

Date: September 10th, 2023**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Endlessly (7th race)****First Race****1. Yolo Calls****2. Calabrian Queen****3. Unkept Secret**

First post 1:30 p.m. for closing day of the 2023 Del Mar summer meet. Los Alamitos opens Friday. **YOLO CALLS** drops from a fourth-place maiden-50 down to maiden-20 for her second start following a layoff. **CALABRIAN QUEEN** also drops from maiden-50. Although her ability on dirt is uncertain, her eight starts on turf/synthetic were okay. **UNKEPT SECRET** adds blinkers, shortens to a sprint and drops, while trouble-prone **ELECTRIC GLIDE** is rounding into form third start back. She finished third last out. Weak race.

Second Race**1. Only One America****2. Ebok's Dream Girl****3. Asada Fries**

ONLY ONE AMERICA is better than her debut vs. colts suggests. The 2yo filly got stuck twice on the also-eligible list for filly races, which forced her to debut vs. males. She chased, cracked and finished eighth as the favorite. But she worked well since, and now runs against her own gender in a Cal-bred maiden sprint. Her trainer has a 25-percent win rate with second-start maidens (all categories) the past five years. **EBOK'S DREAM GIRL** finished a creditable third in her debut, missing by only a length. Not sure about the quality of the field she faced, however. Four from the race ran back, none hit the board. Second-time starter **ASADA FRIES** showed promise in her debut. She broke slowly, lacked speed, blasted off in deep stretch and finished fourth by less than two lengths. That was turf, however. This race is dirt. Fast-working **MIRINDA** has shown speed in morning works and is likely to be among the favorites.

Third Race**1. Derecho Dandy****2. Mega Moon****3. Lone Scout**

Although **DERECHO DANDY** lost multiple times at this N2L starter level, the gelding has earned figures that rank among the highest in the field. Claimed for \$32k from a troubled third last out, he only needs clear sailing to win with a pressing/stalking trip. **MEGA MOON** dusted maiden-62.5k rivals last out in the best race of his five-start career. The light bulb went on, logical threat right back. **LONE SCOUT** merits longshot consideration, second start following a better-than-looked comeback in which he trailed the field, lost ground rallying wide, ran his final quarter-mile in :23.61 and finished seventh. That was his first start in more than a year.

Fourth Race**1. Sandy Bottom****2. Halone****3. Nothing Like You**

First-time starter **SANDY BOTTOM** trained like a 2yo filly who will fire in her debut. Her Aug. 14 and 27 works (viewed on XBTV.com) were impressive for trainer Michael McCarthy, she capped her preparation with a bullet gate work last week in :46.80. Bred for speed, the Omaha Beach filly can be gone if she runs like she works. First-timer starter **HALONE** is a Justify sibling to graded winners Chitu and Beautiful Gift. She is trained by Bob Baffert, who also starts debut runner-up **NOTHING LIKE YOU**. The latter worked fast since her modest debut, and can improve with a race under her belt although she is stuck in the inside post. The filly who beat her by a half-length, Cheeky Gal, entered the G1 Del Mar Debutante on Saturday. Also-eligible **RASCALITY** finished a creditable third in her debut, only a length and a half behind Debutante entrants Laurent and Where's My Ring. **RASCALITY** could vie for favoritism if she gets in.

Fifth Race**1. Ngannou****2. Rastaman Vibe****3. Lake Superior**

This turf mile for 2yo maidens is tricky. First-time starter **NGANNOU** looked strong in his five-furlong gate drill one week ago on dirt, he is bred to route on turf (by Mendelssohn, from a Kitten's Joy mare). Furthermore, his trainer entered the week having won with his last three first-time starters in turf routes. **RASTAMAN VIBE** stretches out following a creditable debut fifth in a turf sprint. He did not break well when forced inward by a rival, raced greenly early, lost ground wide on the turn, and went evenly late. Not bad. Blinkers on second out, he is bred for this two-turn trip (by More Than Ready, Kitten's Joy mare). **LAKE SUPERIOR** is a million-dollar Quality Road firster with modest works. The last two turf-route debut runners from his stable did not win, but they turned out okay. Du Jour finished second in

his autumn 2020 career debut at DMR; he is a graded winner. Reincarnate finished second in his summer 2022 career debut at DMR; he is a graded winner. FORMIDABLE MAN appeared to be outworked by stablemate NGANNAOU on Sept. 3.

Sixth Race

1. Super Chief

2. Oubabe

3. Windribbon

Closing day is mandatory payout in the 20-cent pick six. This is the opening leg. A creditable runner-up comeback by **SUPER CHIEF** stamps him the logical choice in this Cal-bred allowance sprint. He missed by a nose, and finished nearly three lengths clear of third. Blinkers on second start back. **OUBABE**, 1-for-15 with seven seconds, looms a come-from-behind upset candidate. He goes route to sprint, turf to dirt, and switches to jockey Kent Desormeaux. Expect him to lag early, blast late. **WINDRIBBON** did not have a good trip finishing third behind the top choice. **WINDRIBBON** got stalled in traffic, and finished evenly. He is a seven-time winner in solid form.

Seventh Race

1. Endlessly

2. Boltage

3. Glandford

Maiden winners **ENDLESSLY** and **BOLTAGE** top the G3 DMR Juvenile Turf. Based on his sub-24 final quarter in an impressive debut at this mile trip, and with more time between starts (43 days) than his chief rival, **ENDLESSLY** gets the call. His debut was strong. He pressed the pace, finished in :23.97 and won going away. One minor knock is the field he defeated was not great. Four others ran back, producing only one third. Still think this is a good colt. A similar sentiment applies to **BOLTAGE**, who stretched out for his second start and ran them off their feet. He pressed a hot pace (:22.17 and :46.21), opened up and won by more than five. He ran his final quarter in just :24.70 following the fast pace. **BOLTAGE** is wheeling back in just 18 days for his third start of the meet. Top prospect nonetheless, he should be in front of **ENDLESSLY** into the lane. **GLANDFORD** had a tough trip in his U.S. debut, runner-up to **BOLTAGE**. **GLANDFORD** broke slowly, ran into traffic and steadied at the quarter pole, then continued on for a respectable second. Though he is a maiden, he is the most seasoned in the field with four starts, and he did show promise his only local start.

Eighth Race

1. Devil Be Me

2. Mastering

3. Eastside Cool

DEVIL BE ME and high-figure entrant **MASTERING** are tough to separate in this N1X/optional claiming dirt mile. **DEVIL BE ME** is 3-for-3 since returning from a long layoff, he showed last out he can stay two turns with a decisive victory over Cal-breds. He has speed, but does not require the lead, and should get another pressing trip. **MASTERING** is a faster horse on figures; he typically earns numbers about eight points higher than the top choice. **MASTERING** scored a pace-pressing win last out and was claimed for \$40k by Steve Knapp from Baffert. **EASTSIDE COOL** is a seven-time winner making his first start since he was claimed for \$62.5k by trainer Jonathan Wong and subsequently transferred to Kristin Mulhall. He runs for a \$40k tag here, adds blinkers, and should be forwardly placed.

Ninth Race

1. Bolden

2. Mister Iceman

3. My Summer Dream

BOLDEN won each of his three starts by more than five lengths, earned a huge figure (103 Beyer) his only turf sprint, and returns with workouts that suggest he will be tough to beat first start back in this N1X turf sprint. **MISTER ICEMAN** missed by a neck in a similar N1X turf sprint one month ago, and has a current-racing edge over the top choice. **MY SUMMER DREAM** will be rolling late.

Tenth Race

1. Prince of Monaco

2. Rothschild

3. Raging Torrent

The rail post makes it interesting for Del Mar Futurity favorite **PRINCE OF MONACO**, who trounced maidens by eight lengths and crushed the G3 Best Pal with a 103 Beyer, highest of the year by a 2yo. After breaking from the outside post his first two starts, 'MONACO leaves from the rail this time. If he runs anything close to his most recent effort, he can sit, wait and blast home at a short price. His trainer is Baffert, who won this G1 16 times. **ROTHSCHILD** looms an upset candidate following a dominating maiden win second out. Originally trained by Baffert, transferred to Tim Yakteen prior to his debut, **ROTHSCHILD** split the field first out and improved next out with a maiden win by more than five lengths. The figure came back soft; the margin suggests the Uncle Mo colt is better than the number. **RAGING TORRENT** was no match for the top choice in the Best Pal, but the third-place finish by 'TORRENT was a forward move from his modest debut. 'TORRENT should be forwardly placed in a race could unfold at a tepid clip. **NEXT LEVEL** is another who improved second out, runner-up in a maiden race.

Eleventh Race

1. St Ignacio**2. Petcoff****3. Lahaina Flavor**

The final race of the 2023 Del Mar summer meet is a wide-open maiden turf route. **ST IGNACIO** is overdue, the career maiden missed by a neck last out while finishing nearly two lengths clear of third in a maiden-claiming turf route comparable to this special-weight. Tough to trust an eight-start maiden with four runner-up finishes, but he will fire. **PETCOFF** looms an upset candidate, stretching out from a creditable third-place sprint. He was away slowly, lost ground wide on the turn, was carried out by a rival in the stretch, but finished well and missed by only two lengths. No reason he will not stay a mile. **LAHAINA FLAVOR** shortens up after an okay debut at a mile and an eighth. He finished sixth by less than five lengths, and should move up with a race under his belt. **QUINTECENTS** stretches out to his preferred two turns. His best races last year were routes; he should be forwardly placed. That is a wrap for Del Mar summer. Los Alamitos begins its two-week September meet on Friday. First post 1 p.m.