes winner on the lawn as well. This barn is sending out winners.

## RACE SIX

**#6 WATCH ME BURN** will be tough to beat if she runs as well as she did when she won by five lengths here on the second day of the meet. She dropped in for a claiming price that day and fits the conditions of this starter allowance very well for that reason.

**#1 BABY FRANKIE** is one of three contenders in this race with a maiden win over the track last out. The rail post may be no bargain in this context. He did demonstrate the ability to pass horses in his debut and again is likely to be coming from off the pace.

**#5 SWING THOUGHTS** kicked clear late to post the win in her fourth try and seems to be coming around. The third-place finisher behind her last out came back and won easily here on Wednesday. She loses the rider who won on her but picks up one of the leaders.

## RACE SEVEN

**#9 CORDIALITY** has steadily developed into the kind of mare that can win a state-bred stakes race on the turf like this one. She did so convincingly two starts back and finished a creditable third in a graded stakes race last out. She can either lead or sit off the pace.

**#3 SHEHASTHERITESTUFF** had not raced in about ten months before her last and is likely to move forward. She has shown an affinity for this turf course in the past and this rider has won on her here before. He knows she has what it takes to compete in this race.

**#1 QUEEN BEE TO YOU** sharpened up in a five-furlong turf sprint here last out and should go better around two turns this time around. The sudden presence of this rider is a major plus and she has finished in the money in California-bred stakes races twice before.

## RACE EIGHT

**#7 DISCO TALE** may be ready to win third time out. She picked up the bit and rallied up the inside to earn the place spot last out while edging out an easy next-out winner here at Del Mar this week. She figures to come running from off the pace and drew well.

**#10 PORTAL CREEK** was more alert in her second start and finished third in a six-horse field after showing improved early speed. She finished well ahead of the others behind her last out and is a half to six winners. She showed that she can run a bit.

**#12 SKY BABE** is worth a look if she draws into the race. This stable is a force to be reckoned with this meet and this would be a first-time homebred from a productive family with a cozy outside draw if she goes. She posted a bullet workout here in July.