

Date: November 10th, 2024**Track:** Del Mar**By Brad Free****BEST BET: Shofner (4th race)****First Race****1. Wren****2. Aunt Mo****3. Aransas Pass**

Well-bred 2yo filly **WREN** is poised to win this maiden dirt mile. She improved significantly her second start/first route. She settled midpack, uncorked a far-turn rally, and finished evenly for second. Sired by Into Mischief, sibling to four-time G1 winner Improbable, **WREN** looks tough in her second route. **AUNT MO** stretches out from a pair of creditable sprints in which she finished third and second. She should appreciate two turns, sired by Uncle Mo and produced by a distance turf mare. She has more speed than the top choice. **ARANSAS PASS** is racing into shape. Sixth in her debut on turf, she improved next out by finishing third in a dirt mile, only a length and one-quarter behind **WREN**. 'PASS will not be a maiden for long. **MIA SORPRESA** stretches out from sprints and should be forwardly placed.

Second Race**1. Uncle Evco****2. Dynodave****3. Nap**

UNCLE EVCO drops from a G3 turf mile back into a Cal-bred maiden turf mile, at the same class and Del Mar turf course on which he finished a solid third after being wiped out at the break two starts back. With a clean trip vs. modest foes, 'EVCO should make short work of this field as the favorite. **DYNODAVE** ran well last out, but the slow early pace negated his late rally. He ran his final quarter-mile in :23.87, rallied from sixth to third, but the one-two finishers were forwardly placed runners who kept going. **DYNODAVE** is a legit threat from off the pace. **NAP** stretches out from dirt sprints. There is not much in his pedigree to support the switch to turf, but **NAP** has one important quality. That is, early speed. The lead can be his, if he wants it. Hard Spun first-time starter **HARDTOBEBETTERNOW** probably needs a prep, but the five winners produced by his dam include three that won first time out.

Third Race**1. Gypsy Lynn****2. Discrepancy****3. She's Resilient**

GYPSY LYNN returns to the DMR surface and \$10k claiming level at which she scored her most recent win in summer. Claimed off that front-running victory, she was dueled into defeat two subsequent starts at Los Alamitos (daytime, nighttime), but she could be the speed of this field and gets the call to lead gate to wire at five and one-half furlongs. **DISCREPANCY** won three of her last four including a last-start win from which she was claimed for \$8k. She drew outside and could get a great trip positioned second or third while in the clear. **SHE'S RESILIENT** is a 7-for-16 pro whose most recent win at Fresno was somewhat validated when third place Code Ribbon returned to win a Pleasanton claiming race by more than two lengths. 'RESILIENT figures to be positioned right behind the top pair. **UR IN TROUBLE** nosedives in class, only two starts after being claimed for \$25k.

Fourth Race**1. Shofner****2. Excel Calculator****3. Magnify**

SHOFNER is ready for a maiden win, third time out. Third in his sprint debut, he stretched out last time and rallied to second behind a loose-on-the-lead winner. **SHOFNER** posted two bullet workouts since raced including a :59 over the DMR track early this week. All systems go, third time out. **EXCEL CALCULATOR** is an 11-start maiden who has not raced since January, but he runs well fresh and both routes last fall at DMR were better than they look. He was very wide finishing fourth last Sept. 4; he finished third in a highly rated race last Nov. 17. 'CALCULATOR will be rolling late. **MAGNIFY** finished second in a similar maiden race in August, then sold privately and changed trainers. **HARRY HOUDINI** is racing into condition; his last-out fourth was not bad.

Fifth Race**1. Misty Muppet****2. Big Celebration****3. Perfect in Gray**

One final drop to the lowest class level for winners (\$16k claiming, N2L) might do the trick for **MISTY MUPPET**. She dueled and finished third both recent starts vs better, now she meets a field with less speed while drawn outside her main pace rival who breaks from the rail. **BIG CELEBRATION** also drops, from starter allowance and Cal-bred allowance races. She is not particularly quick, but she will

rally late in her first try at the bottom level. **PERFECT IN GRAY** is the aforementioned speedster on the rail. She as claimed from a runner-up finish at this level, adds blinkers, and will have to be hustled from the inside post. **AMELIA BLEU** drops in class, goes turf to dirt, and route to sprint. She will rally from behind.

Sixth Race

1. Silver N Black

2. Classically

3. Bruckner

SILVER N BLACK, a 12-start maiden, drops to the bottom class level for maidens (\$20k maiden-claiming) and returns to the DMR dirt track on which he ran the best race of his career in summer. That was a runner-up finish in a Cal-bred MSW. If he reproduces that race, he can finally win the 13th start of his career. **CLASSICALLY** also slides to the bottom for the first time, though his dirt form is uncertain. His only dirt start was not good; his eight starts on turf were okay. The class drop should move him up. **BRUCKNER** finished last in his MSW sprint debut in two months ago, and subsequently changed trainers and drops immediately to the bottom level. **MINING DISTRICT** is another surface-switch dropper who could improve against this group.

Seventh Race

1. My Summer Dream

2. Cane Creek Road

3. Hot Box

MY SUMMER DREAM gets an advantageous pace scenario for his closing rally, while returning to the turf course on which he scored a sharp turf-sprint comeback win three months ago. He subsequently finished a close third at Santa Anita, and is now back in a race that should set up well for his closing rally. The runners in posts 1, 2, 8 and 9 all have varying degrees of speed. **CANE CREEK ROAD** virtually split the field his last two starts at higher levels. He drops from \$40k claiming to \$25k, and is a two-time winner over the DMR turf. **HOT BOX** is one of the aforementioned front-runners, but he can ration his speed and be effective from a pressing position. **GIVE ME THE LUTE** misfired both recent starts at SA, but he ran well over the DMR course twice in summer.

Eighth Race

1. Pushiness

2. Chismosa

3. Big Summer

PUSHINESS looks like the controlling speed in this sprint stakes for Cal-bred fillies and mares; the 3yo filly can wire the field. She is a two-time Cal-bred stakes winner at DMR in age-restricted races, and figures to clear the field. Come catch her. Late-runner **CHISMOSA** is a multiple stakes winner returning to preferred footing, which is dirt. Her last-start misfire can be attributed to turf, a surface on which she is 0-for-7. On dirt, she is 5-for-13, with four seconds. If this stakes field had some speed to run with **PUSHINESS**, then **CHISMOSA** would be the choice. As it is, she is second preference from off the pace. **BIG SUMMER** a stakes-winning turf specialist much of her career, returns to DMR dirt for the first time since a decisive allowance win here two years ago. Her recent form is sharp; runner-up last out in a hillside sprint stakes. **IRISH WAHINE** drops from graded stakes; **ROBERTA'S LOVE** once had more speed than she showed in either previous start. If she breaks from cleanly from the rail, she could keep the top choice honest.

Ninth Race

1. Quality Wins

2. Phoenix Flying

3. Kawazaki

QUALITY WINS, a nine-start maiden, stretches out to his preferred two-turn trip. His runner-up finish two back at DMR in a maiden-62.5k turf route would probably be fast enough. **PHOENIX FLYING** looms an upset candidate in his second start. He ran well first out, fifth by a length and one-quarter at six furlongs. Bred for two turns, facing a field of career maidens, the second-time starter merits a look with an up-front trip. **KAWAZAKI** needed his last start, it was his first start in more than a year. His runner-up finishes in spring 2023 put him in the thick of it. **ANDREADYTORUMBLE** might be listed too low. He finished second by a half-length last out in his first try at this class level. **SIR MAXIMUS** and **CROWN COUNCIL** help insure an honest pace.