



# RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



**Sunday, April 18, 2021**

## RACE 1:

**8 BELLE'S KINGDOM** will be outfitted with blinkers after responding to the dropdown with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish at this level and distance. Trainer Kelsey Danner has go-to jock Angel Arroyo in the saddle.

**5 MISS MORENO** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after shaking off trouble soon after the start (bumped, steadied) to finish a late-running 5<sup>th</sup> vs similar going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard Zayas up. **1 VIANI** is dropping to the \$16,000 level, and stretching out to 8 ½ furlongs, after finishing an even 5<sup>th</sup> in her \$25,000 debut going a mile. Trainer Mark Casse has Miguel Vazquez handling the inside draw.

**SELECTIONS: 8-5-1**

## RACE 2:

**2 IZSHEFROSTED**, who is 2 for 3 'in the money' vs tougher sprinting on the dirt, is going back to the main track, and dropping to the \$16,000 level, after chasing the pace and weakening to finish 5<sup>th</sup> vs \$25,000 maidens going 5 panels on the turf.

**5 MARICOPA** is stepping it up a notch after finishing a drifting 2<sup>nd</sup> – as the favorite – vs \$12,500 maidens going this 7-furlong distance: Miguel Vazquez rides for Herbert Miller. **4 BEYOND HEAVENLY** has her claiming tag carved in half, and gets the blinkers removed, hoping both changes help the daughter of Uncle Mo show more during the latter stages of the race.

**SELECTIONS: 2-5-4**

## RACE 3:

**7 POSITIVE PHIL** is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after rallying to get beat a neck by repeat winner Cairo Campaign, and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in front of another pair of next-out winners, in a 'key-race' going 7 ½ furlongs. Trainer Juan Avila has Leonel Reyes up. **4 BUFFALO MAX** is turning back to 8 ½ furlongs after dueling through the stretch and getting beat a neck vs similar going a mile and an eighth. Trainer Angel Rodriguez has Marcos Meneses handling the turnback.

**5 SPINNING KITTEN** has been knocking on the door in a trio of turf outings vs this caliber of competition. Trainer Kathryn Davey hopes Paco can get him into the winner's circle.

**SELECTIONS: 7-4-5**

## RACE 4:

**3 SURPRISE FACTOR**, beaten a head when racing around 2-turns on the turf during January, is back in the Kelsey Danner barn via the reclaim, and is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth, after the pair of well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes going 5 furlongs. The son of The Factor should play a major role in the pace scenario. **2 KICKS ON SIXTY SIX**, a well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> at the distance vs \$20,000 open-claimers 2 starts back, stretches out after finishing 5<sup>th</sup> against a field of \$20,000 '2-lifetime' claimers going 7 ½ furlongs last out. Trainer Antonio Sano has Edgard handling the added distance. **6 EMOJI GUY** is turning back to 8 ½ furlongs after following a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish at the distance 2 starts back, with a so-so outing going 9 furlongs last out.

**SELECTIONS: 3-2-6**

## RACE 5:

**3 MISS DOMINA** is a daughter of Dominus debuting for trainer George Weaver with Lasix, and a string of solid workouts showing at Palm Beach Downs. The barn, productive with first-time starters, will have Emisael Jaramillo in the irons. **1 JORDAN'S LEO**, a \$150,000 daughter of Malibu Moon, is making her 3-year-old debut the first race since hesitating at the start and finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in her 7-furlong career debut at Saratoga. Trainer Todd Pletcher adds Lasix for the return to action. **4 MACKENZIE'S GIRL**, who is 3 for 4 'in the money' sprinting on the dirt, is going back to the main track after finishing 4<sup>th</sup> – at 30-1 – when sprinting on the turf last out. Trainer Kent Sweezey has Paco Lopez handling the surface switch.

**SELECTIONS: 3-1-4**



**RACE 6:**

**9 MISTER LEONARDO** moves to the Joe Orseno barn via the claim, and stretches out to 8 ½ furlongs, after surrendering a late lead when finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> behind repeat winner Uncle Fun going a mile last out. The new connections keep the status quo with Paco at the controls. **8 THORN** is dropping into this \$35,000 open-claimer after stepping up off the claim by Bobby Dibona and finishing a stalk-the-pace-and-fade 6<sup>th</sup> behind repeat winner Yes This Time in a \$50,000 starter optional claimer going a mile: Chantal Sutherland rides. **1 JEHA**, who broke his maiden at this distance, stretches out after rallying to finish 4<sup>th</sup> in back-to-back races going a mile, the last was first start after the claim by leading trainer Saffie Joseph Jr: Edgard Zayas handles the stretchout.

**SELECTIONS: 9-8-1**

**RACE 7:**

**2 BLAKENSTEIN** is stepping up, and turning back to three-quarters of a mile, after drawing clear to defeat a pair of next-out winners in a \$12,500 maiden test going 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Jorge Delgado is 20% winning consecutive races.

**5 JUST LIKE MIKE** is dropping into this 'non-winners of 2-lifetime' sprint, and trying 6-furlongs for the first time, after facing tougher in a pair of \$12,500 state-bred optional claimers going a mile. Trainer Armando De La Cerda has Paco handling the turnback. **7 TAPPING** is making his 4-year-old debut the first start since defeating \$50,000 maidens in his career debut here about 13 months ago. The tote action should tell us more.

**SELECTIONS: 2-5-7**

**RACE 8:**

**7 TIZ POSSIBLE DEAR**, a 5-time winner at this demanding 7-furlong distance (7-5-0-1), moves to the Marcial Navarro barn via the claim after opening and surrendering and early 3-length lead before fading – as the even-money favorite – going 6 ½ furlongs last out. The new connections keep Paco at the helm. **5 SKY CHASER**, zero-for-4 at the distance, turns back after dueling throughout and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> – in the front of a pair of next-out winners - going mile vs \$25,000 starter optional claimers last out. Trainer Ron Spatz has Miguel Vazquez up.

**6 HARTLING** moves to the Jose D'Angelo barn after the claim, and makes her first start since defeating \$6,250 claimers in back-to-back races before going to the sidelines in January. Note that the daughter of Mucho Macho Man is firing bullet workouts for the return.

**SELECTIONS: 7-5-6**

**RACE 9:**

**1 DAHLONEGA** moves to the Gilberto Zerpa barn via the claim after dueling throughout and holding sway to defeat \$16,000 state-bred optional claimers at the distance. The barn, 32% with new claims, has Joe Bravo named to ride. **2 AWSUM ROAR**, a local legend, became an 8-time winner on the Gulfstream turf when she rallied to defeat this familiar competition with one of her patented gutsy performances. The 7-year-old mare will have Edgard going for 2 in a row.

**5 MY SARASOTA STAR** looked like she was on her way to victory until she was caught at the wire by Awsum Roar last out. Trainer Dave Braddy has Emisael Jaramillo trying to reverse the tough beat last out.

**SELECTIONS: 1-2-5**

**RACE 10:**

**6 DON V.** is dropping to the \$16,000 level in the first start since finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in a strong 5-furlong maiden special weight turf sprint here last August that produced a trio of impressive next-out winners. Trainer Efren Loza Jr, 1 for 3 with this type of extended layoff, has Paco in the saddle.

**5 UNLONELY** was solid in defeat when he responded to the dropdown to the \$16,000 level with a duel-for-the-lead 2<sup>nd</sup> last out. Leading trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Emisael Jaramillo atop the speedy 3-year-old. **12 KEEP AN EYE ON MIKE** is debuting locally at five-eighths of a mile after returning from a layoff at the Fair Grounds to finish a duel-and-fade 7<sup>th</sup> vs \$25,000 maidens going 5 ½ furlongs on the turf. Trainer Louie Roussel has Miguel Vazquez atop this interesting price play.

**SELECTIONS: 6-5-12**

**BEST BET: RACE 8 – 7 TIZ POSSIBLE DEAR**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 7 – 2 BLAKENSTEIN**