



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

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RACE 1:

6 VALID EXCHANGE is dropping to the \$25,000 level after showing speed and weakening in maiden special weight races contested on a sloppy track at Churchill, and a yielding course at Keeneland. Trainer Eddie Kenneally has Jose Ortiz handling the combo dropdown/surface switch.

8 COME ON VENEZUELA may have found the spot where he can finally notch the maiden victory after coming up short – as the favorite – in back-to-back races. **2 NEVER HAVE I EVER (IRE)** is a gelded son of No Nay Never (Scat Daddy) debuting for trainer Wesley Ward, who is 22% with his turf sprinters.

SELECTIONS: 6-8-2

RACE 2:

6 TIZ TAS TIME is turning back slightly to 5 ½ furlongs after tracking the pace and finishing 3rd when facing similar competition at three-quarters of a mile. **5 I LIKE ARCHIE** is a daughter of Archarcharch debuting for trainer Ron Spatz in a perfect spot for a first-time starter to be successful. The sophomore gets Lasix, and has apprentice Romero Maragh in the saddle.

4 TOUCH OF DIXIE shows a couple of solid morning workouts in preparation for her career debut for trainer Diosdado Iglesias.

SELECTIONS: 6-5-4

RACE 3:

4 CATORIA is turning back to 6 furlongs after shipping up to Tampa to set the pace and finish 3rd – beaten a half-length in an overnight stake contested at seven-eighths of a mile on a sloppy track. The swift daughter of Wildcat Heir will be tough to catch; Javier Castellano rides.

6 HELLO JULIET should be primed and ready to offer more after returning from the freshening to finish a rallying 2nd at this level and distance. Trainer Leon Minott has Paco Lopez handling the outside draw.

3 OLDFASHIONED STYLE is turning back to a sprint distance after making a middle move to get the lead before tiring to finish a distant 4th going a mile.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-3

RACE 4:

4 TATHQEEF is dropping to the \$30,000 level after returning from a 2-month layoff at Belmont to finish a useful 6th vs \$50,000 '3-lifetime' claimers. The speed figures the 6-year-old son of Tapit produced during his summer campaign point him out as the fastest in the field. **9 FOUR KNIGHTS** is stepping up to the next level after responding in the first start after moving to the Kathleen O'Connell barn with a sharp \$30,000 '2 lifetime' victory at the distance.

6 HUSTLE N HEART has lived up to his name when he followed his \$35,000 maiden victory with a hard-fought '2-lifetime' score on the GP West turf. Trainer Marcus Vitali has Leonel Reyes returning on the 'now horse'.

SELECTIONS: 4-9-6

RACE 5:

8 TALKING ZIP, now in the Armando De La Cerda barn, the \$175,000 son of City Zip plummets to the \$12,500 level after facing maiden special weight competition in his 8 previous races; Luis Saez handles the drop. **2 PRIMARY SURPLUS** is dropping to the bottom, and turning back to 6 ½ furlongs, after shipping from Woodbine into the Jorge Abreu barn and finishing 5th vs \$25,000 maidens going a mile. **6 QUENLENNY** will try bottom level competition locally after showing speed and fading when facing similar quality in his Churchill finale going 6 furlongs on a sealed sloppy track.

SELECTIONS: 8-2-6

RACE 6:

1 HE'S GOT TALENT is making his local return vs \$12,500 open-claimers after drawing clear to defeat \$20,000 conditioned claimers at GP West by 4 widening lengths. Trainer Jason Servis, 9 for 21 (43%) at the meeting, has Nik Juarez going for 2 in a row. **7 SCAM** is taking a precipitous drop to this level after finishing a stalk-the-pace 4th vs \$62,500 optional claimers last out. Trainer Peter Walder tabs Tyler Gaffalione to ride. **2 PRIME ISSUE** moved to the Jorge Navarro barn via the claim, and debuts locally, after dueling throughout and finishing 2nd in a \$10,000 claimer going 6 furlongs at Keeneland.

SELECTIONS: 1-7-2**RACE 7:**

5 MYFRANCESCA is returning to the turf, and hoping to get away trouble free, after bobbling at the start prior to finishing a distant 3rd in a race moved from the grass to 7 furlongs on the dirt.

1 JAZZY BEACH is making her turf debut the first start since chasing the pace and finishing 2nd going 7 furlongs on the main track. The daughter of Sidney's Candy is bred to respond favorably to the surface switch. **9 SUNDAY EXPRESS** is dropping to the \$35,000 level, and returning to the turf, after closing along the inside to finish 4th in a race moved from 5 on the grass to 5 panels on the dirt. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Jose Ortiz in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 5-1-9**RACE 8:**

1 WINGMAN is dropping to the \$16,000 level, and going back to the turf (5-1-2-1), after returning from a layoff at Aqueduct and chasing the pace and tiring in a \$35,000 '3-lifetime' claimer going a mile in the mud. Trainer Phil Serpe has Luis Saez handling the surface switch. **10 NAUTI BOY** is sitting on a winning performance after responding to both the change in venue, and the dropdown in competition, with a 2nd place finish here at this level and distance. **4 GRAN KING OF KINGS** is stepping up to the next level after rallying to defeat \$16,000 '2-lifetime' claimers going a mile on the GP West turf. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr is 30% winning consecutive races.

SELECTIONS: 1-10-4**RACE 9:**

7 CHOVANES is dropping to the \$6,250 level after setting a pressured pace and fading to finish 5th vs \$12,500 claimers at the distance. Trainer Jorge Navarro has go-to jock Emisael Jaramillo handling the class relief. **2 CONGRUITY** is cutting back to a 1-turn mile on the dirt after drawing clear to defeat \$16,000 'non-winners of 3-lifetime' claimers going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Danny Gargan is 35% with the turf-to-dirt angle.

8 EXCLUSIVE ZIP moved to the Antonio Sano barn via the claim after notching his 3rd consecutive victory when defeating this level of competition going 7 furlongs. Note the consistent gelding is 9-3-2-2 at a mile.

SELECTIONS: 7-2-8**RACE 10:**

9 BENDITA, who showed good speed vs maiden special weight competition sprinting on the GP West turf, drops to the \$25,000 level after stalking the pace and fading vs \$50,000 maidens on the dirt. She's the upset special at this level.

7 TRACY ANN'S LEGACY is debuting on the turf after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 2nd place finish in a 5-furlong sprint moved from the grass to the main track. **1 LILLIE'S HEAT** is a daughter of Twirling Candy debuting for trainer Norm Casse with a series of solid morning workouts showing. The sophomore, bred on both sides of the family tree to love the grass, gets Lasix, and has Jose Ortiz in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 9-7-11**BEST BET: RACE 1 – 6 VALID EXCHANGE****LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 9 BENDITA**