

Date: August 10th, 2023**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Stay and Scam (7th race)****First Race****1. Pink Ace****2. Camp Bashors Candy****3. House of Magic**

PINK ACE should be tough in this starter allowance based on Midwest form and works since arriving in California. Claimed by Flurry Racing for \$40k from her winning debut, she jumped directly into a \$150k route stakes at Oaklawn Park and ran well finishing second behind a seasoned filly who was winning her third straight. **PINK ACE** was subsequently sent to trainer Phil D'Amato in spring, worked very well and should come back firing. A lively pace would benefit debut winner **CAMP BASHORS CANDY**, who rallied from midfield to win her debut on opening weekend of the Del Mar meet. The style she employed first out would play well if the pace is contested by two front-runners drawn outside. They include **HOUSE OF MAGIC**, adding blinkers after wiring maiden-50s at Los Alamitos. **SONG OF SHADOWS** also wired maiden-50s (Cal-bred) at LRC, and will keep the pace honest.

Second Race**1. Des Doigts****2. Pleaseusetheportal****3. Veritas Aequitas**

An okay fourth-place debut by **DES DOIGTS** stamps the Midwest shipper the one to beat in this maiden-32 for 2yos. He broke slow in his Ellis Park debut, raced wide, and split the field. The quality of the field he faced is dubious, but he does not meet any superstars in his DMR debut. Three works over the track suggest he is ready to roll. **PLEASEUSETHEPORTAL** was in tough in his debut vs. MSW rivals. He broke slow, was uncomfortable from the kickback, and trailed throughout. Now he drops to maiden-claiming and adds blinkers. Improvement likely second time out. First-time starter **VERITAS AEQUITAS** appears to have trained well enough to merit consideration. **NESSO'S LASHARRAH** finished sixth of seven in his debut vs. Florida-bred MSW rivals; he can improve dropping into a maiden-claiming race with a race under his belt.

Third Race**1. Morning Addiction****2. Pens Street****3. Agreetodisagree**

Although **MORNING ADDICTION** drew the outside post in this \$8k claiming dirt mile, the sharp mare is quick enough to drop over before excessive ground loss. Her Pleasanton comeback win was over modest rivals (all five ran back, producing just one second-place finish), but the win by **'ADDICTION** was decisive by more than six lengths. She also likes DMR; she won here the past two summers. A 5-for-16 pro with speed to make her trip, she could be long gone. If not, droppers **PENS STREET** and **AGREETODISAGREE** command attention. **PENS STREET** was not disgraced finishing third with trouble in her California debut 12 days ago; she drops from \$16k and has tactical speed to keep the top choice in her sights. **AGREETODISAGREE** lost ground and split the field in the same race as **PENS STREET**. **'DISAGREE** will be rolling late while facing much easier. **B B GUN BULLSEYE** is a sprinter with speed. She will keep the top choice honest.

Fourth Race**1. Donnie the Chiro****2. Special Club****3. Buraq's Reflection**

DONNIE THE CHIRO is better than his eighth-place debut suggests; he can win this MSW for Cal-bred 2yos if he handles turf. He was well-bet first out (3.40-1 second favorite), but did not break well, raced wide and merely ran around the track. Second-start maiden 2yos trained by Peter Miller often improve. Miller is 23-for-81 (28 percent) with second-start maiden juveniles the past five years. Turf is an uncertainty; his pedigree leans toward dirt. Nonetheless, **'CHIRO** figures to improve second out. **SPECIAL CLUB** is a Clubhouse Ride firster whose dam had speed and produced three runners including a debut winner and debut runner-up. Solid works, turf breeding, contender although maidens from this stable generally race into condition rather than fire first out. **BURAQ'S REFLECTION** lost his chance at the break and finished seventh last out, but his runner-up finish two back puts him in the hunt. Not sure about turf for him, either. He is another with a dirt pedigree. First-time starter **GANTRY** posted two fast gate works that suggest he will be involved early.

Fifth Race**1. Dos Vicios****2. Trusty Rusty****3. Star Prospect**

Northern California shipper **DOS VICIOS** arrives at Del Mar in good form, two wins and a last-out third while earning a career-high figure. The race he exits was decent; the fourth- and second-place finishers returned to run one-two in a \$50k claiming race. 'VICIOS fits for this \$25k claim tag against the local contenders. Those include **TRUSTY RUSTY**, whose dirt races are relatively fast. He was claimed from a misfire on turf last out, gelded since, and now returns to dirt first for D'Amato and Flurry. Outside post a tough draw, of course. **STAR PROSPECT** drops in for a low tag for the first time. He finished second in a three-horse race last out, but his Cal-bred MSW victory in March puts him in the hunt. **THIRSTY PAPPY** drops in class and returns to dirt. This is his first route try on the main track.

Sixth Race

1. Please Focus

2. Rolling On

3. Silent Sunday

Although the pace scenario could be problematic for front-runner **PLEASE FOCUS**, turf sprints here with the rails at 24 feet generally favor speed. 'FOCUS has been showing speed against better at longer distances including a starter allowance win two back against older. His last-out fourth was not bad, he set a fast pace against good company and finished fourth. Now he shortens from six and one-half furlongs to five, and drops into a \$50k claiming race for 3yos. **ROLLING ON** ships in with top form; he finished second against older Florida-bred allowance rivals last out. He ran well on turf two back, and fits on class in this age-restricted claiming turf sprint. **SILENT SUNDAY** finished second last out despite breaking through the gate before the start. Claimed for \$20k two starts back, he is kept well above his claim level by a winning stable, and should be forwardly placed. **CASTLEKNOCK**, **CRUZIN MAN** and **RACHEL'S COACH** all have speed.

Seventh Race

1. Stay and Scam

2. Everlys Girl

3. Danzing Cat

Lightly raced **STAY AND SCAM** tops this Cal-bred N1X sprint based on her improved second start. After winning a low-rated race in her debut at Indiana Grand, she improved a ton second out, missing by a head in a Cal-bred N1X turf sprint. She handles either surface, and trained well over the DMR dirt. She can win with a pace-pressing trip. **EVERLYS GIRL** looms an upset candidate first start for a new stable, having been claimed for \$20k from a runner-up finish. She won this allowance condition in autumn; she enters for the optional claim tag. **DANZING CAT** broke slowly and finished last in a route; she cuts back to the distance of her front-running maiden win in spring. This is her first start in two months; adding blinkers. Trouble-prone **FRIED ASPARAGUS** will be rolling late.

Eighth Race

1. Derecho Dandy

2. Cane Creek Road

3. Mongolian Wind

DERECHO DANDY can win this restricted (non-winners this year) \$32k claiming turf mile if he reproduces his races two and three starts back. He fizzled as the favorite last out, but has been freshened two months. He should run his top race first start back, that should be good enough. He will have to catch front-running dropper **CANE CREEK ROAD**. The latter won a starter allowance on the DMR course two years ago; the last time he ran at this level he missed by a neck. He is not the only front-runner in the field, but he is the best. **MONGOLIAN WIND** stretches out and switches to turf after a creditable third-place sprint comeback. **CHASIN MUNNY** goes long with speed to keep **CANE CREEK ROAD** honest.