



THE PICK 4 MATRIX
featuring the Santa Anita Late P4
&
the Golden Hour P4

By Frank R. Scatoni

(follow on Twitter [@ScatoniSureShot](#) and also visit [@OptixEQ](#))

4/11/2021

NOTE: Because this analysis is posted in advance, always check my Twitter feed [@ScatoniSureShot](#) for real-time updates based on scratches and track conditions—as this analysis is written for surfaces that are fast and firm. Thanks!

INTRO

The second day of all-dirt racing at Santa Anita continues today for Sunday's nine-race card. We've also got nine races at the Gate, so the low-takeout Golden Hour Pick 4 races consist of SA8/GG8/SA9/GG9. All the races in both sequences are main-track affairs, and there are some tricky ones to decipher!

SA LATE P4 LEG 1 (SA R6):

We start off the all-dirt sequence with a \$32K beaten-claiming event at 8-furlongs for 3-year-olds or horses aged 4-years-old and upward who have never won two races. Only one 3-year-old is entered, and he only has one win just like the rest of them, so no advantage there.

#1 INVICTATUS (6/1) just ran fourth against slightly lesser while racing on turf, but that race should serve as a useful tune-up for this, since he does have a dirt race from back in the day that is fast enough to win this. He also has tactical speed, so Cedillo will have some options while getting to save all the ground. GRADE: A.

#2 AMERICAN DANCER (5/2) has mediocre dirt form from the minor leagues, but he's been kept on the turf since coming to SoCal. He moves back to the main track while making the third start of his form cycle, so he should be sitting on a peak effort—but I usually have a pretty good feel for Glatt runners, and this one leaves me just a little bit cold. That said, he catches a soft group. GRADE: B.

#3 IT'S FITTING (4/1) came off a layoff last time and just ran around the track against Cal-bred N1X turf horses. The drop makes sense for a horse who wasn't competitive at that tougher level on both turf and dirt, and I have to think he'll take a step forward today second off the bench. But will it be enough? GRADE: X.

#4 WEDDING GROOM (5/1) is the only 3-year-old in the field, but he has one win just like everyone else, so he doesn't have much of an advantage. He does have a lot of speed, however, even though he removes the hood today, and he gets in 8-pounds lighter than his older foes, so you can expect Desormeaux to blast off and hope for the best. That said, I think he gets run down. GRADE: X.

#5 GO DADDY GO (8/5) has run a few decent races against better animals, so he'll have every chance today to finally get win number two. He does have a tendency to get going too late, so Pereira



will need to be aggressive, but he catches the weakest field of his career, so if he doesn't win today, it's getting very close to "now or never time." GRADE: A.

#6 TAKEO (8/1) broke his maiden in wire fashion while racing on the turf. Since then, he hasn't been able to gain early separation while facing winners, and he's packed it in while racing against starter foes on the main track. He hasn't been seen since August of last year, and he comes back while running for a tag. I'm sure he'll be fully cranked, but he's unlikely to get the lead with the quick 3-year-old inside of him, so that means he'll have to show he can pass horses. GRADE: X.

SA LATE P4 LEG 2 (SA R7):

Today's second leg is a seldom-run \$100K maiden-claiming event for 3-year-old fillies going 5.5-furlongs on the main track. I've never been a fan of these expensive claiming heats, but that's mostly because I have a hard time sniffing out the class levels of the horses that are in them!

#1 FLAPS UP (20/1) was 49/1 in her debut against MSWs going 6.5-furlongs on the turf, and she ran to those long odds, running half a race. She now runs for a tag, adds blinkers and Lasix, and gets a jock upgrade—all positives. That said, others look better. GRADE: X.

#2 GINJA (9/5) set the pace after breaking from the rail in her debut, and she weakened to finish fourth in that MSW. It was a useful debut, however, and she has every right to improve—but so does the gal who just beat her. That said, today's 5.5-furlongs should help this one, as she cuts back a smidge. GRADE: B.

#3 JEANNE B (30/1) hasn't really been competitive in some races that were weaker than this one, so she's going to need a form-reversal to have a say today. GRADE: X.

#4 STRESSED (6/5) looks tough, dropping in for a tag, getting off the rail, and attracting Prat. She has speed, and I like that she seems to be maturing, since she gained twenty-pounds between her last two starts. GRADE: A.

#5 QUEEN OF ARENDELL (10/1) was 89/1 in her debut going 6-furlongs on the turf against MSWs. She was steadied at the start, and she never threatened. She now adds Lasix and moves to the main track. Note that she cost \$180K as a 2-year-old in-training last year, so she certainly showed she could run a little bit. Wake-up call today? GRADE: B.

#6 CAPAREGIME (5/1) was 11/1 in her debut going 6.5-furlongs on the dirt, and she stalked the pace before weakening to finish sixth. She's eligible for improvement today, and she should show more stamina than she did in her debut—but will she end up chasing the O'Neill and the Baffert and tiring? Note that she cost \$120K as a 2-year-old last year. GRADE: C.

#7 BOWL OF CHERRIES (5/1) was 5/1 against MSWs two back when racing on dirt, and she stalked the pace before weakening. It wasn't a horrible race, but she did lose to Stressed on the square. She'll need to do better today to turn the tables on that foe. GRADE: C.

SA LATE P4 LEG 3/GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 1 (SA R8):

Today's third leg—a Cal-bred \$20K optional-claimer/N1X for fillies and mares going 5.5-furlongs on the main track—is also the first leg of the Golden Hour Pick 4, so it's an important race for us. It's also pretty competitive, so we'll need some luck, as one of several in here can win this. (As I've done in the past, I'm listing two different letter-grades because of the fifty-cent and \$1 denominations of the different bets: we can use more in the SA P4 but not as many in the Golden Hour P4 because of budget constraints.)

#1 VELLA (20/1) has speed and will need to use it from the rail, and I can see that softening her up late, since she needed Cal-bred \$50K maiden-claimers to graduate...way back in 2019. That said, her



comeback race was useful, so she will move forward today. I just don't think it will be enough. GRADE: X/X.

#2 LITTLE MISS ELLIE (6/1) was 5/1 at this level last time, and she ran an okay third after a slow break and some traffic. She likes to come from off the pace, so she's going to need some luck in this abbreviated sprint. The one time she tried 5.5-furlongs, she was well off the pace and finished strongly to run second in a Cal-bred \$50K maiden-claimer. She'll need some pace help today. GRADE: B/C.

#3 LIBERALISM (8/1) looked sharp breaking her maiden last summer, attending the pace and edging away to win that 6-furlong affair. Her follow-up race on the turf, however, was no good, and she hit the shelf. She now returns off a long layoff and will have to blast off and hope she can carry her speed without getting tired. That's not inconceivable against this group. GRADE: B/B.

#4 KLEEN KARMA (8/1) has had plenty of chances to get a win at the allowance level, but she hasn't been good enough. That said, she's pretty versatile, and if the race falls apart, she'll be there to pick up the pieces—but she might also be too far back in this short race (which might also be a prep for something longer next time). GRADE: C/X.

#5 TRINA (7/2) was 9/2 at this level and distance four back at Los Al, and she set the pace and weakened to finish fourth. She then took her ball and went up north, where she's run decently. Her speed means she'll be in the hunt turning for home, but she should be part of a decent early clip, so will she have enough to stay on? GRADE: C/C.

#6 JAN JAN CAN (10/1) has won two in a row, settling early and blasting home to beat \$20K maidens and \$16K/N2L conditional-claimers. Those were both nice races, where she came home in good time—but the waters get much deeper today. First off, she's going shorter; secondly, she's facing better animals. At least Ellis—who just took her for \$16K—brings her back protected. GRADE: X/X.

#7 TIME FOR EBBY (4/1) is a total pro who has won at this level a few times already, hence the \$20K price tag. Two back, she gutted out a victory at this level going 6-furlongs (though it was a four-horse field), while last time, she had no chance against better horses after throwing her head at the start (also in a four-horse field!). She usually shows up for work, so she's a great exotics key...and also a win candidate. GRADE: B/B.

#8 LI'L GRAZEN (3/1) was terrible last time at this level, where she lost to Time For Ebby. I suppose you can make an excuse for her though, since she was off a little slowly and then dueled over a closer-friendly track. All that's well and good, but the most telling thing is that Miller—who did good work with her before at this level—re-claimed her for \$20K and runs her right back, while legging up Prat. GRADE: A/A.

#9 HOMEHOME (8/1) was my top pick the last two times, and she failed to deliver the goods, but I'm willing to give her one more chance, since she didn't have the best trips in those races. For instance, last time, she was, according to the chart, "5-wide" in a four-horse field! She now adds blinkers and gets a jock change to a 7-pound apprentice, who will likely ride this one aggressively. Once more unto the breach...GRADE: A/A.

SA LATE P4 LEG 4/GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 3 (SA R9):

We end the Santa Anita card (and pick back up in the Golden Hour P4 with Leg 3 of that bet) with a Cal-bred \$50K maiden-claimer for fillies and mares going 6-furlongs on the main track. (As I've done in the past, I'm listing two different letter-grades because of the fifty-cent and \$1 denominations of the different bets: we can use more in the SA P4 but not as many in the Golden Hour P4 because of budget constraints.)



#1 LIFE'S EMOTIONS (20/1) is a first-time starter who has to break from the rail, and that's always tricky. That said, she gets a 7-pound weight-break, and those last two works are pretty darn quick, if you think she can transfer that to the afternoons. GRADE: X/X.

#2 MY TIGRESS (8/5) was even-money at this level last time, and she grinded away to a third-place finish after an eventful journey. She makes the second start of her form cycle, and Prat sticks around. GRADE: B/B.

#3 CHIQUITA PIQUITA (12/1) was 43/1 against open \$50K maidens last time, and she failed to threaten after breaking last. She faces weaker company today and adds blinkers, so improvement is likely—but will it be enough? GRADE: X/X.

#4 MAMAS GOT CASH (6/1) was 28/1 at this level last summer, and she ran fourth after attending the pace in a 7-furlong event. I'm fine watching one today off such a long layoff. GRADE: X/X.

#5 V BUCKS (4/1), the first Miller debutante, is a daughter of California Chrome, who is off to a slow start with his youngsters. It's hard to get a gauge on those San Luis Rey works, but the stablemate seems poised to run better if the jocks listed are any indication of ability. GRADE: B/B.

#6 **UNCAGED KITTY (3/1)**, the second Miller runner, cost \$72K and is owned by Legacy Ranch, a good outfit that knows how to get a young horse ready. That bullet work signals intent, and the hustling Gonzalez suggests this one will break alertly and never look back. GRADE: A/A.

#7 BIG CALI GIRL (10/1) was 39/1 in her debut last summer against MSWs, and she was no good. Toss the race and pretend it never happened. Now this one comes off a long layoff, adds Lasix, and gets a 7-pound weight-break. The works don't leap off the page, but Glatt can get one ready to fire off the bench, so it wouldn't shock me if this one was competitive today—but there must be a leap of faith to back this one. GRADE: B/C.

#8 SATURDAY HEIST (8/1) debuts for Brinkerhoff, who is very capable of getting a firster to fire, especially one who has some decent works hidden in the work tab. The breeding is uninspiring, but there is enough here to merit some consideration. GRADE: C/X.

GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 2 (GG R8):

Let's move to the Gate for the second leg of the Golden Hour P4 (GG R8): an entry-level allowance contested at 5.5-furlongs on the main synthetic track.

#1 LET'S REJOYCE (2/1) was the tepid 3/1 favorite at this level last time, and he attended the pace and weakened to finish third, losing to one of today's foes. He has speed, so a clean break from the rail will help his chances tremendously, as will the slight cut-back—but he will face heat, and Square Deal has proven to be his nemesis. GRADE: B.

#2 COWBOY KISSES (10/1) broke his maiden in wire fashion last time going today's distance. He was game in victory, but he faces a much tougher task today. I can see him chasing a quick pace and weakening in his first try versus winners. GRADE: X.

#3 SQUARE DEAL (5/2) draws outside of Let's Rejoyce, so he can sit right off that one's flank and apply pressure whenever he sees fit. He's gotten the measure of that foe a few times before, so unless you think a two-pound weight-swing is enough to make the difference, he figures to have a slight edge over that foe again. That said, there should be a quick pace, and this guy will be right up on it. GRADE: B.

#4 PAPAIFAS (6/1) used to have a ton of early speed, but he failed to show it last time when racing at this level in a race where I expected him to run so much better. This 6-year-old seems off-form right now, and it looks like he might need claimers to show his best stuff. That said, if he shows up with his early speed, he could gum up the works for a few of the others. GRADE: X.



#5 THE LITTLE H MAN (7/2) did the business last time as the 11/10 favorite in a Maiden Special Weight, where he easily beat nine other foes. He tracked comfortably a few lengths off the pace and took over when asked. He does have to face winners for the first time today—and he will need to run faster—but that kind of trip should work like a charm in a race that looks like it might have a fast early pace. GRADE: A.

#6 TORPEDO AWAY (4/1) ran a good third at this level two back at 24/1, but then couldn't back that up last time at 5/1. I'm willing to forgive that last effort, however, since he was too close to the pace, and this guy is best as a closing sprinter. Ayuso rode him well two back, and I suspect he'll settle early and come rolling late. Will it be good enough for this former claimer to run down some decent allowance horses? We shall see, but pace makes the race. GRADE: B.

GOLDEN HOUR P4 LEG 4 (GG R9):

We close out the Golden Hour P4 with a Cal-bred Maiden Special Weight for 3-year-olds going 5.5-furlongs on the main synthetic track.

#1 ARKADIAN FOREST (20/1) debuts for a trainer who hasn't had too many first-time starters the past year, but this one comes into this race with a decent tab and a sharp February 21 work that signals intent. That said, he'll need a clean break from the rail and will probably have to make the lead—and that's always tricky for a first-time starter. And that \$2K price tag doesn't exactly inspire. GRADE: X.

#2 MYSTIC TRAVELER (5/1) should be sitting on a peak effort, making his third career start, but his two previous races weren't anything to write home about, so he will really need a step forward today. You can expect him to be running on late. GRADE: C.

#3 EXCEED SPEED LIMIT (8/5) looks like a better version of his inside neighbor, and he gets a major jock upgrade today after two decent races at this level, where he was sent off at 3/1 each time. A move forward today should make him tough. GRADE: A.

#4 CHIEF JACKSON (20/1) has pretty poor SoCal form against claimers, so we'll see if he can wake up switching barns and moving to the synth. He does have some early speed, so he can be in the thick of it turning for home, but I'm tempted to watch one today in his first synth try. GRADE: X.

#5 FALSELY ACCUSED (10/1) makes his first NorCal start as a gelding after a mixed bag of races on the dirt at Emerald Downs. The works don't exactly get the pulse racing, so I'm okay watching one today. GRADE: X.

#6 ANOTHER CHAMP (20/1) was 34/1 at the Cal-bred MSW level two back when racing on the dirt at Pleasanton last summer, and he was nowhere to be found. He then couldn't beat \$12.5K claimers before hitting the bench. This is probably a tune-up for a drop next time. GRADE: X.

#7 J T'S CREDITCARD (6/1) cost \$1K back in 2019, so there aren't any expectations here for this first-time starter. The works don't leap off the page, but they are as steady as they come. Tamayo is slightly below average with firsters, so maybe watch one? GRADE: X.

#8 BOLD VOYAGER (12/1) is a little interesting, making the second start of his form cycle after facing tougher open MSWs last time—and having to break from the rail. It's tough to get a form-line on him, since the two times he ran as a juvenile, he had trouble. He will need to show a lot more today, but I don't think we've seen the best of this one yet. GRADE: A.

#9 MINEHUNTER (5/2) has an abundance of early speed and draws outside, so he's probably looking at a similar trip as he got last time, when he broke like a shot, made the lead while angling over, but got tired late. That was at 6-furlongs, however, and he now shows up with a 5-pound apprentice in the irons. He's a legit contender, but he will need to show a little more starch in the lane, and he's likely to be overbet. GRADE: B.



[SCROLL DOWN FOR MATRICES]

SANTA ANITA LATE P4 MATRIX (SA6 through SA9)

Looks like today's **MATRIX** is a very reasonable **\$57.50** to cover all the combinations.

Keep in mind: I don't add "Also Eligibles" to the Matrix, so if they draw in, be sure to include them on all of your tickets!

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All A's			
1	1,5 / 4 / 8,9 / 6	0.50	2.00
<input type="checkbox"/> All A's / All B's			
2	1,2,5 / 2,4,5 / 2,3,7,8,9 / 2,5,6,7	0	0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A's with One B			
3	2 / 4 / 8,9 / 6	0.50	1.00
4	1,5 / 2,5 / 8,9 / 6	0.50	4.00
5	1,5 / 4 / 2,3,7 / 6	0.50	3.00
6	1,5 / 4 / 8,9 / 2,5,7	0.50	6.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A's with Two B			
7	2 / 2,5 / 8,9 / 6	0.50	2.00
8	2 / 4 / 2,3,7 / 6	0.50	1.50
9	2 / 4 / 8,9 / 2,5,7	0.50	3.00
10	1,5 / 2,5 / 2,3,7 / 6	0.50	6.00
11	1,5 / 2,5 / 8,9 / 2,5,7	0.50	12.00
12	1,5 / 4 / 2,3,7 / 2,5,7	0.50	9.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A's with One C			
13	1,5 / 6,7 / 8,9 / 6	0.50	4.00
14	1,5 / 4 / 4,5 / 6	0.50	2.00
15	1,5 / 4 / 8,9 / 8	0.50	2.00
By using TicketMaker, you have saved \$205 compared to the "caveman" ticket By using TicketMaker, you have bet your "A" opinions 4 times			Total Wager \$57.5

[SCROLL DOWN FOR GOLDEN HOUR P4 MATRIX]



GOLDEN HOUR P4 MATRIX (SA8; GG8; SA9; GG9)

This is a very tough sequence, in my opinion, but I managed to keep the **MATRIX** at **\$100**, due to some double letter-grading of the Santa Anita races. You can feel free to upgrade certain horses accordingly, but I needed to make some tough decisions to keep the wager affordable. If you want to spend less, **\$90** will get you all “A’s” with two “B’s,” while **\$34** will get you all “A’s” with one “B.”

Keep in mind: I don't add "Also Eligibles" to the Matrix, so if they draw in, be sure to include them on all of your tickets!

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All A's			
1	8,9 / 5 / 6 / 3,8	2.00	8.00
<input type="checkbox"/> All A's / All B's			
2	3,7,8,9 / 1,3,5,6 / 2,5,6 / 3,8,9	0	0
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A's with One B			
3	3,7 / 5 / 6 / 3,8	1.00	4.00
4	8,9 / 1,3,6 / 6 / 3,8	1.00	12.00
5	8,9 / 5 / 2,5 / 3,8	1.00	8.00
6	8,9 / 5 / 6 / 9	1.00	2.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A's with Two B			
7	3,7 / 1,3,6 / 6 / 3,8	1.00	12.00
8	3,7 / 5 / 2,5 / 3,8	1.00	8.00
9	3,7 / 5 / 6 / 9	1.00	2.00
10	8,9 / 1,3,6 / 2,5 / 3,8	1.00	24.00
11	8,9 / 1,3,6 / 6 / 9	1.00	6.00
12	8,9 / 5 / 2,5 / 9	1.00	4.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A's with One C			
13	2,5 / 5 / 6 / 3,8	1.00	4.00
14	8,9 / 5 / 7 / 3,8	1.00	4.00
15	8,9 / 5 / 6 / 2	1.00	2.00
By using TicketMaker, you have saved \$284 compared to the "caveman" ticket By using TicketMaker, you have bet your "A" opinions 8 times		Total Wager \$100	