



Handicapping Analysis

Mon August 12th, 2024

Emily's Analysis

Ellis Park Race 3

Post Time 12:49 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#4 METALHEAD impressed (B+) with raw ability on debut breaking his maiden while still GREEN to suggest he could step up off the experience. They will be given that test here with the class rise to take on winners as well as the distance, though this does appear a confident move for a capable barn showing up in this spot on less than 30-day turnaround with a "bullet" work since.

Ellis Park Race 5

Post Time 1:54 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

While there are no knocks on #1 NIKKI NINE DOORS as an individual, there are some questions with the connections landing here even with conditions rather than run in another stakes (scr from the KD Preview) and in terms of trip must race from the rail today, a change from the prior starts. A win would be no shock here, though as a projected shorter favorite, the value could move around, land on others willing to step out the box.

#3 CROWN IMPERIAL could be dismissed off the recent running lines and finishing position. Physically she should appreciate the SHORTER distance, and on class a drop from stakes company from the races this season as well as the lone 3yo against older in the 7/7 allowance. Going back to last year in the juvenile season CROWN IMPERIAL was recording figures not far off the others including NIKKI NINE DOORS as a sophomore. #2 MAKEUP also turned in a strong figure breaking her maiden as the BOS last October and showed class to overcome a TROUBLE_S and Average early pace to CLOSE and win off the 268-day layoff last month.