



Handicapping Analysis

Sat April 19th, 2025



Stakes Spotlight

Keeneland Race 9

Post Time 4:16 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

ELKHORN STAKES (G2):

This full field is competitive and contenders outside of ML favorite #6 LIMITED LIABILITY that fit and present value alternatives:

#7 ANGLOPHILE does not hold the flashy numbers of others though upgraded from the races this season on a progressive OptixGRADE pattern in those GP events, both times X_FLOW to upgrade all around. Their form might not look like much "on paper" though race to race tough to find a "bad" effort and held their own consistently in higher par events, a slight/hidden class edge.

#1 REBEL RED should be flying under the radar and perhaps intent while coming out of a WEAK race last month at FG, they might have been given that start off the 133-day layoff to gain conditioning for a KEE return. They have shown a fondness for this KEE turf course a BTL effort coming off a long layoff with the MSW race last April also projecting to IMPROVE, which they have done with each start. That carried back to last fall holding in the N2 allowance win with a WIDE close and given a class test the B OptixGRADE in the Red Smith (G2) the following month and closing out the 2024 season. Regular rider, J. Ortiz remains aboard and might have had some options in the field.

Keeneland Race 10

Post Time 4:48 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

BEN ALI STAKES (G3):

#7 UNO MAS BOURBON appears well spotted here and intent looking for their first graded stakes win. As a racehorse, they showed ability from their first start and from there improved with racing and two turn distances. That comes back into play here in what appeared a "prep" from the 2/15 one turn mile return, a STRONG allowance. Following that start, the connections looking for a graded stakes placement, had entered in the New Orleans Classic (G2) on 3/22 though taking a different path training up to this spot instead. UNO MAS BOURBON worked on 3/21 at GP the day before that considered stakes race and shipped to KY working a week late at CD and consistent into this spot. They also had B.J. Hernandez named as intent remaining here and was aboard for the maiden win as well.

#5 PIROLI has a graded stakes win, the Gold Cup (G1) from 2023 to support on class and and for today's course and distance. They returned to winning ways at KEE in October, a PERFECT trip in N3 allowance company, though similar par on the day. That effort was matched last December, a BTL effort with excessive ground loss (X_WIDE) and first time back to the conventional dirt since.