Handicapping Analysis
Fri December 2nd, 2022

Emily's Analysis

Hawthorne Race 1

Post Time 12:55 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 CHI TOWN HEAT has the edge over the runners with experience given her posted figures and finding a change in class this afternoon. She will return with a barn change and freshening from the October 21st Delaware Park event, a race that has held form with the horses running back from that race including one next out winner.

First time starter, **#5 HAPPY QUEST** has a live look for Rosin with a steady local work tab and for a barn that is capable with these type of debuting runners. Centeno aboard is another sign of intent, a live rider for this barn.

#3 HER TIME IS NOW will also debut here following a vet scratch under similar conditions for the October 29th common race. It is encouraging she has worked twice since, returns to the level of intent from last month and Vanden Berg won with a debut juvenile maiden claiming runner last week.

Both **#6 PRINCESS TONI** and **#7 MISS MIA** find the required class relief from the Special Weight races today. Princess Toni will find a rider change and the blinkers off -- the equipment change could be a positive for her as she has not looked comfortable in blinkers going back to her debut.

Hawthorne Race 2 - PLAY OF THE DAY

Post Time 1:25 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 SURE SHOT ANNIE returns to the maiden claiming conditions for the first time in a long time. She was more competitive at the level here in the past than she has been this season in the Special Weight races this season. One of her more competitive races returning from the layoff was recorded at FanDuel on September 24th and while that race was a Special Weight event the race par (OFR) and purse is similar to today's race. She is also upgraded on OptixPLOT (Quad I Square) today and that edge is tougher to see looking at the standard past performances.

#7 BALIMOS has a similar edge in this field and of the runners exiting races this season at the $6250k maiden claiming level with more upside than long time maiden rival, **#9 AMARI S**. Balimos improved recording the B-OptixGRADE on November 18th in her first start back off a 48-day freshening. The race could be upgraded further with the WEATHER conditions racing in the cold temps with higher winds and snow fall. **#2 PRETTY IN PRADO** will also return from that common race and for her second start at the maiden claiming level. She could hold a slight excuse lunging out of the gate (SLOG) though overall has not shown enough to support the projection as a shorter priced favorite.

#6 MY LADY SLEW could also be kept on the radar at long odds in this race. She will return to make her second start at this level in the third start back off the layoff and from the October 21st common race, a race that has been productive with two next out maiden winners and the race winner, Lucy's Lookin Left to pick up another win ($6250k N2) here on November 25th.

Hawthorne Race 3

Post Time 1:55 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

The race shape (Plot) should flatter **#6 DUST DANCER**, the projected race favorite that should lack an excuse in that role. **#3 HELA** could take up a chasing role shown tracking as a Quad I Square. **#1 MISTER CHARMING** returns from a "winning" effort (B OptixGRADE) and tough beat at the level on November 20th. The change in distance puts him off the pace (Quad IV) today though in form (lacking Red in the Past 3 Runlines) and has the strongest late kick (Large Square) in this field.

Hawthorne Race 4

Post Time 2:25 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 USA USA USA fits as a contender in this race off their form, OptixFIG this meet and today's DROP in class. Trip will be crucial with their RunStyle (Quad IV) though the class and rider change could allow them to race closer to the pace today if required.

The pace does appear Contentious from Surface/Distance with **#5 MISS HIGH N MIGHTY**, **#6 WILDWOOD DREAMER** and **#9 TENSE** also taking up a similar Plot position with the pace honest as those runners sit above the ParLine. Rivelli first time starter, **#7 MOM'S KINGDOM** could also show speed on debut with Baird in the saddle. **#4 JEMEZ FALLS** will also debut here for Frank Kirby, a barn that has sent out live runners all meet and tough to ignore the outfit off that current trend.

Hawthorne Race 5

Post Time 2:55 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#7 BEHAVIN MYSELF could return with a pace advantage as shown on OptixPLOT for today's race shape. They have held their form and OptixFIG this season and exit the November 12th race, a race that has held form including one next out winner. **#1 BUXTERHOOTER** also wheels right back from the November 12th common race and recording a competitive effort on the day finishing alongside Behavin Myself. This is a tougher race that is deep and noted as it starts off the late $25k guarantee P4 sequence to give consideration to others:

#3 KRAMDEN could be the "forgotten" horse with the TROUBLE+ going back to the November 12th common race and with the turf start last week sitting on top of his past performances to offer value in this race. Excusing those two recent races for logical reasons as shown in the Past 3 Runlines, he was on a progressive pattern with two back-to-back B- OptixGRADE efforts at this level in October that fit right back with today's field and OFR.

#4 GAGOOTS could also get lost on the board from his fourth place run, a trip that was compromised at the break (TROUBLE_S) and has upside at this level and from his form this year buried with the October 15th effort, a stronger race (WIDE MOVE) than it may appear on paper recorded at a higher class condition.

Longshot **#8 DOM CAETANO** also will receive some consideration here coming back for Matthews. He was upgraded going into the October 22nd race making his second start off the layoff (PREP on October 7th) though failed to get a fall and struggled on the day. Physically he looked off and the connections have provided 42-days to recover and with two return works and a rider change. Dom Caetano has a win back on May 7th with a similar form reversal in his third start off the layoff and validated that run coming back on May 28th with another win at this similar restricted claiming level.

#2 WILD FOX takes a class drop to run here looking to improve off their finishing positions this season. The class change upgrades them in this field, though the NO_FINISH from the race two weeks ago along with the drop and rider change creates some reservations to weigh against the number on the board.

Hawthorne Race 6

Post Time 3:25 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 GATE CREW is unproven on the main track and the bigger unknown with the surface switch for this race. His two dirt races going back to 2019-2020 recorded OptixFIG consistent with his turf figures at the time and with Gate Crew transferring his current turf form to this race he stacks right up for today's par/OFR.

The pace scenario could find contention with the two Becker runners **#6 AHEADOFTHEGAME** and **#7 FORWARD CURVE** drawn outside of **#1 HIGH BROW** here for Rivelli/Baird. Those runner setting an honest pace could assist the trip for **#2 SPALDING STROLL** shown on OptixPLOT tracking as a Square right off that Quad I first flight and looking for first run on **#3 PINEDALE**. Pinedale is proven at this condition as shown off his form in the Past 3 Runlines and with the November 12th win. There are others in this field that have run "faster" than the sophomore Pinedale to this point and he might be required to step up to their level today.

Hawthorne Race 7

Post Time 3:55 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Block will send out a logical pair in this race. **#2 TRAIL RIDGE ROAD** is the class of the field, though will have that tested here making her main track debut. Her stablemate, **#4 BEYOND PROPER** has the edge with the surface/distance experience and in her own right has current form this season coming into this event on the third start of the cycle. **#8 GHAALEB THE GREAT** fits today's statebred Optional Claiming condition and with OptixFIG that stack up strongly against the others in this group. While Trail Ridge Road will be tested over the unfamiliar surface, Ghaaleb the Great finds her test back around two turns here for only the second time in this 30th start.

Hawthorne Race 8

Post Time 4:25 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#7 CHRISTMAS PRESENT was logical in the November 18th common race and Baird might have been overconfident (TACTIC-) taking off the pace and allowing the race winner, Just Like Mike, an uncontested lead. The shorter distance and race shape was a concern for **#3 ART HEIST** on the win end that day and is upgraded under today's conditions.

#2 FAMA Y DINERO was given a "longshot" look back on November 18th at this level where he had some trouble (SLOG, TROUBLE-S) coming out of the gate impacting his race that day. His recorded OptixFIG over this course from his maiden win back in April and his $6250k N2 claiming win on May 1st stack up on the higher side of today's OFR.

#5 SHANGHAI SILVER and **#10 DEORA STORE** fit today's race shape though lack an edge as they both will require improvement stepping up off their most recent race clearing the N2 condition. Longshot, **#9 FINAL CALL** is tougher to make a "winning" case for though as a Large Quad IV Square could run on late for those deeper underneath spots.