



GULFSTREAM PARK



Friday, September 25 By Brian Nadeau (check @Brian_J_Nadeau for OFF turf updates)

Sunshine Meet Statistics (through 9/20):

GP Meet: 56-16-12-9 (\$1.84/\$5.45) **Best Bet:** 5-2-1-1 (\$2.88/\$6.98) **Longshot:** 3-1-0-0 (\$8.07/\$10.80)

Race 1: A fresh new face seems a good plan in the opener, which lands us on **2 TWEED**, who woke up with blinkers at Cnl, is by 12% turf sprint sire Munnings, and may have caught the right kind of group of locals. The best of which is **4 MORE POWER TO YOU**, who is a MSW dropper that also cuts back to one-turn after a solid 3rd routing in his grass debut, which gives him a big leg up on the pick. Tab the tote on **3 CODE THREE**, a Pinchin homebred who is kin to Karaya (thrice turf sprint stakes placed), and has a slew of works for his debut.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-3-5

Race 2: Thinking **3 ATOMIC DON** is live on a trainer switch to Passley, as he shows two sharp works leading up to this, is an MSW dropper, and should offer a hint of value as well. Fellow MSW runner **6 FAR RIGHT** seems the one to beat, as he's been facing tons better and should benefit from his comeback, though a nine-week break since doesn't entice. If nothing else, you get proven form at the level with **1 CADENCED**, which is noteworthy, as the top-2 haven't done much running in their careers.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-1-5

Race 3: A big drop can get **5 NORTH END LADY** to the winner's circle for Fawkes, who

is white-hot at the meet, and this miss should be tighter second time in the barn as well. You'll get a much better price on **1 SIMPLY STRIKING**, who was just 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths behind 'Lady, and her stalking style will get her first run too. The last time **3 SHOW OFF** was on turf she aired, though this group is much tougher than those conditioned claimers.

SELECTIONS: 5-1-3-2

Race 4: Two sharp main track works this month say **2 MAGNETIC BEACH** is primed for her dirt sprint return after a slew of Tapeta/turf runs, and note she has a win on the GP main track as well. You get the same angle but better form with **4 MAMUKA**, who won Tapeta routing last time and has three strong dirt runs here of late too. It's tough to see **5 SLEW DIVA** dueling and lasting after she tired last time, as she meets the same pace rial (#3) again.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-5-6

Race 5: It's Longshot time with **8 NASHVILLE DAGGER**, as she chased early before packing it in a key-race debut, drew well, and meets a somewhat suspect group on paper too. A solid debut 2nd from **6 PLAYOFF** makes her a huge threat, especially since Smullen never wins with firsters, but she also beat just two rivals, so

he may be a bit dressed up. If the money shows on **4 CLASSIC GENES**, she may be too much for these, as they paid 95k for her in April, and D'Angelo is firing of late.

SELECTIONS: 8-6-4-2

Race 6: It's Best Bet time with **1 BONMATI**, as she won for fun—with trouble—two-back, takes a big drop, and figures to get first run off two dueling leaders as well. A close 2nd at the level makes **6 GULFAXI** a player off a brief freshening, while **4 LADY CHANCE** faces more pace pressure while trying to wire for the third straight time.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-4-7

Race 7: A sharp debut win over the local lawn means they better hustle to beat **3 PARTY MIX**, and considering she just split the field in a pricey KD stakes, it will be easier said than done on the drop in her return. Come and catch **1 GODDESS OF BEAUTY**, who dueled and kicked clear to break her main on Tapeta, and was just a half-length behind the pick when they met 8/15. Turf is a question with **7 ARMY SALUTE**, but considering her only try was in a Sar stakes, you're allowed to string along at a playable price for D'Angelo.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-7-6

Race 8: Can't see a class rise tripping up **4 JESTINA**, who has won four in a row easily for Saffie, and while these open gals are theoretically tougher, it doesn't look that way on paper. You get upside and value with **7 HELLO POOCHY LOO**, who crushed maidens last time and might have more to give, while getting 7 pounds from the chalk too. There was a time when **9 MILITIA**

would give the pick trouble, but her recent runs say use her underneath only.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-9-8

Race 9: A wide-open turf finale goes to **7 ESCARGOT** on an MSW drop, as her turf form is solid, and this is a perfect post for her stalking style. A 9/5 Tapeta bullet says **4 GRAND BELLA** has some talent, so while Barboza is just 11% first-turf, this miss might be live, and note her dam did win her debut. The class test comes for **8 WINNING DEFENSE**, but the fact she couldn't hold a clear late lead against 35ks for Fawkes says she's an exotics threat only.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-8-1

Best Bet: R6: #1 Bonmati (7-2)

- * Huge win with trouble two-back
- * Will trip out off two dueling leaders
- * Held her own against much better

Longshot: R5: #8 Nashville Digger (12-1)

- * Chased and tired in debut tightener
- * Top-2 came back to win (stakes too)
- * No one looks overwhelming on paper

