

# DEL MAR FEATURED RACE OF THE DAY

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**Date:** 8/14/2019

**Race 4:** \$50K starter-allowance for fillies & mares going 8.5-F on turf (Rail at 30-ft.)

**Post:** approx. post 3:30 p.m. PDT

## OVERVIEW

Today's contest race is a competitive \$50K starter-allowance contested at 8.5-furlongs on the turf with the rails at 30-feet. There doesn't seem to be a contentious pace scenario as per **OptixPLOT** (i.e., snowflake), but the *SpeedRate* is a sizzling "89," so there should be a quick pace. That said, with the rails at 30-feet, will my main pick—a closer—be compromised?

#1 SMILING ROSE (8/1) is a 3-year-old who faced \$50K sophomores last time and ran a decent second, but she did have a pace to run at and was still beaten by 1-1/4 lengths. She can certainly improve off that performance, since it was her first try on turf, but now she has to face elders and tougher; she was no match for starter foes two back while racing on dirt, so I'm fine watching one today, since others appeal more. GRADE: X.

#2 ROSES AND CANDY (20/1) took a while to break her maiden, but when she did, it came in front-running fashion against \$50K maiden-claimers. In her first try at this level, she stalked from a wide position and found nothing when the real running started. She's coming off a brief freshening, and I have to think she'll be a little keen today, looking to make the running with the only other speed parked out in the 9-hole. That said, I do think the 9-horse will keep this one honest, and she'll probably need one before showing her best stuff. GRADE: X.

#3 TRUST FUND KITTY—program scratch.

#4 **BREEZY BEE (4/1)** has a very nice stretch run for this level, and she should be super-fit, cutting back from an 11-furlong race against much tougher NIX types, where she tried to close into a paceless race. Two back, she ran out of room, closing nicely from off the pace while going a flat mile at today's level. The added half-furlong in this heat will certainly help her cause, and I'd be shocked if you got anywhere near 4/1 on this obvious contender, who also looks very strong on **OptixPLOT** (i.e., a big box tracking from off-the-pace). GRADE: A.

#5 MAGNIFICENT Q T (12/1) got on turf for the first time last time and she responded with a very good third-place finish against similar types, trying hard all the way to the wire. She'll have to do a little better today, but as a lightly raced 4-year-old who should move forward in her second turf start, improvement is very likely. The added ground should help her running style, and as long as she gets something to run at, she should be finishing late. She also sits well on **OptixPLOT**, looking a lot like Breezy Bee yet three times the price. GRADE: B.

#6 HEATHERS GREY (4/1) ran a very nice second to a next-out winner back in early June when facing age-restricted \$50K starter-foes. She had to break from the 10-hole and had a wide journey yet still

finished with good energy. She's been freshened since that effort, and her last few works are really good, but she is a 3-year-old facing older winners for the first time, so we'll see what she's made of. At 4/1 on the line, however, she doesn't seem like much value against older horses. GRADE: C.

#7 RED BUNTING (IRE) (8/1) had a bit of an eventful journey in her first start since May, but she showed a willingness to try all the way to the wire—something that will come in handy against this group. That said, she is facing elders for the first time, and Smiling Rose has her on form out of that last race. Still, she is eligible to improve with a cleaner trip today if you think she's good enough. GRADE: C.

#8 KITTYHAWK LASS (12/1) broke her maiden back in May with a perfect forwardly placed trip in a 9-furlong race at Santa Anita. Before that, she was no match for Heathers Grey, so this gal will have to reverse form over that foe—and since this gal is coming off a layoff and facing winners for the first time, I'm inclined to watch one (though it should be noted that Puype is very good off this kind of layoff). GRADE: X.

#9 FLYING TO THE LINE (7/2) has plenty of speed and should get a perfect trip sitting right off of Roses and Candy. That said, she is a 3-year-old who has to face older winners for the first time, and given her connections—Miller and Prat—she's sure to take a ton of money, which means she doesn't do us any favors in the contest. She's also a Cal-bred facing open-foes for the first time, so she will have to answer some questions if she's to notch win number-two, but she should be in front at the eighth-pole, and you can't ask for a better **OptixPLOT** position than being a decent square in Quadrant 1, so she's a must-use on all your tickets—though I'm going to bet that the pace is just a bit too quick for her today. GRADE: B.

#10 EQUAL MEASURE (3/1) looked good beating \$62.5K maiden-claimers last time to graduate in a one-mile race over this course. That was just 11-days ago, so we'll see if she can replicate that effort off such short rest (something I'm not crazy about when it comes to turf horses). The post is no picnic, and it should be noted that this gal was beaten at this level a few times before while racing as a maiden against winners, so she'll need to take the requisite leap today. She's not impossible right back, but 3/1 seems a little short given the hurdles. GRADE: C.

### **CONCLUSION**

I really like #4 **BREEZY BEE** in here if she's anywhere near 4/1. I think she'll get a pace to close into, and she's the best finisher in the race. As noted, however, #5 **MAGNIFICENT Q T** looks a lot like Breezy Bee on **OptixPLOT** and will be a much bigger number, so I'd consider her as well.

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