



Race by Race with Ellis Park Analyst, Megan Devine

Race 1:

SUGAR KATE was 3rd in her last start on the Ellis Park turf. Trained by Tim Glyshaw, she's been consistently competitive at this level. She's well bred for turf, so she should do well if she takes to it again. This may be the easiest spot KITCHEN BOSS has ever been in. She drops down in class for owner/trainer Steve Asmussen and has plenty of experience on turf. JEANINE'S PRIDE was meant to start on turf last time but weather led to her finishing 1st over a dirt mile. She's placed well on dirt at this distance but only has one other turf start in which she finished 3rd at Ellis last year. ANGE GRISE stepped up last time out but didn't succeed at the Allowance level. She has turf experience and has beaten a few of the gals in here already.

Selections: 1-3-4-7

Race 2:

HANK'S ALIBI, trained by Hall of Famer, Jack Van Berg, gave his best effort over this distance at Oaklawn Park this spring. He seems to put in solid workouts and drops in class here. REDREAM switches back to dirt after a failed effort on turf. He drops in class, has early speed and trainer Ron Moquett wins Maiden Claiming races at 16%. JOHNNY'S RULES is best bred for this distance, with a Tomlinson rating (based on breeding) of 422, which is well above the others. He will appreciate the drop in class and cut back in distance. ILLUSION'S RULE has encountered some trouble before. Comes off a layoff and drops to an easier level.

Selections: 4-3-8-5

Race 3:

STARTER is definitely the class of this race. He has multiple Allowance level wins and comes off a win to enter this spot. This distance should suit him well but he'll have to close. NAME DROPPER has been competitive, finishing in the money in all of her starts since last October. She was wide last time to finish 3rd at Ellis Park. WICKED CHEER finished 2nd over a dirt mile at Ellis last time. He may appreciate the shorter distance today and has won or placed 3 out of 5 times over this track. E.M. MAXIMUS will have to return to the form he had last year. He comes off a bit of a layoff but has been working out here and likes sprints.

Selections: 6-7-3-4

Race 4:

WOLF GOURMET had an awkward start last time to finish a disappointing 9th. She's one of the only speed horses in here. She was 3rd at this distance recently and trainer Dale Romans is currently winning at 21% at Ellis Park. TRULY GIFTED only has two starts, her best effort was over a turf mile. The longer distance may suit her.

LINDA will try turf for the first time after steadily improving on the dirt. STORMY PLAY has experience going long on the turf.

Selections: 2-7-4-6

Race 5:

EL SOMBRE finished 2nd last time out at Ellis Park. He was gaining over the 5 furlong distance, so 6 furlongs shouldn't be a concern. He shows three bullet workouts on his resume and has already beat a number of horses in here. SHORT STORY LONG faces over a year layoff, but owner/trainer Jack Frost wins at 20% with over 180 day layoffs. FIELD GOAL won at Ellis Park last year and beat at least two horses that came back to win their next starts. JUMPS FOR BUCKS finished third in his last start. He's raced at less complete tracks but jumped up to finish 2nd at Keeneland in April 2015.

Selections: 2-1-7-3

Race 6:

ATRUEVISION drop in after a win at Ellis Park on opening weekend. She closed late to win but cuts back in distance a bit today. TALIAFERRO COUNTY won last time over the turf at Churchill Downs. She also tends to make a late run and has been steadily improving over her 5 starts. Trainer Donald Hunt wins at 19% in route (longer distance) races. MISS CHATT is best bred for this distance and surface. She has turf experience and should be able to improve in this field. LATE NIGHT ARTIST is the biggest class dropper in here. She won for the first time going long on the turf.

Selections: 9-7-1-3

Race 7:

PUT DA BLAME ON ME is taking a huge step down after racing in the Grade 3 Iowa Oaks. She's participated in multiple Graded Stakes and has shown early speed in all of them. She seems talented in the mornings, as well. SCAT MEANS GO drops from the Allowance level and may be best suited sitting off just of the pace. CROOKED STUCK has run a few speedy workouts at Keeneland, and has even earned a rare "handily" rating from the clockers. Her trainer wins at 23% in route races and 33% in Allowance races. SPEAK SOFTLY finished 2nd last time out despite a slow start.

Selections: 2-5-8-11

Race 8:

LATIQUE has been consistently entered in stakes over the past year. She has experience over the turf and takes a serious drop in class. Her works have been great, as well. ANNABELLE tries turf for the first time for Trainer Brad Cox who wins at 31% in that scenario. She hasn't raced in January but her trainer wins at 20% with over 180 day layoffs and she drops down from a stakes race to this level. ZETA ZODY races back off a short rest. She has experience on the grass and drops to a level which she has been more comfortable at. MARYANNA STAR just missed last time over the Churchill Downs turf. She should be very competitive in this spot.

Selections: 6-5-9-3

Race 9:

DASAATEER is owned by Shadwell Stable who is 1 for 1 at Ellis Park this meet. This gelding has raced at this mile on the turf before and looks to improve. He's best bred for this distance and surface. TRAPPED broke slow in his first and only start. He should be better prepared after that education. TWENTY GAUGE has been racing against some tougher horses but has hit the board almost every time. OSTENTATION will be making his debut today. He's been working like a professional for owner/trainer Jack Frost. He'll receive first time Lasix, as well.

Selections: 10-3-8-4