



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



Friday, March 5, 2021

RACE 1:

5 KOLOHE PRINCE is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after responding to both the dropdown in competition, and the surface switch, with a 2nd place finish going 7 furlongs vs this level of competition.

8 FLAMING HAWK has his claiming tag carved in half, and turns back to a sprint distance, after facing better in a trio of recent maiden races going a mile. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has leading jock Irad Ortiz Jr handling the combo dropdown/turnback.

4 OVERSTATED is a son of Exaggerator debuting for trainer Ken McPeck with Lasix, and a steady work tab showing over the track: Robby Albarado rides.

SELECTIONS: 5-8-4

RACE 2:

3 NYMUE'S TREASURE is turning back to a mile again after just getting nipped at the wire when finishing 2nd vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Mary Eppler has Luis Saez in the irons.

1 AERODYNAMIC will face dated claimers after returning from the layoff to finish an even 3rd vs \$16,000 open-claimers going a mile. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr has Edgard Zayas handling the inside draw. **7 LOVE DADDY** has her claiming tag cut in half, and stretches out to a mile, after failing to get untracked vs \$35,000 conditioned claimers going 5 furlongs. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Miguel Vazquez handling the class relief.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-7

RACE 3:

5 CAUSINGAHULLBALOO is stretching out to a mile after responding to the addition of Lasix with a 2nd-place finish – beaten a neck – going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Mark Casse has Emisael Jaramillo handling the 3rd start of the current form cycle.

4 SYSTEMATIC is hoping to get away from the gate trouble free after veering out at the start prior to finishing 3rd in a dead heat - behind the top choice – last out. Trainer George Weaver has Luis Saez handling the rematch.

2 KATIESDREAMGIRL is stepping up to face state-bred special weight runners, and getting Lasix, in the first start since finishing a rallying 3rd vs \$35,000 maidens going 7 ½ furlongs here in December. Trainer Ralph Nicks has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the daughter of Young Brian.

SELECTIONS: 5-4-2

RACE 4:

7 TOWN CLASSIC will face \$35,000 conditioned claimers after dueling with some of the hardest knocking sprinters on the grounds, which includes stakes-placed Avant Garde, and Front Loaded. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Jose Ortiz trying to remedy the recent case of seconditis.

2 ROCKING THE BOAT is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after returning from the 10-month layoff to finish a stalk-the-pace 3rd vs this level of competition going a mile. Trainer Bobby Dibona, who claimed him last out, has Irad handling the turnback in distance. **5 BENEFACOR** is stretching out and additional half-furlong after finishing a solid 2nd vs this caliber of competition going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Marcial Navarro has Luis Saez at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 7-2-5

RACE 5:

3 OFFICIATING, a half-brother to G1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winner Caledonia Road, stretches out to a mile after promising 7 ½-furlong turf debut in which he prompted the winner and finished 2nd. Trainer Bill Mott has go-to jock Junior Alvarado in the saddle. **6 TRIPLE JEOPARDY**, a half-brother multiple stake's winner Three Rules, is sitting on a winning performance after following the 2nd-place finish to next-out Grade 3 Kitten's Joy winner Chess's Dream with a late-closing 2nd – beaten a neck – at this level and distance. Trainer Jose Pinchin has Luis Saez up. **10 BORKAN** is stretching out after responding to both the addition of Lasix and blinkers with an improved 3rd place finish behind Officiating going 7 ½ panels last out. Trainer Christophe Clement has Jose Ortiz at the helm.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-10

**RACE 6:**

6 CREATE A STORY moved to the Gilberto Zerpa barn via the claim, and turns back to 6 ½ furlongs, after stalking the pace and finishing 3rd and 2nd, respectively, vs similar going a mile. The barn, 21% with new claims, has Irad handling the shorter distance. **7 BEASAICHI**, back in the Don Swick barn, the daughter of The Big Beast breaks from an improved post after getting hung out wide when breaking from Post 11 in the slop last out: Edgard Zayas rides. **4 TAKESTWOTOWIGGLE** is stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs after chasing the pace and finishing a distant 3rd behind hard-knocking repeat winner Gitana going three-quarters of a mile last out.

SELECTIONS: 6-7-4

RACE 7:

3 CRYSTAL COAST, who was impressive breaking her maiden on the turf 2 starts back, returns to the grass after showing speed and retreating vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers in a race moved to a 1-turn mile on the dirt. Trainer Carlos David has Irad handling the surface switch.

7 CELESTIAL CHEETAH, a daughter of Social Inclusion, is debuting on the turf after following her ambitious try in the Grade 2 Demoiselle at Aqueduct with a monster victory here vs \$50,000 starter optional claimers going a mile on the dirt. Trainer Jeremiah O'Dwyer has Junior Alvarado handling the surface switch. **2 CHEERLEADER BARB** is hoping to break trouble free after hopping at the start prior to finishing 3rd vs \$35,000 starter optional claimers going a mile on the grass last out. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Paco Lopez returning on the daughter of Soldat.

SELECTIONS: 3-7-2

RACE 8:

3 SIR OLLIE is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after following his debut victory at three-quarters of a mile with a game 2nd-place finish vs state-bred allowance runners going 7 furlongs last out. Trainer Bill Mott has Junior Alvarado returning on the Vegso Racing homebred. **5 GATSBY** gets the blinkers moved, and stretches out an additional furlong, after the workman-like 2nd vs similar going 5 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Juan Alvarado has Irad returning on the Arindel homebred.

1 SPEARGUN moved to the Ruben Gracida barn via the claim, and returns to the main track, after following the solid campaign sprinting on the dirt with a 3rd place finish vs \$35,000 claimers going 5 furlongs on the turf. Note the barn is 4 for 12 (33%) with the grass-to-dirt angle.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-1

RACE 9:

4 KISSING FROGS will try to keep her record on the Gulfstream turf unblemished after following her maiden victory here in December 2019 with a \$25,000 optional claimer score here December 2020. Trainer Bill Mott has the daughter of Cairo Prince training forwardly for only her 4th career start. **2 WITEZ** is dropping into this \$62,500 optional claimer after facing graded stakes competition before the layoff, which includes the 3rd place finish in the Grade 3 Lake George at Saratoga. Trainer Ian Wilkes has Julien Leparoux atop the classy daughter of More Than Ready. **6 LASHARA (GB)** is making her 4-year-old debut after the consistent turf campaign during her sophomore season in which she was 4 for 5 in the money (5-2-2-0), with her only miscue coming in the Grade 2 Lake Placid. Trainer Mark Casse has Luis Saez in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 4-2-6

RACE 10:

9 BELGRANO, who has run well at 5 furlongs in the past (3-2-0-0), turns back after showing speed and fading behind repeat winner Mid Day Image in back-to-back route races. Trainer Frank Russo has Jose Ortiz named on this interesting longshot.

10 TROPICAT will try to make it 2 in a row after returning from the layoff to defeat hard-knocking **6 FULLY LOADED** with a sweeping 4-wide move. The latter, trained Amador Sanchez, looks to reverse the previous outcome with his ability to be on or with the pace, especially at this \$16,000 starter allowance level: Edgard Zayas rides.

SELECTIONS: 9-10-6

BEST BET: RACE 5 – 3 OFFICIATING

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 9 BELGRANO