Handicapping Analysis
Thu June 4th, 2026

Emily's Analysis

Hawthorne Race 1

Post Time 2:38 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

In terms of #2 RICHIESONAROLL without question they fit as the horse to beat; though that horse has not been seen since October 2024, 583 days ago, and returns with just one published work. In the past when they have run off the layoff they have come up short of their best and while granted not the most ideal placement in those races, all around that must be considered when assessing value.

Perhaps some of the equalizer in this case is the layoff pattern from others in this field (like #5 WILDWOOD SICILIAN another who often needs a race off the layoff) including their stablemate #4 CORTESE. This is where E. Giles lands despite having consistency on both runners for the connections. CORTESE fits on class and even with the change coming back in this spot when comparing previous race par.

On recency, the pair of A. Hernandez runners bring in that edge: #1 SOUND OF VICTORY cuts back in distance and perhaps that change is what they need, at the same time is unproven and no real excuse with pace losing ground on Very Slow early race shapes in their two most recent starts. In terms of tactics up until those two starts, SOUND OF VICTORY had not been a front runner and perhaps that comes as a change here along with rider and distance. #3 TWIRLING ROSES has at times been more effective on the lead, the change in class with the slight rise is noted.

Hawthorne Race 2

Post Time 3:11 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

This is kind of a tricky race given the complexion of this field and shorter 5f turf sprint distance. That must be considered for #1 SINE QUA NON arguable the “best” in the race though still must work a trip. O. Mojica aboard appears key all around and from their race record together, near perfect when accounting for the place photo for win off the layoff last September.

While #3 JOURNEY can be assessed as an E/EP front runner, he is not necessarily that runstyle sprinting, more route speed. The other two front runners with #2 RAVIN’S RANSOM and #5 MONSIEUR CANDY stablemates from L. Rivelli are not likely to engage to defeat in a duel though could still see a best of the speed situation.

MONSIEUR CANDY wheels back second off and from a common race on 5/14 with #4 BAL A KAZOO at HS Indy. Despite the order of finish and noting different style trips and intent on the day both recording B- OptixGRADES and BAL A KAZOO upgraded second off while showing up on this circuit where they have come up short on the win end at times, though competitive all the same.

Hawthorne Race 3

Post Time 3:43 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

Looking at the Plot, the early pace should be honest though still does not compromise the trip completely for the Q1/front running group. That scenario should assist ML favorite #1 GLOBAL EMPIRE though at the same time does require a return to a top and has been on a long campaign. Reasonably this should be the time and place with the change in class and despite the 5th place outcome had a subtle SHUFFLE trip and making a CLOSE late. #2 LUCKY BOSS fits similarly on the Plot, and while picking up a win under similar conditions on 5/10, today's par is much higher.

The other Q4 runner, #4 NEW YEAR SURPRISE less "strong" as a Circle, though has the recent NO_PUSH and higher class (open claiming/OC) events creating some "dirtied" up form. That change noted with the WIDE trip and DROP Projection coming back from the 5/7 start. They could find another change to upgrade should the front wraps come off for today's race, something to look for in the paddock.

In terms of that early pace, barnmates #3 BLURT bringing in recency second off while #6 U S HONOUR NAP returns from the layoff and going back to the 11/17 common race with BLURT earning the B OptixGRADE on the day making the early WIDE MOVE and finishing in a photo with the top five in a blanket type finish.

Hawthorne Race 4

Post Time 4:17 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 ROYALLY SASSY holds a class and speed figure edge to consider as a solid contender in this race. Heir form at TP in MSW company was consistent recording B- OptixGRADES in all three and noting the TROUBLES+ stumbling out of the gate making a WIDE RUSH in that mist recent on 3/26. Since then the barn has been looking for the grass scratched when the races came off the turf on 5/25 at HS Indy to point here instead.

#4 R BEE GEE also looking to get back to the turf (also scratched from that same 5/25 event) and upside since their debut last September with a legitimate EX – EXCUSE. They wanted to show more early speed on 5/2 forced to rate (TROUBLE_S RANK) and should be more assertive here especially noting J. Felix aboard.

#6 BETHS VENGEANCE one of two 4yo in the field (#3 CATNIP HILL the other) physically looks on the TURF side, the surface they had pointed for prior to the surface switch in the 5/7 debut. They should benefit from the start (and fitness WIDE RUSH NO_KEEP NO_PUSH) and encouraging after taking time to get to the races wheeling back in under 30-days for this second start.

Hawthorne Race 5

Post Time 4:47 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

The early pace should be honest for this turf sprint with the runstyles of the field bring Class to the forefront of the handicapping. #2 TIZMEONEMORETIME finds the change in class- and likely shorter odds as a result in this spot compared to the other races this season. They were competitive under similar N2 claiming conditions last season and fitness to upgrade along with the recent TURF, PREP DROP Projections all lining up here.

Even with the odds shift, TIZMEONEMORETIME should be longer than common rival #6 WILDWOOD ADIOS those two both recording B- OptixGRADES in the common races last season. WILDWOOD ADIOS as an individual fits on that front and intent third off with the distance change, should see them tracking today after setting the pace going longer three weeks ago in the 5/21 start.

#7 DAISY MAE ATTACK can also be upgraded while taking a more subtle change from the open company event. And progressive numbers especially when isolating the turf starts. Based on Standard Plot they found find the right front running trip and even look to have that slight pace edge.

Hawthorne Race 6

Post Time 5:13 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#2 SHE STOPPED SHORT should have some pace to chase and extra half-furlong to work with in this spot. She has held her form against the previous shorter distance race dynamics this season. In addition, today's race par is slightly lower than the previous N3 events to move up on that front as well.

Smooth Claret returning to win from the 5/14 common race also bodes well for #4 SHARP ATTACK contesting the pace on the day and another who looks to appreciate the racing this season, now third off with the subtle 6f distance change.

#3 ANNIE'S HOPE has used the sprint-route-sprint pattern in the past and improved with that cycle for the barn going back to the 10/12 B OptixGRADE effort finishing in a phot for the win. That looks to be intent all around and even a further positive with a front wrap removal.

Hawthorne Race 7

Post Time 5:48 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 ROCKET HOTSHOT returned with the front wraps off the layoff on 5/17 though still recording a B OptixGRADE that day making an inside SAVED MOVE. Overall this horse has held their form for the connections and well-paired with E. Giles historically to hold form once again here. Should also note today's change in class, a much lower race par than anything they have seen in quite some time if ever.

Their stablemate #7 JET FLIGHT also with the class change and current form to hold in this spot and look to return to winning ways. Trip has been subtle this season with the PREP GALLOP+ sprinting off the bench and less than ideal TACTIC- from the rail and WIDE moving off the inside early. The draw moses them back outside and has been progressive number wise off the layoff in the past keying off the numbers in 2025. Similar form should hold for today's rail runner #1 ELECTRIC CHARGE though also finds a Plot position shift back to a Q4 Square.

In terms of #6 STRONGER TOGETHER they appear live off the layoff with O. Mojica aboard. They can be assertive to run on or near the lead, though with others to their inside and fellow layoff returnee #2 CONI'S COUP could fall into a tracking trip looking for first run.

#4 DEL RAYO also second off and while moving to the main track, is another finding a significant softer race par with the more obvious class drop. They likely needed the race and given the level, less of an issue with the surface switch as they are capable of showing early speed as well as number of the main track from their debut win at CD back in 2023 and the two FP figures run last October both on par for this race and consistent with their current turf form.

#5 ICE AXE perhaps in a meaningful stretch out in distance third off and back around two turns for the first time this year. They sprint most of their career and the 2025 campaign over the course and distance while recording the FLOW added win sprinting last July.