Handicapper's Journal – Doug McPherson Saturday, June 29th 2019

Race 1

#2 French Charm #6 Egyptian Nights #3 Muskoka Dancer #9 Short Summer Dress

#2 FRENCH CHARM was second best when debuting on June 1, chasing a lone speed stablemate who already a previous start at Gulfstream. She figures to threaten again. #6 EGYPTIAN NIGHTS is out of a Stakes placed mare who was a juvenile winner. She has two winners in five foals to race, both of which were able to win their career debuts. #3 MUKSOKA DANCER was green when debuting with a fifth place finish on June 1. She adds blinkers today. #9 SHORT SUMMER DRESS is a daughter of Munnings, an 18% two year old sire. Her dam won her only career start, a route race which came late in her two year old season.

Race 2
#3 The Black Album (FR)
#5 Global Access
#1 Inclusive
#2 Inventing Blame

#3 THE BLACK ALBUM (FR) was a Group 3 winner juvenile in France. Three starts back he was a very good third behind Avie's Flatter in the Transylvania. In his most recent start in the Penn Mile he raced two and three wide before coming up empty at the half-mile pole, likely not appreciating the yielding going. #5 GLOBAL ACCESS exits a driving win in the Marine. He was able to have success on the turf at Tampa three starts back in spite of a wide trip while racing rank. #1 INCLUSIVE wrapped up his juvenile season with a good closing second in the Display. He has been based at Fair Hill this season and exits a first level allowance win against older foes on the turf at Delaware. #2 INVENTING BLAME exits a first level allowance win over three year olds on June 9. He may be the controlling speed if he outsprints the rivals in the two outside gates.

Race 3
#5 Alnilah
#3 Scotty's Model

#1 Red Cabernet

#7 Zestina

#5 ALNILAH is a drastically improved horse since her two non-threatening turf performances early last season. She has put in very good efforts in both starts so far this year and may be able to take them wire to wire. #3 SCOTTY'S MODEL couldn't match Summer Sunday then was picked up late for place in the Ballade on May 11. Her turf form is tough to gauge; in four starts, two have been very good runs on a yielding course while the other two have been disappointing runs at route distances when the going has been firm. #1 RED CABERNET faced tougher in the Nassau last time, failing to match the top two in the stretch then losing the show spot late. If there is a pace to close into the cutback in distance should be no issue, and the easier company should help. #7 ZESTINA won a pair of three-year old Stakes on the grass last year. Her run in the Whimsical back in April was solid; getting back to the turf is a positive.

Race 4
#1 Touch of Emma
#6 Ambitious Moon
#5 Descente

#7 Peace Seeker

#1 TOUCH OF EMMA was a game third behind the very tough Gwendoline H when attracting a \$25,000 claim on June 12. She has had turf success and may be able to get a good trip from the inside. #6 AMBITIOUS MOON had a wide trip when kicking off her season on the Tapeta, then improved when getting back to the turf and winning on May 31. This is not the toughest group for her first start against winners. #5 DESCENTE made the lead when facing a solid group of three year olds on May 19 and was easily outfinished, similar to her start on turf at Gulfstream back in February. The blinkers come off today. #7 PEACE SEEKER was clearly second best in a Tapeta sprint when facing a classy runner who had winter raced in New Orleans on May 12. Her best races have been in turf routes.

Race 5

#3 Cassie's Rainbow #2 Forest Lass #1 Princess Fabiana #6 Roansmoke

#3 CASSIE'S RAINBOW improved drastically when finishing second at the \$25,000 level on June 1. Although she steps up in class here this is not a tough group. #2 FOREST LASS exits a pair of very wide trips where she has not run poorly. She should be able to save some ground from this post. #1 PRINCESS FABIANA was narrowly in front of Forest Lass when kicking off her season on June 8, not getting quite as wide a trip as that foe. She will likely be favoured in her second start of the season. #6 ROANSMOKE has yet to threaten in three starts against maiden special weight foes and now makes a significant drop in class.

Race 6

#5 Mr Ritz (GB) #2 Synchrony

#4 Savage Battle

#7 Emmaus (IRE)

#5 MR RITZ (GB) was beaten by a nose when racing on the front in the Eclipse Stakes on the Tapeta to kick off his season. He was a Stakes winner on the turf in Indiana last summer and could be the pacesetter here. #2 SYNCHRONY is the only runner in this field to break a 100 Beyer, a feat he has accomplished three times. His form is very strong right now, with his only poor performance of the season coming in the Turf Classic at Churchill in which he had a very wide trip. #4 SAVAGE BATTLE faced nightmarish traffic in the stretch run of the Connaught Cup, but was full of run when he did get clear. He may go ignored in the wagering. #7 EMMAUS (IRE) has been beaten a neck in both of his North American starts, most recently coming up just short in a stretch duel in the Connaught Cup. He put in a good performance at a mile last August in Deauville.

Race 7

#4 Zoological #7 Shangassah #9 Proven Strategies

#1 Meyer

#4 ZOOLOGICAL will be the third foal to race out of a mare who won her debut before having a successful career as a New York-bred Stakes winner. It appear he has been working in company with the stablemate entered here. #7 SHANGASSAH, a son of Shangai Bobby, is the second foal to race for a mare who was a solid route horse. The first foal is cheap but did notch a

win as a juvenile. #9 PROVEN STRATEGIES is the first foal to race for a mare who never broke her maiden. Sky Mesa is a solid synthetic sire, and he should have no shortage of foundation as he got started at the Casse Training Center in Ocala. #1 MEYER showed finishing interest with a wide rally after showing no speed on debut. A sharper start could put him in the mix.

Race 8

#8 Rock my Love (GER) – Best Bet #1 Holy Helena #4 Starship Jubilee #6 Cartabianca (FR)

#8 ROCK MY LOVE (GER), a Group 3 winner in Germany, will make her North American debut here after training at Belmont. Two starts back she was beaten less than a length against Group 2 company in France, then was outclassed when facing Group 2 males. #1 HOLY HELENA had a good winter racing at Gulfstream, then had trip trouble when finishing fourth in the New York at Belmont on June 7. She should be competitive with a ground saving trip. #4 STARSHIP JUBILEE was run down late after making a premature move for the lead in the Nassau. She is versatile in terms of running style, posing a threat to win on the lead but not needing to hustle to the front to win. #6 CARTABIANCA (FR) raced very well against allowance foes on the turf at Keeneland when making her North American debut, but did not finish well when getting a wide trip on the Tapeta on May 5. She may improve getting back on the lawn.

Race 9

#1 Extravagant Kid #2 Caribou Club #3 El Tormenta #9 Yorkton

#1 EXTRAVAGENT KID has two wins and a runner up finish behind Pink Lloyd to his name this season. He's a multiple Stakes winner on turf and figures to fit well here. #2 CARIBOU CLUB is extremely versatile, boasting Stakes wins at distances ranging from 5 ½ furlongs to 1 1/16 miles. He did not fare well in Dubai on March 31, but has had a few months off now and could certainly rebound. #3 EL TORMENTA prevailed in a stretch duel to win the Connaught Cup on June 1. He has learned to not need the lead this season and that added versatility will make him a dangerous horse. #9 YORKTON finished evenly off of a wide trip in the Connaught Cup and is at risk of a similar journey today. However, he is a classy horse who could rebound with some racing luck.

Race 10
#8 He's a Macho Man
#5 One Bad Boy
#14 Avie's Flatter
#1 Desert Ride

#8 HE'S A MACHO MAN was able to make the lead then hold off a troubled Jammin Still to win on May 20. The most lightly raced runner in this field will have to improve considerably, but seems to have no problem settling early before making his run and has the potential to fit in as he continues to gain experience. #5 ONE BAD BOY was a front end winner on the Santa Anita turf when breaking his maiden on April 6. He shipped up to Golden Gate for a Stake that was taken off of the turf on May 19, got hooked in a head-in-head speed duel, put that foe away but was unable to hold off a closer who had been narrowly beaten in a Stake three weeks prior. The blinkers will come off, potentially in hopes that he will not hang when facing challengers in the stretch run. #14 AVIE'S FLATTER was able to win the Transylvania with a covered up trip, but finished evenly when getting a wide trip in the American Turf, although beaten only a pair of lengths. He returns to the Tapeta on which he is two-fortwo and faces an easier group of foes, but is at risk of another wide trip if he cannot find a way to the inside from post 14. #1 DESERT RIDE did not look like she would be able to catch Bold Script in the Woodbine Oaks, but found enough and got the job done. If the pace is honest and she does not regress off of that win she could be a major threat.

Race 11
#11 Baby Driver
#3 Ready and Perfect
#6 Tappity Tappity
#10 Ka Gee Gee

#11 BABY DRIVER had a very good debut at Keeneland, finishing gamely despite being rank early and getting a wide trip. She was scratched at the gate on May 31 and decided to face winners on June 9, failing to threaten. The blinkers are added for this cut back in distance. #3 READY IN PERFECT was a game third when racing on the front end in her debut, then closed from last when beaten a head on turf on June 1. The winner of that race returned to win a first level allowance with a 71 Beyer. #6 TAPPITY TAPPITY showed ability in her career debut last December but has failed to threaten in two starts since. She had a wide trip after a poor start last time out; she could improve with better racing luck. #10 KA GEE GEE was game when finishing third in the same race Ready and Perfect exits. There is not an abundance of speed here, so she may be able to get some position from the outside.

Race 12
#4 Split My Pants
#8 Peace of Ekati
#10 Tricky Magician

#1 Gray Phantom

#4 SPLIT MY PANTS was second behind the very tough Dixie's Gamble in his seasonal debut, a sprint on the Tapeta, then was narrowly defeated when getting back to a turf route on June 2. There should be a decent amount of speed to set things up here. #8 PEACE OF EKATI had very good turf form in the mid-Atlantic region last summer, then wrapped up the season with an empty run in the Bald Eagle Derby at 12 furlongs over yielding turf. He appears to fit well here. #10 TRICKY MAGICIAN had solid turf form last year before breaking his maiden in a sprint on the Tapeta. He returns as a gelding this season. #1 GRAY PHANTOM ran a good second in his first start off of the shelf last year. His turf form over the past couple of seasons has been solid and he has been able to knock on the door at the first allowance level before.

Race 13
#3 Sanity
#6 Gold Lace
#10 Magic Spell
#4 San Nicola Storm
#5 Will She

#3 SANITY was making up good ground despite being herded outwards in the stretch when finishing third on May 25. She should be tough getting back to the turf. #6 GOLD LACE had three consecutive impressive wins last season, including a very easy win over Sanity on a yielding course. She should be forwardly placed but does not need the lead. #10 MAGIC SPELL had a good trip but came up second best, a length in front of Sanity on May 25, in her second start off of the bench. Although winless on the turf she has been consistently solid over it. #4 SAN NICOLA STORM drove clear to an easy first level allowance win on the turf last September and had several good efforts over the surface the previous season. She may improve after a non-threatening run in the Ballade to kick off her season. #5 WILL SHE is a speed threat here. She has always been able to run well fresh.