



Expert Analysis

By Steve Andersen

BEST BET: Lady Rider (8th race)

First Race

1. Prince Dolce	2. Lyle The Crocodile	3. Known Idea
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~PRINCE DOLCE^ starts against open for the first time since late April in an allowance race at a mile on turf that should suit his style. Trained by Steve Knapp, Prince Dolce adores the Santa Anita turf course, having won all four of his career starts on the surface. At Del Mar during the summer, Prince Dolce had mixed results. He finished fifth by 2 3-4 lengths in the California Dreamin' Stakes on turf, and nearly three weeks later was fourth after a wide trip in an allowance race for statebreds on dirt. In this field of six, he should get a more favorable stalking trip. ~LYLE THE CROCODILE^ is winless in nine starts in California since arriving from Ireland in early 2025. He closed significant ground to be third by 1 3-4 lengths in an allowance race at 1 1-16 miles on turf on Sept. 5, and a repeat of that effort would be good enough to win. The problem is Lyle the Crocodile has brought good credentials to several previous starts and lost. He has been third four times in his California career. ~KNOWN IDEA^ starts from the outside and may set the pace along with Shamrock Glitter. Known Idea was third in an allowance race on turf at Del Mar on Aug. 15, and won a starter allowance for \$20,000 claimers at 6 1-2 furlongs on dirt three weeks later. He won at a mile on turf as a stalker in late July at Del Mar.

Second Race

1. Springline	2. Good Golly Dolly	3. Sugar Reign
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She needed 15 races, but ~SPRINGLINE^ finally finished first in a \$12,500 claimer for maidens at Los Al as the 13-10 favorite on Sept. 11 after racing in higher-priced maiden claimers and in maiden races. Perhaps the win will propel Springline to a second consecutive victory in this \$12,500 claimer for fillies and mares who are nonwinners of two. Trained by Ryan Hanson, Springline does not have much to beat in a small field of five at a mile. She figures to be near the front for jockey Armando Ayuso. ~GOOD GOLLY DOLLY^ is winless in five starts since a nine-length victory in a \$20,000 claimer for maidens at Santa Anita in March. Claimed for \$12,500 at Los Al in July, Good Golly Dolly finished third and second in two races at this level at Del Mar. She stalked the pace on Sept. 3, led briefly in the stretch but finished second by 1 1-4 lengths. She will be in pursuit of Springline. ~SUGAR REIGN^, who starts from the inside post, had a wide trip in the same race on Sept. 3 in which Good Golly Dolly was second. Sugar Reign was claimed that day by Isidro Tamayo, who had two winners earlier this year with runners he claimed. Sugar Reign won a \$20,000 claimer for maidens for trainer Jeff Bonde at Del Mar on July 20 by stalking the early pace.

Third Race

1. Separator	2. Magic Jewel	3. Surfin the Coast
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~SEPARATOR^ returned from a layoff of more than 50 weeks to finish last of eight in a starter allowance at five furlongs on turf at Del Mar on Sept. 3. Separator reappears in a \$25,000 claimer for nonwinners of two at 5 1-2 furlongs on dirt that seems to be a better class level for a filly who won a \$30,000 claimer for maidens at Los Alamitos by 12 lengths in September 2025. She won that race as a stalker, and could follow expected pacesetter ~MAGIC JEWEL^ in this field of six. Magic Jewel, who starts from the outside post, won a maiden race at six furlongs from the front at Emerald Downs on Aug. 15 in her fourth start and followed with a close third at 20-1 in an allowance race there on Aug. 30. Magic Jewel was recently transferred from trainer Kay Cooper to John Sadler. ~SURFIN THE COAST^ won her debut in a \$50,000 claimer for statebred maidens at six furlongs in May, but was fourth and seventh in starter allowance races on dirt and turf in the summer. She raced near the front on turf at Del Mar on July 23 before fading to finish seventh of eight. A return to dirt may provide a boost for a filly likely to race near the front.

Fourth Race

1. Repo Man	2. Maxify	3. Duty Bound
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~REPO MAN^ overcame a touch of traffic in early stretch to win a five-furlong maiden race on turf by 1 1-2 lengths at Del Mar on Aug. 27 as the 3-2 favorite. The way he finished through the stretch suggests that Repo Man should handle his first start a mile in the Zuma Beach Stakes on turf. There are only five entered and there may not be that many starters. Off in the Corner was entered in Saturday's Speakeasy Stakes for turf sprinters. Regardless, Repo Man can be a factor from off the pace for jockey Umberto Rispoli, who was aboard for the win in the maiden race. Repo Man is trained by Michael McCarthy who has an excellent chance for a 1-2 finish with ~MAXIFY^, who is capable of a big performance. Maxify won a maiden race at a mile on turf at Del Mar on Sept. 4, closing from seventh of 10 to win by three-quarters of a length in a 13-1 upset. Jockey Umberto Rispoli rode both in their last starts, and has the mount on Repo Man. Juan Hernandez will ride Maxify. The filly ~DUTY BOUND^ starts in this field instead of Sunday's Surfer Girl Stakes for fillies to avoid the undefeated Vanta. Duty Bound is unbeaten in two starts, the latest a \$250,000 allowance race for Keeneland sale graduates at 6 1-2 furlongs at Kentucky Downs on Aug. 29 in which she closed from seventh to win by a head after a spirited run through the final furlong. She was scratched at Kentucky Downs on Sept. 7 after she spread a shoe on a van ride, trainer Jack Sistrerson said.

Fifth Race

1. Keep Movin' On	2. Big Juanito	3. Low Expectations
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~KEEP MOVIN' ON^, a stakes winner at the Sonoma County Fair in Santa Rosa in 2024, starts for a \$10,000 claiming price for the first time in this one-mile race. Winless in 10 starts since mid-September of 2024, Keep Movin' On is not a confident selection in a field of inconsistent runners. The class drop from his four losses at Los Al and Del Mar in the summer may help his closing style. ~BIG JUANITO^ has had erratic form this year, but has been second or third in three of his last four starts. He was a well-beaten second to favored Cowboy Mike in an \$8,000 claimer at Del Mar on Aug. 16, and a repeat of that would put him close. Big Juanito was a distant third in a \$14,000 to \$16,000 claimer at Del Mar on Sept. 6, racing wide throughout. He was beaten by the favorite in Pioneer Prince. ~LOW EXPECTATIONS^ has not raced since he finished second in a starter allowance at a mile at Los Al last December. He can win from the front or as a stalker, but may need a race to be back to his best form after the layoff. Low Expectations has been well-beaten in two starts following layoffs earlier in his career. A placing is possible.

Sixth Race

1. Vanta	2. Blockade	3. River In Paradise
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~VANTA^ will be a short-priced favorite, and very hard to oppose, in the Surfer Girl Stakes for 2-year-old fillies at a mile on turf. Trained by Jeff Mullins, Vanta was perfect in two starts at Del Mar, winning a maiden race at five furlongs on turf despite racing in traffic and winning the Juvenile Fillies Turf after a poor start. In both races, she zoomed clear

late under jockey Umberto Rispoli, who has the mount on Sunday. ~BLOCKADE^ was a respectable second to Vanta in the Juvenile Fillies Turf in her turf debut. She was third early and led briefly before being overtaken in the stretch. Blockade was a clear second. She is likely to have a forward trip in this field of seven, and is expected to follow Less Please, who was fourth in the Juvenile Fillies Turf after setting the early pace. The maiden ~RIVER IN PARADISE^ was sixth in the Juvenile Fillies Turf, closing from last of nine at 18-1 after a tardy start in her American debut. It is not uncommon for European imports to start slowly in their first starts in this country. River In Paradise passed a few rivals in the stretch to be nearest the front at the finish. For this race, trainer Leonard Powell is fitting River In Paradise with blinkers for the first time. With a better start, she should be in a handy position for jockey Drayden Van Dyke.

Seventh Race		
1. Well Versed	2. Prospect of Love	3. Weho

~WELL VERSED^ chased Miss Monica to no avail in a maiden race and in the Grade 1 Del Mar Debutante during the summer, finishing second and fifth behind one of the nation's leading 2-year-old fillies. Well Versed is well-qualified to win this competitive maiden race at six furlongs in her third start. Mike Smith rides Well Versed for trainer Richard Mandella and is likely to have the filly in a stalking position early. ~PROSPECT OF LOVE^ is a second-time starter trained by Bob Baffert who finished second by 9 1-4 lengths to stablemate Quattro Passi in a maiden race at six furlongs at Del Mar on Sept. 6. Quattro Passi was part of Baffert's team for Saturday's Oak Leaf Stakes. Prospect of Love started from the inside post as the 2-1 second choice on Sept. 6. She stumbled at the start and recovered to finish second after a three-wide rally. Prospect of Love starts from the outside in this field of nine and can be a factor early for jockey Juan Hernandez. ~WEHO^ is a first-time starter trained by John Sadler with a steady pattern of workouts in the last few months. Weho is by Yaupon, who wins with a sharp 22 percent of his 2-year-old first-time starters, double the national average. Joel Rosario is booked to ride Weho, who could be prominent early.

Eighth Race		
1. Lady Rider	2. Delightful Laura	3. Fibonaccis Ride

~LADY RIDER^ could have a cozy trip in this allowance race at a mile on turf for fillies and mares. Lady Rider is best suited to racing slightly off the pace and will have an early frontrunner to chase in the capable ~DELIGHTFUL LAURA^. Lady Rider, trained by Vladimir Cerin, was second in a race at this level on Sept. 6 in her first start in nearly three months, finishing 1 1-4 lengths behind the favorite, Lady In Paris. Delightful Laura was scratched from the Sept. 6 race because of illness, according to racing board records. Delightful Laura later had three fast workouts in September for trainer Peter Eurton, who has had the 4-year-old filly in his barn in recent months. Delightful Laura was previously trained by John Shirreffs, who died in February. For Shirreffs, Delightful Laura frequently showed speed in races on turf and dirt. ~FIBONACCIS RIDE^, who starts from the inside post, won the Solana Beach Stakes at 1 1-16 miles on turf at Del Mar in August. Because that race was restricted to statebreds, the win does not count against Fibonaccis Ride's eligibility in this allowance race. This is Fibonacci's Ride's first start since a seventh-place finish at 21-1 in the Grade 2 John C. Mabee Stakes at Del Mar on Sept. 7, a tough assignment. Fibonaccis Ride is best as a stalker.

Ninth Race		
1. My Bodacious Boy	2. Fionello	3. Big Vengeance

~MY BODACIOUS BOY^ returned from a layoff of nearly eight months to finish fourth in an allowance race for statebreds at 6 1-2 furlongs at Del Mar on Sept. 4. In his first start against older horses, My Bodacious Boy had a wide trip, was third in the stretch and was beaten four lengths. He starts in this allowance race for 3-year-olds with an opportunity to win from a stalking position. His chances will be helped if an expected speed duel develops. ~FIONELLO^, winner of the Echo Eddie Stakes for 3-year-old statebreds here at 18-1 in April, is entered to be claimed for \$50,000. He was scratched at Del Mar in late August because of illness. Earlier at the Del Mar meeting, Fionello was eighth in the Real Good Deal Stakes for statebred 3-year-olds after a wide trip. He is another runner who will be helped by a quick pace from runners such as ~BIG VENGEANCE^, who starts from the outside post. Big Vengeance won a maiden race in his 12th career start at Del Mar on Sept. 5 in a 32-1 surprise despite a troubled start. From an outside post, Big Vengeance figures to be forward for jockey Victor Espinoza.

Tenth Race		
1. Seamless Factor	2. Just Work It Out	3. Spanish Indy

In her first start at Del Mar on Aug. 29, ~SEAMLESS FACTOR^ closed from seventh to finish second by a neck in a maiden race at five furlongs on turf for 2-year-old statebred fillies. For her second start, she runs against a similar group at six furlongs on turf, which should aid her apparent closing style. Trained by Carla Gaines, Seamless Factor drew post 2 and will have a pace to follow in this big field. Seamless Factor is out of Almost a Factor who won twice around two turns. ~JUST WORK IT OUT^, trained by John Sadler, was second and third in two maiden races on dirt and turf at Del Mar. This is Just Work It Out's first start in a turf sprint. She set a slow pace in a maiden race on turf at a mile on Aug. 28 and was beaten 1 3-4 lengths. A shorter trip may work in her favor. ~SPANISH INDY^ is a first-time starter by Straight Fire, who wins with a sharp 19 percent of his 2-year-old debut runners. Spanish Indy is trained by Andy Mathis, who won with a first-time starter at Del Mar last month. In recent weeks, Spanish Indy has had a few quick workouts, indicating she may have a forward position in this field of 11.