



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Sunday, April 12, 2020

RACE 1:

2 GRIMPANTE is dropping to the \$25,000 level after talking the overland route when finishing a wide 5th in her special weight debut on the Tampa turf. Trainer Todd Pletcher is 35% with similar class drops, and names red-hot jock Tyler Gaffalione to ride. **4 COUPLE OF NIKKIS**, beaten a nose at this level 3 races back, drops after facing state-bred special weight competition with a pair of so-so performances. **10 SUNDAY SCHEMING**, a daughter of Constitution, is debuting on the turf after failing to fire when facing \$50,000 maidens going 7 furlongs on the GP West main track. Trainer Wesley Ward has the sophomore firing bullets on the Palm Meadows turf in preparation for the return.

SELECTIONS: 2-4-10

RACE 2:

9 LUCKYTOBEINAMERICA drops to \$8,000 level on the main track, and stretches out to 6 furlongs, after facing \$16,000 claimers in a slew of 5-furlong turf sprints. Trainer Dom Schettino is 3 for 8 (38%) with the grass to dirt move, and tabs Tyler Gaffalione to handle the surface switch.

2 FOLLOWHISFOOTSTEPS should be primed and ready to offer more after returning from the freshening to finish 2nd – as the favorite – at this level and distance. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr, 28% with the 2nd start back from a layoff, has Luis Saez in the saddle.

1 STRATEGIC OUTLOOK is turning back to 6 furlongs after setting the pace and finishing 2nd vs similar quality going a 1-turn mile. Trainer Leah Gyarmati has Dylan Davis handling the turnback.

SELECTIONS: 9-2-1

RACE 3:

3 VICTORY TOWN will try state-bred maidens after rallying to finish 3rd vs open special weight competition in his sophomore debut at the distance. Trainer Mark Casse has Tyler returning on the son of Speightstown.

6 WHISKEY SUNRISE, listed as a gelding, the son of Cajun Breeze makes his first start since setting the pace and finishing 2nd in his 4 ½-furlong debut here last April. Trainer Mike Yates readied him for the return with a pair of bullet 3-furlong drills.

1 BAHAMIAN BEAT is another making his sophomore debut vs state-bred competition after finishing a sightseeing 5th in his 5-furlong debut last August. Trainer Ralph Nicks, 25% with similar layoffs, has Emisael Jaramillo handling the inside post.

SELECTIONS: 3-6-1

RACE 4:

8 PILOT EPISODE, a full-sister to Grade 1 stakes-placed Bold Script, turns back to three-quarters of a mile with Lasix added after chasing the pace and finishing 2nd going 6 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Shug McGaughey has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle. **1 THE GIRL HERSELF**, a half-sister to \$1.5 million earner Circular Quay, is debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix, and a solid work tab showing at Palm Beach Downs.

4 SARATOGA AFFAIR is a \$450,000 daughter of Paynter debuting for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix, and Paco Lopez named to ride. The tote action should tell us more.

SELECTIONS: 8-1-4

RACE 5:

2 BLUE MAGIC has her claiming tag carved in half after finishing a troubled starting 2nd (forced out) in a \$35,000 claimer at the distance. Trainer Mike Maker has Luis Saez named to ride. **7 HEIR BALL** is wheeling back after a trio of game performances at the distance, which includes the trouble starting 3rd (broke in the air) vs \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers last out. Trainer Larry Rivelli has Victor Lebron in the saddle again. **5 SPEED STAR** is dropping to this level after facing tougher in a string of 5-furlong sprints before going to the sidelines in February. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr, 29% with this type of layoff, has Edgard Zayas up.

SELECTIONS: 2-7-5

RACE 6:

5 PRIMACY is stretching out to a mile after shaking off an edgy start to finish a fast-closing 2nd – beaten three-quarters of a length – in her 6 ½-furlong debut. Trainer Chad Brown has Tyler Gaffalione atop the \$240,000 daughter of Union Rags. **2 PRAIRIE WINGS**, an \$800,000 daughter of Tapit, and a half-sister to Group 1 Irish Derby runner up Storm the Stars, moves to the Todd Pletcher barn after finishing 2nd behind repeat winner

Fashion Babe when going 6 ½ furlongs for trainer Kieran McLaughlin; Luis Saez rides. **4 RISK MODEL**, another from trainer Chad Brown, the \$390,000 daughter of Into Mischief has license to improve after finishing a 4-wide 3rd in her career debut at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-4

RACE 7:

3 COMBINATION will try to make it 4 wins in a row, and the 2nd consecutive victory since the claim by trainer Juan Avila. The 'now' horse has Edgard Zayas going for 2 in a row. **5 DESERT GENERAL** moved to the Gerardo Quiroz barn via the claim after rallying to come within a head of scoring at this level and distance. The new connections tab 7-pound apprentice Mario Fuentes to ride.

10 KAREN'S COVE is facing \$8,000 open-claimers, and adding the blinkers back, after surrendering a lead at the 1/8th pole when finishing 3rd in a \$12,500 starter optional claimer at the distance; Tyler Gaffalione rides for Peter Walder.

SELECTIONS: 3-5-10

RACE 8:

2 SIR CHUBBY is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after returning from the freshening, with blinkers added, and finishing a much-improved 3rd vs similar going a mile.

10 BOSS LIFE is stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs after returning from the layoff to duel of the lead and finish 2nd vs this level of competition going a mile. Trainer Dale Romans has solid front running jock Emisael Jaramillo handling the outside post. **8 BUDGET BUSTER** is dropping to the \$32,000 level after rallying to 'hit the board' in 2 of 3 local turf outings at the \$50,000 level. Trainer Mike Maker has Luis Saez at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 2-10-8

RACE 9:

1 BION MAGIC is making her 3-year-old debut after the promising freshman campaign in which she won her special weight debut, and followed that with a 3rd place finish behind future stakes winner Tonalist Shape in a \$75,000 optional claimer at GP West. Trainer John Vinson has her training forwardly for the return.

3 HOW SWEEP IT IS wheels back after prompting the pace and finishing 2nd at this level and distance. The daughter of Flat Out gets the nod on the 'what have you done lately' angle. **5 CORY GAL** is stepping up the competition after drawing clear at the distance to defeat \$25,000 '2-lifetime' claimers by 5 widening lengths. Trainer Gustavo Delgado, who claimed her 2 starts back, has Edgard Zayas named to ride.

SELECTIONS: 1-3-5

RACE 10:

2 SIR SEAMUS is stepping to the next level after using his speed to defeat \$16,000 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' claimers in sharp fashion. Trainer Carlos David has Tyler named to ride. **10 MACHIAVELLI** is making his first start since rallying to defeat \$40,000 '2-lifetime' claimers here going a mile and a sixteenth. The Mark Casse trainee should sit an ideal stalking trip off the speed.

8 BOLD PAYNTER is back vs conditioned claimers after following his \$30,000 2-lifetime victory with 3 consecutive 4th place finishes vs \$35-40,000 starter allowance competition. Trainer Cheryl Winebaugh has Marcos Meneses at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 2-10-8

RACE 11:

8 GUACAMOLE is turning back to 6 furlongs after setting a pressured pace and finishing 3rd – beaten 2 lengths – when facing similar quality going a mile last out. Trainer Todd Pletcher, 26% with the turnback angle, has Emisael Jaramillo named to ride. **9 BACCARAT FASHION** moved to the Mike Maker barn via the claim, and wheels back, after finishing 3rd vs a solid group of \$62,500 optional claimers at the distance; Paco Lopez rides.

7 NAKED AVENGER is making her 3-year-old debut after the stellar 3-race campaign vs New York-bred competition', in which she won the 7-furlong Joseph A Gimma, and was 2nd in the \$250,000 Maid of the Mist. Trainer Tim Hills has her working well at GP West.

SELECTIONS: 8-9-7

RACE 12:

10 BLAZING DESIRE is dropping to the \$20,000 level after showing tactical early speed before settling for 4th – as the favorite - in back-to-back outings at the \$50,000 level. Trainer Mike Maker has Luis Saez trying to cure the recent chalk-burning status. **2 KEEPSAKEKITTEN** moved to the Jose Gallegos barn via the claim, and steps it up a notch, after posting his 2nd consecutive victory when defeating \$16,000 claimer at the distance; Tyler Gaffalione rides.

8 MY G P S moved to the Oscar Gonzalez barn via the claim, and returns to the turf, after setting the pace and finishing 2nd in a \$16,000 claimer moved from the grass to a 1-turn mile on a 'sealed' sloppy track. The speedy son of Saint Larned has Luca Panici trying to steal the nightcap on the front end.

SELECTIONS: 10-2-8

BEST BET: RACE 12: - 10 BLAZING DESIRE

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 8 BOLD PAYNTER