Handicapping Analysis
Fri April 18th, 2025

Emily's Analysis

Keeneland Race 4

Post Time 1:36 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Outside of the more obvious types (including #6 ALTERED SHOT, sure to be bet down from the ML for the connections) try to get creative with #1 BELLA CRUELLA one that follows a positive form cycle pattern into this race where a top effort as projected has them competitive. The change in timing is further supported with class going back to the claiming condition and race par as well.

Keeneland Race 6

Post Time 2:40 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 SPLASH MASTER makes a belated return to claiming company and the N2 level, finding class relief from the higher allowance races since that event last November. Keying back to that race, a competitive effort under a similar par and purse and given the recent running lines and finishing positions should be overlooked as projected by the ML.

Santa Anita Race 1

Post Time 3:00 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

New face #2 BETTERBELUCKY was scheduled for TURF in their debut last month and off the visuals looks every bit the part for grass. Not only did they catch the surface switch but also prior rain impacting the course profile and showing run making a WIDE RUSH and middle MOVE something tougher to see with the running line, finishing position and speed figure.

#6 TRAVAIL also from the 3/14 common race showing more on the day with the B- and 4th place result while also holding TURF numbers and form that fit on par. This could be the time and place for them and at the 9f distance, where they recorded their highest figure to date over this course last October - an off the board finish though part of the Very Fast early pace and overall class not on that higher par and MSW level - those factors impacting outcome.

#4 GHOST COAST also recorded their best figure at the 9f distance under today's MCL condition going back to Dec 2023. They will make a belated return not only to the distance but the races from a 391-day break and sure to get attention given the connections.

Santa Anita Race 3

Post Time 4:03 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 TIERGARTEN returns from an EX - EXCUSE and to the mile, claiming level to give her the best chance to find the win; a belated win since October 2023. A rider change comes into play and while overall J. Hernandez a solid rider and fit as that win rider and more recent place finishes; the rider TACTIC played a role in the TROUBLE trip and looking to switch things up in also capable hands with K. Kimura taking over.

Hernandez not without a mount lands with #5 MYFAVORITEDAUGHTER also looking for a belated win (Nov 2022) while making a belated return. Her runstyle and class fits here and could be intent all around for Cerin in this spot also represented with #4 ZEYARAAT the edge on recency and flow upgrade from the 2/15 start.

Santa Anita Race 4

Post Time 4:34 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#5 PANUCO brings in consistent form and favorable runstyle (Plot) for today's race shape. #7 INFAMOUS ANGEL is a bit of a wildcard, though not without a chance showing back up at SA for the first time since the first two juvenile races. Those early career efforts earned speed figures on par for this event. Those races being early on could signal efforts not only ones they can repeat to compete but even a case to improve on.

Santa Anita Race 7

Post Time 6:09 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 ROYAL CHARTER holds a B OptixGRADE (winning effort for the level) at the N2 condition with the BTL place finish going back to Last August at DMR. That race was followed up with two stakes tries; not on that level has been reset this year and to the one turn distance. She moves outside which could be key for her in this type of sprint and race shape while intent third off cycling back to a top and with a rider change as well to suggest some further intent here.

Santa Anita Race 9

Post Time 7:09 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Of the runners with experience #4 HIGH KING has upside off their two starts to date to give the edge in that group of runners. Granted they will give up a lot of recency, at the same time returning protected and from the long layoff to suggest they must come out race ready. They showed as much on debut over this course and distance with the BTL effort and showing GRIT in the outcome and pairing that up with a less than ideal trip/TACTIC- showing a MOVE through TRAFFIC and all around IMPROVE visuals. The two races to date is worth keeping in mind number wise back in the juvenile season and upside potential given the maturity, a now 4yo.