



Race Date	11/4/22	
<b>Blog Edition</b>	Vol. 2, No. 45	

# **BREEDERS' CUP EDITION**

**BREEDERS' CUP WEEKEND HAS ARRIVED!!!** Welcome to perhaps the best weekend of horse racing of the entire year, the Breeders' Cup. We have this weekend's races covered like a glove, with detailed analysis of the two-day event, starting with Friday and continuing into Saturday. In this edition of the Power Picks, we have analysis of every BC race, ABC Grids to give players our opinion of all the horses we'd consider on the win end for horizontal betting purposes (P3, P4, P5, etc.....), and "Howard's Horizontal's", where Host Howard Kravets gives you suggestions on how to play the various Pick 4's and 5's on the weekend. <u>As always, check for scratches and changes before making your bets</u>. We wish you all good luck this weekend at Keeneland for the Breeders' Cup!!!

\*\* As a side note, we are NOT covering the races prior to the Breeders' Cup races on each day.

### **Spot/Price Play ROI**

ROI	Calculation	Note
\$2.57	\$441.73 / 172	The average horseplayer's ROI is \$1.60; anything above \$2 is a net profit.

### Last Week's Results

#### **Racetrack: Santa Anita**

Race	Horse	Finish	Notes
6	Cast Member	WON	Paid \$5.20just the trip I was hoping for
7	War At Sea	SCR.	
9	Amy C	WON	Paid \$9.40, and straight exacta hit for \$25 for \$2

#### **Racetrack: BAQ**

6	Stop War	5 <sup>th</sup>	Didn't break great, wasn't good enough late
8	Boston Post Road	WON	Paid \$3.30aggressive early, tons the best
9	Eastern Bay	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brutal beat by a neck at 6-1, jock went too wide top of stretch

Had a fantastic day at Santa Anita and Belmont @ Aqueduct....hope you cashed!!





# FRIDAY BREEDERS' CUP

## **ABC Grids** — For more information on what an "ABC" structure is, watch <u>HERE</u>. Late Pick 5, R6 – 10 ; P5 Post Time 3pm ET

#### Howard Kravets' Grid:

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
6	2,4	5,6,11,12	1,9,10	2,4,6,11,12
7	7,8	10,11,14	2,3,5,9,13	7,8,11,14
8	4,5,10	6,11,12,13	3,9	4,5,6,10,11,12,13
9	3	6,10	4,8	3
10	1,4,8	2,6	13	1,4,8

#### Pete Visco's Grid:

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
6	2,3,7,9	4,10,12	5,6,8,11	2,3,7,9
7	3,7,8,14	10	2,5	3,7,8,14
8	1,4,5,13	6,10,11,12	3,9	1,4,5,13
9	3	4,5,6,10	8	3
10	1,2,4,5,8,10	6,13	9,11,12	1,2,4,5,6,8,10

#### Paul Halloran's Grid:

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
6	2,6	3,5,12	1,4	2,5,6,10
7	5,7	10,14	3,8,9	5,7
8	4,5	9,10,11	1,3,12,13	4,5,9,10
9	3,10	4,6	5	3,10
10	1,4	2	6,9	1,2,4

#### Kyle Roscoe's Grid:

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
6	2,4,12	6	1,5,11	2,4,6,12
7	5,7	10	2,3,8	5,7,10
8	4,10,11	-	6,8,9,12,13	4,10,11
9	3	-	4,10	3
10	1,2,4	8	6,13,14	1,2,4





## Friday Race-By-Race Analysis

## Race 6 – Juvenile Turf Sprint

Speed, Speed, and more Speed

### Analysis by Howard Kravets:

The first Breeders Cup race of the weekend is this competitive 2yo affair, matching some VERY fast American horses with a nice mix of talented Euros going 5 ½ furlongs on the lawn. There are a few headliners in here, starting with Wesley Ward's **#2 Love Reigns**, coming off an impressive win at Saratoga. But he'll have company on or near the lead from the outside posts, with **#9 Sharp Aza Tack**, Baffert's aptly-name **#11 Speed Boat Beach**, the exciting lowa-bred **#10 Tyler's Tribe**, and talented Euro **#12 The Platinum Queen**, who beat elders last time at Ascot on a straight course.

You never know these days, but it seems highly unlikely there won't be a blazing pace set here. The break and first quarter into the turn will obviously be crucial. It's not easy to win a turf sprint closing from behind, but if you can find one that will be sitting a few lengths off and finish, you'll be in a great position....the question is, whom will that be?

The horse I'm most interested in, for the reasons stated above plus the expected post-time odds, is another Euro. The filly **#4 Dramatised** is talented and might be overlooked here. On the opening day of Ascot in June (G1 Queen Mary S.), she soundly defeated Love Reigns. Since then, she's run perfectly fine, and gets an extra ½ furlong in this race. The concerns are obvious....she hasn't raced in a while (supposedly planned), will need some racing luck, and needs to break well (which she has previously). But based on the pace scenario and her price, she's worth a shot here....and don't be dismayed by the "girls v. the boys" thing....they do that all the time in Europe and she's beaten the boys before.

Love Reigns could easily win, and I'm sure Ward will have him cranked and ready to go...he's the one to beat. I'm a bit against Speed Boat Beach. I think he's a dirt horse and regressed dramatically Beyer-wise last time facing nobody. Tyler's Tribe is a cool story, but also is a dirt horse, can't use him here. Then there's The Platinum Queen....she's VERY good and talented, but has never been around a bend, faced this kind of early speed, and will be wildly overbet. Can she win? Of course, but I'll use her defensively. If she wins however, you can REALLY upgrade Highfield Princess on Saturday vs. Golden Pal in the Breeders Cup Sprint. Finally, I want to mention the **#3 Private Creed** for Asmussen, who won a prep for this. He can close, but may be too far back and seems slow on figs.

This pace should be lightening quick, so there's a good chance someone will win from off the pace. Good luck in the first of many exciting BC Races this weekend!!

Howard: 2-4-11 Pete: 2-3-9 Paul: 2-6-5 Kyle:
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## **RACE 7: Juvenile Fillies**

### Better late than never

Analysis by Paul Halloran:

Horses who were forwardly placed fared well on the dirt at the recently concluded Keeneland meet. The Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies will be run at 1 1/16 miles, meaning there will be a shorter stretch, with the finish line at the sixteenth pole. All signs point to a speed horse winning.

So, let's go with a closer.

**#7 Chop Chop** earns my top selection in a race that has more than enough speed to set up for a late runner. The Brad Cox trainee comes in off a nose loss to Wonder Wheel in the Alcibiades in which she closed from 11<sup>th</sup> in the 14-horse field. The pace was slow – :23.49, :47.16, 1:11.60 – and Chop Chop didn't have the cleanest trip under Joel Rosario, yet she just missed getting up.

Mark Casse has been talking up **#5 Wonder Wheel** since the filly won on debut at Churchill Downs in June. The daughter of Into Mischief ran a good second in the Debutante, followed by a second in the Spinaway at Saratoga. In the Alcibiades, she had things all her own way on the front end, which doesn't appear likely in the Juvenile Fillies. John Velazquez should be sending **#2 You're My Girl** from the inside, and Luis Saez figures to do the same with **#8 Atomically**. The strategy for Wonder Wheel will likely be to sit off the pacesetters, take the lead on the turn, and hold off the closers.

If it's possible for a race to be lost at the post-position draw, that may have been the case with **#14 Raging Sea**, who drew the far outside post. She does have one of the best jockeys in the world, Flavien Prat, on her back, and he will have to find a way to work out a trip for the daughter of Curlin, who will be running late. Raging Sea also comes out of the Alcibiades – traditionally a key prep for the Juvenile Fillies – in which she sat close to the pace down the backstretch and tried to make a late move in the stretch before interfering with Xigera, resulting in a DQ from third to fourth.

I am against the morning-line favorite **#10 Chocolate Gelato**, whom I don't think will get the lead and may not want to go any farther than the flat mile she ran in winning the Frizette. I'll use her underneath but not on the win end. My price plays to beef up the trifecta will be **#8 Atomically**, **#3 And Tell Me Nolies** and **#9 Grand Love**.





## **RACE 8: Juvenile Turf**

### Going Where the Euros have Never Gone Before

Analysis by Kyle Roscoe:

The first turf route of the 2022 Breeders Cup comes in the form of the Juvenile Fillies Turf going 1 mile on the grass. This race looks to be pretty wide open, as a lot of the ones on the Friday card seem to be, but there does seem to be a little bit of pace developing in this race. You have the **5 Pleasant Passage** for Shug who showed speed last out, you have the **9 Delight** for Jonathan Thomas, as well as the 2 outside horses, **13 Xigera** and **14 Basil Martini**. Also, some of these Euros like to be forwardly placed, but with them coming over you never know how much speed they have c comparatively.

The one thing to notice about the entire race is all of the Euros have never gone around a bend before. The **7 Spirit Gal** has run a maximum of 6F on the straight, along with the 8 Manhattan Jungle. The other 3 Euros, the **10 Meditate**, **12 Midnight Mile**, and **14 Basil Martini** have gone 7F, but still all on the straight. So, this becomes a tricky situation to handicap as you don't know how these horses will fare going around 1 turn let alone around two like this race is, especially since most have drawn far to the outside.

With all that said, my top pick still is going to be one of those Euros and that is the **10 Mediate**, for Aiden O'Brien and piloted by Ryan Moore. Going back to this horse's races at Ascot, Curragh, and Newmarket, this horse truly has a turn of foot unlike from what I saw in any replay for the others in the race. The race where this was most profound was the race two back on September 11<sup>th</sup> at Curragh where she was second to Tahiyra. If you watch that stretch run, she ran an unbelievable winning race, but got caught by an absolute monster in Tahiyra, which is one of the most impressive "turns-of-foot" I have ever seen.

As for the horses I like underneath, I really like the **11 G Laurie** to slide in at a price. She had a lot of trouble in the lane in her last at Woodbine and getting William Buick on the back isn't something I am taking lightly. The other horse I was interested in was **4 Free Look** for Chad Brown and Flavian Prat. This filly has run three good races, but mostly what I am looking at is this filly has versatility. She has shown to be able to run horses down from the back, but in her last start she showed that she can be close to the pace. She might not have won, but I take that as a plus moving forward, especially with these Euros coming in with no turn experience. **Good luck however you play!** 





## **RACE 9: Juvenile**

### **Rock-Solid Favorite**

### Analysis by Howard Kravets:

This year's Juvenile, contested at 1 1/16<sup>th</sup> mile with a short run into the first turn and a "first-wire" finish that occurs in mid-stretch, figures to have one of the heavier favorites of the weekend with Baffert's impressive, speedy **#3 Cave Rock**. 3-for-3 and winning by open lengths, this son of Arrogate looks every bit like his daddy so far, shrugging off horses early and finishing well. He'll be tough to beat unless someone is very aggressive early or he doesn't handle the Keeneland surface....it is the first time he's run outside of California. It is by far the toughest field he's faced, but a good break and one slow quarter might be all it takes to get the victory. The rail horse has absolutely no chance to win, but might be the fly in the ointment. He's very fast early and could push Cave Rock for the first half mile.

But Cave Rock is not the only talented runner here. Baffert has another one, **#10 National Treasure** (by Quality Road), that has run well, losing only to his stablemate. He puts the blinkers back on and has worked very well, with a HUGE gallop out in his last morning blowout. It's hard to imagine they'll be ding-donging on the lead early, but should "Rock" falter, he might be the one to get first run on the closers. The "other" Baffert (or Brown or Pletcher, etc...)....we've seen this movie before!! I really believe he's one of two in here that have a shot to upset the apple cart.

Todd Pletcher has two in the race, including **#4 Forte**, who won the Breeders' Futurity last time over the Keeneland strip, and **#8 Lost Ark**, a closer who had a troubled trip in the Forte race. I like both of them to finish underneath, but not on the win end. Forte received a dream trip to win in his last, and Lost Ark might be a bit too slow at the moment. If either wins I would not be shocked, but I'll look elsewhere as main threats. The one horse that intrigues me the most in here is **#6 Blazing Sevens** for Chad Brown. This son of BC Juvenile winner Good Magic (who won at a price) has done nothing wrong and is very professional. I liked him in the Champagne at Belmont, and think he can get a similar trip in this race. He needs to improve quite a bit to win by the speed figs, but he's been outworking Jack Christopher in the mornings, can take dirt in behind, and should have no issues with the two turns. He's my 2<sup>nd</sup> choice and possible upsetter if "Rock" losses. Cave Rock is very aggressive and fast....he is a very likely winner but might get caught up in the moment. The winner will be the presumptive favorite in the 2023 Kentucky Derby.





## **RACE 10: Juvenile Turf**

### To Appleby or Knott To Appleby...That is the Question

Analysis by Pete Visco:

The last race of BC Friday is a battle between the U.S.'s best juvenile turf routers and two Euro invaders from C. Appleby and A. O'Brien. As I handicapped, I realized I don't love any of these horses, and this was my least strong opinion. With that, I'm going to lean on six horses.

My price play **Webslinger (#10)** should be rolling late especially if we get a hot pace. Two back, was green, checked, dropped to last, and still ate up ground. In his last race, he got a cleaner trip and rolled by a soft field impressively (101 TF). He needs to take a step forward but at 20-1, I'll take the chance.

Combo of Brown and Prat with **I'm Very Busy (#8)** who debuted routing and won impressively coming off the pace. Next, he was favored on a yielding turf, swung way wide and closed well but couldn't get by. In his 3<sup>rd</sup> start and with better ground he can run back to his debut form.

Appleby, Buick, and Godolphin send over **Silver Knott (#4)**. In the Autumn at 8f, he had the highest TF figure (102) in the field and carried 132 lbs. The knock was he struggled to hold on late and the extra furlong was getting to him, which is why he isn't a standout.

Four-Time winner Aidan O'Brien sends **Victoria Road (#1)** with three straight wins where he faced so-so company and popped light TF figures. However, he's won over varying distances and around turns and showed he can win in a fight. Plus, unlike many Euros, he breaks well and can work out a stalking trip.

From CA comes **Packs A Whalop (#2)** who last got a pocket trip behind a 44-1 shot and exploded. He's gotten better with each start and is undefeated since moving to turf. My concern is he hasn't beaten another BC horse and his trainer is 1-for-20 outside of CA.

My other price play, **Battle of Normandy (#5)**, regressed in his last race on yielding turf after getting pinched and being re-routed. Two back he had trouble and a puzzling ride as well. With pace up front and a rider change to J. Lezcano, I am giving this horse one more shot.

In a race I think is completely wide open, my plan is to go deep in horizontal plays and hope that one of the big price plays gets home to close out day one of the BC with a BANG!!





## **HOWARD'S HORIZONTALS**

If you like Pick 4's and Pick 5's this page is for you. There are two tickets given for each sequence, a "big budget" ticket and "small budget" ticket based on your bankroll. Good luck....these are my favorite types of bets, and they can pay BIG on BC Weekend!!

## Race 6: Pick 5

Big Budget: 2,4,6,11,12 / 7,8,11,14 / 4,5,6,10,11,12,13 / 3 / 1,4,8 (\$210)

Small Budget: 2,4,6,12 / 7,8 / 4,5,10 / 3 / 1,4,8 (\$36)

### Race 7: Pick 4:

Big Budget: 2,3,4,5,7,8,9,10,12,13,14 / 4,5,7,10,11,12,13 / 3 / 1,2,4,8 (\$162)

Small Budget: 7,8,14 / 4,5,10 / 3,6,10 / 1,4,8 (\$40.50)

Good luck to everyone on Friday.....please go to the next page for Saturday's BC information!!





# **SATURDAY BREEDERS' CUP**

### **ABC Grids** — For more information on what an "ABC" structure is, watch <u>HERE</u>. **BC Races R3 – 11 ; Post Time 11:50am ET**

#### Howard Kravets' Grid:

Rac	Α	В	С	Caveman Picks
е				
3	5,7,8	4	3,6,13	4,5,7,8
4	8	6	1,4,11	6,8
5	6,7,9	2,10	1,5	2,5,6,7,9,10
6	3	4,5	9,11,12	3,4,5,11
7	9	-	2,4	9
8	4,13	1,3,9,11	14	1,3,4,9,11,13
9	1,4	6,8	7	1,4,6,8
10	5,7,11	-	2	5,7,11
11	4	6	1,2	4

#### Pete Visco's Grid:

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
3	5,7,8	4,13	11	5,7,8
4	8	6,7	1,11,12	6,7,8
5	5,6,7	9	11	5,6,7,9
6	3,5,11	4	9,12	3,5,11
7	9	4,6	2,5	9
8	4,11,13,14	1,6	3,8	4,11,13,14
9	1,4,6	8	7	1,4,6,8
10	2,5,7,11	3,9	8,10,13	2,5,7,11
11	4	1,6	-	1,4



Power Picks

#### **Paul Halloran's Grid:**

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
3	8,13	4,11	5,6,7	4,8,11,13
4	8	4,6	1,9,10,11	8
5	9	2,7	5,6	2,7,9
6	3,11	4,9,12	5	3,4,9,11,12
7	9		2,4,6	9
8	4,8	5,13,14	3,6,11	3,4,5,8,13,14
9	1,6	8	3,4,7	1,6
10	5,7	2,11	3,4	2,5,7,11
11	4,6	1,2	5	4,6

#### Kyle Roscoe's Grid:

Race	А	В	С	Caveman Picks
3	4,7	8	5,13	4,7,8
4	8	6	1,4,11	8
5	6,7,9	-	8,10	6,7,9
6	3,5,11	4	9,12	3,4,5,11
7	9	-	2,6	9
8	4	11,13	5,6,14	4,11,13
9	6	1,4	7	1,4,6
10	5,7	-	2,11	5,7
11	4	6	1,2	4

Go to the next page for Race-by-Race Analysis of Saturday's races.....





## Saturday Race-By-Race Analysis

## Race 3 – F & M Sprint

## One good turn deserves another

Analysis by Paul Halloran:

You remember **#13 Echo Zulu**. Eclipse Award winner as champion 2-year-old filly in 2021. Winter book favorite for the Kentucky Oaks, which she entered with a perfect 5-5 career record, only to finish a disappointing fourth.

Steve Asmussen, the all-time winningest trainer in North America, gave the daughter of Gun Runner a freshening, and when she made her return in the Dogwood Stakes at Churchill Downs Sept. 24, it was at 7 furlongs. She went off at 1-2 and won easily.

The feeling here is that Asmussen is onto something with turning **#13 Echo Zulu** into a 1-turn sprinter. And while she has never recorded a triple-digit Beyer Speed Figure, I think the F&M Sprint sets up perfectly for her. The 13 post doesn't bother me that much at 7 furlongs – the great Groupie Doll won this race from the 11 – and **#13 Echo Zulu** should be forwardly placed by Ricardo Santana Jr., sitting just off the pace if he does not send her to the lead. I don't think she needs the lead to win and the price will be right (10-1 ML).

The likely favorite will be **#8 Goodnight Olive**. Chad Brown has had to stop twice on the daughter of 2004 Breeders' Cup Classic champ Ghostzapper, but she comes into the F&M Sprint in top form with a 5-race winning streak, including an impressive score in the Grade 1 Ballerina at Saratoga. She is 1-1 at Keeneland (maiden win last October) and 3-3 at 7 furlongs. She will take some beating.

We would all like to own a filly like **#7 Obligatory.** She shows up and makes her (late) run every time. She was no match for **#8 Goodnight Olive** in the Ballerina, but she has a wicked turn of foot and if the race flow goes her way – i.e. very fast pace – she could be in the picture. I will use her underneath and only as a "C" in horizontals.

Let's not forget the defending champion, **#4 Ce Ce**, who has won half of her 22 career races and appears to have maintained good form. She was no match for **#8 Goodnight Olive** in the Ballerina, however, and I think there is a chance Father Time may be catching up with this 6-year-old.

If you're looking for a price play underneath, check out **#6 Chain of Love**, the sole BC runner from Japan, a year after Loves Only You won the F&M Turf and Marche Lorraine blew up the tote board in the Distaff. **#6 Chain of Love** seems to have shipped well and put in a good work Wednesday morning. William Buick takes the mount, which doesn't hurt.





### **Race 5 – Turf Sprint**

FREAKY Fast

Analysis by Kyle Roscoe:

Here we go, as most of you who have been fans of the show for a while, you know that this has been dubbed as "my division" since my horse Smokin' Jay ran against a lot of these horses. Let's tackle this turf sprint at 5 ½ furlongs on the grass.

There is one obvious question on everyone's mind in this race, "Is there any way that you can beat **8 Golden Pal**?" My short answer to that is... no, not in my eyes. There are two main contributing factors as to why I don't see this freak of an animal losing. The biggest one is the post draw, where he draws post position 8. I was looking to see if this horse would draw the deep inside, where a lot of these horses who are fast in their own right, would be able to make Golden Pal work a little harder to get a lead. The problem with that logic is, now this monster has drawn a middle-outside draw, but mainly he is outside of the best accompanying speed in this race. This is the likes of 6 Highfield Princess and **5 Go Bears Go** coming over from Europe. There is some speed to his outside such as the **10 Caravel** for Brad Cox, **and 14 Artemus Citylimits** for Mike Maker, but with the very wide draw of the 14, and frankly I don't think the 10 is nearly as fast as Golden Pal. It should spell a recipe for success again for the already two-time Breeder's Cup Champion.

As for the horses that I like to come behind Golden Pal, I think you need to have the **6 Highfield Princess** somewhere in your top three. If you watch the last three replays of this mare, you can see just what a horse she is, a game, tough mare that won't surrender easily. I think this mare will sit behind Golden Pal who looks to be just too fast if he gets out well, I think she has a great chance to hit the exacta. Another horse that I like for underneath is a horse that I really have liked for a long time, which is the **11 Casa Creed** for Bill Mott and Luis Saez. This horse won the Jaipur back in June at Belmont, (and not Smokin' Jay ) with a great run in the clear to snip the **7 Arrest Me Red** at the wire. He then moved to a mile where he won the FourStarDave at Saratoga and closed well but was 5<sup>th</sup> in the Coolmore Turf Mile. I think shortening this horse back up could do him some favors and with a lot of people trying to chase Golden Pal, I could see him catching a piece.

**4 Campanelle** for Wesley Ward in interesting and ridden by Frankie Dettori. This filly is in great form leading up to this race, being in the money in each of her races this year, with one being the G1 Platinum Jubilee at Ascot, just losing to **9 Naval Crown** and **1 Creative Force**. I like this filly in this race for the sole fact that this horse is tactical and can make her own trip. In a turf sprint with a lot of horses trying to vie for position, a horse like Campanelle could get a sneaky good trip and get the jump at the top of the stretch. I am not saying that she necessarily can win, but she is definitely interesting and worth a look. **Good luck however you play!** 





## Race 5 – BIG ASS FANS Dirt Mile

How many different ways can you go?

Analysis By Kyle Roscoe:

Sorry... I had to say the sponsor as it is the best all day, but man... what a puzzle this race came out to be. This is an extremely fascinating race from both the handicapping side and the betting side and looks to be one of the most wide-open races all weekend. That being said, there is a few I wanted to mention up top. First off is the unbelievable story of the **7 Cody's Wish**. This horse is named after a young man by the name of Cody Dorman, who is a teenager with a rare genetic disorder known as Wolf-Hirschhorn Syndrome. But not only does this horse have a story, it has shown up on the track as well, last out being his best effort in the Forego beating the formidable Jackie's Warrior at Saratoga. However, this is only Cody's Wish's 3<sup>rd</sup> time going around 2 turns in what will be his 11<sup>th</sup> career start in the Dirt Mile finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> by a neck and 3 by 5 ¾ respectively. This is my biggest concern for him, as even though he ran well at Tampa Bay, he is now facing the best of the best at a mile.

For me, I am looking to get a little value and I am going to focus my play around the **9 Cyberknife**, for Brad Cox and piloted by Florent Geroux. This colt has been facing the best of the best going a mile and an eighth and quarter for the past 7 months, and I think coming to the Dirt Mile instead of the classic has put him in a very good spot to return to his best form. My biggest plus side is this horse has plenty of backclass and tactical speed to be able to work a trip in the short run to the first turn, and I think Flo will be a little aggressive with this horse. But truly, I think he was just too far back and wide in the Penn Derby to make any impact and getting this cutback will be the thing Brad and Cyberknife need to see a true return to form for him, as he has also been working very well.

As for behind Cyberknife, I will be looking to **7 Cody's Wish** to pick up most of the pieces coming from the back of the pack on a wide sweeping move just like he pulled in the Forego, I just have a little concern about the two turns and how far back they will place this horse going around those two turns. I do think the mile distance suits this horse best, I just think the 1-turn mile is where this horse excels, so I will play against the most likely favorite in this race. Also underneath, I am looking right to Cody's Wish's inside to the **6 Laurel River**, for Bob Baffert and Irad Ortiz Jr. This colt has an amazing effort in my eyes last time out in the Pat O'Brien, earning himself a 108 Beyer, beating American Theorem and next out winner of the Ack Ack at CD Senor Buscador. We all know Baffert loves aiming for these types of spots, looks to get the jump on everyone with a great post and a stalking trip. Just coming over for the first time from CA I like to take with a little bit of caution, as the KEE track in November most likely won't be as tight/fast as the Santa Anita dirt plays. The layoff doesn't concern me for this horse as we know how good Baffert is off these layoffs, but I am going to look somewhere else for someone who has proven themselves out East. I am against **5 Gunite** in this race just for the sole fact I don't like the pace scenario for him or the short rest, but **good luck however you play!** 





## Race 6 – Filly & Mare Turf

Euros vs. Chad

Analysis by Howard Kravets:

The F & M Turf, competed at 1 3/16 mile with a start at the top of the stretch, is an interesting matchup between many talented Euros and the Chad Brown barn. In fact, 10 of the 14 runners fit into one of those categories.

I'm hard-pressed to find a winner outside of the Euros, and truly believe only one of the Brown entrants has a legitimate shot. This Euro contingent might be the strongest group of horses in one race this weekend, with talented 3yo's such as **#3 Nashwa**, **#4 Above the Curve**, and **#5 Tuesday**, and **#7 Toy**. Brown counters with the speedy older mare **#11 In Italian**, **#9 Rougir**, and **#10 Virginia Joy**. Then, don't forget about super-talented Canadian **#12 Moira**, who was awesome on synthetic and should have won last time given a better ride over Rougir.

Although many seem about the same talent-wise, I truly believe Nashwa is the horse to beat. She's been fantastic going different distances on soft and firmer ground, facing the best 3yo girls Europe has to offer. Her regular rider, Holly Doyle, is a superstar in Europe and the most talented female rider we've seen on either continent probably since Rosie Napravnik. Furthermore, Nashwa has tactical speed and should sit a great trip here behind the likely pacesetter In Italian. Last time in the Prix de L'Opera vs. Above the Curve and Tuesday, she was aggressively ridden from an outside post, set the pace the entire trip while being pushed, and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> vs. a horse that was flying late and took advantage of the pace and soft ground. Above the Curve finished 3<sup>rd</sup> just behind Nashwa, with Tuesday fading off of those two. This is by far the best prep for the race worldwide.

Brown has the speedy In Italian, who will try to wire this field while stretching out an additional 1/16<sup>th</sup> of a mile further than she's ever gone. I see two issues with her...the distance, and more importantly, Nashwa and others may not be too far back. She's also been in smaller fields, but she's very sharp and talented. <u>You heard this here first</u>....**#2 Going to Vegas** will be used early and might push In Italian. If you want a Brown closer, than maybe Rougir is the one for you. I was a big fan of her earlier in the year, but she disappointed on many occasions. She ran big last time after a horrible steady/shuffle near the far turn, but this race is much more difficult. Maybe the softer turf courses in the fall in Kentucky will be more to her liking.

This is a great race....I think Nashwa is a small cut above, but many could win here, good luck!!





## **Race 7: Sprint**

### Third time's the charm

Analysis by Paul Halloran:

Every race is a handicapping puzzle – some 500-piece skull busters and others 4-piece peg puzzles designed for a 2-year-old.

Welcome to the 2022 Breeders' Cup Sprint.

The inclination for gamblers is to try to beat the favorite and the BC Sprint is typically a good race to try, as they have won only 3 of the last 21 runnings. If that trend is to continue, it will require a monumental upset.

I was fully prepared to bet **#9 Jackie's Warrior** with Jack Christopher in the race. When Chad Brown opted not to enter Jack Christopher, that made Jackie an even more likely winner.

The theme is redemption, as **#9 Jackie's Warrior** is looking for his first BC win in three attempts, after running fourth to Essential Quality in the 2020 Juvenile and fading to sixth in last year's Sprint, won by longshot **#5 Aloha West**, who is back to defend his title.

There are those who contend that **#9 Jackie's Warrior** may be vulnerable based on getting caught by Cody's Wish in the Forego Stakes at Saratoga. I see three flaws in that line of thinking: He was hounded every step of the way by Pipeline and never opened a clear lead; the race was at 7 furlongs, one more than the Sprint; and there is no one in this race as good as Cody's Wish, the ML favorite in a contentious Dirt Mile. Beat **#9 Jackie's Warrior** at your own peril. Not me.

One interesting alternative is **#2 Kimari**, a filly running vs. the boys. I suspect Wesley Ward opted for this race over the F&M Sprint mainly due to the distance. She does enter in good form, having won a pair of Grade 2s in her last two starts, the Honorable Miss at Saratoga and Gallant Bloom at (Belmont at) Aqueduct. Her 105 and 106 Beyers for those races seem a little high and may lead to her being somewhat overbet here.

**#4 American Theorem** carries the California flag, having won the Grade 1 Bing Crosby and run second in the Grade 2 Pat O'Brien in his last two starts. The caliber of those fields is very much in question, however, and the son of American Pharoah figures to have a hard time picking up the likes of **#9 Jackie's Warrior** closing from well back.





## Race 8 – Mile

A Modern-Day Victory?

### Analysis by Howard Kravets:

Let's go back one year and one day ago. It was the BC Juvenile Turf, and a horse called Modern Games for Appleby was the buzz horse of the day. Then craziness happened...and that was before the gate latches were sprung. We all know what happened afterwards....Modern Games went on to win impressively, but you couldn't collect at the windows.

Since then, **#4 Modern Games** has been very good in Europe, and was the most impressive winner of any turf race in North America by far when crushing **#6 Ivar** and others in the Woodbine Mile with a dazzling turn of foot. Then, he was upset on a very wet turf course 3 weeks ago. Modern Games will not go off at the 7-2 ML, I'm guessing more like 2-1. But if he can get a good trip and fire like last time on this side of the pond, he'll be tough. He's coming off a 3-week break, and some think that might be a bit too quick a comeback for him. <u>Horses who last raced on British Champions Day (Europe's "BC") have NOT done well in our BC....in fact, only one horse, Found for Aiden O'Brien, has won.</u>

There are others can beat Modern Games. The problem is they've drawn very poorly. **#10 Annapolis** for Chad has tactical speed, but will have to use it to get early position. **#13 Kinross**, a talented turf sprinter stretching out to a mile, will have to work something out from the outside, but he's a SERIOUS closer and will be flying late. And poor **#14 Domestic Spending**. He drew the worst of it in his comeback attempt to pull a "Da Hoss" after a one-year plus layoff.

One horse that I wasn't strongly considering is **#5 Smooth Like Straight**. But he gets a great post in a race lacking a ton of early speed (unless **#7 Beyond Brilliant** goes after him hard, which is possible). I think he could hang around for a piece like last year. Other horses I wouldn't completely dismiss are Euros **#1 Pogo** and **#9 Malavath**. They have not been far off of Kinross. Pogo has early speed and might sit the perfect trip, and Malavath is a stone-cold filly closer that finished 2<sup>nd</sup> to Pizza Bianca in last year's Breeders Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf.

I think this race is Modern Games' to lose. Buick should be a bit aggressive out of the gate and get a nice tucked in spot on the first turn in mid-pack, make a move around the far turn and explode like he usually does. Many bettors want payback after last year's debacle at Del Mar in the 2021 BC, and they just might get their wish on Saturday. Watch for Kinross and Domestic Spending to be flying late, but perhaps too late or too wide depending on their trips. Should be fun to watch for sure!!





## **RACE 9: BC DISTAFF**

Rise of the Dynamic (Pletcher) Duo

Analysis by Pete Visco:

From top-to-bottom, this is my favorite BC race this year. One setup that makes a race interesting to watch and handicap for me is when there are high quality horses at each level of the race. By that I mean, speed/front-runners, tactical/mid-pack, and closers. From that perspective, this race has it all. We have **Society (#8)** providing the pure speed, **Search Results (#7)** with a combination of speed and tactical ability, **Nest (#6)** tactical enough to always make her own trip, and **Clariere (#4)** and **Malathaat (#1)** as the deep closers. The key will be which of these fillies/mares will get the trip and will they take advantage of it.

In figuring that out, we must start with the dynamic Todd Pletcher duo. First is **Malathaat**, who has been coming on strong as of late with the addition of blinkers in the last three races. She has been laying closer and leaving herself much less to do while still maintaining her grinding, closing kick. The issues of her hanging a bit down the lane seem to have been resolved.

Second, the 3yo **Nest** has been dominating her generation in the last three races with seemingly effortless victories. Some think this is just her finally blossoming into a dominant filly while others believe she just beat up on a weakened crop of 3yos and an overmatched group of older horses. I tend to lean somewhere in the middle, but we won't really have a definitive answer until after this race is run.

For my top choice, however, I am going with **Clariere**. Let me first say that I am somewhat biased since she is one my favorite horses who I always play, including in last year's Distaff. However, that's not the only reason. Prior to the Personal Ensign, **Clariere** was the undisputed top older female horse on dirt in the U.S. after her wins in the Shuvee and Ogden Phipps. She surpassed **Malathaat** and was heading towards Distaff favoritism. Then, in the Personal Ensign, she banged her head on the gate, bit her tongue, and then ran completely disinterested. For me, this is an opportunity to now get her at a price. The 59.4 bullet work on the 16<sup>th</sup> and solid works since show me she is back in form and ready to roll back to the top of the division.

The one wild card is **Society** who has blossomed in her last two races and can get on the lead and run this field off their feet. With the way she has worked since the Cotillion, that wouldn't be a shock to me, and she is definitely a horse to include on tickets just in case.





## **RACE 10: TURF**

The Lady and the Euros

Analysis by Pete Visco:

The penultimate BC race of the weekend, the Turf, is usually one of the most prestigious featuring toptier invaders from Europe against the best the U.S. has to offer. This year's version, however, is lacking in that "star power" on both accounts.

The best U.S. hope this year is the mare **War Like Goddess (#2)**. She's been fantastic in 2022 with three wins and one loss, which was due to a slow pace and rider error. However, going from beating Grade 2/3-level mares and a weak field of males is not the same as beating this field even with a not as strong Euro contingent. What she does have going for her is a devastating and effortless late kick. If J. Rosario can keep her within striking range and there is any sort of pace up front, she will be able to unleash that kick and roll by this field.

Charlie Appleby and Godolphin are sending the top two choices in the race with **Rebel's Romance (#5)** and **Nation's Pride (#7)**. **Rebel's Romance** hadn't run on turf until his 8<sup>th</sup> start in June. Once he did, he never looked back. He's 4-for-4 including two Group 1 wins in Germany at the Turf's distance of 12f. Some may question the form of the races in Germany but the two recent Arc de Triomphe winners Torquator Tasso and Alpinista campaigned in Germany at points prior to their Arc victories. He should be able to work out a closing trip.

**Nation's Pride** came over to the U.S. in July and stuck around to run in a trio of NY turf stakes. He came out of those races with two pretty dominant wins and a second in which he was too far back and got a somewhat suspect ride. With William Buick back in the saddle, he should be able to work out the perfect stalking trip and can hopefully get the jump on the closers.

Ultimately, my top choice is the \$15M dollar man, **Mishriff (#11)**. This horse would have been a standout if he came over in prior years. However, his form has seemed to fade a bit in 2022. If you dig deeper, though, his last two losses were in the Arc and the Irish Champions over very soft ground, which isn't to his liking. Prior to that, he ran much better in losses to top tier horses such as Baeed, Pyledriver, and Vadeni. In fact, his 123 TF figure in the Juddmonte is as good or better than any others in the field recently. So, I am hoping that this old war horse has one battle left in him so he can show the U.S. fans what the rest of the world has already seen.





# Race 11 – Classic

## Flight Control...Cleared for Takeoff!!

#### Analysis by Howard Kravets:

This is the one we've all been waiting for, the BC Classic. And what a race it is....a smallish but very select field of the best handicap horses / 3yo's in the country assemble what is one of the best Classic fields we've seen in a long time. The star-power is enormous.

It all starts with **#4 Flightline**, then undefeated superstar who doesn't run often, but when he runs, whoa! Last time in the Pacific Classic, he reminded some of Secretariat when he drew off down the backstretch and didn't stop, running the 1 ¼ distance in 1:59 and change with crazy-high speed figures. What's even more scary is he really hasn't been asked for his best yet, so who knows what he's capable of doing. Or, like a few skeptics believe, has he run his best and is ready for a regression? He is one of the most exciting and fastest horses we've seen in a long time, and yours truly hopes he puts on a show on Saturday. If he does, in most likely his final career start, he'll go down as one of the greats. But hold your horses (literally), because there are a few extremely talented foes in here that might upset the apple cart.

I have no doubts that **#2 Life is Good** is one of the best in the world, and that Flightline has never faced anyone remotely as fast as Life is Good. He's lost twice in his career, once with a bad ride by Mike Smith to Jackie's Warrior, and once going a very demanding 1 ¼ miles in Dubai on a surface not kind to speed vs. an in-form Country Grammar at that time in March. He'll most likely have the lead in here, and Irad is likely to be VERY aggressive and set fast fractions, perhaps sending Flightline wide into the first turn in a cat-and-mouse game. Will any of that matter? Who knows, but if Life is Good can be stubborn into the far turn and top of the stretch, Flightline will have his hands full. That will be the key to the race...how long can Life Is Good stay with Flightline when Prat makes his move?

<u>The horse I love in 2<sup>nd</sup> and perhaps to upset the Classic</u> is the best 3yo in the country, the **#6 Epicenter**. He's done nothing wrong all year, and might be peaking at the right time. Moreover, he figures to get a nice mid-pack trip and should be the one threatening Flightline late if the pace develops. He still has upside and has proven he can close from off the pace as well as stalk. Rosario will break, take back a bit (I hope) and make a big run around the far turn to finish a probable 2<sup>nd</sup> after going by Life Is Good late. I'm a bit against **#1 Taiba**...just think Smith will have him too close to a hot pace and I'm not sure the 1 ¼ is best for him. This should be one for the ages.....Good luck in the finale!





## Howard's Horizontals:

## Race 3: Pick 5

Big Budget: 4,5,7,8,13 / 6,8,11 / 2,5,6,7,9,10 / 3,4,5 / 9 (\$135)

Small Budget: 5,7,8 / 8 / 2,6,7,9,10 / 3,4,5 / 9 (\$22.50)

## Race 4: Pick 4:

Big Budget: 6,8,11 / 2,5,6,7,9,10 / 3,4,5,11 / 2,4,9 (\$108)

Small Budget: 8 / 2,6,7,9,10 / 3,4,5,11 / 9 (\$10)

### Race 7: Pick 5

Big Budget: 9 / 1,3,4,9,11,13,14 / 1,4,6,8 / 5,7,11 / 4,6 (\$84)

Small Budget: 9 / 1,4,11,13 / 1,4,6 / 5,7,11 / 4 (\$18)

### Race 8: Pick 4:

Big Budget: 1,3,4,9,11,13,14 / 1,4,6,8 / 5,7,11 / 4,6 (\$84)

Small Budget: 1,4,11,13 / 1,4,6 / 5,7,11 / 4 (\$18)

# We wish all of you good luck in the 2022 Breeders' Cup. Thank you so much for your support of the HHH Racing Podcast!!

Howard 🞯



