

Presque Isle Downs Selections and Analysis by Dick Powell Sunday 08/11/19

Race One:

1st: **(2) WATCH HER STRUT** – Returned to the races off along layoff with an even effort going six furlongs in fast time then he held on gamely for third when stretched out to two turns. He turned back to a sprint last out but stretches out again for Matt Kritz whose stable has been warning up and he wins 24% going short to long.

2nd: **(4) VINDICTA** – Raced well on the turf as the favorite two starts back on the turf at Delaware Park then shipped here and won her Tapeta debut by over seven lengths. She moves up in class for Keith Nations who wins 4 out of 6 in this spot and 20% first start after a win. Antonio Gallard rides back – 27% with his route mounts.

Race Two:

1st: **(2) JUDOKA** – Was an even third in his career debut on the dirt at Parx Racing then he shipped here and was a good second going two turns in his Tapeta debut. Son of Affix Alex draws well and gets Pablo Morales back aboard.

2nd: **(3) ANTI O PATI NG** – Has had four career starts, all on the turf, for Jonathan Sheppard and he ships here to try Tapeta. He did not run bad last out at Saratoga and Sheppard wins 21% going from turf to synthetic tracks.

Race Three:

1st: **(3) LIAM S PRNCE** – Returned to the races off along layoff and promptly beat \$12,500 claimers going six furlongs in good time. He came back against open allowance foes and ran them down in the stretch and drops down to \$18,000 claimers for Chris Englehart who wins 28% third start off the layoff and 27% first start after a win.

2nd: **(1) RED HOT LOOKS** – Horse for the course won here three starts back then tired in both starts since then. He has enough speed to take advantage of the rail and picks up Pablo Morales who wins 22% with his sprint mounts.

Race Four:

1st: **(1) ELIA** – First-time starter from Lance Stokes who wins 31% with his maiden claimers. She is training bullet in the morning and gets Morales. By Liaison (7% debut winners), she is out of a dam by Eddington (10% debut winners) whose first foal to race is a 2yo winner.

2nd: **(2) FEELING ETHEREAL** – First-time starter from Tim Hamm who wins 13% with his debut runners and 20% when they debut at this maiden claiming level. She is a half-sister to two winners, is training well here and gets Scott Speith.

3rd: **(5) HER NAME IS A STAR** – Has had four career starts already and the first three came against better company.

Race Five:

1st: **(2) HUSBAND S FOLLY** – Ran well two starts in a row then did nothing next out with no apparent excuse. The bettors were scared off last time as he was dismissed at almost 10/1 but he rebounded with a good second coming from off the pace.

2nd: **(6) DIAMOND BLUE** – Horse for the course had been racing evenly against better so he dropped down to this claiming level last out and was an even third behind the top choice. Tim Griten wins 21% with his synthetic-track starters and 16% going long.

3rd: **(7) WINNY BOY** – Ran well here last year going two turns and has returned here with two even sprint efforts.

Race Six:

1st: **(3) AFTERBURNER** – Beat state-bred allowance foes two starts back here in good time then she just missed going gate to wire against this open allowance level. Ron Potts wins 20% with his allowance starters and 25% when he rides Geovany Gomez.

2nd: **(4) MIDNIGHT DANCE** – Moves way up in class here but when he tried Tapeta for the first time, he went gate to wire to beat bottom level claimers. Jay Bernardini wins 21% first start after a win and 15% with his allowance starters.

3rd: **(6) FAST FIRE** – Won two starts back against bottom level claimers then came back off the claim and won again.

Race Seven:

1st: **(5) YOUVE GOT TO PAY TO PLAY** – Made her Tapeta debut here two starts back and raced evenly going six furlongs then stretched out to two turns and was a game second at long odds. Daughter of Giant's Causeway has plenty of back class and showed she likes the track.

2nd: **(1) DARCY MAE** – Speedball breaking from post two could be tough if Pablo Morales can shake her loose early. Horse for the course fits well with these for Led and Hayes who wins 32% first start after a win and 14% going short to long.

3rd: **(3) NANTUCKET RED** – Just missed here two starts back in her Tapeta debut then she came back to win going away.

Race Eight:

1st: **(3) DIVA DANA** – Was an even fourth in her well-bet career debut and should show signs of improvement for Dave Markgraf who wins 13% with his second time starters and 22% with his overall maiden claimers. She adds Lasix and Huber Villa Gomez.

2nd: **(4) QUEEN LANA** – Did nothing in her first two career starts two years ago. She returned here last out and was a good fourth after showing speed against better maiden company and now drops down to the bottom for Lance Stokes.

3rd: **(6) WOLF EYES** – Still wireless after ten tries but she has four placings and all but the last came against better maiden company.