



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Saturday May 24, 2025

RACE 1:

1 UNCAPTURED BOY is dropping to the \$6,250 level on the dirt after setting the pace and tiring vs \$10,000 claimers going around two turns on the Tampa turf. The drop and the cutback to a one-turn mile should help with the inside speed trip. **6 CLUBHOUSE** has his claiming tag sliced in half after debuting locally for trainer Peter Walder and showing early interest and fading vs \$12,500 claimers sprinting on the main track. **2 PIRATE RADIO** can end up sitting in the catbird seat behind what looks like a suspect early pace. The gelding is a solid 5 for 8 in the money locally.

SELECTIONS: 1-6-2

RACE 2:

1 LUCKY FLAY will depart from the rail after setting the pace and giving way grudgingly when fourth at this distance on the Tampa turf. Miguel Vazquez rides for Robert Smith. **8 GIDDY UP BABY** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after returning from the freshening to finish a closing second going a mile over the local turf. The daughter of Tapiture will be there to pick up the pieces if the top choice fails to negotiate the distance again. **9 APOCALYPTIC** will try the added distance after chasing the pace and weakening vs similar quality going shorter. The sophomore looks better on the tri or super.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-9

RACE 3:

7 GREAT SHASHI will try to make it two in a row after pressing the pace and scoring at this level and distance last out. Trainer Bobby Dibona, 30% winning consecutive races, has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. **4 MOM'S MARTINI** is dropping to this level on the main track after following a \$35,000 claiming victory on the Tapeta with a fourth-place finish vs better on the turf. Carlos David spots the daughter of Liam's Map where she merits the call of the one to beat.

8 ZO ZUCCHERA is wheeling back hoping to turn the tables on the top choice after closing to finish second – as the favorite - to her last out. Edwin Gonzalez rides for Mark Passley.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-8

RACE 4:

6 SHELIA'S MISSION will try to make it four victories in a row after circling the field and scoring at this level and distance. Bobby Dibona has Jose Morelos going for the four-peat. **8 MISPRINT**, a consistent daughter of Take Chage Indy, will try to turn the tables on the top choice after stalking the pace and finishing second to her last out. Trainer Liz Dobles has Leonel Reyes atop the four-time Tapeta winner. **3 SPIDER BELLE** moves to the Jorge Delgado barn via the claim after failing to fire behind Misprint on April 5th. The barn, 23% with new claims, reunites the eight-year-old mare with Edgard Zayas.

SELECTIONS: 6-8-3

RACE 5:

4 FREE CHARGING, who has been knocking on the door in consecutive races at a mile and seventy yards, stretches out to get the tepid nod at a mile and a sixteenth. Mike Lerman has Marcos Meneses named to ride. **6 GRAY LARK** is hoping to find more firepower for the stretch run after finishing second at this level and distance at 20-1 last out. Jeff Engler has Cipriano Gil in the saddle.

5 THREEDOTS ANDADASH is dropping to the \$12,500 level after facing better in her one start at the \$35,000 level back in January 2024. Mark Casse has apprentice Yolber Torres atop this shaky proposition.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-5

RACE 6:

2 RADICAL RHETORIC, who was fourth behind Preakness runner up Gosger in his career debut, looks to have found the spot to cure the current case of seconditis. Mike Lerman has Joe Bravo named on the son of Always Dreaming.

1 CANUTO is stretching out to a mile after rallying to finish a promising third in his six and a half-furlong debut. Amador Sanchez has Edgard Zayas atop the son of Maclean's Music, who should appreciate the added distance. **5 SHOTGUN** is turning back to a one-turn mile after chasing the pace and finishing second in his local debut for trainer Armando De La Cerda. The son of Gun Runner has Rajiv Maragh at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 2-1-5

RACE 7:

7 CAP FERRAT is freefalling to the \$8,000 level on the Tapeta after her form went south after the debut victory vs maiden special weight competition sprinting on the dirt. Saffie Joseph Jr readied her for the return with a solid half-mile bullet on the Tapeta.

6 WINDRUSH is stretching out to five and a half furlongs after chasing the pace and finishing second at five furlongs. Luis Ramirez has Jose Morelos atop the daughter of Coal Front. **5 ELLAGIO** is stepping up to face winners after rocketing clear to defeat \$12,500 maidens by six-plus lengths. Trainer Steve Klesaris has Emisael Jaramillo going for two in a row.

SELECTIONS: 7-6-5

RACE 8:

2 GRAND MO THE FIRST, who won the Bear's Den in his only previous race on the Gulfstream turf, makes his first start since finishing second – beaten a neck - in the nine-furlong Grade 3 Virginia Derby. Victor Barboza Jr, 30% with the layoff, adds Lasix atop the obvious class of the field. **7 ELDEST SON** is turning back to seven and a half furlongs after getting outkicked in the stretch going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Nolan Ramsey has Miguel Vazquez up. **3 LIKE THE KING** is making his local return the first start since stalking the pace and flattening out in a \$100,000 optional claimer on the Tampa turf. Edgard Zayas is atop the son of Palace Malice.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-3

RACE 9:

2 LITA moves to the Jose Castro barn via the claim after pressing the pace and finishing second vs this level of competition going five furlongs on the Tapeta. Her biggest challenge will surely come from **1 CHLOE'S TOY**. The daughter of Jimmy Creed moves to Amador Sanchez after the claim and breaks from the rail after making a middle move and settling for third behind Lita.

The barn, 21% with new claims, has Edgard Zayas overseeing the rematch. **4 NOW SHOWING** is dropping to the \$10,000 level after facing tougher with limited success before going to the sidelines in March. Angel Rodriguez has Jose Morelos in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 2-1-4

RACE 10: THE BIG DRAMA

3 DILGER is back locally for Saffie Joseph Jr after shipping to Aqueduct to finish third in the Grade 2 Carter. The two-time local winner has Edgard Zayas at the controls. **6 AIR COMBAT** moves to the Jose D'Angelo barn via the hefty \$62,500 claim after posting his fourth consecutive victory vs this level of competition going six furlongs. The red-hot son of blame will have Emisael Jaramillo in the irons.

4 SHAG DIESEL comes off the recent second-place finish at the distance to merit a spot on the ticket. Trainer David Fawkes, who trained Big Drama and has two in the field (Pure Class), has Miguel Vazquez atop this half of his uncoupled entry.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-4

RACE 11:

10 BARRAGE is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after returning locally in the Nick Palmer barn and finishing third at a mile. The son of War Dancer has the tactical speed needed to get position and score with the rail out 59 feet. Rajiv Maragh rides the longshot special. **5 KING D'ORO** is going back to the local turf (9-2-3-2) after following a pair of game victories with a fourth-place finish on the Tapeta. It is the old bounce/rebound angle. **6 BEACH GOLD** is back locally after shipping to Keeneland and finishing fourth vs entry-level allowance runners going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. The son of Omaha Beach always runs well on the local turf.

SELECTIONS: 10-5-6

BEST BET: RACE 6 – 2 RADICAL RHETORIC

LONGSHOT: RACE 11 – 10 BARRAGE

