



# RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Saturday, May 16, 2020

**RACE 1:**

**7 HONEST GAL** is wheeling back after vying for the lead and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> when facing similar quality at the distance last out. Trainer Antonio Sano has 5-pound apprentice Joseph Trejos doling out her speed.

**5 NENITA** is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after rallying to come within a nose of exiting the maiden ranks when finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Antonio Sano has 7-pound bug Gadiel Martinez named to ride. **8 SOCIALLY ASTRAY**, another from Antonio Sano, is cutting back to this abbreviated distance after finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind her stablemate at 6 panels.

**SELECTIONS: 7-5-7**

**RACE 2:**

**8 OBLIO'S WISH** is stretching out to her best distance (7-2-0-2) after getting parked wide when finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind this familiar competition when they hooked at a mile last out. Trainer Carlos David has Nik Juarez named to ride. **12 YAKO** will depart from the outside after responding to the dropdown in competition with a hard-fought neck victory over the top choice. The rematch should be fun to watch.

**11 CHICLET'S DREAM** is a versatile mare who changed running tactics when she returned from the layoff to defeat \$12,500 '3-lifetime' competition in front running fashion. She's a perfect 2 for 2 on the GP turf.

**SELECTIONS: 8-12-11**

**RACE 3:**

**2 MOONSTONE** is stretching out to 7 furlongs (2-1-1-0) after returning from the layoff to finish a much-needed 6<sup>th</sup> vs first level allowance competition going three-quarters of a mile. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Cristian Torres named to ride. **4 SOLITARY GEM** moved to the Peter Walder barn via the claim, and was freshened, after cruising through her 2 and 3-lifetime claiming conditions in winning fashion. The barn, 21% with new claims, has Miguel Vazquez named to ride.

**5 FOREVER MARTA** is stretching out to seven-eighths of a mile after rallying wide to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> behind repeat winner Sky Chaser in a \$20,000 '3-lifetime' claimers going 6 furlongs.

**SELECTIONS: 2-4-5**

**RACE 4:**

**6 PANAREA** is making the 3<sup>rd</sup> start back from the layoff after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at this level and distance. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard Zayas named to ride.

**1 CHEZ PAREE** has her claiming tag sliced in half after returning from the lengthy layoff to chase the pace and tire vs \$50,000 maidens at the distance; second time Lasix today. **2 FAST CATALINA** is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile after responding to both a surface switch, and the dropdown from special weight competition, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish vs this level going 5 furlongs on the main track.

**SELECTIONS: 6-1-2**

**RACE 5:**

**11 LOGIC N REASON** who broke her maiden going 7 furlongs on the Belmont turf, returns from the layoff, goes back to the turf, and receives Lasix, in the first outing since finishing a trouble starting (stumbled badly) 6<sup>th</sup> and last in the \$100,000 Tepin, which was moved from the grass to a mile on the Aqueduct main track; Irad Ortiz Jr rides for Christophe Clement.

**1 JADES GELLY**, a reclaim by Wesley Ward, is stretching out around 2-turns for the first time, and making her first start since defeating \$50,000 maidens here going 5 furlongs during January. Joe Bravo guides the daughter of Lea. **2 SKYE SNOW** is turning back to 7 ½ furlongs after following the hard-fought maiden special weight score going 8 ½ furlongs with a stalk-the-pace and fade outing vs this level of competition going 9 furlongs last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 11-1-2**

**RACE 6: THE ROAR**

**5 GREEN LIGHT GO** is making his first start since returning from the layoff to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Mischievous Alex, who followed the victory in the Grade 3 Swale with a score in the G3 Gotham Stakes. Trainer Jimmy Jerkens adds Lasix, and has Luis Saez named on the Stronach Stables homebred son of Hard Spun. **2 WITH VERVE** is stretching out to 6 ½ furlongs after following his state-bred optional claiming victory with an 18-1 upset in the 6-furlong \$100,000 Hutcheson Stakes. Trainer Larry Bates has Hall of Fame jock Edgar Prado going for 3 in a row.

**4 CAJUN CASANOVA**, who is stakes-placed on the dirt, is going back to the main track after rallying to win the 5-furlong \$75,000 Texas Glitter on the turf. Trainer Mike Pino has Miguel Vazquez up.

**SELECTIONS: 5-2-4**

**RACE 7:**

**6 KROY**, in for the \$62,500 tag in this optional claimer, drops after returning from the 10-month layoff to finish a stalk-the-pace 2<sup>nd</sup> in a \$100,000 optional claimer going a mile. Trainer Danny Gargan has Luis Saez named to ride. **9 GO POKE THE BEAR** is turning back to 7 ½ furlongs after returning from the freshening to finish a stamina enhancing 6<sup>th</sup> in the 12-furlong Grade 2 Pan American. Trainer Mike Maker has Cristian Torres in the saddle. **1 CLASS AND CASH** is dropping to this level after stalking the pace and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> behind red-hot stakes winner Halladay, and Kroy last out. Trainer Jane Cibelli has Irad Ortiz Jr atop this inside speed threat.

**SELECTIONS: 6-9-1**

**RACE 8:**

**5 UNTITLED** signaled he was back big time when he followed his 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in the Grade 3 Gotham Stakes with a much-the-best victory – as the odds-on choice – in a \$16,000 state-bred optional claimer at the distance. Trainer Mark Casse has Luis Saez going for 2 in a row. **2 EDGE OF FIRE**, a beautifully bred son of Curlin, is eligible to get back into the winner's circle after following his debut victory at 6 furlongs with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish going a mile at this level last out. Trainer Jimmy Jerkens has Dylan Davis in the irons.

**1 EXTRAORDINARY** certainly lived up to his named when he drew clear to break his maiden here, at the distance, by 6-plus lengths. Trainer Rodolphe Brisset has Edgard Zayas handling the inside post.

**SELECTIONS: 5-2-1**

**RACE 9: THE POWDER BREAK**

**10 GOT STORMY** is making her first start since finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> – beaten a neck – in the Grade 1 Frank Kilroe at Santa Anita during March. Trainer Mark Casse has Luis Saez atop the multiple Grade 1 stakes-placed mare. **8 TAPIT TODAY** is turning back to a mile after stalking the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind superstar Starship Jubilee in the 9-furlong Grade 3 Suwannee River. Trainer Chad Brown has Dylan Davis atop the lightly raced daughter of Tapit. **7 VALIANCE** is an undefeated daughter of Tapit making her first start since winning the \$79,000 Open Mind at Monmouth on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Nik Juarez in the saddle again.

**SELECTIONS: 10-8-7**

**RACE 10: THE MUSICAL ROMANCE**

**3 WILDWOOD'S BEAUTY**, 7-furlong specialist (6-3-3-0) is making her first start since finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>, before the layoff, in both the G3 Hurricane Bertie, and the G2 Inside Information. Trainer Scott Becker has Irad Ortiz Jr trying to get her out of 2<sup>nd</sup> gear. **2 BELLERA** is making her local return the first start since winning both the 9-furlong Ladies Handicap and Grade 3 Comely at Aqueduct. Note the last time she tried this distance was her debut here last May. **7 LADY'S ISLAND** is back on her favorite racetrack (9-6-2-1) after shipping up to Tampa to win back-to-back sprints, including the \$50,000 Minaret during February. She's the speed of speed, and will be playing 'catch me if you can'.

**SELECTIONS: 3-2-7**

**RACE 11:**

**10 STORM THE BRIDGE** will depart from the outside after vying for the lead and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> at this level and distance. Trainer Rohan Crichton has Luis Saez named to ride. **4 MIGHTY FAST** is a logical contender in the nightcap when turning back to three-quarters of a mile after following a 2<sup>nd</sup> at the distance 2 starts back with a stalk-and-fade outing going a mile last out.

**6 SIESTA MOON** is dropping to the \$12,500 level on the dirt after facing tougher on the turf with limited results. The Kathleen O'Connell trainee classes up nicely in the finale.

**SELECTIONS: 10-4-6**

**BEST BET: RACE 7 – 6 KROY**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 5 – 1 JADES GELLY**