

Presque Isle Downs Selections and Analysis by Dick Powell Tuesday 10/20/20

Race One:

- 1st: **(8) SAMURAI LEGACY** – looked good two starts back here when he won his Tapeta debut against similar claiming company then tired when moved up to starter allowance company. He has strong early speed and can work out a stalking trip from here.
- 2nd: **(3) THE CONNECTOR** – moved up in class and raced well in fast times then dropped down in class last out and won by over four lengths in very fast time. He moves up a bit in class and gets Pablo Morales back aboard.
- 3rd: **(6) DRIFTWOOD** – beat better three starts back then weakened against open allowance company going two turns.

Race Two:

- 1st: **(8) ORCHESTRAL** – horse for the course is still going strong at the age of 10. He went gate to wire two starts back then tired last out after leading to the deep stretch. Tim Girten wins 22% with his synthetic-track starters and 15% going long.
- 2nd: **(1) EXECUTIVE BONUS** – returns to the races off a 222-day layoff for Dale Bennett who only wins 7% in this spot. He's been racing mostly on the turf but did beat much better company last year on the synthetic track at Arlington Park.
- 3rd: **(4) BOWSPRIT** – beat this claiming level on the turf then shipped here and raced evenly against better company.

Race Three:

- 1st: **(5) VIKRAM** – first-time starter from Jonathan Thomas who wins 15% with his debut runners and 21% with his maiden special weight starters. Son of Blame (13% debut winners) is out of a dam by Speightstown (16% debut winners).
- 2nd: **(1) MISCHIEVOUS ROGUE** – first-time starter by the incredible Into Mischief (16% debut winners) is out of a dam by Candy Ride (13% debut winners) is trained by Bill Cowans who wins 18% with his first-time starters.
- 3rd: **(9) ONLY ONE WAY BACK** – showed high speed in his career debut on the slop then just missed here in his Tapeta debut.

Race Four:

- 1st: **(4) FRENCH KISS ME** – raced evenly three straight times to start the year then he stretched out to two turns and rallied for second. He comes back against the same maiden claiming group for Aldana Gonzalez who wins 20% with her overall maiden claimers.
- 2nd: **(5) ZOODLES** – switched barns to Tim Girten two starts back and he rallied for third in a long sprint then he lost all chance last out when he broke poorly. Girten wins 23% going long off two sprints and he gets leading rider Pablo Morales back aboard.
- 3rd: **(8) BOARDWALK BOB** – had a horrible trip 2 starts back but bounced back last out when he showed good speed to the deep stretch.

Race Five:

- 1st: **(3) MYHESSEXRESS** – did nothing in his first two career starts but woke up here two starts back when he added blinkers and showed new found gate speed. He held on for second that day then moved up to this maiden level and rallied wide to get third.
- 2nd: **(6) COWARDLY ACT** – couldn't even finish two starts back on the dirt at Churchill Downs then went to Indiana Downs where he showed good speed to the deep stretch going two turns on the turf.
- 3rd: **(8) WICKED FINN** – showed good speed two starts back in his two-turn debut then tired last out on a sloppy track.

Race Six:

- 1st: **(7) BLUEBIRD DAY** – just missed in her well-bet career debut then she came back and won easily up on the pace. Daughter of Bodemeister rallied from just off the pace here to miss by a length and now drops down a notch in class for the red-hot Katy Cheeks.
- 2nd: **(1) PUFFER FISH** – turns back to a sprint after showing decent speed going two turns. She led to the deep stretch two starts back in fast time against these then just missed when moved up in class. Kevin Rice wins 15% turning back to a sprint from a route.
- 3rd: **(5) LIZZ A BEE** – makes her Tapeta debut while dropping down in class and gets Pablo Morales.

Race Seven:

- 1st: **(5) TULA** – beat open allowance foes in 2019 in fast time. He began this year with three turf tries then shipped here for a good second against bottom-level claimers. She moves up in class off the claim by James Hogue but at least she has some back class.
- 2nd: **(4) G Q GIRL** – just missed by a nose in her Tapeta debut in a long sprint against this optional claiming level for Gary Johnson. Gary Johnson wins 12% going short to long and picks up Huber Villa-Gomez.
- 3rd: **(7) MARMALADE** – beat this level three starts back then came back and missed by a head.

Race Eight:

- 1st: **(6) TOOLCAT** – was a game second behind a next-out winner two starts back going six furlongs in fast time then won going away against the same company. She drops down a bit in class while stretching out in distance for Ron Potts – 17% in this spot.
- 2nd: **(7) CURLY RUTH** – broke her maiden on the mud at Monmouth Park in an off-the-turf event then ran poorly on the turf She came back and was an even fourth on a sloppy track in another off-the-turf event for Arnaud Delacour who wins 32% with his synthetic-track starters.
- 3rd: **(1) WRONG COLOR** – ran well on the turf two starts back then shipped here and missed by a neck behind a slow pace.

Race Nine:

1st: **(2) TEMPUS** – broke his maiden by 10 lengths on the dirt then shipped here and was a good second two races in a row. He rallied four wide from post 11 to win going away in fast time and now moves up a notch for Mike Pappada who wins 25% first start after a win.
2nd: **(7) LEBASI** – missed by a head two starts back behind a repeat winner then he rallied wide for third when stretched out to two turns. Teresa Connelly wins 20% going long to short and 25% first start after being beaten as the favorite. Morales gets aboard.
3rd: **(6) MISSIONATTHESPA** – went gate to wire to win his Tapeta debut two starts back going short then tired when stretched out.

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