Handicapping Analysis
Fri June 26th, 2026

Emily's Analysis

Churchill Downs Race 1

Post Time 2:45 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 MCILROY looks well intended second off the claim and back at the level/distance where they were picked up back on 4/28. They land in a softer race par than that late April event as well as the 5/25 event, a likely prep showing early speed, at the $50k level as well as noted added front wraps.

Churchill Downs Race 2

Post Time 3:15 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 PROGENY drops back down to the claiming level for the second start of the cycle and intention with that move along with the rider change to C. Torres. The handling will be key with the rail draw and for today's race shape, things to account for in what should be price compensation given the ML.

Churchill Downs Race 7

Post Time 5:53 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 THEORETICALLY is a legitimate longshot in here though not without a look in a "fuzzy" race. Going back to last year starting out as a 3yo had a "trip" on debut breaking their maiden in a second start and running a top figure, a number on par for this race in October. Returning from the layoff in April they took KICKBACK and NO_PUSH late and on 5/10 had TROUBLE_S in a race with minimal change in running order. Claimed out of that race for $16k the connections have been patient and running for a higher tag here and higher purse showing some confidence with that move and with the IN-bred with the barn running horses on that circuit and picking this spot.

Churchill Downs Race 8

Post Time 6:25 PM CST

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#3 SHE'S OUR GIRL debuted in April at KEE going the 7f distance and physically suited as a ROUTER off that PREP. While technically, they had the route distance for the second start mile last month, the one-turn mile racing in the poor WEATHER conditions with a TROUBLE_S and X_WIDE trip behind the "perfect" chalk winner, In Scope.

#1 CURLIN'S CHARM recorded a B OptixGRADE for the debut effort only 20-days ago and wheeling back here for the two turn distance remains in the mix.

Los Alamitos Tb Race 3

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#6 KORE KINETIC was off quite some time following a solid (KICKBACK) juvenile debut at KEE in the spring of 2023. Following the time off they returned with front wraps and the rail draw in April rushing up along the inside and following that race land here with the outside draw and rider change while taking the class drop running for a claiming tag, though not one of a "giveaway" running this now 5yo for $40k seems reasonable without suspicion.

Los Alamitos Tb Race 6

Analysis by Emily Gullikson

#1 ZOMBO BOMBO rarely throws a "bad" race and often when they do a rebound is not far behind. That case can be made here second off the layoff in what could have been taken as a PREP after 182-days off and now back second off on the quick 12-day turnaround.