



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Saturday, July 11, 2020

RACE 1:

11 CHILLIN LADY is dropping to the \$12,500 level, and cutting back to 5 ½ furlongs, after dueling for the lead and finishing a distant 3rd vs \$16,000 foes going three-quarters of a mile. **7 VICTORY CRUSADE** moved to the Bernardo Campos barn via the claim, and races with the blinkers off, after breaking from a tough outside post, showing keen early interest, and fading from her earlier exploits to finish a distant 4th when the shades were added by the previous connections. **3 NENITA** is turning back to this distance after tracking the pace and fading to finish 4th vs similar quality going 7 furlongs.

SELECTIONS: 11-7-3

RACE 2:

10 FLATTERFUL is a \$285,000 daughter of Flatter debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with a string of useful local workouts showing; Edgard Zayas rides. **7 FOUZIA** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after the promising debut – as the favorite – in which she broke from the tough inside post, rushed up to contend, steadied, and settled for 3rd going 5 ½ furlongs. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr is 25% with his freshman runners.

3 CON LIMA is a daughter of Commissioner debuting for trainer Carlos David with a string of sharp workouts showing at Palm Meadows; Samy Camacho rides.

SELECTIONS: 10-7-3

RACE 3:

2 BLAME THE THIEF moved to the Saffie Joseph Jr barn via the claim, and drops to the \$6,250 level, after failing to fire when facing \$8,000 claimers going a mile in the slop; Edgard Zayas rides. **7 SENSATIONAL RIDE** should be primed and ready to offer more after returning from the 2-month layoff to stalk the pace and finish 4th – at this level – going a mile on a good track.

3 MILLIONAIRE RUNNER is making his 12th start of the year after rallying late to finish 4th at this level and distance. The massive son of Warrior's Reward should be along to grab a share of the tri or super.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-3

RACE 4:

6 ACT LIKE ARTIE, who was beaten only a head on the turf vs maiden special weight competition 2 starts back, is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and turning back to a mile and a sixteenth, after tracking the pace before fading to finish a distant 4th in a special weight affair moved from the turf to 9 furlongs on the main track. Trainer Mike Maker has leading jock Edgard Zayas at the helm.

2 TOKYO moved to the Monica McGoey barn via the claim, and steps up the competition, after rallying to come within a head of defeating \$16,000 maidens at this mile and a sixteenth distance. **8 CAMELLIA GAL** is stretching out around 2-turns after chasing the pace and finishing 3rd vs \$25,000 maidens going 5 furlongs. She should be part of the pace with the stretchout in distance.

SELECTIONS: 6-2-8

RACE 5:

5 LADY ARCHA moved to the Barry Croft barn via the claim, and hopes to get back to her winning ways, after the stalk-in-place 3rd going a mile last out. The new connections turn her back to a distance where she's a perfect 2 for 2. **6 BIBIANA**, no slouch in the win department, will try to make it 3 in a row after returning from the layoff to score by a neck vs \$25,000 claimers at the distance. **4 SOLID AS A ROCK** certainly lived up to her name when she rocketed clear to defeat this level of competition by almost 6 lengths. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Edgard going for 2 in a row.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-4

RACE 6:

6 PRINCESS BETTY is stretching out to seven-eighths of a mile after the solid 6 ½-furlong debut in which she rallied to finish 2nd in front of a pair of next-out winners. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Edgard at the controls.

4 INDEPENDENT MISS is turning back to 7 furlongs for the first time after dueling throughout and finishing 2nd vs maiden special weight competition going a mile in the slop. The drop to the \$25,000 level looks like a winning move. **1 GITANA** is stepping up to this level after returning from the layoff to duel for the lead and finish 2nd vs \$16,000 maidens at the distance. Speed from the rail is usually a good thing.

SELECTIONS: 6-4-1

RACE 7:

1 MAVERICK KITTEN is dropping to the \$32,000 level after facing better before the layoff with some positive results (5-0-2-0). Trainer Mike Maker has Edgard Zayas atop the son of Kitten's Joy. **8 FARM STRONG** is stepping up the competition after rallying to finish 3rd when facing \$25,000 maidens at the distance. Trainer Diane Morici has Luca Panici named to ride. **7 MY BOY BLUE** is dropping a notch on the maiden scale after cruising around the track and finishing 4th vs \$50,000 maidens. Trainer Lilli Kurtinecz has Rajiv Maragh at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-7**RACE 8:**

5 BLESSED JOURNEY has seemed to figure things out in his 2 recent races. He got the \$40,000 maiden victory – 2 starts back - after 10 previous tries, and then finished 3rd vs \$30,000 open claimers last out. He figures prominently vs 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' competition.

6 LUCKY MIKE, who has been competitive with this caliber of competition on both turf and dirt, wheels back for trainer John Vinson to earn a spot on the ticket.

1 CITY PARK will be outfitted with blinkers after responding to both the dropdown, and surface switch, with a 4th place behind Lucky Mike. Trainer Leo Gabriel Jr has Luca Panici handling the inside draw.

SELECTIONS: 5-6-1**RACE 9:**

2 WICKED TEMPTATIONS is dropping to the \$16,000 level, and adding blinkers, after returning from the 3-month layoff to finish a 4-wide 4th vs \$35,000 claimers going 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr has Cristian Torres up. **8 ROYAL DUKE**, who has run well sprinting on the main track, is going back to the dirt after returning from the 6-month layoff to finish a troubled 9th (steadied, shuffled) vs \$25,000 '2-lifetime' runners going 5 furlongs on the turf. Trainer Mike Yates has Jesus Rios handling the outside draw. **6 MINTZ** is cutting back to three-quarters of a mile after returning from the 4-month layoff to finish 2nd vs this level of competition going 7 furlongs. Trainer Robert Falcone Jr has Samy Camacho in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 2-8-6**RACE 10:**

8 FOR THE ROAD, who was 3 for 3 'in the money' here last year, returns with a gaudy resume showing at Parx in which he won last 3 races in front running fashion. Trainer Joe Taylor has Angel Rodriguez atop the gelded son of Adios Charlie.

4 SILVERLY ENOUGH is wheeling back after failing to reel in repeat winner Joe Di Baggio at this level and distance last out. He'll be there to reap the spoils if the top choice needs one over the track. **1 VINNIE VAN GO** moved to the Jorge Delgado barn via the claim after encountering trouble at the ½-mile pole (checked) when 3rd behind Joe Di Baggio and Silverly Enough last out.

SELECTIONS: 8-4-1**RACE 11:**

4 BATTLE OF BLENHEIM moved to the Dave Braddy barn via the claim, and is hoping to recapture the form he displayed winning 2 of 3 races before the layoff, including the score at this level and distance in which he received a 90 Beyer figure for his winning effort.

7 TIZZARUNNER, drops in for the \$25,000 tag after facing \$100,000 optional claimers, on both turf and dirt, in his 2 previous races. Trainer Carlos David has Luca Panici handling the class relief. **1 UNO EMAYO** is making his 1st start since posting back-to-back turf victories here – vs this level of competition – last April and May. Trainer Lilli Kurtinecz has the gelding working nicely over the Palm Meadows turf.

SELECTIONS: 4-7-1**RACE 12:**

1 TEN MILES HIGH is dropping to the \$10,000 level after chasing the pace and weakening when facing \$20,000 maidens going 6 furlongs last out. Trainer Kathleen O'Connell has Harry Hernandez handling the dropdown.

8 TRIBUTE FLAG is dropping a notch, and stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs, after showing some late interest when finishing 4th in a \$12,500 maiden sprint moved from the turf to 5 furlongs on a fast track. **11 OROSCOPO** is eligible to show more after breaking from the rail, making a move for the lead, and fading to finish 4th at this level and distance.

SELECTIONS: 1-8-11**BEST BET: RACE 8 – 5 BLESSED JOURNEY****LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 2 WICKED TEMPTATIONS**