Handicapping Analysis
Sat December 2nd, 2023

Emily's Analysis

Del Mar Race 1

Post Time 2:30 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 MARGOT'S BOY came into the 10/29 race live second off the layoff though was taken out of his runstyle placed on the lead. As one that does not need the lead and returns to statebred company, he should find the right spot to compete. Pace and trip should move up #6 KERRY GOLD, though he will find a class rise on this circuit.

Del Mar Race 2

Post Time 3:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 UNKEPT SECRET is logical as the expected favorite - she stands out over this field on speed figures and in terms of class moving forward with the drop to this level in the current form cycle. #1 IPANEMA GIRL is lighter on numbers though has shown some progression. She will return to this level and coming back from a race shape that was fast early and late. She also had the front wraps added and should be monitored on the track.

Del Mar Race 3

Post Time 3:30 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

D'Amato again is well represented with three runners. #3 TURN ON THE JETS has a class edge and won this race dominantly (B+) last year. He is also capable at this 5f distance, a course and distance that upgrades #1 UNCONQUERABLE KEEN as he steps up here. #4 HONEY PANTS might want more ground and returning from the 3 month break could benefit from the race. Similar in terms of distance for #2 LANE WAY as the 5f is a little shorter than his ideal.

Del Mar Race 4

Post Time 4:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 DISCO BALL has won at this level going back to last summer and has held his form coming back this year. He was freshened returning last month at SA and turned in a "winning" effort for the level with a WIDE trip.

Del Mar Race 5

Post Time 4:30 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

For the first time in her career #9 GO WITH GUSTO will race strictly against fillies. She showed ability on debut, despite the DQ and validated that form with the BTL effort in the Summer (G1) at Woodbine. She had a subtle trip in the Qatar Mile on the BC undercard and overall form that makes her a player in here. #11 ZONA VERDE has her work cut out from the outside post though showed GRIT breaking her maiden closing weekend DMR summer and returned with a BTL effort in the Surfer Girl (G3) and IMPROVE is projected.

Del Mar Race 6

Post Time 5:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#7 BETTER THAN GOLD brings upside into this second start showing run on debut X_BIAS. #6 IMAGINATION will get a lot of attention for the connections and following the place finish three weeks ago. The 11/11 six horse field was half Baffert including the pacesetting winner, Pilot Commander and today's rival #1 BRITISH ISLES.

Del Mar Race 7

Post Time 5:30 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Both #5 WEBSLINGER and #8 PROGRAM TRADING are proven on class, surface and distance, the two finishing side-by-side in G1 company back in August at SAR and present logical on that front - and will find the bulk of wagering support as a result.

#7 REDISTRICTING was stepped up to G1 company in just his second career start and off a dominant debut win. He had some excuse in the Belmont Derby (G1) with ground loss and unable to overcome the outside post. A layoff followed and while the allowance in October did not earn the strongest figure, but visually was very impressive. As a lightly raced type, he has potential upside that could put him right on the level of his main rivals.

#1 SILVER KNOTT was "much the best" with the BC Juvenile Turf (G1) win, however he has not shown progression since and others have caught up and passed him. #9 SEAL TEAM could get a lot of attention for the connections and with three wins in four starts since returning from the layoff. Those three wins were earned with favorable trips including the Twilight Derby (G2) last month.

Del Mar Race 8

Post Time 6:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

The two non-Cal bred runners, #3 ELIGIO and #4 DES DOIGTS are upgraded from class and current form to compete in this spot. #7 SALSATION raced at this level over this course and distance back in August and while he did not pick up the win that day his show finish and 81 OptixFIG fit on par.

Del Mar Race 9

Post Time 6:30 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#5 SEA DANCER has run well in all three starts and shows up on this circuit along with the return to maiden company. She post a B OptixGRADE in her 8/13 MSW effort at SAR and looked rushed with the connections taking a shot in the Juvenile Fillies at KYD. #8 GOLDEN GHOST also makes her return on this circuit and off the three month break. She has shown progression race-to-race and legit early speed; she is given a flow upgrade (VF) from all three starts.

#6 POPPY'S JOY did not have a fair shot on debut and appears to have more to show and could also hold some hidden intent. She was entered in the Juvenile Fillies Turf back on 9/9 and was a trainer scratch rerouting here.