

**Date:** November 23rd, 2023**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: House of Magic (3rd race)****First Race****1. Daddy Justify****2. Practically Broke****3. E J Won the Cup**

Happy Thanksgiving, Del Mar first post 11 a.m. First-time starter **DADDY JUSTIFY** is bred to run farther than this five-furlong turf trip, but he trains like a colt with quality. Sired by Justify (23 percent winners debut 2yos), he was produced by a Group 3-winning distance turf mare. Based on a recent 35-second bullet gate work, **DADDY JUSTIFY** could come out firing for trainer Peter Eurton, who won three races with debut 2yos during the DMR summer meet. **PRACTICALLY BROKE** debuts with a work pattern that suggests he is well-meant first out. Sired by Practical Move (16 percent winners debut 2yos), he was produced by a Dynaformer turf filly. Grass should be fine. **E J WON THE CUP** switches surfaces after facing top company in fast maiden dirt races. He finished second behind next-out stakes winner Slider, chased and cracked against subsequent Bob Hope Stakes winner Nysos, and finished third last out in a fast maiden race on dirt. These rivals are easier. **EIGHT CLAP** will be rolling from behind, though he might want longer than five furlongs.

**Second Race****1. Cornelia Fort****2. Big Novel****3. I Had That One Too**

Multi-surface filly **CORNELIA FORT** looks obvious in this small-field N1X dirt mile for Cal-bred fillies and mares. She has won on turf and dirt, she finished a close third last out against better than these, and she has speed for a pressing trip. **BIG NOVEL** has been stuck at this level all season, but her runner-up finish last out makes her a contender once again. **I HAD THAT ONE TOO** will roll from behind, while **SWEET HELLO** is speed on the rail. **TIZZY TWISTER** won this Cal-bred condition during the summer meet; she entered for the optional \$20k claim tag. The truth is, all five entrants have a shot.

**Third Race****1. House of Magic****2. Nokie****3. Aventapp**

The pick six carryover into Thursday is \$94,601. This is the opening leg of the \$1 wager. **HOUSE OF MAGIC** returns to the DMR surface on which she ran well in summer, she adds blinkers and drops from N1X to starter allowance. Possibly the speed of the field, she can be long gone even stretching out to six and one-half furlongs. She must hold off the rally of route-to-sprint late-runner **NOKIE**. The latter has no speed whatsoever, but she will rally from the back of the pack. This is her first sprint in California; she won her debut in a sprint in Florida. **AVENTAPP** is a 1-for-17 front-runner/presser who might keep the top choice honest up front. **AMERICAN HEIGHTS** wheels back six days after showing speed and fading in a race won by her stablemate favorite. **HEIGHTS** also is a stablemate to Peter Miller-trained top choice **HOUSE OF MAGIC**.

**Fourth Race****1. Lovesick Blues****2. Standing O****3. Mas Rapido**

A deep field of turf sprinters go five furlongs in this N2X; **LOVESICK BLUES** gets the call to rally for the win. His recent races are solid, against good company, and he is reunited with Umberto Rispoli, who rode him to his most recent win in spring. **STANDING O** ran well over the DMR turf sprint course twice in summer, third in a fast race followed by a troubled fifth. Off nearly three months, he runs well fresh and will rally late. **MAS RAPIDO** drops back into the allowance ranks after trying stakes all recent including a close fifth in a Grade 2 last out. **HELLADIC** is pure speed, and probably the one they have to catch. Five of the nine turf sprints this meet were won by the pacesetter at rail settings zero, 18 and 30 feet. The temporary rails are at 24 feet for the Thursday card. **MOR TEQUILA** also will be forwardly placed.

**Fifth Race****1. Rosie Ann Rules****2. Eltonsingsanother****3. Bougie Like**

Runner-up her last four tries at this state-bred maiden-claiming level, 12-start maiden **ROSIE ANN RULES** is way past due. This field has enough pace to flatter her come-from-behind style. Tepid choice only. **ELTONSINGSANOTHER** finished behind the top choice both recent starts, but she does have speed and this is only her fourth career start. First-time starter **BOUGIE LIKE** is a California Chrome filly

from a stakes-winning dam who has produced three multiple winners. Her works suggest she is well-meant first out. JUST IS returns to the DMR surface on which she ran the best race of her career missing by a nose in summer.

### Sixth Race

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#### 1. Neige Blanche

#### 2. Sister Otoole

#### 3. Oakhurst

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A pair of honest, evenly matched veterans top this G3 turf marathon at a mile and three-eighths. Locally based **NEIGE BLANCHE** and East Coast shipper **SISTER OTOOLE** are multiple graded winners at marathon distances, both won stakes over the DMR turf. **NEIGE BLANCHE** gets the call, trying to reproduce her 2021 win in this race. She split the field last out in a G2; her fifth-place finish was flattered when the filly who finished a head in front of her (Closing Remarks) returned to win a G2 next out. 'BLANCHE has more tactical speed than her main rival, therefore will get first run. **SISTER OTOOLE**, a two-time turf marathon stakes winner on DMR turf, returns to the layout on which she scored a last-to-first marathon win in summer. Close call between two well-established 6yo mares. **OAKHURST** looms the upset candidate moving out to the longest distance (mile and three-eighths) of her career. She missed by only a length last year in a G1 at a mile and one-quarter; she stretches out from a midpack finish in a restricted stake. Her speed figures compare favorably to the top pair; she finished in front of **NEIGE BLANCHE** two starts back at a shorter distance.

### Seventh Race

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#### 1. Cliquish

#### 2. Keen Lady

#### 3. Professors' Pride

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**CLIQUSH** merits horse-to-beat status in this N1X dirt mile following a better-than-looked runner-up finish in a similar race. She was three- and four-wide throughout, yet finished almost five lengths clear of third. Third by a neck over the DMR track in summer, **CLIQUSH** can handle this group if she can save ground. **KEEN LADY** looms an upset candidate, despite finishing more than nine lengths behind the top choice last out. 'LADY produced one of the top performances of her career over the DMR track in summer, fourth with a wide trip at this N1X level. Her speed figures are lower than the top choice, but when ground loss is factored, her ability is nearly level with her main rival. **PROFESSORS' PRIDE** stretches out on dirt for the first time since a front-running stakes win as a 2yo in late 2021. 'PRIDE finished a close third last out in a fast sprint, and might be the speed of this field. Come and catch her, although pacesetters were just 1-for-8 in dirt miles the first two weeks of the autumn meet.

### Eighth Race

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#### 1. Asada Fries

#### 2. Kitkaty

#### 3. Lamporghini

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**ASADA FRIES** can win this turf mile for Cal-bred maiden 2yo fillies if she rations her speed more efficiently than last out. She set fast fractions, shook off her pace rivals, but got swallowed by one-two finishers who rallied from the back. Excellent try by 'FRIES, who showed her first two starts she does not require the lead to run well. With patient handling switching to jockey Juan Hernandez, the filly can score an overdue maiden win in her fifth start. Trouble-prone **KITZKATY** finished in front of the top choice last out while returning to preferred footing, which apparently is grass. The late-running **KITZKATY** ran well over the DMR turf in summer, and will be running late. **LAMPORGHINI** stretches out from a speed-and-fade sprint. Her dam has produced route winners; **LAMPORGHINI** is quick enough to set the pace if she wants. Potential theft candidate.