

Handicapper's Journal – Doug McPherson  
Sunday, August 7th 2022

Race 1

**#6 Born Happy**

**#2 Red Zeppelin**

**#7 Forittable**

**#5 Supremeaction**

#6 BORN HAPPY had a troubled trip on the main track on June 17 before coming back to run a good second over this course on July 14. He is the one to beat if he can run back to that effort. #2 RED ZEPPELIN debuted in the same race that Born Happy exits, having a bit of a poor break before finishing fifth of six. He could improve with experience and a better start. #7 FORITTABLE was 1 ¼ lengths behind Born Happy when finishing fourth last time. She could be a pace factor here. #5 SUPREMEACTION drops in price after faltering as the pacesetter in a seven furlong main track race last time. Half brother to Count Again is certainly bred well for turf.

Race 2

**#2 Blue Max**

**#5 Classy Whisper**

**#9 Lobby Bar**

**#10 The Great Oz**

#2 BLUE MAX had plenty of pace to run at when breaking his maiden over this course and distance two back but was clearly outfinished when fourth around two turns on the inner turf on June 26. He may end up in better early position here as there is not a ton of early speed. #5 CLASSY WHISPER is a potential pace factor here. He was bumped at the start before rallying to finish a credible third in his 2022 debut on July 8; he may be sharper second time off of the bench. #9 LOBBY BAR raced well to be fourth in a sprint over this course two starts ago but came up empty around two turns on the inner turf two weeks ago. Lightly raced gelding could improve on the cutback. #10 THE GREAT OZ cut back to a sprint in his local debut and ran a good second behind the talented Big Executive, ¾ lengths better than Classy Whisper and Lobby Bar. He could have forward position from the outside.

Race 3

**#6 Silent Runner**

**#5 Light the Lamp**

**#4 Souper Rush**

**#3 Chairman Bob**

#6 SILENT RUNNER has not threatened in two starts against much tougher company so far this year. The runner up in last year's Ontario Racing Stakes over this course and distance, he looks like the class of the race. #5 LIGHT THE LAMP had a wide trip and raced evenly when trying this course and distance on June 17. He has early speed and has had nearly two months to freshen up; I think he'll be much more live today. #4 SOUPER RUSH won his two-year-old debut easily then raced well but was well-beaten in his two tries against winners. He gets on turf for the first time in his three-year-old debut

and may be a little overlooked. #3 CHAIRMAN BOB ran a credible fifth against a solid group of OS/\$40,000 non-threes on June 10 before a flat run on the main track on July 2. Although both of his wins have come over the Tapeta I would not be surprised to see him develop into a better turf horse.

Race 4

**#5 Have a Souper Day**

**#6 Ghostliner**

**#1 Speedy Hans**

**#8 Aim for the Sky**

#5 HAVE A SOUPER DAY has been running good races against very credible company this season, most recently second best behind the very talented Candy Overload. It looks like he'll have pace to run at here. #6 GHOSTLINER has raced well in both of his Tapeta tries to date, including a runner-up finish behind Striker last winter. He has had some time to freshen up after a spring campaign at Gulfstream. #1 SPEEDY HANS had a couple of good runs for \$40,000 before coming up empty in a solid group of second level allowance/optional \$50,000 company. He may be a decent price dropping in for \$32,000 today. #8 AIM FOR THE SKY typically hangs after showing a lot of early speed. His only poor race this season came in the one try where he had blinkers on.

Race 5

**#4 Cape Cod**

**#1 Dissectologist**

**#5 Beau Guest**

**#3 Jack**

#4 CAPE COD disappointed as the 1-2 favourite after making the lead on July 10, giving way to be fourth. I'm willing to give him another look as the main speed today. #1 DISSECTOLOGIST has raced very well in all three of his tries to date, rallying to be beaten less than a length in the same race that Cape Cod exits. He clearly has the ability; we'll see if he can break through. #5 BEAU GUEST made a wide bid before giving way to be fifth in the aforementioned July 10 race. He raced very well when finishing third in his 2022 debut. #3 JACK rallied to be second in a turf mile to kick off his season on July 3. That race has since been productive; he may fly under the radar cutting back to a sprint in his second try off of the bench.

Race 6

**#7 Give Me My Money**

**#10 Crimson Comet**

**#1 Silent Fortune**

**#9 Raging Bear**

#7 GIVE ME MY MONEY outworked two others from the gate on July 30. Souper Speedy is 9-for-54 with debuting two-year-olds; the dam was a restricted Stakes-winner who was a distant second in her only two-year-old try. #10 CRIMSON COMET, an expensive local yearling purchase, was nosed out for show when beaten as a tepid favourite in his July 10 debut. A half to Stakes-winner Will She as well as the multiple Stakes-placed Sweet Grass Creek, he could improve with experience.

#1 SILENT FORTUNE worked evenly with another horse out of the gate on July 31. Silent Name is a 12% juvenile debut sire; one of the dam's two foals to race was beaten a neck on debut. #9 RAGING BEAR had a solo gate drill on July 31. Old Forester is a 14% juvenile debut sire; he is the first foal to race out of an unraced mare.

#### Race 7

##### #1 Breathing Fire

##### #5 Pleasure's Gold

##### #7 Lois Len

##### #2 Forest B

#1 BREATHING FIRE won her turf debut against OS/\$40,000 non-threes, then came back in the Alywow where she outran her 64-1 odds to be third behind two solid US invaders. The only question here is the five furlong distance. #5 PLEASURE'S GOLD missed by a nose to the consistent Swirling Dancer on July 16. She has shown some speed in longer sprints but it remains to be seen how that will translate to a five furlong turf dash. #7 LOIS LEN has been freshened up since her June 2 win against OS/\$40,000 non-twos. Multiple Stakes-placed filly raced well to be third over a mile on this course in last year's Victorian Queen. #2 FOREST B looks like the truest dedicated speed horse in this event. She could not make the lead when facing tougher in the Woodbine Cares over this course last year. Take note that she was a vet scratch against OS/\$40,000 non-threes on July 28.

#### Race 8

##### #1 Elusive Knight - Best Bet

##### #3 Tapthespeedofsound

##### #8 Tour of Duty

##### #7 Fast Feet

#1 ELUSIVE KNIGHT's only turf race came against a good quality group at Laurel where he was a good closing fourth. He closed to be fifth in a solid group of N1X/\$32,000 foes on July 3 and should appreciate the move into this condition. #3 TAPTHESPEEDOFSOUND ships up from Florida where he had a successful winter spring campaign, getting rundown late in a Florida-bred Stake at Tampa before finishing fifth in a wide open group at Gulfstream. He figures to be a speed factor. #8 TOUR OF DUTY gets back onto the turf after showing nothing in his Tapeta debut on July 17. Aside from a sprint where he was stalking a hot pace his turf form is very solid. #7 FAST FEET did not fire when making his first start of the year at a mile and a 1/16th on July 1, but could improve now that he has that start under his belt.

#### Race 9

##### #5 Astrological

##### #6 Twelfth Moon

##### #3 Dance Rhythms

##### #2 Ima Beast

#5 ASTROLOGICAL exits a maiden win in a race that has produced two next-out winners, both at the OS/\$40,000 level. The race she was second in two-back has also been productive; she looks live in her first start against winners. #6 TWELFTH MOON has been forwardly placed in both of her recent wins in OS/\$40,000

conditioned events and now takes the next step up the class ladder. If she gets loose on the front she may be tough to catch. #3 DANCE RHYTHMS exits a rallying third at this level on turf on July 16. She has shown speed in the past; we'll see if she can get better position in her Tapeta debut. #2 IMA BEAST came up empty when competing at this level on June 25, but has since had a bit of a freshening and has been able to rebound off of poor performances in the past.

#### Race 10

##### #3 Bet

##### #6 Nikolau

##### #1 Giant One

##### #4 It Worked

#3 BET drops in for \$40,000 and could be a pace factor in his first start as a gelding. This does not look like a particularly out-of-reach group. #6 NIKOLAU has shown no speed in two recent tries on the outer turf and now gets onto the inner course for the first time. He takes the drop in for \$40,000 in his first start for a new barn. #1 GIANT ONE has shown little in a pair of main track routes so far this season, most recently coming up empty as a narrow second choice. He adds blinkers for his turf debut. #4 IT WORKED has now shown anything in a pair of main track sprints thus far in his career. His pedigree suggests the longer distance and move to turf could be helpful.

#### Race 11

##### #6 Dixie Bound

##### #2 Trebuchet

##### #7 Three Mile Limit

##### #11 Bartica

##### #9 Kodiak Mamba (IRE)

#6 DIXIE BOUND showed good interest when making a rail run on the turn before swinging out in the stretch to be fourth in his debut, but got parked wide throughout and was empty in his second attempt. He drops in class and will hopefully get a better trip. #2 TREBUCHET has run back to back runner-up efforts on the main track. His only prior turf effort was a good third in an inner turf route; a turf sprint may suit him perfectly. #7 THREE MILE LIMIT had some tactical speed but emptied out when making his first start off of a two-year layoff in a maiden special weight on July 10. He takes the drop in and tries turf in his second start off of the bench. #11 BARTICA made a wide rally to be third at this level in his first start of the season on June 30. If he works out a trip he should be able to run on for a share. #9 KODIAK MAMBA (IRE) broke poorly and rallied from last to finish fourth for \$15,000 on July 17, attracting a claim on that day. If you aren't scared off by his light recent speed figures he's worth a look.