



RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by *Ron Nicoletti*

Sunday, February 9, 2020

RACE 1:

11 ALGODONAL is cutting back to a mile after her 2-race win streak ended when she finished in a dead heat for 2nd – beaten a neck in a 3-horse blanket finish – going a mile and a sixteenth last out. **1 SAND DRIFT** was given some time off by trainer Saffie Joseph Jr after the trio of ‘in the money finishes’ vs similar quality on the GP West turf. The barn, 32% with the 61-180 days layoff, has Tyler Gaffalione in the saddle.

5 SASSY JUSTICE moved to the Kent Sweezey barn via the claim, and steps up to the next level, after following the \$20,000 maiden victory going a mile with a front running score vs \$16,000 ‘2-lifetime’ claimers going a mile and a sixteenth.

SELECTIONS: 11-1-5

RACE 2:

7 IKEISGREAT is debuting locally at the \$50,000 level, and racing without the blinkers, after encountering trouble at the start (bobbled) when finishing 3rd vs maiden special weight company going 6 furlongs on a sloppy Tampa main track; Luis Saez rides.

2 THE BEAST AND I is a son of The Big Beast debuting for trainer Ralph Nicks, who has a 27%-win average with his debut maiden claimers. The colt gets Lasix, and has Emisael Jaramillo in the saddle.

3 FEISTY BIRD, listed as a gelding, drops to the \$50,000 level for trainer Ian Wilkes after showing some late interest when 5th going 7 furlongs vs maiden special weight competition at Churchill.

SELECTIONS: 7-2-3

RACE 3:

8 SUMMER TO REMEMBER is stretching out to a mile and a sixteenth after following his maiden special weight victory going a mile with a 3rd place finish in the 7 ½-furlong Grade 3 Kitten’s Joy. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez handling the outside draw.

1 MAJESTIC RO comes off the impressive debut victory in which he closed from 12th and last to win by a nose in a perfectly timed ride by Julien Leparoux.

4 MAKE A STAND, another from Todd Pletcher, steps up to face winners after leading from start to finish when defeating \$75,000 maidens at this mile and a sixteenth distance; Javier Castellano rides.

SELECTIONS: 8-1-4

RACE 4:

7 KAPIOLANI is wheeling back after the solid debut at this level and distance in which she shook off early traffic problems (bumped after start) to finish 2nd. Trainer Brendan Walsh has Tyler Gaffalione up for the return engagement. **2 BEAM OF LIGHT** will be outfitted with blinkers after encountering trouble at the start (hit gate) to finish 6th in her 6-furlong debut. Trainer Jorge Navarro, 24% with the stretchout move, has the \$190,000 daughter of Twirling Candy firing bullets in preparation for the mile distance. **1 KAHIKO** is a daughter of First Samurai debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher with Lasix, and Hall of Fame jock John Velazquez named to handle the inside post.

SELECTIONS: 7-2-1

RACE 5:

9 TIL THE END will try to get back to the winner’s circle after following the victory at this level and distance 2 starts back with a game 2nd place finish in his last. The hard-knocking 8-year-old has never been better.

12 BOLD DADDY is cutting back to a mile, and departing from the outside, after rallying to defeat this level of competition going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Jason Servis has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the gelded son of Scat Daddy. **5 YEAR OF THE KITTEN** moved to the Pat Reynolds barn via the claim after recovering from a slow start to finish 4th behind Bold Daddy last out; Victor Lebron rides.

SELECTIONS: 9-12-5

RACE 6:

7 FASHION BABE is turning back to 6 ½ furlongs after finishing 2nd – as the odds-on choice - going seven-eighths of a mile. Trainer Jason Servis has Irad Ortiz Jr named on the beaten favorite in 4 consecutive races.

4 STARLIT DAYDREAM is debuting for trainer Todd Pletcher, and the Empire Racing Club, with a string of solid workouts showing in preparation for her first start; John Velazquez rides. **1 PRAIRIE WINGS** is an \$800,000 daughter of Tapit debuting for trainer Kiaran McLaughlin with Lasix, and Luis Saez named to handle the inside post. The tote action should help point us in the right direction.

SELECTIONS: 7-4-1

RACE 7:

3 LIANA SUSQUEHANNA is back from the layoff, and back in the claiming ranks, after following \$20,000 victory going 5 ½ furlongs with a 3rd place finish in the 5-furlong Safely Kept at Monmouth on September 1st. Trainer Jason Servis sweetens the deal with Irad Ortiz Jr at the controls. **10 BLUE MAGIC** moved to the Mike Maker barn via the claim, and wheels back at the same level and distance, after making a 4-wide charge to win by a neck last out. The new connections tab Jose Ortiz to ride, as Irad moves to the top choice.

8 SPEED STAR is dropping to the \$35,000 level after chasing the pace and tiring when facing \$62,500 claimers last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Tyler Gaffalione atop the 3-time winner at the distance.

SELECTIONS: 3-10-8

RACE 8:

4 SOUPER SCAT DADDY is turning back to a mile after returning from the 10-month plus layoff to prompt the pace before weakening to finishing 6th in the \$150,000 Sunshine Millions Turf. Trainer Mark Casse has Tyler Gaffalione named to ride.

6 MUTAKATIF (IRE), who was beaten a head in his North American debut here last March, makes his first start since finishing 4th in an \$80,000 optional claimer at Belmont during June. Trainer Chad Brown, 29% with type of layoff, has Javier Castellano handling the return. **5 PERSONAL TIME** is returning to the turf after following his maiden victory on the Keeneland grass with a well-meant 3rd place finish on the Keeneland main track. The son of Malibu Moon has Edgard Zayas at the controls.

SELECTIONS: 4-6-5

RACE 9:

3 LET'S BE HONEST is stretching out to seven-eighths of a mile after returning from the freshening to finish 2nd vs this level of competition going 6 furlongs. Trainer Larry Pilotti has Javier Castellano in the saddle again.

1 CAPTURE THE GENIE is making her 3-year-old debut for trainer Mark Casse after showing promise in her 3-race freshman campaign, which includes the impressive maiden victory last July. **4 MANDAMUS**, who was 2nd in the Juvenile Filly Sprint at GP West, is dropping to the \$16,000 level after dueling for the lead and weakening in her local return vs \$75,000 optional claimers. Trainer Jorge Navarro has Jose Ortiz up.

SELECTIONS: 3-1-4

RACE 10:

5 LA AUSTRALIANA is back at a competitive level after the pair of ambitious outings vs graded stakes level competition. Trainer Juan Avila has Emisael Jaramillo handling the turnback to her best distance (5-2-0-2). **2 EBULLIENT** will try to make it 2 in a row after breaking from and outside post, rocketing to the lead, and drawing clear to defeat entry-level allowance runners here by 3-plus lengths. Trainer Michael Matz has Jose Ortiz atop the daughter of Twirling Candy.

8 MISS MUNNINGS, 8 for 9 'in the money' on this course, is making her local return after ending her summer campaign at Belmont with a pair of sharp efforts at this \$62,500 level. Trainer John Kimmel has Irad Ortiz Jr atop the hard-knocking 7-year-old mare.

9 ANGEL OF MISCHIEF is making her 5-year-old debut for trainer Norm Casse after a solid 2018 campaign in which she won both her allowance level races before coming up empty in back-to-back stakes races. She's training forwardly on the Palm Meadows turf, and has Julien Leparoux in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-8-9

RACE 11:

8 LOOKIN AT ROSES will be looking for a trip to the winner's circle when dropping to the \$16,000 level, and removing the blinkers, after facing tougher on the New York turf circuit with limited results. Trainer Danny Gargan has Irad handling the class relief. **7 TRAFFIC TROUBLE** is plunging to the \$16,000 level after finishing 4th and 5th, respectively, in a local pair under maiden special weight conditions. Trainer Brian Lynch has Javier Castellano atop the gelded son of Cross Traffic. **6 HAIL MICHIGAN** has his claiming tag carved in half after debuting locally for trainer Barclay Tagg and finishing a stalk-the-pace 5th at the \$32,000 level.

SELECTIONS: 8-7-6

BEST BET: RACE 7 – 3 LIANA SUSQUEHANNA

LONGSHOT: RACE 10 – 5 LA AUSTRALIANA