

BREEDERS' CUP™ BETTING GUIDE

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BREEDERS' CUP
CHAMPIONSHIPS





BREEDERS' CUP™ BETTING GUIDE



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BREEDERS' CUP RACE SCHEDULE

Friday, October 31, 2025

RACE	POST TIME	RACE NAME
Race 1	2:35 PM ET/11:35 AM PT	Ocean View S.
Race 2	3:10 PM ET/12:10 PM PT	Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance S.
Race 3	3:45 PM ET/12:45 PM PT	Golden State Juvenile Fillies Stakes
Race 4	4:25 PM ET/1:25 PM PT	Senator Ken Maddy Stakes
Race 5	5:05 PM ET/2:05 PM PT	Golden State Juvenile Stakes
Race 6	5:45 PM ET/2:45 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G1)
Race 7	6:25 PM ET/3:25 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillyes (G1)
Race 8	7:05 PM ET/4:05 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1)
Race 9	7:45 PM ET/4:45 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1)
Race 10	8:25 PM ET/5:25 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1)

Saturday, November 1, 2025

RACE	POST TIME	RACE NAME
Race 1	1:05 PM ET/10:05 AM PT	The Sunrise
Race 2	1:40 PM ET/10:40 AM PT	Bayakoa S.
Race 3	2:15 PM ET/11:15 AM PT	Goldikova Stakes
Race 4	3:00 PM ET/12:00 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (G1)
Race 5	3:41 PM ET/12:41 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (G1)
Race 6	4:21 PM ET/1:21 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1)
Race 7	5:01 PM ET/2:01 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Turf (G1)
Race 8	5:41 PM ET/2:41 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Classic (G1)
Race 9	6:25 PM ET/3:25 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf
Race 10	7:05 PM ET/4:05 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1)
Race 11	7:45 PM ET/4:45 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Mile (G1)
Race 12	8:25 PM ET/5:25 PM PT	Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile (G1)

*Race order and post times are subject to change.



BREEDERS' CUP WAGER MENU

Friday, October 31st, 2025

RACE	TIME	WAGERING								
1	11:35 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 5	SH-5
2	12:10 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 4	SH-5
3	12:45 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 5	SH-5
4	1:25 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 4	SH-5
5	2:05 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 6	SH-5
6	2:45 PM	Juvenile Turf Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3, \$3 All-Turf Pick 3	DD	Pick 5	SH-5
7	3:25 PM	Juvenile Filles	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	SPDD	Pick 4 SH-5
8	4:05 PM	Juvenile Fillies Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		SH-5
9	4:45 PM	Juvenile	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER		DD	SPDD	SH-5
10	5:25 PM	Juvenile Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER			SPDD	SH-5

Saturday, November 1st, 2025

RACE	TIME	WAGERING								
1	10:05 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 5	SH-5
2	10:40 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		Pick 4	SH-5
3	11:15 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD			SH-5
4	12:00 PM	Filly & Mare Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	Pick 4 AD-Pick 4	SH-5
5	12:41 PM	Turf Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	AT-Pick 4 Pick 5	SH-5
6	1:21 PM	Distaff	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	Pick 4	SH-5
7	2:01 PM	Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	SPDD	Pick 4 SH-5
8	2:41 PM	Classic	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	Pick 5	SH-5
9	3:25 PM	Filly & Mare Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD	Pick 4	SH-5
10	4:05 PM	Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Pick 3	DD		SH-5
11	4:45 PM	Mile	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER		DD		SH-5
12	5:25 PM	Dirt Mile	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER				SH-5

DEL MAR AT A GLANCE

A look at the previous Del Mar meet.

AVG. WINNING ODDS: 5.52 – 1

FAVORITE WIN%: 42% **FAVORITE ITM%:** 72%

EXOTICS	PAYOFF
Pick 3	1,229.93
Pick 4	9,693.01
Pick 5	84,698.96
Pick 6	71,159.13
Daily Double	125.51
Exacta	99.03
Place Pick All	11,266.43
Quinella	51.63
Superfecta	5,033.55
Super High Five	22,297.64
Trifecta	744.41
Triple Trifecta	140.17
Super High Five	31,839.09



TRACK BIAS MEET (07/18 - 09/07)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
5.5fDirt	35	23%	E	Rail
6.5fDirt	22	36%	E	Outside
1 MileDirt	37	43%	E	Mid/Out
Turf Sprint	49	43%	E	Outside
Turf Routes	90	23%	E	Inside

TRACK BIAS WEEK (09/01 - 09/07)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
5.5fDirt	6	33%	E	Rail
6.5fDirt	7	43%	E	Rail/Ins
1 MileDirt	5	60%	E	Rail
Turf Sprint	5	40%	E	Rail/Ins
Turf Routes	14	21%	P	Rail/Ins

WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT

HOT TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'24-'25 Win %
Eurton Peter	12	4	2	0	11.37	4	17%
Blacker Dan	5	2	0	0	27.64	1	20%

HOT JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'24-'25 Win %
Hernandez Juan J.	26	7	5	1	5.08	4	24%
Prat Flavien	6	3	0	1	4.07	2	23%

COLD TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'24-'25 Win %
Puype Mike	10	0	1	1	15.33	1	15%

COLD JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Beaten Favorites	'24-'25 Win %
Frey Kyle	17	0	1	1	27.44	0	12%

EXPERT PICKS FOR BREEDERS' CUP

We've assembled an expert team of handicappers to give their top picks for several key graded stakes races

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 Del Mar



Dean Keppler
@Keppskorner



Vance Hanson
@VPHanson



Kellie Reilly
@GallantFox1930



James Scully
@James_Scully111



Keeler Johnson
@J_Keelerman

JUVENILE FILLIES TURF (GI)

1 Ultimate Love
13 Precise
3 Imaginationthelady

1 Ultimate Love
13 Precise
2 Queen of Hawaii

10 Balantina
13 Precise
4 Infinite Sky

13 Precise
10 Balantina
9 Time to Dream

13 Precise
9 Time to Dream
1 Ultimate Love

JUVENILE TURF (GI)

2 Street Beast
9 Argos
14 Gstaad

13 Hey Nay Nay
14 Gstaad
9 Argos

3 Outfielder
12 Bottas
14 Gstaad

14 Gstaad
12 Bottas
7 Gordon Pass

14 Gstaad
12 Bottas
8 Stark Contrast

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 Del Mar



Dean Keppler
@Keppskorner



Vance Hanson
@VPHanson



Kellie Reilly
@GallantFox1930



James Scully
@James_Scully111



Keeler Johnson
@J_Keelerman

BREEDERS' CUP DISTAFF (GI)

1 Nitrogen
8 Seismic Beauty
2 Sarawak Rim

8 Seismic Beauty
12 Dorth Vader
1 Nitrogen

4 Scylla
1 Nitrogen
8 Seismic Beauty

12 Dorth Vader
4 Scylla
1 Nitrogen

8 Seismic Beauty
12 Dorth Vader
6 Alice Verite

BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC (GI)

10 Antiquarian
1 Fierceness
9 Journalism

5 Forever Young
1 Fierceness
2 Baeza

5 Forever Young
7 Sierra Leone
2 Baeza

10 Antiquarian
5 Forever Young
2 Baeza

5 Forever Young
9 Journalism
1 Fierceness

BREEDERS' CUP MILE (GI)

2 Notable Speech
7 Johannes
5 Program Trading

3 Sahlan
7 Johannes
2 Notable Speech

7 Johannes
4 The Lion in Winter
2 Notable Speech

11 Rhetorical
10 Jonquil
8 Formidable Man

10 Jonquil
2 Notable Speech
3 Sahlan

BREEDERS' CUP FILLY & MARE TURF (GI)

6 Diamond Rain
9 Cinderella's Dream
13 She Feels Pretty

6 Diamond Rain
5 Gezora
12 Bellezza

14 See the Fire
5 Gezora
12 Bellezza

14 See the Fire
2 Stellify
9 Cinderella's Dream

14 See The Fire
9 Cinderella's Dream
6 Diamond Rain

2025 BREEDERS' CUP POST DRAW ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS

by Keeler Johnson



Post positions for the 2025 Breeders' Cup were drawn on Monday evening, finalizing the fields for 14 championship races at Del Mar.

An impressive roster of 10 horses entered the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1). Post positions are unlikely to play a major role in the outcome, though 2025 Kentucky Derby (G1) winner and expected favorite #6 Sovereignty drew favorably in post 6, as did reigning Classic winner #7 Sierra Leone in post 7.

One Classic contender who could be challenged by the post draw is #1 Fierceness, who drew the rail. He'll have to avoid getting boxed in behind expected pacesetter #4 Contrary Thinking, though it's worth noting Fierceness won the Aug. 30 Pacific Classic (G1) after breaking from post 1 over the same track and distance as the Breeders' Cup Classic, suggesting he's versatile enough to handle an inside draw.

A full field of 14 turned out for the Breeders' Cup Turf (G1). #1 Rebel's Romance, winner of the Turf in 2022 and 2024, may have to use his early speed to establish good position from the rail draw as he seeks a historic Turf three-peat. His main rival, Europe's standout sophomore filly #8 Minnie Hauk, drew well in post 8.

A 13-horse field will face the starter in the Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1). #8 Seismic Beauty, a fast winner of the Clement L. Hirsch (G1) at Del Mar, should have no trouble securing a forward position from post 8. Meanwhile, Ogden Phipps (G1) winner #12 Dorth Vader—who typically tracks the pace or closes from midfield—could be at risk for a wide trip from post 12.

With an overflow field of 15 (including one also-eligible) entered in the Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1), expect a fast pace to unfold. #12 Straight No Chaser, #10 Bentornato, and #11 Mullikin—the top

three finishers in the 2024 Sprint—have all drawn outside posts and may have to sprint hard early to avoid running wide around the turn. Meanwhile, the filly #1 Kopion has drawn the rail, which isn't necessarily a bad post since she dominated the Derby City Distaff (G1) after saving ground from post 2.

The Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (G1) has drawn 16 entrants, though only a dozen will be allowed to start. The field includes #1 Motorious, runner-up by a neck in the 2024 Turf Sprint after breaking from the rail. He'll start from the same post in 2025, giving him every chance to factor again. Jaipur (G1) heroine #8 Ag Bullet and Flying Five (G1) winner #3 Arizona Blaze have likewise drawn well, while Japanese raider #12 Invincible Papa must avoid a wide trip from the far outside post.

In the Breeders' Cup Mile (G1), #2 Notable Speech will start from post 2, the same post from which he won the Woodbine Mile (G1) last time out. #7 Johannes, who edged Notable Speech when they ran second and third in the 2024 Mile, has drawn suitably in post 7. Post positions shouldn't play a major role in the outcome of the Mile, though upset Sussex (G1) winner #13 Qirat—who has early speed—may have to sprint hard to avoid a wide trip from the outside draw.

Only 10 horses will square off in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (G1), and with a long run to the turn, post positions are less critical. Pure speedster #6 Sweet Azteca shouldn't have any difficulty making the lead from post 6, and Ballerina (G1) winner #8 Hope Road ought to secure a favorable stalking trip from post 8.

Another 10-horse field has turned out for the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile (G1). Expected favorite #3 Nysos, who is a neck away from being unbeaten in six starts, has won the Triple Bend (G3) and San Diego H. (G2) with inside trips, so he shouldn't mind breaking from post 3. Reigning Dirt Mile winner #6 Full Serrano likewise drew well, and 2024 Kentucky Derby (G1) winner #4 Mystik Dan—who loves saving ground—should be able to find the rail from post 4.

In the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1), leading North American contender #13 She Feels Pretty has landed post 13 in a 14-horse field, placing her at risk of a wide trip. #9 Cinderella's Dream, runner-up in the 2024 Filly & Mare Turf, drew better in post 9, while Prix de Diane (G1) conqueror #5 Gezora should have every chance to save ground from post 5.

The Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) drew only eight entries, the smallest field of the 2025 Breeders' Cup. Unbeaten Hopeful (G1) and Breeders' Futurity (G1) winner #8 Ted Noffey should be able to stay out of traffic trouble while breaking from the far outside post. There's a good chance he'll wind up tracking gate-to-wire Del Mar Futurity (G1) winner #7 Brant, who is starting directly to his inside.

The Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) attracted nine entries. #1 Iron Orchard, who won the Frizette (G1) despite racing wide, has an opportunity to save ground while breaking from the rail. Meanwhile,

2025 BREEDERS' CUP POST DRAW ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS *(continued)*

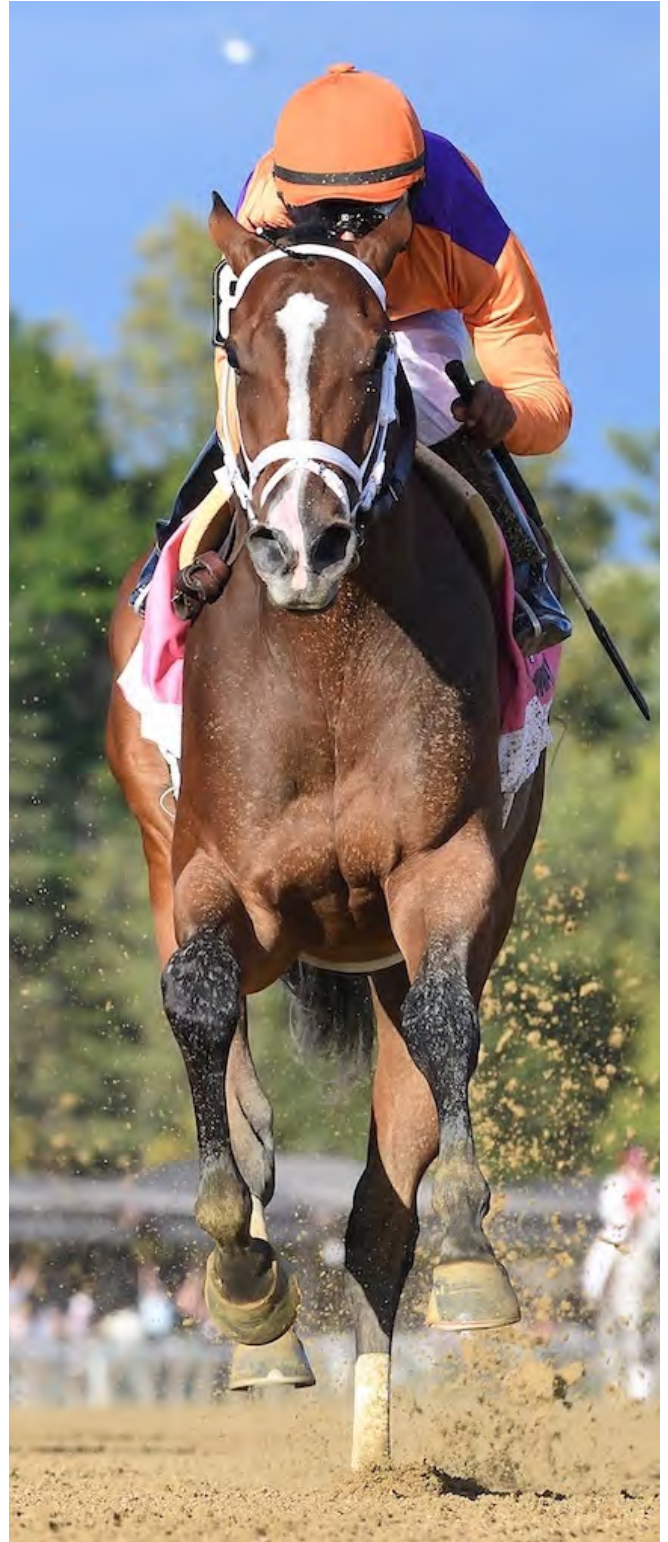
by Keeler Johnson

Alcibiades (G1) heroine #5 Tommy Jo and Oak Leaf (G2) winner #7 Explora figure to work out their typical trips from posts 5 and 7.

In the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1), expected favorite #14 Gstaad could have a tricky time negotiating a winning trip from post 14, the widest draw since #15 Caro Buono is on the also-eligible list. However, we've seen Juvenile Turf winners break from outside posts before, including Henri Matisse (post 12), Oscar Performance (post 13), and Hit It a Bomb (post 14), so it's not an insurmountable obstacle. Potentially simplifying Gstaad's path to the winner's circle is the fact #12 Bottas, a key rival after winning the Pilgrim (G2), has also drawn wide in post 12.

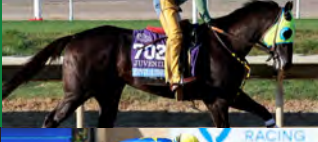
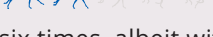
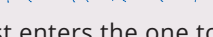
Multiple Group 1 winner #13 Precise was a bit unlucky in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1) draw, landing the outside post in a 13-horse field. However, her class may prove sufficient to win the day, much like how fellow Aidan O'Brien trainee Meditate was able to triumph from post 10 in 2022. Precise may be helped if gate-to-wire Miss Grillo (G2) winner #11 Ground Support sprints forward from post 11 and spreads out the field a bit.

The Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G1) is limited to 12 starters, though 17 have entered. Two of the speediest entrants on paper, #11 Schwarzenegger and #12 Lennilu, have drawn the far outside posts and figure to ensure a blazing tempo. Chevely Park (G1) winner #9 True Love, breaking to their inside, may let the expected leaders sprint by before trying to reel them in through the final quarter-mile. Meanwhile, Middle Park (G1) runner-up #1 Brussels must avoid getting buried in traffic from the rail.



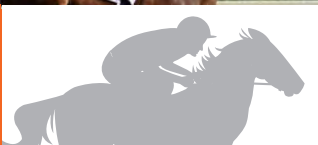
MEET THE CONTENDERS

BREEDERS' CUP™ JUVENILE

1		INTREPIDO  PRO: Rallied to win American Pharoah (G1) and now 2-for-2 routing. CON: Speed ratings not quite as high as those of the top choices.
2		BLACKOUT TIME  PRO: Second best to Ted Noffey in Breeders' Futurity (G1); will offer value. CON: Will need improvement and regression from the top pair to pull off a minor upset.
3		MR. A.P.  PRO: Broke through in two-turn debut, albeit narrowly. CON: Takes massive step up in class off tough maiden win.
4		COMFORT  PRO: Consistent colt has two wins and two seconds from four starts. CON: Running style, figures suggest he'd be more competitive around one turn.
5		CIVIL LIBERTY  PRO: Trainer Doug O'Neill has won this at 10-year intervals (2005, 2015). CON: Maiden has form to find against the likes of Brant and Intrepido.
6		LITMUS TEST  PRO: Barn has won this six times, albeit with more accomplished runners. CON: Well beaten by both Brant and Ted Noffey in the last two.
7		BRANT  PRO: Less dazzling in Del Mar Futurity (G1) but enters fresh as the west's top chance. CON: Lacks two-turn experience, though pedigree suggests it won't be an issue.
8		TED NOFFEY  PRO: Best colt in the east enters the one to beat off two G1 wins. CON: Concedes home track advantage at a short price.

MEET THE CONTENDERS

BREEDERS' CUP™ JUVENILE FILLIES

1		IRON ORCHARD  PRO: Remained unbeaten after wide rally in Frizette (G1). CON: Didn't meet the better eastern fillies at Aqueduct; this will be tougher.
2		BOTTLE OF ROUGE  PRO: Surprised Explora in Del Mar Debutante (G1) and sure to love added distance. CON: Debutante winner has not captured this race, too, in a decade.
3		MEANING  PRO: Owns blue blood pedigree and won when heavily favored in debut. CON: Has a lot of improvement to show stepping up in class and distance.
4		PERCY'S BAR  PRO: Demoted from first to second in Alcibiades (G1), though perhaps best that day. CON: No threat to Tommy Jo at Saratoga; perhaps behind her in fairly run race.
5		TOMMY JO  PRO: Easily won Spinaway (G1) and then Alcibiades via DQ when below best. CON: Trust in her ability to rebound from Keeneland comes with short price.
6		LA VILLE LUMIERE  PRO: Crashed tri in Oak Leaf (G2) after modest stakes debut at Del Mar. CON: Lone win was on grass, a surface she might fancy more.
7		EXPORA  PRO: Odds-on choice in each start; 2-for-3 after dominant Oak Leaf triumph. CON: Barn last struck gold in this race way back in 2007.
8		SUPER CORREDORA  PRO: Won for fun routing for the first time. CON: Has plenty of ground to make up on the likes of Bottle of Rouge, La Wally.
9		LA WALLY  PRO: Graduated on debut and both interim stakes tries were respectable. CON: Well held by both Bottle of Rouge and Explora; must quicken.

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET

2025 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE

A standout field of eight two-year-olds will travel 1 1/16 miles over the Del Mar main oval in Friday's \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1). The 2026 Road to the Kentucky Derby tilt will reward the top five across the wire with qualifying points towards the Run for the Roses on a 30-15-9-6-3 basis.

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Intrepido	8-1
2	Blackout Time	5-1
3	Mr. A.P.	30-1
4	Comport	30-1
6	Litmus Test	15-1
7	Brant	5-2
8	Ted Noffey	4-5

TOP PICKS

#8 Ted Noffey

#2 Blackout Time

#7 Brant

WAGERS

\$25 Exacta: 8 with 2

\$2 Trifecta: 8 with 2,7 with ALL

50-cent Superfecta: 2,8 with 2,8 with 1,3,7 with ALL

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#1 INTREPIDO (8-1): American Pharoah (G1) victor is two-for-two since stretching out in distance for conditioner Jeff Mullins, which includes an excellent maiden win at Del Mar two prior. The bay son of Maximus Mischief has earned healthy Brisnet Late Pace ratings in his last two outings and lands in a field with a decent measure of early pace. A dangerous top-three contender will have Hector Berrios on board.

#2 BLACKOUT TIME (5-1): Talented colt from the McPeck shedrow was a dominant maiden winner two back prior to finishing a strong runner-up in the Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland. The son of Not This Time has good early speed combined with a sharp turn of foot, and the January foal will be a major player late with any kind of improvement in this heat. Irad Ortiz, Jr. has the assignment.

#3 MR. A.P. (30-1): Maiden winner from the Cerin shedrow has improved his Brisnet Speed rating in each lifetime run to date and has top-three appeal in his stakes debut. The son of American Pharoah takes a hefty class rise, but he is moving forward and has also proven to be capable on this surface, too. Antonio Fresu will guide the live longshot.

#4 COMPORT (30-1): Chestnut son of Collected was last seen missing by a nose in the Iroquois S. (G3) at Churchill Downs. The Greg Compton pupil is quick, and he handled the one-mile voyage well in his route debut last time out. The \$135,000 yearling purchase will be forcing the tempo from the outset with Tyler Gaffalione on board.

#5 CIVIL LIBERTY (30-1): Maiden from the O'Neill barn checked in third in the Del Mar Futurity (G1) prior to registering a fourth-place result in the subsequent American Pharoah S. (G1). The Independence Hall colt obviously has ability, but he will need to take a big step forward to upset this imposing group with Frankie Dettori up.

#6 LITMUS TEST (15-1): Nyquist colt has run well in advance of the tilt, which includes a third-place finish in the Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland. The Baffert pupil broke his maiden on the surface and was also an even fourth in the deep Del Mar Futurity (G1), as well. The \$875,000 son of Nyquist has trained well in advance of his third Grade 1 try and will never be far back beneath Jose Ortiz.

#7 BRANT (5-2): \$3 million son of Gun Runner is two-for-two lifetime with both tallies coming on the strip, led by a measured victory in the Del Mar Futurity (G1) most recently. The Bob Baffert charge can win from on or off the pace, and the gray colt figures to be well-positioned throughout the event under regular pilot Flavien Prat.

#8 TED NOFFEY (4-5): Unbeaten son of Into Mischief has passed each of his trio of tests to date with aplomb and is the one to beat for Pletcher. The unblemished colt doesn't need the lead in order to win; he has the tactical speed to be placed anywhere early, and the Spendthrift homebred is also proven at the distance, as well. John Velazquez will pilot the formidable juvenile.

BETTING WITH AND AGAINST PRECISE IN BC JUVENILE FILLIES TURF

by John Mucciolo

Two-time Group 1 heroine **#13 Precise (6-5)** will lead a deep and classy field of two-year-old ladies postward in the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1) at Del Mar on Friday.

Trained by Aidan O'Brien, the chestnut daughter of Starspangledbanner was second in a six-furlong debut in Ireland but has reeled off four wins in succession, topped by tallies in the Moyglare Stud (G1) at The Curragh two back, which preceded a romp in the Fillies Mile (G1) at Newmarket last time out.

Precise - With

- \$2 Trifecta: 13 with 1,3,9 with 1,3,6,9,12 (\$24)
- 10-cent Superfecta: 13 with 1,3,6,9,12 with 1,3,6,9,12 with ALL (\$20)

Precise - Against

- 50-cent Trifecta: 1,3,9 with 1,3,6,9,12,13 with 1,3,6,9,12,13 (\$30)
- 10-cent Superfecta: 1,3,9 with 1,3,9,13 with 1,3,9,13 with ALL (\$18)

Precise has combined her decent tactical speed with a fine turn of foot leading up to this affair, and she seems to be the type that can handle any type of course or surface, as well. She is a May foal with further development in her, and it seems that her best effort will make it quite difficult for her foes if she receives a good journey from the outside under Christophe Soumillon.

Eight of the last 10 winners of this race have been based in the U. S., so it seems wise to consider the domestic contenders. Trainer Brendan Walsh has been on a fine run as of late and will saddle Jessamine S. (G2) victress #3 Imaginationthelady (10-1). By the streaking Not This Time, the \$300,000 yearling has done little wrong to date in winning from on the front end, and also from off the pace, and she could easily move forward while making her third lifetime run. The versatile lass has to be given a chance with Dettori taking the reins.

Todd Pletcher's #9 Time to Dream (8-1) suffered her first setback in the Jessamine when a good third at short odds and wouldn't be a surprise in this tilt. Also by Not This Time, the pricey yearling buy was awesome in her P. G. Johnson S. romp two back and will appreciate an honest pace in the race to aid her closing burst. The \$750,000 bay will be doing her best work late under regular pilot Irad Ortiz, Jr.

Live Oak homebred #1 Ultimate Love (8-1) is spotless from a trio of wins while facing lesser, and she has done so by a combined 13 1/2 lengths while yet to be remotely challenged. Trained by Michael Trombetta, the Curlin filly has improved her Brisnet Speed rating in each run to date and rates an obvious chance with John Velazquez in the stirrups.

European invader #12 Pacific Mission (15-1) and Japanese traveler #6 Switch in Love (20-1) will also get included in the deep affair.



2025 BREEDERS' CUP: UNDER-THE-RADAR CONTENDERS ON FRIDAY

by Keeler Johnson

Formidable favorites abound in the five championship races for two-year-olds on Breeders' Cup Friday at Del Mar, but you can bet longshots will factor as well.

Breeders' Cup races are competitive, and chances are several unheralded horses starting at 8-1 or higher will record top-three finishes, and maybe even win.

Here are three under-the-radar contenders worth betting on Breeders' Cup Friday:

RACE 6: BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF SPRINT (G1): #1 BRUSSELS

#1 Brussels (8-1) has shown promise sprinting in Europe, finishing second by less than one length in the six-furlong Middle Park (G1). That's a finer piece of form than any of Europe's three previous Juvenile Turf Sprint winners brought to the Breeders' Cup.

Drawing the rail affords Brussels an opportunity to save ground behind an expected fast pace. If he can find an opening in the homestretch, Brussels may kick through to give trainer Aidan O'Brien a record-extending 21st win at the Breeders' Cup.

2025 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES TURF SPRINT

TRACK	RACE	TIME		
	8	FRI OCT 31 2025		
#	HORSE NAME	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Brussels (GB)	Christophe Soumillon	Aidan O'Brien	8-1
2	Military Code	William Buick	Charles Appleby	12-1
3	Royal Testament	Flavien Prat	George Weaver	12-1
4	Aspect Island	Lanfranco Dettori	James Owen	20-1
5	Obliteration	Jose Ortiz	Steve Asmussen	15-1
6	Intricate Spirit	Joel Rosario	Miguel Clement	12-1
7	Mission Central	Dylan McMonagle	Aidan O'Brien	20-1
8	Havana Anna (GB)	Gavin Ryan	Donnacha O'Brien	6-1
9	True Love (IRE)	Wayne Lordan	Aidan O'Brien	7-2
10	Cy Fair	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	George Weaver	6-1
11	Schwarzenegger	John Velazquez	Weasley A Ward	5-1
12	Lennilu	Luis Saez	Patrick J. Biancone	8-1

RACE 7: BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES (G1): #3 MEANING

For the most part, the entrants in the Juvenile Fillies haven't been running especially fast. As a result, #3 Meaning (15-1) won't have to improve a ton to challenge for victory in her stakes and route debut.

Trainer Michael McCarthy doesn't win all that often with first-time starters, and his runners frequently improve with experience, so it was notable to see Meaning dominate her debut sprinting 6 1/2 furlongs at Los Alamitos. She wasn't quick into stride, but she soon unleashed a burst of acceleration to seize the lead. Thereafter, Meaning stayed on nicely to draw off and win by 3 1/2 lengths.

Meaning has the pedigree to stretch out over 1 1/16 miles, and sharp workouts since her debut suggest she's ready to improve in the Juvenile Fillies. Don't leave her off your tickets.

2025 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES

TRACK	RACE				TIME
	7				FRI OCT 31 2025
#	HORSE NAME	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ODDS	
1	Iron Orchard	Joel Rosario	Danny Gargan	6-1	
2	Bottle of Rouge	Mike Smith	Bob Baffert	9-2	
3	Meaning	Jose Ortiz	Michael McCarthy	15-1	
4	Percys Bar	Luan Machado	Ben Colebrook	9-2	
5	Tommy Jo	John Velezquez	Todd Pletcher	7-2	
6	La Ville Lumiere	Kazushi Kimura	Michael McCarthy	20-1	
7	Espera	Juan Hernandez	Bob Baffert	5-2	
8	Super Corredora	Hector Berrios	John Sadler	15-1	
9	La Wally	Flavien Prat	Mark Glatt	10-1	

RACE 10: BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF (G1): #8 STARK CONTRAST

When the Breeders' Cup takes place in California, local runners have been known to outperform expectations in the Juvenile Turf. Billy Batts ran second at 55-1 in 2019. Mackinnon finished third (second for betting purposes) at 6-1 in 2021. And last year, Iron Man Cal ran second by a neck at 29-1.

Perhaps #8 Stark Contrast (30-1) can continue the trend and secure a top-three finish. He's 2-for-2 on turf so far. In a one-mile maiden special weight at Del Mar, he clocked his final quarter-mile in a quick :23.73 to score by one length. Then in the one-mile Zuma Beach (G3) at Santa Anita, he closed in an even faster :23.06 to prevail in the sharp time of 1:34.77. For comparison, two-year-old fillies required 1:35.40 to complete the Surfer Girl (G3) on the same card, even though the Surfer Girl unfolded with a faster pace than the Zuma Beach.

Stark Contrast's strong finishing speed and home-court advantage should help him outrun his odds in the Juvenile Turf.

Good luck!

2025 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF

TRACK	RACE	TIME		
	10	FRI OCT 31 2025		
#	HORSE NAME	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Heeres Johnny	Javier Castellano	Raymond Handal	15-1
2	Street Beast	Luan Machado	Ben Colebrook	10-1
3	Outfielder	David Egan	Wesley Ward	10-1
4	Third Beer	Antonio Fresu	Tim Yakteen	30-1
5	Lets Be Frank	Juan Hernandez	Michael Maker	15-1
6	North Coast (IRE)	Dylan McMonagle	Joseph OBrien	30-1
7	Gordan Pass	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	William Walden	20-1
8	Stark Contrast	Kazushi Kimura	Michael McCarthy	30-1
9	Argos	Flavien Prat	Riley Mott	6-1
10	Ardisia (IRE)	Oisin Murphy	Hugo Palmer	15-1
11	Turf Star	Tyler Gaffalione	Graham Motion	30-1
12	Bottas	Manuel Franco	Miguel Clement	6-1
13	Hey Nay Nay (IRE)	Joel Rosario	John Sadler	8-1
14	Gstaad	Christophe Soumillon	Aidan OBrien	9-5

2025 BREEDERS' CUP DISTAFF

A baker's dozen fillies and mares will race 1 1/8 miles over the Del Mar dirt in Saturday's \$2 million Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1).

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Nitrogen	4-1
2	Sarawak Rim (ARG)	12-1
3	Clicquot	10-1
4	Scylla	15-1
5	Scottish Lassie	12-1
6	Alice Verite (JPN)	20-1
7	Gin Gin	12-1
8	Seismic Beauty	9-5
9	Majestic Oops	30-1
10	Gun Song	30-1
11	Dry Powder	20-1
12	Dorth Vader	5-1
13	Regaled	30-1

TOP PICKS
#5 Scottish Lassie
#8 Seismic Beauty
#2 Sarawak Rim
#12 Dorth Vader
#13 Regaled

WAGERS
\$25 to win on #5 Scottish Lassie
\$12 Exacta: box 5,8
\$1 Trifecta: 5,8 with 2,5,8,12,13 with 2,5,8,12,13

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#1 NITROGEN (4-1): Classy three-year-old from the Casse shedrow was fantastic on the grass and has also proven to be excellent on the main oval, as well. The Alabama S. (G1) victress just missed in the Spinster S. (G1) at Keeneland in her most recent endeavor and will likely be well backed in the event. Versatile Medaglia d'Oro sophomore will be in the second flight in the early going with Jose Ortiz aboard.

#2 SARAWAK RIM (12-1): Four-year-old daughter of Remote will make her stateside bow in this one for Correas. The once-beaten four-year-old hasn't done much wrong in her native Argentina leading up to this, and the bay doesn't land in a field full of superstars, so I expect her to make an impact on Saturday as her conditioner's final Breeders' Cup starter. Irad will be in the silks.

#3 CLICQUOT (10-1): Streaking sophomore has won four races in succession, led by a triumph in the Cotillion S. (G1) at Parx in her latest venture. Brendan Walsh pupil possesses good tactical speed and a nice turn of foot on her best day, and the daughter of Quality Road will have no trouble enduring nine furlongs, as well. The gray has some appeal beneath Flavien Prat.

#4 SCYLLA (15-1): Grade 2 heroine is winless in eight straight but comes off a big run at Keeneland last time and also brings consistent form to the field for Bill Mott. The Juddmonte homebred never runs a bad one and has exotics appeal while making her local debut with Junior Alvarado taking the mount.

#5 SCOTTISH LASSIE (12-1): Upset pick is a two-time Grade 1 heroine who is capable of recording some superb results when she is on her game. Jorge Abreu charge won the Coaching Club American Oaks (G1) at Saratoga by a ridiculous 15 lengths two back, and she was last seen rallying for a decent fourth in the Cotillion S. (G1) at Parx in a solid prep for the Distaff. The McKinzie filly ran well in her lone prior try at Del Mar, and I like her chances with Joel Rosario in the irons.

#6 ALICE VERITE (20-1): Japan import was fourth in this race last season but faces a deeper field this campaign. Kizuna mare has been unplaced in four runs on the green this season, but might appreciate the move back to the main oval in this one. She would be a surprise to me for Nakatake.

#7 GIN GIN (12-1): Spinster S. (G1) upsetter has come to hand in a big way since joining the Walsh barn and has to be given a look in this affair. The Hightail four-year-old has the positional speed to be involved from the break in the race and could be stubborn late with a sensible voyage under the guidance of Luis Saez.

#8 SEISMIC BEAUTY (9-5): Baffert trainee is three-for-three since moving to route races and was last seen dominating a good cast in the Clement L. Hirsch S. (G1) on the oval. The peaking daughter of Uncle Mo has yet to be headed in three runs since April and has improved her Brisnet Speed figure in a trio of races in succession, too. She is the one to catch and beat under Juan Hernandez.

#9 MAJESTIC OOPS (30-1): Majestic Harbor mare disappointed at Delaware last time out and will need a lifetime-best run to hit the board against this field. The Dan Ward trainee will stalk the action in the early going but looks to be in deep with Rispoli taking the reins.

#10 GUN SONG (30-1): Sneaky contender is not especially consistent, but she ran down a good one en route to a tally in the Beldame S. (G2) most recently and could make noise on Saturday with another step in the right direction. Mark Hennig pupil got good at this time of the year in 2024 and will never be far back with Tyler Gaffalione in the irons.

#11 DRY POWDER (20-1): Cotillion S. (G1) runner-up has been first or second in all but one lifetime run to date and will be a pace presence at the very least on Saturday for trainer Chad Summers. The dark bay daughter of Gun Runner is a lightly raced three-year-old who has improved in her last pair of tries, and she will be in the mix late with another step forward while making her local debut. Antonio Fresu inherits the ride.

#12 DORTH VADER (5-1): Win contender endured an eventful trip in the La Troienne S. (G1) in May when a close fourth and has been very good since that appearance with a win in the Ogden Phipps S. (G1) leading the way. Girvin mare was last seen just missing in the Personal Ensign S. (G1) at Saratoga and will be a major presence with something resembling that effort. Regular pilot John Velazquez will take the reins.

#13 REGALED (30-1): Mohaymen four-year-old earned a career-best 101 Brisnet Speed rating when driving home a decisive winner of the Delaware H. (G3) in the mud last time out. The peaking four-year-old owns a powerful closing kick, and she could be an exotics threat inside the final furlong if the pace backs up in the lane on Saturday. The Whit Beckman pupil will have Joe Ramos on board.

2025 BREEDERS' CUP TURF

Nine of the 14 horses entered for the lucrative, \$5 million Breeders' Cup Turf (G1) at Del Mar on Saturday are based overseas. The 1 1/2-mile grassy event has produced 10 European winners since 2013, and that trend is likely to continue this season.

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Rebels Romance (IRE)	5-2
2	Goliath (GER)	8-1
3	Amiloc (GB)	10-1
4	Redistricting (GB)	15-1
5	Rebel Red (GB)	30-1
6	Wimbledon Hawkeye (GB)	20-1
7	Silawi (IRE)	30-1
8	Minnie Hauk	8-5
9	Gold Phoenix (IRE)	20-1
10	El Cordobes (IRE)	15-1
11	Rashabar (IRE)	20-1
12	Tawny Port	30-1
13	Hill Road	30-1
14	Ethical Diamond (IRE)	30-1

TOP PICKS
#1 Rebel's Romance
#8 Minnie Hauk
#11 Rashabar
#2 Goliath
#3 Amiloc

WAGERS
\$30 to win on #1 Rebel's Romance
\$15 Exacta: box 1,8
50-cent Trifecta: box 1,2,3,8,11

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#1 REBEL'S ROMANCE (5-2): Dubawi seven-year-old is an all timer who owns two wins in this race, including a popular victory in 2024. Trained by Charlie Appleby for Godolphin, the gelding is a superb 20-for-29 in his career, and the globe trotter has been sharp leading up to Saturday, as well. I'll tab the superstar who will have regular pilot William Buick in the irons.

#2 GOLIATH (8-1): When this multiple Group 1 hero is on his game, he can be among the best turf performers in training. The five-year-old eclipsed a top-level race at Baden Baden last time out, and he also owns a win over Rebel's Romance, too. If the best version of the son of Adlerflug shows up at Del Mar, then he can win this event with Mickael Barzalona on board.

#3 AMILOC (10-1): Postponed gelding is five-for-six in his career and comes off a runner-up performance in the Irish St. Leger (G1) for Ralph Beckett. The Group 2 winner is proven at the distance, very consistent, and the import is also relatively lightly raced. He is a cut below some of the other imports, but he wouldn't be a major surprise to me with Rossa Ryan coming in to ride.

#4 REDISTRICTING (15-1): The Kingman five-year-old has run a pair of good ones since stretching out to marathon trips on the lawn and has some exotics appeal to me at an expected big number. The Chad Brown trainee has the tactical speed to be close early and could be well placed at the head of the stretch beneath Flavien Prat.

#5 REBEL RED (30-1): Conditioner Cherie Devaux will send out this stakes winner, who doesn't give me the impression of an upset threat. A good second in the Sword Dancer S. (G1) two prior, the chestnut didn't show much at Aqueduct most recently and would be a big surprise in this demanding spot.

#6 WIMBLEDON HAWKEYE (20-1): Group 2 victor picked up a hefty paycheck when annexing the Nashville Derby (G3) at Kentucky Downs in his latest venture. Three-year-old Kameko colt has been consistently quite good in his career, and I could envision him grabbing a minor award with a well-timed ride from Frankie Dettori.

#7 SILAWI (30-1): Euro-based son of Dubawi made all the running in the Canadian International S. (G1) when holding on late. The bay five-year-old is still just 4-for-26 in his lifetime, and I feel that others make more sense. James Doyle will ride and force the pace early on.

#8 MINNIE HAUK (8-5): Standout filly from the mighty Aidan O'Brien shedrow was last seen running a fantastic second in the Arc de Triomphe (G1) at Longchamp while finishing more than five lengths clear of her nearest pursuer. The brilliant daughter of Frankel is the one to beat and a must-use in all exotic wagers under the guidance of Christophe Soumillon.

#9 GOLD PHOENIX (20-1): Chestnut son of Belardo was a very good fourth in the race in 2024 and continues to fire at age seven for trainer Phil D'Amato. The gelding is five-for-nine at Del Mar with two placings, and he will be doing his best work in the latter stages of the race. A top-four finish is not out of the question with Umberto Rispoli in the irons.

#10 EL CORDOBES (15-1): Charlie Appleby charge bagged the Sword Dancer S. (G1) in his stateside bow prior to finishing second in the Turf Classic S. (G1) at Aqueduct most recently. The Frankel gelding fits with this field and has to get a look under the guidance of Billy Loughnane.

#11 RASHABAR (20-1): Trainer Brian Meehan has enjoyed success on multiple occasions in the past in the contest and will saddle this four-year-old. Holy Roman Emperor colt has yet to build on his very promising juvenile campaign this year, but he wouldn't be in the race if his conditioner didn't feel that he had a chance at a big result.

#12 TAWNY PORT (30-1): Commendable six-year-old has very good form coming in and is as durable as they come for Miguel Clement. Kentucky-bred son of Pioneerof the Nile hasn't won in a long time and faces a tall task on Saturday, but he will put in his customary late run and pass horses under Manny Franco.

#13 HILL ROAD (30-1): Talented sophomore was a belated third in the Jockey Club Derby (G2) against three-year-olds most recently and will need a huge move forward to be in the mix late on Saturday. The outsider will have David Egan in the stirrups.

#14 ETHICAL DIAMOND (30-1): Awtaad five-year-old will make his first trek to the U. S. for conditioner William Mullins. The lightly raced five-year-old has never been better, but he lacks the credentials of his fellow European players and would be a surprise to me from the widest post slot in the group.

2025 BREEDERS' CUP MILE

The grassy, \$2 million Breeders' Cup Mile (G1) at Del Mar is truly an international event this year, as domestic runners will be joined by contenders with roots in Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America. Three-year-olds have had success numerous times in the past, and I look for the sophomores to have a major say in the outcome of the tilt once again.

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	One Stripe (SAF)	30-1
2	Notable Speech (GB)	5-2
3	Sahlan (IRE)	6-1
4	The Lion In Winter	6-1
5	Program Trading	10-1
6	Gran Oriente (CHI)	30-1
7	Johannes	8-1
8	Formidable Man	10-1
9	Argine (JPN)	20-1
10	Jonquil	10-1
11	Rhetorical	5-1
12	Gas Me Up	30-1
13	Qirat (GB)	20-1

TOP PICKS
#3 Sahlan
#11 Rhetorical
#4 The Lion In Winter
#2 Notable Speech
#10 Jonquil

WAGERS
\$20 to win and place on #3 Sahlan
\$1 Trifecta: 3,11 with 2,3,4,10,11 with 2,3,4,10,11

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#1 ONE STRIPE (30-1): Multiple Group 1 star will make his second run in North America following an unplaced go in the Woodbine Mile (G1). The bay son of One World was surely prepping for this race at Woodbine most recently and will improve on Saturday as one to consider for the exotics. Juan Hernandez will be up.

#2 NOTABLE SPEECH (5-2): Godolphin homebred is a Group 1 winner full of ability and made short work of the Woodbine Mile (G1) in preparation for Saturday. Charlie Appleby pupil was a close third as the favorite in the contest last season and could surely take this field down with a clear voyage in the stretch. Regular pilot William Buick has the assignment.

#3 SAHLAN (6-1): Graffard trainee comes off an excellent score in the Prix du Moulin (G1) over a fine field last out and gets top billing in the especially deep contest. The three-year-old son of Wootton Bassett has room to improve with just six starts to his credit, and he is one of my favorite picks of the weekend with Mickael Barzalona riding, who is 3-for-3 atop the sophomore in his career.

#4 THE LION IN WINTER (6-1): Sophomore son of Sea the Stars has come close with three Group 1 placings this year, two of those coming while facing his elders. The Irish-bred bay possesses the tactical speed to be in range as the cast turns for home, with Christophe Soumillon taking the reins.

#5 PROGRAM TRADING (10-1): Grade 1 star from the Chad Brown shedrow was a smart runner-up in the Turf Mile (G1) at Keeneland in his second start of 2025 and rates a chance in his third run of the season. The Lope de Vega five-year-old might be best at one mile, and his turn of foot makes him a viable win option with Flavien Prat aboard.

#6 GRAN ORIENTE (30-1): Chilean Group 1 victor is three-for-four on the green in his career for trainer Jose Alvarez. The four-year-old son of Classic Empire cuts back from 1 1/4 miles, and he could make some noise late with a big step forward beneath fine turf pilot Hector Berrios.

#7 JOHANNES (8-1): Multiple graded stakes victor was a fine second in the race last season and could peak while making his third run of 2025. The Tim Yakteen trainee likes the surface and will be a major threat with a performance close to his 2024 run. Umberto Rispoli stays in the silks.

#8 FORMIDABLE MAN (10-1): Mike McCarthy trainee is a sterling six-for-six on the local lawn and has also compiled four wins from seven career runs at the distance. Four-year-old son of City of Light comes off victories in the Del Mar Mile (G2) and Eddie Read S. (G2) as of late, and the bay wouldn't be a significant surprise on his favorite surface under John Velazquez.

#9 ARGINE (20-1): Japan invader has been in good form in 2025 and is dangerous as a wildcard in the group. The Lord Kanaloa mare has been very consistent and could be almost any kind in her U. S. debut with Frankie Dettori accepting the mount.

#10 JONQUIL (10-1): Juddmonte homebred rallied late to grab fourth in the deep Turf Mile (G1) at Keeneland last time out and has appeal for the exotics in his second try in the states. The Ralph Beckett trainee owns a Group 2 win and a Group 1 second this season, and the sophomore will likely offer excellent value in the tilt, as well. He will have Colin Keane in the stirrups.

#11 RHETORICAL (5-1): Live win threat won the Turf Mile (G1) more easily than it appears on paper, and I expect the William Walden pupil to be a major presence on this occasion. The Not This Time gelding has gone four-for-four this year with each win coming convincingly, and he will have top pilot Irad in the irons, as well.

#12 GAS ME UP (30-1): King Edward S. (G2) winner was third in the Woodbine Mile (G1) in his latest venture and is on the rise in advance of his return to Del Mar. The dark bay son of Hard Spun comes in fresh with some good morning drills and could earn a minor share with a career-best effort. Jose Ortiz will be in the saddle.

#13 QIRAT (20-1): Sussex S. (G1) upsetter has been unplaced in his last two outings following his huge win at Goodwood for Ralph Beckett. The Showcasing gelding is obviously talented, but the Juddmonte homebred needs to prove to me that his score at 150-1 three back was not an outlier before I can back him with confidence against this cast. Rossa Ryan will ride.

TWINSPIRES TIP SHEET

2025 BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC

A sensational field of 9 will travel 1 1/4 miles over the Del Mar dirt in the exquisite, \$7 million Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) on Saturday.

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Fierceness	5-2
2	Baeza	10-1
3	Nevada Beach	20-1
4	Contrary Thinking	50-1
5	Forever Young	7-2
7	Sierra Leone	7-2
8	Mindframe	6-1
9	Journalism	5-1
10	Antiquarian	10-1

TOP PICKS

2 Baeza

#7 Sierra Leone

#5 Forever Young

#10 Antiquarian

WAGERS

\$20 win and place #2 Baeza

\$5 exacta key box 2 with 5,7,10

\$1 trifecta 2 with 5,7,10 with all

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#1 FIERCENESS (4-1): City of Light four-year-old is one of three major players in the group for Pletcher. Second in the race last season, the colt cruised home to a fine win in the Pacific Classic (G1) at this venue in his latest showing, and his best effort might be good enough to take down this field. John Velazquez will pilot the tactical Kentucky-bred from the tricky rail slot.

#2 BAEZA (15-1): John Shirreffs charge earned a well-deserved Grade 1 win when dominating the Pennsylvania Derby (G1) in his latest venture. The son of McKinzie was very professional in the Keystone State most recently, and I can surely see him being in the mix late with even slight improvement on Saturday. Hector Berrios will guide the well-bred bay who gets the upset nod.

#3 NEVADA BEACH (20-1): Rapidly ascending son of Omaha Beach will face a stiff class test in his toughest assignment to date for Bob Baffert. The rising sophomore has registered triple-digit Brisnet Late Pace figures in three straight and will thrive with the added distance on Saturday. I expect the dark bay colt to be forwardly placed from the break and well positioned turning for home at a square price under Mike Smith.

#4 CONTRARY THINKING (50-1): Chad Brown trainee is entered mainly to ensure that there is a swift early tempo to aid his late-running stablemate, Sierra Leone. It's impossible for me to consider the five-year-old son of Into Mischief to be anything more than a 'rabbit' in the tilt. Florent Geroux will be in the silks.

#5 FOREVER YOUNG (6-1): Japanese star was a very good third in the 2024 Classic and has to be respected in his second trek to Del Mar. The four-year-old from the brilliant Yahagi barn was a facile winner in his tune up for this contest and he never runs a bad race. Win threat will have regular pilot Ryusei Sakai in the stirrups.

#7 SIERRA LEONE (8-1): Defending champ has finished in the top three in each of his 13 lifetime tries to date for trainer Chad Brown. The fantastic son of Gun Runner was in excellent form in the summer and comes into the race fresh with six perfectly spaced morning moves in the interim. The robust late runner will be a major threat if he fires his best shot beneath Flavien Prat.

#8 MINDFRAME (10-1): Stephen Foster (G1) star unseated his rider early in the Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) in his latest appearance. Todd Pletcher pupil has a world of ability and has shown the versatility to win at the top level from distances ranging from seven-eighths to nine furlongs. Constitution four-year-old will never be far back in his local debut with Irad accepting the assignment.

#9 JOURNALISM (10-1): Three-time Grade 1 star had what I felt was a perfect prep for this heavyweight tilt when a clear second in the Pacific Classic S. (G1) on the course and at the distance. Michael McCarthy pupil has performed well from two lifetime runs over the surface, and his morning moves leading up to the Classic have been sharp, as well. The three-year-old son of Curlin will stalk the early action and makes his move approaching the turn for home with Jose Ortiz inheriting the mount.

#10 ANTIQUARIAN (15-1): Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) star has really come to hand this season and will have no trouble negotiating the 10 furlongs in his local debut for Pletcher. The Centennial Farms' color bearer has ascending Brisnet Speed numbers, the 1 1/4-mile distance is right in his wheelhouse, and he wouldn't surprise me with a top-three finish under the guidance of Luis Saez.

BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC BRISNET SPEED RATING REPORT

by James Scully

Eleven are set for the \$7 million Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) at Del Mar on Nov. 1, and probable favorite Sovereignty owns the top last-out Brisnet Speed rating, netting a 112 for his 10-length win in the Travers (G1) on Aug. 23.

Posts will be drawn on Tuesday. Locked, cross-entered to the Dirt Mile (G1) and Classic, will not run due to illness.

Since 2017, Classic winners earned an average figure of 108.5 in their final prep. The 2022 winner, Flightline (117), registered the top number, and Knicks Go (102) received the lowest a year earlier.

Four entrants earned at least a 108 Speed rating in their final prep (Speed ratings not available for classy Japanese raider Forever Young, who made his last three starts internationally): Sovereignty, Fierceness (111), Antiquarian (108), and Journalism (108). And Sierra Leone (107) and Baeza (106) fit the profile of previous Classic winners with big last-out numbers.

The 2025 Classic features talented horses, with the top three finishers from last year back to face a deep group of new challengers, and the 1 1/4-mile race promises to be exciting.

ANALYSIS

Let's preview the Classic field, ranked by top last-out Brisnet Speed rating (three most recent numbers included).

Sovereignty (112/105/111): A winner of four straight, the powerhouse colt has netted Brisnet Late Pace numbers of 117 and 111 in recent starts as well as top-class Speed ratings. Showed versatility racing closer to the pace in recent wins, and Sovereignty rallied from 16th to win the hot-paced Kentucky Derby (G1) convincingly. Three-year-olds have won the Classic 14 times in the race's 40-year history.

Fierceness (111/100/95): Chased hot pace (:22.53, :44.96, and 1:09.44) before finishing a commendable second in last year's Classic, and the four-year-old showed his affinity for Del Mar when returning in late August, rallying to win the Pacific Classic (G1) by 3 1/4 lengths in a fast time. Given the speed entered and adaptability displayed last time, Fierceness may be in a position to get first run on his main rivals.

Antiquarian (108/107/102): Looking for an upset candidate? Antiquarian fits the bill with his rising numbers, which stamp him worthy of consideration for any vertical exotics like trifectas or superfectas. After a runner-up in the Suburban (G2), the early/presser rallied to notch his first Grade 1 tally last out, taking the 1 1/4-mile Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) by 1 1/4 lengths. Four-year-old is flying under the radar and improving.

Journalism (108/105/108): Sandwiched a Preakness (G1) victory inside runner-up finishes to Sovereignty in the Kentucky Derby and Belmont (G1), and Journalism receives a jockey switch to Jose Ortiz after closing from last for second in the Pacific Classic. A three-time Grade 1 winner this season, the classy three-year-old may be more tactical this time, seeking to make a serious impact in the stretch.

Sierra Leone (107/107/103): After finishing second or third in four consecutive races, Sierra Leone put it all together in the 2024 Classic, boldly closing from well off the pace to triumph by 1 1/2 lengths. Consistency is not his staple, winning two of the last nine outings, but the four-year-old returns off a pair of encouraging performances, winning the Whitney (G1) and finishing a troubled second in the Jockey Club Gold Cup. And he projects to receive another favorable setup at Del Mar.

Baeza (106/104/104): Just notched his second career win, smartly capturing the Pennsylvania Derby (G1) by open lengths, and his increasing Speed and Late Pace numbers stamp the three-year-old colt as a very promising individual moving forward. The Classic will be his first test against elders and represents a tall challenge, but Baeza has something going for him and merits, at the very least, a look for the vertical exotics based upon numbers.

Mindframe (NA/104/100): Lost rider in the Jockey Club Gold Cup after being knocked sideways, and Mindframe ranked based on penultimate prep, a one-length score in the Stephen Foster (G1) in late June. Along with lower numbers and no wins beyond nine furlongs, Mindframe appears too light on racing experience despite recording published workouts every month this year.

Nevada Beach (104/97/99): Has won three of four since making debut in April, recording his first Grade 1 victory in the recent Goodwood, but Classic may prove too much too soon for up-and-coming colt. Look at his connections: Bob Baffert owns a record four Classic wins, and Mike Smith will seek to join Chris McCarron and Jerry Bailey with a record five wins.

Contrary Thinking (95/31/97): Entered strictly as a pacesetter for stablemate Sierra Leone, no realistic chance to challenge for even a minor award given his slower form.

Forever Young (NA): Did not experience a clean trip from the innermost post in last year's Classic, registering a 111 Speed rating for his troubled third, and Forever Young has raced thrice since. A commendable winner of the Saudi Cup (G1) earlier this year, the four-year-old returned from a six-month layoff with a well-regarded tune-up in early October, rolling to a convincing Japanese stakes win; dismiss the top three contender at your own risk.

2025 BREEDERS' CUP: UNDER-THE-RADAR CONTENDERS ON SATURDAY

by Keeler Johnson

If you're looking for live longshots to bet across the nine championship races on Breeders' Cup Saturday at Del Mar, we're here to help.

In a pair of stories highlighting under-the-radar contenders at the 2024 Breeders' Cup, we highlighted winning longshots Citizen Bull (15-1), Soul of an Angel (19-1), and More Than Looks (6-1) as horses worth betting.

Longshots could have a trickier time prevailing at the 2025 Breeders' Cup, since many of the races feature strong favorites. But even a top-three finish from a double-digit longshot can produce big payoffs in exotic bets, so with this in mind, here are three price horses we recommend playing on Breeders' Cup Saturday:

RACE 7: BREEDERS' CUP DISTAFF (G1): #6 ALICE VERITE
Many of the contenders in the Distaff have struggled with consistency and haven't been running especially fast. A double-digit longshot could easily finish in the top three, so why not give #6 Alice Verite (20-1) a look?

Alice Verite has spent the vast majority of her career competing on turf in Japan. However, she wasn't disgraced when trying dirt in the 2024 Breeders' Cup Distaff. Sent off at 18-1, Alice Verite ran evenly from off the pace to finish fourth behind 2024 Horse of the Year Thorpedo Anna.

A fifth-place finish (beaten only 1 1/4 lengths) in Japan's Victoria Mile (G1) this year suggests Alice Verite remains in similar form to last year. Don't leave her off your tickets.

#	HORSE NAME	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Nitrogen	Jose Ortiz	Mark Casse	4-1
2	Sarawak Rim (ARG)	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	Juan Franco Saldvia	12-1
3	Clicquot	Flavien Prat	Brendan Walsh	10-1
4	Scylla	Junior Alvarado	Bill Mott	15-1
5	Scottish Lassie	Joel Rosario	Jorge Abreu	12-1
6	Alice Verite (JPN)	Kyle Frey	Kazuya Nakatake	20-1
7	Gin Gin	Luis Saez	Brendan P Walsh	12-1
8	Seismic Beauty	Juan Hernandez	Bob Baffert	9-5
9	Majestic Oops	Umberto Rispoli	Dan Ward	30-1
10	Gun Song	Tyler Gaffalione	Mark A. Hennig	30-1
11	Dry Powder	Antonio Fresu	Chad Summers	20-1
12	Dorth Vader	John Velazquez	George Weaver	5-1
13	Regaled	Joseph Ramos	D. Whitworth Beckman	30-1

RACE 9: BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC (G1): #9 JOURNALISM
Classic favorite #6 Sovereignty (6-5) has developed into a beast with consecutive wins in the Kentucky Derby (G1), Belmont (G1), Jim Dandy (G2), and Travers (G1). If he's a clear-cut choice to defeat older rivals in the Classic, then his main three-year-old rival #9 Journalism (10-1) is arguably overpriced at 10-1.

Journalism couldn't quite keep pace with Sovereignty in the Kentucky Derby and Belmont, finishing second each time. But in between, he overcame serious traffic trouble and bumping to win the Preakness (G1). His post-Triple Crown exploits include a win in the Haskell (G1) and a fine second against older horses in the Pacific Classic (G1).

Toward the end of his busy spring/summer campaign, Journalism had lost some of his tactical speed. Perhaps freshening up since the Pacific Classic will help him recapture his best form. He might not turn the tables on Sovereignty, but a top-three finish at double-digit odds isn't an unrealistic expectation.

2025 BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC				
TRACK	RACE 9		TIME SAT NOV 01 2025	
#	HORSE NAME	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ODDS
1	Fierceness	John Velazquez	Todd Pletcher	5-2
2	Baeza	Hector Issac Berrios	John Shireffs	10-1
3	Nevada Beach	Mike Smith	Bob Baffert	20-1
4	Contrary Thinking	Florent Geroux	Chad Brown	50-1
5	Forever Young	Ryusei Sakai	Yoshito Yahagi	7-2
7	Sierra Leone	Flavien Prat	Chad Brown	7-2
8	Mindframe	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	Todd Pletcher	6-1
9	Journalism	Jose Ortiz	Michael McCarthy	5-1
10	Antiquarian	Luis Saez	Todd Pletcher	10-1



2025 BREEDERS' CUP: UNDER-THE-RADAR CONTENDERS ON SATURDAY *(continued)*

by Keeler Johnson

RACE 10: BREEDERS' CUP MILE (G1): #10 JONQUIL

#10 Jonquil (10-1) has shown strong form competing over one mile in Europe. He was beaten only a head in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (G1) by 2024 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1) winner Henri Matisse, and during the summer, he conquered older rivals in the Celebration Mile (G2).

Jonquil's first stateside start yielded a fourth-place finish in the Oct. 4 Turf Mile (G1) at Keeneland. Breaking from post 11, he raced wide throughout and dropped a dozen lengths behind the pace in a spread-out field. Despite covering significantly more ground than the top three finishers, Jonquil rallied late to finish only 1 1/2 lengths away from victory.

If Jonquil can work out a better trip in the Breeders' Cup Mile, he can move forward and surprise with an upset win.

Good luck!

#	HORSE NAME	JOCKEY	TRAINER	ODDS
1	One Stripe (SAF)	Juan Hernandez	W.C. Marshall	30-1
2	Notable Speech (GB)	William Buick	Charles Appleby	5-2
3	Sahian (IRE)	Mickael Barzalona	Francis Henri Graffard	6-1
4	The Lion In Winter	Christophe Soumillon	Aidan O'Brien	6-1
5	Program Trading	Flavien Prat	Chad Brown	11
6	Gran Oriente (CHI)	Hector Berrios	Alvarez Donoso	30-1
7	Johannes	Umberto Rispoli	Tim Yakteen	8-1
8	Formidable Man	John Velazquez	Michael McCarthy	10-1
9	Argine (JPN)	Lanfranco Dettori	Mitsumasa Nakauchida	20-1
10	Jonquil	Colin Keane	Andrew Balding	10-1
11	Rhetorical	Irad Ortiz, Jr.	William Walden	5-1
12	Gas Me Up	Jose Ortiz	Kevin Attard	30-1
13	Qirat (GB)	Rossa Ryan	Ralph Beckett	20-1



2025 BREEDERS' CUP CONTENDERS WORTH CONSIDERING AT A PRICE

by Vance Hanson



Compared to the chalk-heavy results of the 2023 Breeders' Cup, the 2024 edition at Del Mar was rather kind to longshot players. Nine of the 14 winners were sent off at 5-1 or higher, including some real bombs in a few races.

It remains to be seen whether history repeats itself next weekend, but here are a few potentially higher-priced contenders worth keeping an eye on.

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES TURF (G1)

Multiple Group 1 winner Precise is more than qualified to assert her class against this field, but there are several other intriguing contenders to consider. One is the Joseph O'Brien-trained Queen of Hawaii.

Only sixth in her debut to eventual multiple Group winner Composing, Queen of Hawaii made great strides in her next two starts at the Curragh over this one-mile distance. She won both by more than two lengths, including the Flame of Tara (G3).

By Kingman and out of a full sister to 2018 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1) winner Line of Duty, Queen of Hawaii may lack the CV of the Coolmore contenders, but she remains with a tremendous amount of upside.

BREEDERS' CUP TURF (G1)

While this is being billed as a clash between the three-year-old filly Minnie Hauk and two-time Turf winner Rebel's Romance, the German-bred Goliath is hardly a vanity entry on the part of Kentucky-based owner John Stewart (Resolute Racing).

True, Goliath tends to be an unreliable sort. But when he's on his game, he can be one of the best in Europe. That was in evidence last year when he coasted in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth (G1) at Ascot, defeating eventual Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1) heroine Bluestocking and Rebel's Romance, who finished more than five lengths adrift of Goliath. Goliath himself couldn't compete in the Arc, being a gelding, so he turned his attention to Asia last fall, where he lost the Japan Cup (G1) by three lengths.

Goliath's form has admittedly been spotty this season. He didn't show up at all in the Queen Elizabeth II Cup (G1) during a jaunt to Hong Kong in April, and later fared rather poorly in the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud (G1) won by Calandagan. His form, otherwise, has been solid, albeit against lesser Group 1 types. His last-out win in the Grosser Preis von Baden (G1) in Germany was a return to better form, and he shouldn't be automatically dismissed against the two marquee contenders.

BREEDERS' CUP MILE (G1)

The mile division in Europe didn't yield a true leader this season, but I don't think that means they can't win this race.

Entering on a high is the France-based three-year-old Sahlan, who has pulled off back-to-back upsets in the Prix Daphnis (G3) at Deauville and Prix du Moulin (G1) at Longchamp. The latter was achieved with a late surge by a nose, with notable rivals Rosallion, The Lion in Winter, and Henri Matisse behind him.

Like Goliath, Sahlan is trained by Francis-Henri Graffard, who also conditions the brilliant Calandagan and Arc winner Daryz. A rising force in the French training ranks, Graffard is sure to be heard from at the Breeders' Cup for many years to come, and Sahlan seemingly has the tools to provide the trainer with his first U.S. success.



2025 BREEDERS' CUP: SPOTLIGHTING TOP RETURNEES FROM 2024

by James Scully

For the second consecutive year, the 2025 Breeders' Cup will be held at Del Mar, and the two-day, 14-race program will feature many notable performers from last year's edition. Let's preview the top returning horses.

\$7 MILLION CLASSIC (LAST YEAR'S FINISH)

SIERRA LEONE (1st) has piled up minor awards over the last two seasons, recording two wins from the last nine starts, but the late runner can still bring it, winning the Whitney (G1) two back and recording a troubled second most recently in the Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1). And we know Sierra Leone loves Del Mar, turning in his fastest career performance (114 Brisnet Speed rating), posting a 1 1/2-length victory in last year's Classic.

FIERCENESS (2nd) comes on during the fall every racing season, winning the 2022 Juvenile (G1) at Santa Anita convincingly and recording a courageous second in last year's Classic after being forced to duel through wicked opening splits (:22.43, :44.96 and 1:09.44). Pace figures to be more moderate in this year's Classic, and Fierceness returns in fine fettle, recording a smashing 3 1/4-length win in the Aug. 30 Pacific Classic (G1) at Del Mar last out.

FOREVER YOUNG (3rd) didn't receive the best trip from the innermost post position before admirably rallying for third last year, and supporters will be expecting more from the four-year-old this time around. International raider prepped for the Classic with a sharp win in Japan recently, and Forever Young rates as a dangerous wildcard.

\$5 MILLION TURF

REBEL'S ROMANCE (1st) will seek an unprecedented third win in the Turf, capturing the 2022 edition at Keeneland and prevailing by a head at Del Mar last year. A five-time winner this season, classy seven-year-old gelding showed his affinity for tight American turf courses when romping in the Joe Hirsch Turf Classic (G1) at Aqueduct last out.

\$2 MILLION SPRINT

STRAIGHT NO CHASER (1st) needed his last start, finishing third in the Santa Anita Sprint Championship (G2) following a near six-month layoff, and his speed is always dangerous. And easy to appreciate the versatility he showed in last year's Sprint, getting up late to prevail.

BENTORNATO (2nd) made his first start versus older horses and only second U.S. graded attempt in last year's Sprint, dueling through hot fractions before grudgingly giving way late by a neck. Returned in September with scintillating stakes victory at Churchill Downs and may have more to offer at Del Mar this year.

MULLIKIN (3rd) is a hard-trying sort who runs well off the freshening, and Grade 1 winner figures to be well-spotted up close with his tactical ability.

\$1 MILLION DIRT MILE

FULL SERRANO (1st) came to hand for John Sadler last fall, recording a convincing win over allowance rivals at Del Mar before a second in the Pacific Classic, and rolled to a comfortable 1 1/2-length decision at 13-1 in the Dirt Mile. And he's followed a similar pattern this season, finishing a commendable second in the Sept. 27 Goodwood (G1) at Santa Anita after opening the year with an easy allowance win at Del Mar.

\$2 MILLION MILE

JOHANNES (2nd) will try to do one spot better after missing by three-quarters of a length in last year's Mile, tuning up for this year's edition with a nice win in the City of Hope Mile (G2) at Santa Anita.

NOTABLE SPEECH (3rd) rallied belatedly for a minor award as the favorite last year and figures to receive plenty of support again following a sharp win in the Woodbine Mile (G1) in mid-September.

\$2 MILLION FILLY & MARE TURF

CINDERELLA'S DREAM (2nd) missed by a half-length last year and has carried her form forward as a four-year-old, winning the Falmouth (G1) at Newmarket three starts back.

\$1 MILLION TURF SPRINT

MOTORIOUS (2nd) loves Del Mar's turf, winning four of five sprint attempts, and will try to make amends for the lone setback, a neck second in last year's Turf Sprint.

A G BULLET (3rd) had every chance before finishing a nose back of Motorious last year, and the classy mare returns in top form at age six, recording nice wins in the Jaipur (G1) and Ladies Turf Sprint (G2) in her last two outings.

HONORABLE MENTION

CITIZEN BULL, winner of last year's Juvenile (G1), will be back to compete in the Dirt Mile.





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