



RACE BY RACE ANALYSIS

BY RON NICOLETTI



Sunday, November 22, 2020

RACE 1:

8 THE KUKRI is wheeling back, and returning to the turf, after finishing 3rd and 2nd, respectively, in a pair of \$25,000 maiden races moved from the grass to 7 furlongs on the main track. Trainer Mike Maker has Edgard Zayas named on the freshman. **10 CONGRATS AGAIN** will try a 2-turn mile on the turf after responding the dropdown from special weight to maiden claiming with a stalk-and-flatten 4th – as the 3-to-5 favorite – going a 2-turn mile on the dirt. **2 CHIPSHAPE** is another trying the turf for the first time after returning from the layoff to finish a late moving 4th behind the Kukri last out.

SELECTIONS: 8-10-2

RACE 2:

5 THE GREAT OZ, listed as a gelding, drops to the \$50,000 level, and turns back to three-quarters of a mile, after following a well-meant 2nd at the distance vs special weight competition with a chase-and-fade outing vs special weight foes going 6 ½ furlongs on a sealed sloppy track. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr has Angel Arroyo named to ride. **2 TAITA** is a son of the Commissioner debuting for trainer Gustavo Delgado with a string of stamina enhancing workouts showing over the track in preparation for this assignment: Cristian Torres rides. **3 THINKABOUTIT**, another from Ed Plesa Jr, is stepping up to the \$40,000 level after recovering from a troubled start (broke outward) to finish 2nd in his \$32,000 debut going 5 ½ furlongs in the slop: Paco Lopez rides.

SELECTIONS: 5-2-3

RACE 3:

10 CRYSTAL COAST is going back to the turf after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 2nd-place finish vs \$40,000 maidens going 7 furlongs in race moved from turf to dirt. Trainer Carlos David has Paco Lopez named to ride.

2 BIG BAD DIVA is a daughter of Skipshoot (Skip Away) debuting for trainer Saffie Joseph Jr with a slew of Palm Meadows workouts showing, on both turf and dirt, in preparation for her 1-mile grass debut. The freshman is bred to love both the surface and the distance. **1 MISSION POSSIBLE**, another from the Saffie Joseph Jr juggernaut, is stretching out around 2-turns after taking the overland route when finishing a wide 7th – as the favorite – in her 5-furlong special weight debut: Edgard Zayas rides this half of the uncoupled entry.

SELECTIONS: 10-2-1

RACE 4:

3 NENITA is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after breaking towards the outside (Post 11), dueling for the lead, and finishing 2nd vs similar quality going 6 ½ furlongs in the slop. Trainer Antonio Sano has Paco Lopez penciled in for the return riding assignment. **7 LAVI** is dropping to the \$6,250 level after facing considerably tougher with limited success, both here, and across town. Trainer Emmy Gaffney has red-hot co-leading jock Miguel Vazquez handling the class relief. **6 BELLA GIANNA**, beaten a neck at this level and distance at Delaware 2 starts back, drops after tracking the pace and finishing a clear 2nd - in her local debut - going 6 panels vs \$8,000 '2-lifetime' runners. Trainer Alfredo Cazares has Leonel Reyes in the irons.

SELECTIONS: 3-7-6

RACE 5:

8 DUNDALK, back in the Kathleen O'Connell barn, the 6-year Md-bred runs for the \$25,000 tag in this optional claimer after a couple of solid turf outings at Laurel in which he showed good speed when finishing 3rd and 2nd, respectively, vs allowance level competition: Emisael Jaramillo rides.

12 FLOWMOTION is making his South Florida return for trainer Jane Cibelli after a productive turf campaign at Monmouth. The hard-knocking 6-year-old followed his \$16,000 starter handicap victory with a 3rd place finish vs allowance company going 8 ½ furlongs. The obvious concern is tough outside post. **7 THRESHOLD**, a lightly raced 3-year-old son of Karakontie, will try to make it 2 in a row after returning from the layoff to defeat older horses at the \$25,000 conditioned claiming level. Trainer Mark (Mr 3,000) Casse has Victor Lebron in the saddle.

SELECTIONS: 8-12-7

RACE 6:

3 COZY CAFÉ is turning back to three-quarters of a mile after rallying on wet track listed as good to finish 2nd – beaten a neck here – going 7 furlongs. Trainer Ed Plesa Jr has Angel Arroyo handling the shorter distance. **7 GOODBYE GABY** is another cutting back to 6 furlongs after a pair of ‘in the money’ finishes at seven-eighths of a mile, which includes the 3rd place finish behind Cozy Café last out. Trainer Gustavo Amaya has Leonel Reyes handling the rematch. **4 KATZ A DREAM** is a daughter of Tizway debuting for Whisper Hill Farm and Ralph Nicks with a series of sharp morning workouts showing over the GP main track: Emisael Jaramillo rides.

SELECTIONS: 3-7-4

RACE 7: THE JUVENILE TURF

10 HOT BLOODED is making his local turf debut for trainer Carlos David after a productive campaign across town in which he followed his maiden victory on the dirt with a driving score on the turf in the 1-mile \$75,000 Proud Man. Emisael Jaramillo returns on the son of Declaration of War. **6 FULMINI** is a versatile son of Overdriven who has won going 5 furlongs on the turf, was a troubled 4th on the turf in the Proud Man, finished 2nd in the rained-out Armed Forces, and was 3rd going a mile on the grass last out. Trainer Mike Make has Edgard Zayas at the controls. **5 LIGHT US UP** is debuting locally for trainer Jonathan Thomas after showing promise in his 2-race turf campaign up north vs stakes competition. Joe Bravo will guide the son of Upstart.

SELECTIONS: 10-6-5

RACE 8:

4 ITSMYLUCKYGIRL will try to make 4 victories in a row, and 3rd straight score locally, for leading trainer Rohan Crichton. The amazing daughter of Itsmyluckyday has jockey Miguel Vazquez going for the 4-peat. **3 BEAST OF WILDWOOD** is hoping to get away from the gate trouble free after stumbling at the start, chasing the pace, and failing to reel in repeat winner Sunset Empire at this level and distance. Trainer Gilberto Zerpa has Paco atop the daughter of The Big Beast.

6 SOLID AS A ROCK is stretching out to three-quarters of a mile in the first start since dueling for the lead and finishing 3rd behind the top choice when they hooked up at 5 ½ furlongs last out.

SELECTIONS: 4-3-6

RACE 9: THE MILLIONS F & M TURF PREVIEW

2 PICARA, the defending champ in this race, and the winner of 4 of 5 races on the local turf, will try to parlay her horse-for-course status into an upset victory. Trainer Jorge Delgado has Joe Bravo named to guide the overachieving Turbo Compressor mare. **3 MO OF THE WEST** is hoping to get away from the gate in a timely fashion after breaking slowly and finishing 5th here in the \$60,000 Cellars Shiraz. Trainer Mark Casse tabs Paco Lopez to ride the \$300,000 daughter of Uncle Mo. **5 LOVELY LUVY** is making her local return the first start since rallying to finish 2nd in front of a pair of next-out winners – as the favorite – in a \$62,500 optional claimer going a mile on the GP turf. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Edgard Zayas in the saddle again.

SELECTIONS: 2-3-5

BEST BET: RACE 5 – 8 DUNDALK

LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 2 PICARA

