



We ARE Pennsylvania Racing

Craig Donnelly's

parx racing Analysis\$

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Craig has been involved in horse racing for 40 years as a handicapper, journalist, linemaker, and analyst. He began his career in 1969 handicapping the races for the Miami Beach Sun. Beginning in 1971 he began picking winners for the Philadelphia Inquirer, where he remained for 37 years. Craig has also been a linemaker for the Atlantic City Racecourse and The Meadowlands, where he was the program oddsmaker and television co-host for seven seasons.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017

Best Bets: JOHN'S AFLEET (3rd)-- DRIVEN TO COMPETE (7th)

Race 1

- 6** GADWALL – Dueled early, dropped back, then came again following claim; just fourth outing since comeback.
- 1** YOURCREDITISGOOD – Pulled away from single-winners when stretched out at Aqueduct; logical step for new barn.
- 2** SYDNEY TIME – Poor showing in last and bit inconsistent but dangerous on best and also from John Servis barn.
- 7** DUDES ROCKIN LADY – Overmatched last pair after romping when arriving from Florida; Zulueta stable 35% here.

Race 2

- 7** LAKE MARION – Hard used chasing decisive winner this yardage; road warrior scored earlier at Woodbine.
- 6** STEPH GOT EVEN – Disliked wet surface as usual and should be picking off rivals through stretch.
- 1** MAJESTIC KOA – Primed for elongated sprint setting pressured fractions in route; must put it all together.
- 5** BLACKBIRDHASSPOKEN – Closer than anticipated when trying blinkers but likely very slow fuse this distance.

Race 3

- 3** JOHN'S AFLEET – Drew away eagerly when heavily-backed in debut and should tackle realistic next step.
- 4** EL TOCAYO – Prevailed for new management after idle couple months; runner-up posted double-digit romp since.
- 2** SCRAP IRON PHIL – Soundly beaten last three but drops and troubled trip locally; chance this level.
- 6** INDY FIRE – Prominent long way in sloppy route and trailed at loftier level in previous loss.

Race 4

- 6** BALTIMORE BEAUTY – Overmatched in last but returns to amount of claim and could benefit from contested pace.
- 2** CLUB LEVEL – Plunges again after chasing runaway winner in January when adding Lasix; removing blinkers.
- 8** STEVIE THE CAT – Empty after leading early as Laurel favorite and making key third start since long hiatus.
- 9** LILBITOFEVERYTHING – Unruly in gate prior to competing just six days ago; racing cheapest ever in eighth try.

Race 5

4 OLIVER RUSH – Chased repeat winner in “open” company and should regain late kick with three-time winners.

9 PROMISE ILLGETYOU – Gained late when possibly best after early problems; claimed and racing into peak form.

8 MR. SENSIBILITY – Captured all three attempts this season at Turfway; ascends claiming ladder for new trainer.

1A GETUP STAYUP – Another hard-earned score sprinting but often tends to weaken in routes; might shake loose.

Race 6

6 ICE KAUFY – Hooked solid group at Penn National after perfect in two local starts; Velazquez barn has them firing.

4 GREED IS GOOD – Faced classier company since Monmouth score but fits this spot behind lively fractions.

1 PURRIN’ PROUD – Changed hands again and appears in peak form; works out favorable trip along inside.

10 STONE BANDIT – Vied then edged away from two-time winners in improved display of stamina; outside speed.

Race 7

5 DRIVEN TO COMPETE – Encouraging debut last summer at Saratoga and runner-up easily won Fla. Derby recently.

12 UPLIFTING – Raced very greenly early then rallied strongly behind 6-5 favorite; fired in every attempt.

3 KOOK’S KAT – Good effort with blinkers after Pino took and avoids tag this time; further progress necessary.

6 EBO STRONG – Lost ample ground in debut when hinting at ability; son of Ky. Derby winner Super Saver.

Race 8

6 YOUR PACE OR MINE – Game, speedy, and versatile mare may have needed first outing since Nov.; controls pace.

2 MONEY’SONCHARLOTTE – Lightly raced but formidable at times including placing in graded event; threat if ready.

4 QUEENA ESTHER – Shelved after failing to give true measure and tigress earlier; works offering few clues.

3 BILLYGETS ARRESTED – Lacked solid rally when third against state-breds; shocked “open” company last year.

Race 9

10 C W ROAD – Hampered by early troubles in sprint and hits bottom in 12th attempt stretching out again.

2 ANOTHER SECRET – Passed several opponents again sprinting, fitter now, and should be prepared for route.

6 PHILJANGLE – Distant fourth here as extreme longshot and prior three losses at Penn National; may set pace.

8 SECJECTORY – Some progress when remote third in seemingly better version of this spot.