



# RACE BY RACE SELECTIONS

by Ron Nicoletti

Thursday, April 9, 2020

## RACE 1:

**1 MAGICAL MIKE** is plunging to the \$12,500 level on the turf, and removing the blinkers, after failing to show much vs special weight competition going a mile on the main track last out. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Victor Lebron named to ride.

**12 NOBLE NEBRASKAN** is turning back to a mile, and adding the blinkers back, after surrendering a brief lead when finishing 5<sup>th</sup> vs similar quality going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Rob Falcone Jr has Edgard Zayas handling the outside post.

**4 TRAFFIC TROUBLE** is hoping for clear sailing at a mile after encountering early trouble (steadied) when finishing 5<sup>th</sup> vs \$16,000 maidens going 8 ½ furlongs last out.

**SELECTIONS: 1-12-4**

## RACE 2:

**7 DIZZY SIGHT** is taking huge drop to the \$6,250 level in the first start since facing allowance competition here, on both turf and dirt, before the layoff. Trainer Rusty Arnold has red-hot jock Tyler Gaffalione handling the freefall. **5 STEADILY** is dropping a notch after stalking the action and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> – as the favorite – in an \$8,000 ‘2-lifetime claimer at the distance. Trainer Victor Barboza Jr lightens the impost with 7-pound apprentice Gadiel Martinez in the irons.

**2 SHE LOVE ME** is dropping to this level in the first race since finishing a distant 2<sup>nd</sup> vs \$14,000 ‘2-lifetime’ claimers going 8 furlongs during February. Trainer Stan Hough has Luis Saez named to ride.

**SELECTIONS: 7-5-2**

## RACE 3:

**8 CLIFTON PARK** has his claiming tag carved in half after encountering double-trouble (bumped start, steadied) when finishing 8<sup>th</sup> – as the favorite – in a \$30,000 maiden test at the distance; Luis Saez rides for Dale Romans.

**4 MAYITO** is wheeling back after shipping down from Tampa and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> – as the tepid favorite – at this level and distance. Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr has Tyler Gaffalione in the saddle.

**11 DECLARE UNION** is dropping to the \$16,000 level after the pair of sightseeing trips, from outside posts, vs tougher, in back-to-back turf outings at the distance. Trainer Gustavo Delgado has Angel Rodriguez handling the dropdown.

**SELECTIONS: 8-4-11**

## RACE 4:

**7 REITERATE** is turning back to 5 ½ furlongs after shipping back from Tampa to finish a well-meant 2<sup>nd</sup> vs similar quality going 6 ½ furlongs. Trainer Mark Casse has Tyler Gaffalione named to ride.

**3 DANCING DESTROYER**, trained by Norm Casse, is returning to the main track after making a failed 6-wide move when finishing 6<sup>th</sup> in a \$20,000 state-bred optional claimer going 5 furlongs on the turf. The barn, 25% with the grass-to-dirt move, has Luis Saez handling the surface switch.

**5 RICHIES GREAT GIRL** is dropping to the \$30,000 level on the main track, and cutting back to 5 ½ furlongs, after making a wide move to finish 4<sup>th</sup> vs \$50,000 claimers going a mile on the turf just 7 days ago. Trainer Larry Rivelli is 3 for 10 with the 1-to-7 days turnaround.

**SELECTIONS: 7-3-5**

## RACE 5:

**5 RATIFY** moved to the Ed Plesa Jr barn via the claim after responding to the dropdown in competition with a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish - in front of a trio of next-out winners – in a fruitful \$50,000 maiden test at the distance; Joel Rosario rides.

**2 SPIRITUAL KING** is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks, and shortening up to a mile, after returning from the 2-month layoff to set the pace and fade to 5<sup>th</sup> vs maiden special weight competition going 9 furlongs last out. Trainer Todd Pletcher is 35% with similar class drops.

**7 DR. DOYLE** is eligible to take another positive step forward after the responding to the dropdown with an improved 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish at \$50,000 level. Trainer Jane Cibelli has Luis Saez atop the gelded son of Commissioner.

**SELECTIONS: 5-2-7**

**RACE 6:**

**10 EMBRACE MY UNCLE** is turning back to 6 furlongs, and departing from the outside, after back-to-back 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes going a mile, including his last when he was sent off as the even-money favorite. Trainer Nick Gonzalez has Luis Saez handling the turnback. **5 THREE DEEP** is the obvious choice to score after coming within a neck – as the favorite – of winning at this level and distance last out. **6 W W CANDY** is dropping into the maiden claiming ranks after failing to get untracked in his state-bred special weight debut at the distance. Trainer Scott Becker is 19% with similar class drops.

**SELECTIONS: 10-5-6**

**RACE 7:**

**6 KING OF RANCH** is looking to make amends after getting parked 5-wide and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> – as the 4-to-5 favorite – vs this familiar competition. Trainer Mike Maker has Luis Saez named to ride.

**4 DOMINATE THEMOMENT** certainly lived up to his named when he dominated this level of competition when drawing clear to win by 3 widening lengths last out. Trainer Allen Iwinski, zero-for-5 winning consecutive races, has Joel Rosario trying to improve that record. **1 FLASH PASS** will depart from the rail after dueling for the lead and settling for 2<sup>nd</sup> behind Dominate Themoment, and in front of King of Ranch. Emisael Jaramillo gets the call, as Saez moved to the top choice.

**SELECTIONS: 6-4-1**

**RACE 8:**

**7 PREACHER MARSEE**, a lightly raced son of Bernardini, who shows steady progress with each race at this level, should sit the trip behind what appears to be a shaky pace setup. Strong finisher Luis Saez adds to the appeal. **5 VOLUBILE** is dropping to the \$12,500 level after lacking room in the stretch when finishing last in a \$25,000 '2-lifetime' claimer at the distance. Trainer Bob Hess Jr has Tyler handling the class relief.

**2 CRUPI'S PIZZA DOM** moved the Angel Rodriguez barn via the claim, and turns back to a mile, after opening and surrendering an early 2-length lead when fading to 9<sup>th</sup> vs similar going a mile and a sixteenth.

**SELECTIONS: 7-5-2**

**RACE 9:**

**4 MORETTI**, a \$900,000 son of Medaglia d'Oro, will be outfitted with blinkers in the first race since dueling for the lead and finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in an allowance race, at the distance, at Laurel. Trainer Todd Pletcher has Luis Saez named to ride.

**6 STONE HANDS** is dropping to the \$25,000 level, and stretching out to a 1-turn mile, with the speed needed to steal this race on the front end at a price. Trainer Elizabeth Dobles has Edgard Zayas named to ride. **2 YOUNGEST OF FIVE** is stepping up, and stretching out, after drawing clear – as the 4-to-5 favorite – to defeat special weight runners at a mile. Trainer Stanley Hough has Joel Rosario atop the Super Saver gelding.

**SELECTIONS: 4-6-2**

**RACE 10:**

**11 VALLETTA** is turning back to a mile after prompting the pace and finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in her career turf debut going a mile and a sixteenth. Trainer Bill Mott has Luis Saez atop the daughter of Into Mischief.

**5 MIGHTY ROAD** is a million-dollar daughter of Quality Road debuting for trainer Chad Brown with Lasix, and Tyler Gaffalione named to ride. The high-priced sophomore is training sharply at Payson Park. **8 ACT LIKE ARTIE** is cutting back to a mile after returning from the layoff, and getting mugged in the stretch, (squeezed, checked) when finishing 6<sup>th</sup> behind Valletta last out. Trainer Mike Maker has Joel Rosario at the daughter of We Miss Artie (Artie Schiller).

**SELECTIONS: 11-5-8**

**BEST BET: RACE 5 – 5 RATIFY**

**LONGSHOT: RACE 9 – 6 STONE HANDS**