

Date: August 11th, 2024**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Getaway Car (3rd race)****First Race****1. Barbtourage****2. Judicious****3. Cyprus Moon**

The local runners are modest in this turf sprint for maiden fillies and mares. It is a good spot for a new face such as Kentucky shipper **BARBTOURAGE**, who set a blazing pace before she tired in her recent fifth-place comeback. With that prep behind her, the front-runner can take these gate to wire. **JUDICIOUS** probably is better than her off-the-board debut suggests. She worked very well into that Los Alamitos dirt sprint, was well-bet at 3-1, but chucked it after pressing the pace while wide. She worked well since, has turf potential in her pedigree, and is likely to improve second time out. **CYPRUS MOON** returns from a layoff of nearly a year. Her runner-up debut last summer in a turf sprint over the Del Mar turf was promising; she gets Lasix for her comeback. **RUNAWAY KITTEN** will be rolling late, first start in five months. The best race of her career was her debut, so she does fire fresh.

Second Race**1. Smokem If U Gottem****2. No More Ding Dongs****3. Brunchandcrunch**

SMOKEM IF U GOTTEM, runner-up both starts this spring at Santa Anita, returns from a short layoff as logical choice in this maiden sprint for older Cal-breds. His up-front running style matches the track profile; he might be the speed of the field anyway. Over the past year, trainer Brian Koriner is 8-for-10 with favorites in maiden races. **NO MORE DING DONGS** misfired last out when blinkers were added, so blinkers come off as he returns to dirt. His runner-up dirt finish two back was the best race of his three-start career. He is not particularly quick, but should be finishing. **BRUNCHANDCRUNCH** debuts with a decent workout pattern including a bullet gate drill over the DMR track 10 days ago.

Third Race**1. Getaway Car****2. Mischief River****3. Tiz Happy**

An impressive debut victory by **GETAWAY CAR**, three weeks ago over the DMR track, stamps the 2yo the likely winner of this G3 sprint. 'CAR worked fast before his debut; the outcome was never in doubt once he made the lead. He won with plenty left and looks tough right back. Favorites are 13-for-24 in this stakes since 2000. 'CAR is drawn in post 5 of 5, outside chief rival **MISCHIEF RIVER**. The latter won his debut at LRC and worked exceptionally well at DMR since. He smoked five furlongs in :58.60 on Aug. 2 and has a right to improve with racing. **TIZ HAPPY** scored a debut upset on turf, a surface he is not particularly bred for. Recent dirt works are sharp, he also is eligible to improve with racing and surface switch. **WHITE SANDS**, a filly who scored a runaway stakes win last out at Prairie Meadows, is entered Saturday in the G3 Sorrento. She drew the outside post against a small field of fillies on Saturday; she is stuck inside the **GETAWAY CAR** and **MISCHIEF RIVER** in this stake against colts. **IVAN THE GREAT**, a late supplement to this race, will be rolling in the lane.

Fourth Race**1. Royal Charter****2. Yerwanthere****3. Tea N Conversation**

ROYAL CHARTER moves up a notch to N2X turf route after scoring a sharp U.S. debut victory in a N1X at SA. She ran her final quarter-mile in a sparkling 22.95 seconds, and won going away. She has had plenty time between starts since, she is working regularly, and can fire right back moving up the ladder. **YERWANTHERE**, runner-up twice at this level in spring at SA, returns from a short two-month break and also will rally late. **TEA N CONVERSATION** is back on her favorite turf course. She is 2-for-4 at DMR, 0-for-8 everywhere else. **GETTHEMONEY** stretches out for the first time, with speed to make the lead. **SPEED LANE** will pressure her from the outside. **KITTY KITANA** finished in the money without a win in her last six starts, all that this N2X level.

Fifth Race**1. Hot Girl Walk****2. Stanford Hottie****3. Lil' Boom Boom**

HOT GIRL WALK ran well enough in her second-place debut to merit horse-to-beat status in this sprint for Cal-bred maiden 2yo fillies. She was not quick, caught five-wide early and three-wide on the turn, dept grinding and finished more than three lengths clear. It was a

solid debut, and maidens from this stable typically improve with racing. First-time starter **STANFORD HOTTIE** has shown enough ability in morning works to suggest she is live in her debut. Juvenile progeny of her sire Stanford have won at an above-average 18 percent clip first time out. **LIL' BOOM BOOM**, runner-up both recent starts at this class level at LRC, should find a field she can defeat sooner or later. A similar comment applies to **PAVEL'S ETOILE**, who finished in the money all three starts.

Sixth Race

1. One Time Mark

2. Quintecents

3. In Suspense

Despite a disappointing effort last out, nine-start maiden **ONE TIME MARK** is the tepid choice dropping from maiden special-weight to maiden-50. Prior to his most recent start, he finished second in three successive MSW turf routes while repeatedly running fast enough to win at this lower class level. **QUINTECENTS** is a 19-start maiden who hit the board six of his last seven starts. He will press the pace as usual. **IN SUSPENSE** drops for the first time to maiden-claiming after showing speed and tiring five starts vs. special-weight maidens. **SIR MAXIMUS** returns from a two-month break as a first-time gelding, first-time maiden-claiming. **STORM OFF** looms an upset candidate third time out, first-time route, with distance influence in his pedigree.

Seventh Race

1. Gaming

2. Rank

3. Authentic Spirit

First-time starter **GAMING** has worked well, and is from a stable that wins often with debut 2yos. The past five years, Bob Baffert has won with 34 percent of his debut 2yo males (43-for-127). **GAMING** was slightly better than his stablemate Aug. 5 in a team drill (viewed on XBTV.com). One potential knock is pedigree. Debut progeny of first-crop sire Game Winner are 0-for-18 first time out, just 1-for-29 overall according to Formulator. Nonetheless, **GAMING** looks like the right choice. **RANK** ran better in his debut than his fourth-place finish suggests. He broke slowly and was outrun, gradually picked up steam, and finished fairly well. That race (won by race-3 stakes favorite Getaway Car) was only five furlongs. **RANK** benefits by the extra distance of this six and one-half furlong sprint. **AUTHENTIC SPIRIT** is the aforementioned Baffert-trained stablemate of the top choice. **SPIRIT** looked second-best in his team work with **GAMING**, but not by much. Based on the work, the colts are similar in ability. Debut progeny of first-crop sire Authentic are 2-for-27.

Eighth Race

1. Antifona

2. Lamporghini

3. Esprit Enchante

Turf-sprint stakes winner and turf-route stakes-placed **ANTIFONA** drops into a N1X/optional claiming turf mile for 3yo fillies. She is arguably the "best horse" in the field, for a stable that has been rolling this summer. John Sadler entered Friday on top of the trainer standings with a 9-for-27 record this meet. Front-running route filly **LAMPORGHINI** has not run a bad race since stretching to a mile: 2 wins and 3 seconds from five starts at two turns. She has been off since March, but her workout pattern suggests she can fire off the bench. **ESPRIT ENCHANTE** improved a bunch second start back from a layoff; her third-place finish three weeks ago in a turf route vs. similar was the best race of her career. She will be rolling late. Stakes-placed **ALLURING** stretches out for the first time and could impact the pace. **INVINCIBLE MOLLY** won this condition in May (sprint), then was overmatched in a Grade 2. Like the top choice, **MOLLY** runs for the optional claim tag.

Ninth Race

1. Bag's Gold

2. Mobe Town

3. Clampett

BAG'S GOLD returns from a five-month layoff with a history of firing fresh, speed figures superior to his rivals, and proven form over the DMR track. It was almost exactly one year ago he won a N2L claiming sprint at DMR by more than seven lengths while returning from a layoff. This is a N3L claiming sprint at DMR. Deja vu all over again? **MOBE TOWN** has speed, and gets in light under a seven-pound apprentice rider, while **CLAMPETT** returns from a layoff of nearly a year and a half while dropping to the lowest level of his career. Northern California shipper **DEBS TIZ** also drops for a NoCal/Washington stable that already won twice with shippers this meet.

Tenth Race

1. Dealers Special

2. Middleburg

3. Divisible By

Although he lost his last two starts as the favorite in maiden-50s, **DEALERS SPECIAL** gets the nod moving up to MSW and stretching to a mile and one-eighth. He ran well at the distance two back, he was gelded since his most recent start in June, and could tuck into a good trip right behind the pace. **MIDDLEBURG** weakened late to finish third last out at one mile; the fractions are usually slower at this distance, and he might be better chasing the pace instead of setting the pace. **DIVISIBLE BY** improved last out, rallying late to finish second at 45-1. That was only his second career start; he is headed the right direction. That is a wrap for this handicapper. A one-week summer vacation beckons, returning Aug. 22 for the final three weeks of the meet.

