



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Saturday, May 30, 2020

RACE 1:

2 POLICY OPTION, listed as a gelding, the son of Empire Maker makes his first start since hitting the board in 1 of 2 maiden special weight races at Saratoga last summer. Trainer Chad Brown is 47% with similar class drops, and has Irad Ortiz Jr named to ride.

6 SCANNO is another dropping into this high-priced maiden claimer after following a couple of solid efforts on the turf vs special weight runners with a 3rd place finish going 8 ½ furlongs on the dirt. Trainer Tom Albertrani has Hector Berrios in the saddle.

4 TIME FOR TROUBLE will be outfitted with blinkers, and dropping to this level, after returning from the layoff and failing to fire in his local turf debut for trainer Todd Pletcher, who is 32% with this type of class drop.

SELECTIONS: 2-6-4

RACE 2:

4 TRICK SHOT is a gelded son of Cajun Breeze, and half-brother to Zimba Warrior, who was Grade 3 stakes-placed at age 2, debuting for trainer Mike Yates with Miguel Vazquez named to ride. **6 FULMINI** is a son of Overdriven debuting for trainer Mike Maker with a solid morning work tab showing at Palm Meadows; Irad Ortiz Jr gets the call. **2 BIG DADDY DAVE** is a gelded son of Khozan debuting for trainer Ralph Nicks with 7 local workouts showing. Nicks, who is 25% with his freshman runners, tabs Emisael Jaramillo to ride.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-2

RACE 3:

1 TROPICALITY drops, and returns to the main track, after showing some early interest and fading vs \$12,500 claimers going a 1-turn mile on the turf. Note the last time the mare made a similar surface switch she defeated \$8,000 3-lifetime' claimers on the dirt. Trainer Susan Ditter tabs Edgar Prado to ride.

5 NOWITNA RIVER is stepping up, and stretching out, after rallying to finish 2nd – beaten a nose – vs \$6,250 claimers going 6 furlongs. Trainer Dave Fawkes has Emisael Jaramillo handling the added distance.

2 GRACE'S DRAMA, a 6-time winner at the distance, is hoping to bounce back after following a pair of 'in the money' finishes with a distant 4th place finish at this level and distance last out.

SELECTIONS: 1-5-2

RACE 4:

3 NORTH BROADWAY, a \$750,000 daughter of Quality Road, is making her first start since finishing 4th behind next-out Grade 3 The Very One winner Elizabeth Way here in January. Trainer Chad Brown is 35% with maidens making their 2nd start.

12 OCEAN AIR, a daughter of English Channel, returns after the promising debut in which she rallied to finish 4th – beaten less than a length – going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer Christophe Clement has Irad Ortiz Jr handling the turnback to a mile.

11 TIZ AFFAIR is making her 4-year-old debut after showing promise in her 7-furlong career debut on the Woodbine turf in which she was 3rd – beaten a half-length. Trainer Mark Casse has Edgard Zayas up.

SELECTIONS: 3-12-11

RACE 5:

1 SUR, now in the Marcial Navarro barn, the mare is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile, and breaking from the rail again, after dueling throughout and finishing 2nd going 5 ½ furlongs. The new connections add blinkers, and have Paco Lopez handling the inside speed. **7 ROYALLY COOL** has her claiming tag carved in half, and returns to the main track, after returning from the layoff to encounter early trouble when finishing last in a \$16,000 claimer going 5 furlongs on the turf. **4 BABY ICE** is dropping to the \$8,000 level after facing tougher in a pair of sprints since defeating \$6,250 claimers during March. She's spotted perfectly today.

SELECTIONS: 1-7-4

RACE 6:

4 FIAMMA MAMMA is wheeling back after setting a pressured pace and finishing 2nd – in the slop – when dropped to this level last out. Trainer Gustavo Delgado has apprentice Joseph Trejos in the saddle again.

1 UNION LANE will depart from the rail again, and try to find more firepower for the stretch drive, after dueling with the top choice before drifting out and finishing 3rd behind her last out. **6 KAUFY FUTURES** is another trying to turn the tables on Fiamma Mamma after finishing a half-length behind Union Lane when 4th last out.

SELECTIONS: 4-1-6

RACE 7:

1 GIOIELLI moved to the Jose D'Angelo barn via the claim, and returns to the main track, after tracking the pace and finishing 3rd vs similar quality going a 2-turn mile on the turf. Trainer Jose D'Angelo, 34% with new claims, has Irad handling the combo surface switch/turnback. **7 SAY ADIOS** is dropping top the \$12,500 level after returning from the 10-month plus layoff to finish 2nd vs \$16,000 '2-lifetime' claimers going 5 furlongs in a race moved from turf to dirt.

5 POSEIDONS PRINCESS is stepping up to face winners after setting the pace and holding on gamely to win her \$10,000 career debut by a nose. Trainer Larry Pilotti tabs Paco Lopez to ride.

SELECTIONS: 1-7-5

RACE 8:

1 VENEZUELAN HUG is stepping up to face winners after responding in the first race after the claim by Danny Gargan with a commanding 5 ¼-length victory over state-bred maiden special weight competition. Trainer Gargan, who has 2 in the race (Blood Moon), has Irad Ortiz Jr atop this half of the uncoupled entry. **9 BAD BEAT BRIAN** is stepping up the competition after responding in the first race under the tutelage of trainer Todd Pletcher with a front running score vs \$30,000 '2-lifetime' claimers. Jockey Paco Lopez will ration his speed from on or near the front end.

6 LET'S PLAY HARDBALL is making his first start since responding in the first race after the claim by Mike Maker with a \$75,000 maiden victory here on March 14; Edgard Zayas rides.

SELECTIONS: 1-9-6

RACE 9:

4 CAJUN FIRECRACKER moved to the Mike Maker barn via the claim, and stretches out to 6 ½ furlongs, in the first start since stalking the pace and fading to 5th vs \$50,000 claimers going three-quarters of a mile; Paco Lopez rides.

3 WIN WITH PRIDE is making his first since moving to the Todd Pletcher barn via the claim after finishing 3rd for the previous connections in a \$40,000 claimer at Aqueduct during February. Irad Ortiz Jr handles the rare claim by the Pletcher barn. **2 YODEL E. A. WHO** is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after setting the pace and fading to finish 4th vs \$40,000 claimers going 7 furlongs on a sealed 'sloppy' track. The beaten favorite in 5 consecutive races, has Victor Lebron trying to erase the chalk-burning status.

SELECTIONS: 4-3-2

RACE 10:

7 UNCONQUERED LEA is making his first start since just getting nailed at the wire when finishing 2nd – beaten a half-length by red-hot next-out stakes' winner Gufo – at this level and distance. Trainer Ben Perkins Jr has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride.

6 MYSTIC LANCELOT is stretching out to 9 furlongs again after following the 3rd place finish behind the top choice at this distance with a 2nd place finish going a mile last out. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Edgard Zayas handling the rematch. **5 OUR COUNTRY** is debuting locally at a mile and an eighth after returning from the layoff at Tampa to finish 3rd vs \$75,000 optional claimers going a mile and a sixteenth on the turf. Trainer George Weaver has Paco Lopez named on the recent gelding.

SELECTIONS: 7-6-5

RACE 11:

3 POWER (BRZ), a son of Midshipman, who is bred to love this distance and beyond, stretches out after closing to finish 5th vs this level of competition going a mile last out. Trainer Ken McPeck adds 2nd-time blinkers, and 1st time Paco Lopez, to the mix.

8 QUEEN'SPLATE NOLAN is dropping to the \$12,500 level, and stretching out to 9 furlongs again, after failing to fire vs \$16,000 maidens going a mile and a sixteenth in the slop. Trainer Mike Maker has Irad handling surface switch. **7 TRAFFIC TROUBLE** is stretching out to a mile and an eighth for the first time after rallying to finish 3rd in back-to-back races vs similar quality going a mile. Trainer Mike Pino has Angel Rodriguez handling the added real estate.

SELECTIONS: 3-8-7

BEST BET: RACE 10 – 7 UNCONQUERED LEA

LONGSHOT: RACE 11 – 3 POWER (BRZ)