

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



LOS ALAMITOS CASH CALL FUTURITY - G1

Los Alamitos Cash Call Futurity (Gr 1)
1-1/16 Miles - PURSE \$300,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Improbable	6-5
2	Savagery	8-1
3	Dueling	6-1
4	King of Speed	15-1
5	Extra Hope	7-2
6	Mucho Gusto	3-1

WIN
2

EXACTA
1, 6 with 2

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The American Graded Stakes Committee announced recently that the Los Alamitos Futurity (G1) would be downgraded next year to grade two status. Bob Baffert has won the 1 1/16-mile event ten times and he has two of the strong choices in Saturday's field of six. Rain in the southern California area could result in a wet track.

#6 MUCHO GUSTO broke his maiden here going six furlongs in fast time then came back at Del Mar to win the Bob Hope Stakes (G3) going seven furlongs when he went to the front and controlled the pace. Baffert wins 27% first time going long and 35% first start after a win so logic dictates he will be tough in here.

#1 IMPROBABLE is the other Baffert runner and is the 6/5 morning line favorite. He broke his maiden by a neck at 2/5 in his career debut at Santa Anita going six furlongs then shipped to Churchill Downs for the Street Sense Stakes. There, he was shuffled back a bit from an inside draw but exploded in the one-mile event when Drayden Van Dyke let it out a notch and he won by over seven lengths. His 99 BRIS speed rating is the highest of this field.

For years, you could mine pari-mutuel gold by going with the "other Baffert." However, in today's Futurity, I'm not sure how much different the odds will be on his two starters.

The horse that intrigues me is #2 SAVAGERY. It took him awhile to get it together but I like his last three races. After breaking maiden by 11 lengths against maiden \$62,500 claimers, he came back and was a good second in a Cal-bred stakes race at Santa Anita. Last out in the Bob Hope, he chased Mucho Gusto the entire trip and grimly hung on for second.

Here's what I like about him today. Peter Miller removes blinkers for the first time. Blinkers off is a major move as horses suddenly race more relaxed and can carry their speed better. Miller wins an extraordinary 28% when he removes blinkers and the last 88 times he made that equipment change, he shows a major flat-bet profit.

Savagery draws inside which is critical at Los Alamitos going two turns since the track is like a paper clip with two very sharp turns. Miller switches to Florent Geroux, who does great with horses that have speed so a ground-saving trip is almost assured. Plus, Savagery is by Bellamy Road who loved going two turns and has sired two-turn, grade one stakes winners like Diversify and Toby's Corner.

An inside post, natural speed, a rider that excels getting speed horses to relax, blinkers off and a sire that does well with these types are all the ingredients for an upset. Savagery is 8/1 on the morning line and could be higher if the Baffert horses take more money. Baffert can't win all these races. Can he?