Handicapper's Journal – Doug McPherson Thursday, December 1st 2022

Race 1

#6 So Breanna #5 Want to Go Dancing #3 Baysville #1 Miss Schiller

#6 SO BREANNA chased the early pace before emptying out when sixth for \$25,000 on November 11 in a race where the winner absolutely dominanted. She returns to the bottom levels and should have stalking position. #5 WANT TO GO DANCING stalked early before joining a duel on the turn and ended up beaten a faint nose at the wire when last competing on October 13. She has been off for seven weeks now; a repeat of her last effort will have her right there. #3 BAYSVILLE was fifth, 2 1/4 lengths behind Want to Go Dancing on October 13 and has since had two good efforts, most recently finishing second behind a lone-speed winner. #1 MISS SCHILLER tried going to the lead and stopped in the stretch when last competing on November 18. She may be more effective cutting back to five furlongs and returning to her closing style.

Race 2 **#5 Be Like Leigh #1 Katchy Name #9 Silent Tribute #11 Tachyon Speed**

#5 BE LIKE LEIGH drops in for \$40,000 and adds blinkers for her second attempt after coming up empty off of a wide trip when debuting against maiden special weight company. Homebred has obvious room to improve with the class relief. #1 KATCHY NAME exits a runner-up finish behind the speedy Rifling in a race where the third and fourth-place finishes have since won. Yet to miss the board in three attempts, she looks the one to beat. #9 SILENT TRIBUTE dueled on the lead and gave way within the final furlong to be third when last competing on November 10. She looks like she has the most speed of any of her rivals with racing experience. #11 TACHYON SPEED was a half-length better than Silent Tribute when rallying to finish second on November 10. She has shown good finishing interest in both of her starts to date.

Race 3 #2 Lady Maeve (IRE) #8 More Savvy #5 Bella Nina #4 San Nicola Star

#2 LADY MAEVE (IRE) made a very wide bid and emptied out in the stretch when facing N1X/\$32,000 foes over the turf on November 5. She takes a plunge in for \$5,000 and draws an improved post; should fare well. #8 MORE SAVVY returns to Woodbine after two runs over wet tracks at Fort Erie, a win against non-threes and a non-threatening second in a N4L/N1Y. She has had synthetic success before and is bred to handle a route well. #5 BELLA NINA draws an improved post after coming up empty with a wide trip when facing a tough group of optional \$10,000 foes on November 3. If Lady Maeve looks too suspicious, this back-classy mare is probably the one to beat. #4 SAN NICOLA STAR exits a credible third-place finish for this price on November 17. She draws a good post and could be along for another share.

Race 4

#9 Destinique #8 Sassy Martini #3 Hatmaker Holiday #6 Northern Ruby

#9 DESTINIQUE returns to the starter allowance level where she was most effective this summer before a few tries at higher claiming and N1X levels. Daughter of Munnings has been off for nearly five weeks and should be able to handle this field. #8 SASSY MARTINI had a three-wide trip and ran a solid third over a good turf course on November 5. All of her wins have come over the synthetic. #3 HATMAKER HOLIDAY returned from a freshening and was a much-the-best front-end winner against \$15,000 non-threes on November 3. She runs the risk of getting hooked in a duel with Sparkle Sammy here, but does not look out of place as she graduates to face open company here. #6 NORTHERN RUBY came up empty with a wide trip over the turf in the same race that Sassy Martini exits. She has reason to improve with a better trip, returning to the surface where all six of her wins have taken place.

Race 5 #9 Pidin #4 Do the Griddy #2 I'm No Sleepy Joe #8 Franks Reload

#9 PIDIN dropped in for this price two weeks ago, dueled on the lead and was picked up in the final yards to be beaten a neck. Son of hot first-crop sire Girvin is an obvious pace threat again. #4 DO THE GRIDDY takes the plunge in for \$15,000 after an empty effort for \$40,000 on November 11 in which he showed brief speed before faltering. He showed promise when finishing second behind the speedy Puddingontheritz in October; the one to beat. #2 I'M NO SLEEPY JOE made a wide bid and was even in the stretch when finishing third in the same race that Pidin exits. His speed figures have been heading in the right direction. #8 FRANKS RELOAD took a step in the right direction when finishing a well-beaten fourth for \$25,000 on November 10. He gets some class relief here and could earn a slice.

Race 6 #1 Golden Train #9 Silver Sign #6 Canadiansweetheart #4 More Gelato

#1 GOLDEN TRAIN broke her maiden for \$40,000 three starts ago and has since had to face N1X/\$75,000 boys twice. The class relief she gets here is significant; a wake-up prospect. #9 SILVER SIGN finished evenly after chasing the early pace from the rail in a similar spot on November 17. She has not missed a check on the Tapeta; her third place effort for \$40,000 two starts ago was solid. #6 CANADIANSWEETHEART stalked the pace and drove clear to an easy win in the same race that Silver Sign exits after having finished fourth, 3/4 lengths behind that foe in the start prior. She figures to be well-backed as the only two-time winner in the field. #4 MORE GELATO rallied from last to be second behind Canadiansweetheart last time, a neck better than Silver Sign. She will need the pace to fall apart to come out on top.

Race 7 #8 Blazing Sky - Best Bet #5 Onezy's Dream #1 Silent Guroo

#3 Teacher's Pet

#8 BLAZING SKY returned from a two-month freshening and scored an easy win against \$15,000 non-threes last week. She returns on quick rest and gets a drop in value for her first try against open company; looks solid. #5 ONEZY'S DREAM looks for her third consecutive win here, going wire to wire on a slow lead two back before rallying from last to get up two weeks ago. She is having a great 2022 campaign and looks like a main contender. #1 SILENT GUROO got out to set the pace but was unable to hold off Onezy's Dream when beaten a halflength by that foe two weeks ago. She looks like the main speed again. #3 TEACHER'S PET dropped in for this price on November 3 and finished a non-threatening fourth. She ran an okay fourth at this distance for \$25,000 in August.

Race 8 **#7 Artful Ballerina #10 Creemore #6 Forest B #3 Bodacious Miss #9 Natasha's Bizniz**

#7 ARTFUL BALLERINA was much the best when dropping back in for \$25,000 to win her non-two on November 10. She plunges in for her first try against nonthrees and should come out on top again. #10 CREEMORE was claimed from her easy maiden score and came back with a comfortable win against non-twos for this price. She should have good stalking position in a race with plenty of speed. #6 FOREST B dueled on the lead and evened out when facing open \$25,000 foes on October 29, finishing fifth. This company is guite a bit easier; one of the main speed threats. #3 BODACIOUS MISS dueled through slow fractions and stopped when last for \$15,000 last week. She drops back in for \$10,000; we'll see if she can run back to her easy November 3 score. #9 NATASHA'S BIZNIZ had a solid Fort Erie campaign before getting a two-month freshening coming into this race. She worked quickly over the Tapeta on November 9; a wild-card.