

BEST BET: Complicity (3rd race)**First Race: 1. Qualquin 2. Ash 3. Champagne Lake**

QUALQUIN drops to the lowest level of her career, and could be a bit overlooked in this mile dirt race, having competed just once on dirt, a seventh-place finish. But that race came against straight maidens at Saratoga - hardly the same as a maiden \$25,000 claiming race. Blinkers on for her second start off a layoff. ASH looms the likely favorite, dropping from straight maiden company. Although her last race was poor, she had run second in four straight races prior to that failure. Blinkers off but no published works since her Jan. 7 race. The late-running CHAMPAGNE LAKE is returned to dirt after running sixth on grass. She rallied to be second for this price at Calder in December.

Second Race: 1. Miz Wham 2. Who Plays Brahms 3. Truffula

MIZ WHAM rallied to be third at this maiden \$15,000 class level Jan. 9 in a mile race, and looks well suited to the stretch out to 1 1/8 miles. Dazzler, the runner-up in that Jan. 9 race, came back to win by 7 lengths Jan. 29. Blinkers on this one. WHO PLAYS BRAHMS is untested beyond seven furlongs but owns good numbers and is well drawn on the fence. She also drops from maiden \$25,000 company. WHO PLAYS BRAHMS showed progress in her latest by finishing fourth against similar. She has worked three times since that Jan. 9 race, suggesting she is sound and in good health.

Third Race: 1. Complicity 2. Foxy Bailey 3. Best Lass

COMPLICITY is returned to her best surface on grass followed a flat seventh against eventual G3 Delta Princess winner Four Gifts on the Churchill Downs dirt. Note that she was third in the Jessamine behind Hollywood Starlet winner Laragh and Miesque winner Habaya. FOXY BAILEY seemed to handle the turf in the Caressing Handicap late in the Churchill meet but came up short late in her first route. Cutting back to a five-furlong turf sprint should aid her chances. BEST LASS is untested on turf but won over a synthetic surface going five furlongs in July. She also ran second to eventual Golden Rod winner Rachel Alexandra in a five-furlong dirt race in June.

Fourth Race: 1. Death Valley 2. Hold'em Or Fold'em 3. Toy Soldier

DEATH VALLEY has three wins, two seconds, and a third in seven starts for his current connections since being claimed for \$10,000 in July. He weakened to second in his first race of the meet, but got involved in a speed duel after stumbling at the start. HOLD'EM OR FOLD'EM is a live longshot who should improve upon his first start of the meet, a fifth-place finish behind TOY SOLDIER in a 5.5-furlong starter. He has a pressing/stalking style that should play well here. He also makes his second start off a layoff. TOY SOLDIER has been on a roll for Orseno, winning three of four since being claimed for \$10,000, and just handled many of these Jan. 14. He had a perfect trip in that race, however, stalking three dueling leaders.

Fifth Race: 1. Stormalory 2. Florentino 3. Just Like Biscuit

STORMALORY, a son of Storm Cat, has kept excellent company on dirt, running against horses like Free Country, Beethoven and Giant Oak. He won his only start on a synthetic track, and shows a work over this grass course for trainer Bill Mott. He forms a powerful Darley-owned entry with FLORENTINO, who led from start to finish in a grass maiden race Jan. 10 here. JUST LIKE BISCUIT gets treated with Lasix for the first time after a distant seventh in the Grade 3 Iroquois on dirt. He has contended in stakes on turf and should appreciate the surface switch.

Sixth Race: 1. Cloud of Smoke 2. Princess Kaylyn 3. Mambo Jumbo

CLOUD OF SMOKE ran second in all three of her starts in Kentucky last fall, though her Beyers were ordinary. There is a ton of pace in here to set up her rally. Choice off the bench. PRINCESS KAYLYN pressed the pace in a much tougher maiden \$80,000 claimer first time out before fading to eighth in the lane. Likely to take a step forward following that experience and with a class drop to the maiden \$30,000 level. MAMBO JUMBO owns easily the top last-race Beyer, a 72, earned in finishing second in a fast maiden \$25,000 race Jan. 21 here.

Seventh Race: 1. Stormy Lake 2. Regal Bird 3. Blood Diamonds

STORMY LAKE showed vast improvement in her latest, winning a maiden \$30,000 race in fast time on dirt. She ran decently to be eighth in her lone turf start, which came in her debut at Kentucky Downs, and could repeat here for leading trainer Kenny McPeck. REGAL BIRD faded to sixth as the favorite at this class level on dirt Jan. 14, but mare fare better with a surface switch to grass. She was twice second on turf overseas last year. BLOOD DIAMONDS ran well over Polytrack and turf in tougher allowance races last summer at Arlington but is unraced since July and may need a race to regain peak fitness.

Eighth Race: 1. Lieutenant Ron 2. Johns Grooms 3. Gentleman James

The ultra quick LIEUTENANT RON bombed in his first start going two turns, running fifth in the Discovery Handicap, but his one-turn performances have been beauties. He is three for four in such races, dominating in all of his victories and posting Beyers of 101 or higher in all three wins. JOHNS GROOMS hasn't start since winning a stakes race at Philly Park last April, but returns for a winning barn and shows a steady foundation of works at Fair Grounds and Gulfstream leading up to his return. GENTLEMAN JAMES chased next-out Mr. Prospector winner Ikigai in a five-furlong dash at Calder in December, one of many good races from this horse last year. He also ran second in a couple stakes races, including the Grade 2 Carry Back.

Ninth Race: 1. Dottie Booth 2. Sweetsouthernqueen 3. Gator's Tracks

DOTTIE BOOTH is poorly drawn in post 12, but merits respect starting for a high-percentage barn and with the red-hot Leparoux in the saddle. She won for \$40,000 on grass at Churchill in October, 1 of 10 wins from this 7-year-old mare. SWEETSOUTHERNQUEEN rallied to be third in a \$50,000 claimer on grass here Jan. 3, earning the best Beyer of her career, an 82. She is more accomplished on dirt than turf, but clearly handled this course well in her latest. GATOR'S TRACKS won a starter \$10,000 race here Jan. 17, though with a relatively modest 75 Beyer. She has won four in a row, though three of those victories came at Suffolk Downs, which has easier racing.