



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Friday, February 8, 2019

## RACE 1:

**4 FLYOFF** is making his local return for trainer George Weaver the first start since defeating entry-level allowance runners going a mile on the Aqueduct turf; Jose Ortiz rides. **3 MISSION DRIVEN** is turning back to a mile after rallying wide to defeat this level of competition going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Jorge Navarro has Tyler Gaffalione named to ride.

**5 SQUADRON** proved he could compete at this level when he followed a pair of \$8,000 claiming races at GP West with a well-meant 3<sup>rd</sup> here at this level and distance.

**SELECTIONS: 4-3-5**

## RACE 2:

**5 KAYLIE'S GIRL** moved to the Gilberto Zerpa barn via the claim, and cuts back to three-quarters of a mile, after vying for the lead and yielding to finish 4<sup>th</sup> vs similar going 6 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Zerpa, 48% with new claims, has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

**7 TUESDAY'S ROSE** is turning back to 6 panels after dueling with Kaylie's Girl early, shaking free to get the lead at the top of the stretch, before finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> as the favorite last out. **1 GLOTONASA** is stretching out to 6 furlongs again after shaking off trouble at the start to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> vs similar going 5 ½ furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 5-7-1**

## RACE 3:

**5 R NEXT ROLL** was given some time off after showing speed and yielding late in a pair of \$16,000 optional claimers at GP West. Trainer Georgina Baxter has Jose Ortiz named on the speed of the speed.

**2 TOO MUCH TIP** is making the usually fruitful 3<sup>rd</sup> start back from the layoff looking to sit the 'trip' behind the hot pace expected. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr has Irad Ortiz Jr in the irons. **3 MIZ CLIPPER** is dropping into this \$30,000 conditioned claimer for trainer Scott Becker after ending her 4-year-old campaign vs \$40,000 optional claimers going 5 furlongs on the Indiana Grand turf. Note the barn is 25% with the turf-to-dirt angle.

**SELECTIONS: 5-2-3**

## RACE 4:

**5 SHACKLETTE** is dropping to the \$50,000 level, and returning to the main track, after shipping from Kentucky to stalk the pace and fade when facing maiden special weight runners on the turf. Trainer Dale Romans has Robby Albarado handling the turnback to a sprint distance on the dirt. **8 SWAP MEET** is a daughter of Street Sense debuting for trainer John Servis with Lasix, and a string of solid workouts showing at Palm Meadows; Nik Juarez rides.

**2 HOW SWEEP IT IS** hopes to get away trouble free after encountering double trouble when she bobbed at the start, steadied early, and finished 4<sup>th</sup> at this level and distance.

**SELECTIONS: 5-8-2**

## RACE 5:

**8 BOX OF GOLD** is dropping to this level after following her \$20,000 maiden victory with a pair of ambitious outings vs stakes competition both here and at GP West. Trainer Oscar Gonzalez has Leonel Reyes handling the dropdown. **4 ZAO'S DREAM** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth, and dropping to the \$20,000 level, after facing tougher in the 3 turf outings since breaking her maiden at the \$35,000 level. **3 TAILADIOS** is stepping up to face winners after using her speed to defeat \$20,000 maidens going a mile. Trainer Teri Pompay has Miguel Vazquez handling the stretchout to a mile and a sixteenth.

**SELECTIONS: 8-4-3**

## RACE 6:

**2 MYBIGITALIANFRIEND** is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after posting her 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive open-length victory when she cruised away on a sealed 'muddy' track to defeat \$12,500 state-bred optional claimers. **4 SHACKLEFORD COUNTY** should have the screws tightened after shipping in for trainer Dale Romans to press the pace and finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs entry-level allowance runners. **6 DAY BY DAY** moved to the Elizabeth Dobles barn via the claim after dueling throughout and holding sway to defeat \$25,000 open-claimers at the distance; Chris Landeros rides.

**SELECTIONS: 2-4-6**

**RACE 7:**

**4 VINCERO** will break midpack after departing from the rail, dueling throughout, and getting beat a head when 2<sup>nd</sup> at this level and distance. Trainer Jorge Navarro has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. **5 TIME ON TARGET** is making his local return for trainer Bill Mott the first start since finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in front of a pair of next-out winners in a \$50,000 '2-lifetime' claimer at Churchill. **6 ZIPPY WILLY** moved to the Bobby Dibona barn via the claim after totally dominating a field of \$25,000 maidens at this 7-furlong distance.

**SELECTIONS: 4-5-6**

**RACE 8:**

**2 PAY ANY PRICE** is dropping into this \$25,000 optional claimer after returning from the 3-month layoff to encounter trouble at the start when finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in the \$100,000 Janus Stakes. Trainer Georgina Baxter has the 9-year-old training forwardly for this assignment. **3 GRAN MALBEC**, a winner of 5 of 7 sprints over this course, will be running and gunning, and trying to look Pay Any Price right in the eye, in what should be a mad scramble for early domination. **6 OAKS BLUFF**, who does his best running from 'off the pace' can end up sitting in the garden spot in what should be a torrid early pace duel. Trainer Mary Eppler has Chris Landeros in the saddle.

**SELECTIONS: 2-3-6**

**RACE 9:**

**1 CERRADO** is dropping to the \$35,000 level, and stretching out to a mile, after shipping in from Woodbine, making a middle move and fading late vs state-bred maiden special weight runners going 7 ½ furlongs. The son of Treasure Beach is spotted perfectly vs this caliber of competition. **2 DIRECT APPROACH** is making his first start since dueling for the lead and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> here vs \$20,000 maidens going a mile and a sixteenth on December 23. Trainer Phil Serpe has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride. **7 TRAFFIC STOP** is a son of Cross Traffic debuting for trainer Mike Maker with 10 local workouts showing in preparation for the long-awaited debut. The sophomore gets Lasix, and has Jose Ortiz the controls.

**SELECTIONS: 1-2-7**

**RACE 10:**

**1 KELLY TOUGH** moved to the Marcial Navarro barn via the claim after responding to the dropdown in competition with well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at this level and distance. **3 OVERZEALOUS** is stretching out to a mile (3-1-1-1) after rallying late to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> vs this level of competition going three-quarters of a mile over a wet track listed as 'good'. **8 HIGH FLYING GUY** is hoping to find a little more for the stretch drive after making a 4-wide bid to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> at this level and distance last out.

**SELECTIONS: 1-3-8**

**RACE 11:**

**6 TIPSY KITTEN** is returning to the conditioned claiming ranks after following a 6-length plus score vs this level of opposition last August with a stalk-and-fade outing in a 'key' \$35,000 optional claimer at GP West. Trainer David Fawkes has the gelding training sharply for the return. **4 BENEFACOR** is stretching out to a mile (8-1-1-1) after shipping in for trainer Jorge Navarro and finishing a screw-tightening 3<sup>rd</sup> going 5 furlongs. The gelding should be a major piece of the pace puzzle today. **11 BLACK SEA** needs little improvement on his local return at this level and distance to have his picture taken. Trainer Nick Gonzalez has Irad Ortiz Jr in the irons.

**SELECTIONS: 6-4-11**

**RACE 12:**

**8 THE PIRATES** is eligible to show more after displaying improved early speed when dropping to this level, and stretching out from 5 furlongs to a mile and a sixteenth last out. Trainer Alexis Delgado has Leonel Reyes trying to spring the upset. **6 ROYAL FAMILY** is a \$350,000 son of Cairo Prince debuting for a \$20,000 tag for trainer Chad Brown. The pricey sophomore gets Lasix, and has Tyler Gaffalione handling the debut. **10 SKYLINE VIEW** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after responding to both the dropdown and the surface switch with a late-closing 3<sup>rd</sup> at this level and distance.

**SELECTIONS: 8-6-10**

**BEST BET: RACE 11 – 6 TIPSY KITTEN**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 12 – 8 THE PIRATES**