

Presque Isle Downs Selections and Analysis by Dick Powell Thursday 09/03/20

Race One:

- 1st: **(2) TOUCH OF LA GREY** – returned to the races off a nine-month layoff and broke her maiden in a game effort. He tried winners next out and missed by a neck then tired last out in a wide trip when moved up in class off the claim by Cathy Rosantz.
- 2nd: **(4) SAINT ADORABLE** – stretched out to two turns here two starts back and he tired after six furlongs. He turned back to a sprint last out and rallied to win going away and now tries winners for Gerry Brooks who wins 23% with his synthetic-track starters.
- 3rd: **(3) HILLBILLY RACER** – speedball went gate to wire here in his career debut but hasn't been able to do it since.

Race Two:

- 1st: **(3) FELON NO MORE** – still a maiden after 12 tries but he did show improvement when he added Lasix and blinkers last year. After a dull return to the races two starts back, he improved going this distance last out and gets Mario Pino.
- 2nd: **(4) RIGHTEOUSNESS** – failed in his career debut at Belmont Park last year then came back at Laurel three weeks ago and flashed brief speed. He tries Tapeta for the first time but has trained over a similar surface at Fair Hill.
- 3rd: **(5) CHILLS AND FEVER** – gradually improved in her third career start and takes on boys with blinkers added.

Race Three:

- 1st: **(1) JOSEPHINE** – just missed against this conditioned claiming level two starts back then won by a head last out after making up 11 lengths despite racing wide. Cassandra Weaver wins 19% with her synthetic-track starters and gets Willie Martinez back aboard.
- 2nd: **(4) HIGH CLASS PLAYER** – broke her maiden on the turf at Tampa Bay Downs then came here and beat decent winners going two turns. She was up the track last out and now drops down in class for her third try on the Tapeta.
- 3rd: **(7) ANNIE UP BUCK** – beat similar company last year then finished up the year with a good second. She stretches out today.

Race Four:

- 1st: **(7) R CHERRY** – showed some speed in her Tapeta debut then she came back and ran about the same race. Last out, she settled better and was a game second as the lukewarm favorite for Ed Rojas who wins 32% with his overall maiden claimers.
- 2nd: **(1) LETS RACE LADYS** – rallied from post eleven to get third despite an awkward start against one level better. She drops to rock-bottom maiden claimers for her second career start and her entymate showed some speed in her debut.
- 3rd: **(2) CAMBIUM** – still a maiden after 16 starts but she has seven placings and has run well here in the past.

Race Five:

- 1st: **(1) KEYLARGO** – returned to the races off a six-month layoff and showed good speed for about five furlongs before tiring against better maiden company. He came back and ran a similar race last out and now drops down in class.
- 2nd: **(3) PITON** – finished up last year with a good third after leading to the final 100 yards. Off for ten months, he came back here and tired but should show marked improvement second start off the layoff for Wayne Rice whose horses have all needed racing.
- 3rd: **(7) EXPENSIVE TO HAVE** – first-time starter from Dave Markgraf who wins 13% with his debut runners.

Race Six:

- 1st: **(2) POST CLOSE** – makes his Tapeta debut off two solid turf effort against better company going two turns. He has some early speed so his inside draws should have in the mix early and the class relief can get him home.
- 2nd: **(1) VALDOLOBO** – broke his maiden on the turf last year then came back to beat similar company at Gulfstream Park. His last two starts were solid and now he drops down in class for Mike Stidham who wins 30% in this spot.
- 3rd: **(3) SCATSUKU** – made his Tapeta debut two starts back with a nice second then came back to beat this claiming level.

Race Seven:

- 1st: **(6) THE CONNECTOR** – made his Tapeta debut two starts back and missed by a head. He came back and won as the 4 – 5 favorite in very fast time and now moves up in class for Mark Hoffman. Willie Martinez picks up the mount.
- 2nd: **(8) JOHNNY CAB** – held well for third in his first start off the claim then he shipped here and won by a nose against similar company. Tim Girten wins 27% first start after a win and 21% with his overall claimers. Pablo Morales rides back.
- 3rd: **(1) MIKADO** – just missed two starts back then came back and lost by a nose when moved up to this claiming level.

Race Eight:

- 1st: **(4) INVIGORATING** – broke his maiden here two starts back going this distance then came back with a good second against this conditioned claiming level. Jonathan Sheppard wins 19% with his synthetic-track starters.
- 2nd: **(5) HOLY TRUTH** – did nothing in three starts on the dirt and has been a different horse on the Tapeta. After running second twice, he broke his maiden last out in a long sprint and now tries two turns
- 3rd: **(6) HAY HAY MY MY** – took him 16 tries to break his maiden but he ran pretty well here last out against this level going two turns.

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