

Presque Isle Downs Selections and Analysis by Dick Powell Wednesday 09/04/19

Race One:

1st: **(7) NUNS ISLAND** – Missed by a neck on a sloppy dirt track when lasix was added for the first time then did nothing in her next two starts. She came back here and raced evenly against much better maiden company and drops down in class for John Bourke.

2nd: **(1) BOLD CITIZEN** – Raced evenly two starts back when dropped down to this maiden claiming level then returned and almost went gate to wire. Joe Martin wins 14% with his overall maiden claimers and he gets leading rider Antonio Gallardo.

3rd: **(6) MIA PROMESSA** – Still a maiden after nine tries but has four placings and gets Pablo Morales for her Tapeta debut.

Race Two:

1st: **(6) A K'S SONG**– First-time starter from Graham Motion who wins 12% with his debut runners and 22% when they debut going a mile or longer. Daughter of Animal Kingdom (13% debut winners) is out of a dam by Unbridled's Song (13% debut winners).

2nd: **(5) SHE'S A TROOPER** – Stretched out to two turns and was a distant second against males then came back and was a closer second back in against filly maidens. Daughter of Shanghai Bobby is a half-sister to a stakes winner.

3rd: **(1A) SECRET FORMULA** – Added Lasix two starts back and she was an even third then ran the same race last out.

Race Three:

1st: **(5) ESCAPE VELOCITY** – Finished up last year with a poor effort on the dirt then was off for eight months. He returned with a sharp win on the dirt at Thistledown and now makes his Tapeta debut for Jeff Radosevich who wins 29% first start after a win.

2nd: **(3) BLACK TIE EVENT** – Raced well against better company on the Tapeta at Golden Gate then did nothing in his first two starts when ambitiously placed. He went gate to wire last out and now moves up in class off the claim by Anthony Stabile.

3rd: **(2) THAT'S BUCKBEAK** – Romped by six lengths going this distance two starts back then just missed when moved up to this class.

Race Four:

1st: **(7) JOEYVILLE** – Still a maiden after eight tries here but has two seconds and two thirds against this maiden level. He showed good speed last out when used hard from post one. Pablo Morales wins 23% with his sprint starters.

2nd: **(1A) BUTTON BOX** – Did nothing in his first nine career starts then after showing good speed in a turf sprint when making his first start in ten months, he came back and opened up a lead to the final strides on the dirt at Thistledown.

3rd: **(6) BAD MEDICINE** – Bookended two route races with a decent fourth going six furlongs two starts back.

Race Five:

1st: **(10) GREATEST GAME** – Horse for the course has won seven times here but is winless in five starts here. Thus, Tim Girten drops him to the bottom and picks up Pablo Morales – 38% when together – and 23% going long off two sprints.

2nd: **(4) TRAVEL TRUE** – Speedball could not hang on going nine furlongs two starts back against better. He dropped back down to this claiming level and was an even fourth for leading trainer Gerry Brooks who wins 21% going short to long.

3rd: **(5) TALK TO THE MEDIA** – Was beaten a length two starts in a row going two turns then missed by a neck last out.

Race Six:

1st: **(3) KOBE'S TRAFFIC** – Speedball hung on by a nose three starts back against much better company then tired net time out. He dropped another notch in class last out and held on for second for Joe Martin who wins 13% with his claiming starters.

2nd: **(10) SURFINA** – Has prospered since dropping down to this claiming level with a sharp win going this distance. She rallied from way back to get third then had another strong rally last out with a good second as the lukewarm favorite.

3rd: **(9) PRETTY SURPRISE** – Was an even third two starts back then went gate to wire last out from post one.

Race Seven:

1st: **(3) STIFLING** – Woke up some earlier this year when Lasix and blinkers were added. She raced well on the dirt at Parx Racing then romped by over four lengths against similar optional claimers. Last out, she tired badly going a mile on the turf for John Bourke.

2nd: **(2) OUR PROMISE** – Beat open allowance foes here back in May then raced evenly in her last two starts. She rallied from way back to get second after being shuffled back from post one for Tim Hamm who wins 18% with his synthetic-track starters.

3rd: **(7) CAPE TRIOS** – Showed high speed against this optional claiming level then tired last out here in fast time.

Race Eight:

1st: **(4) RED CAT** – Lost all chance two starts back when he raced wide going six furlongs then he stretched out to two turns and just missed. Rory Barron wins 11% going long and he picks up leading rider Antonio Gallardo – 27% with his route mounts.

2nd: **(8) TALE OF THE NILE** – Beat this claiming level three starts back here then raced evenly in two starts on the turf at Colonial Downs. Horse for the course returns to the only track he has even won over for Gerry Brooks who wins 26% with this surface switch.

3rd: **(7) GLOBAL HERO** – Won his Tapeta debut here then just missed against this class level. He raced evenly in his next two starts.