

twinspires

BREEDERS' CUP™

BETTING GUIDE



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BREEDERS' CUP RACE & WAGER MENU

Friday, November 1st, 2024

RACE	TIME	١	NAGERI	NG								
1	11:35PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 5	
2	12:10PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 4	
3	12:45PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3		
4	1:25PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 4	
5	2:05PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 6	
6	2:45PT	Juvenile Turf Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 5	Pick 3 & \$3
7	3:25PT	Juvenile Fillies	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD	SPDD	Pick 3	Pick 4	
8	4:05PT	Juvenile Fillies Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3		
9	4:40PT	Juvenile	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD	SPDD			
10	5:25PT	Juvenile Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5		SPDD			

Saturday, November 2nd, 2024

RACE	TIME	,	WAGERI	NG								
1	10:05PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 5	
2	10:40PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 4	
3	11:15PT		WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3		
4	12:00PT	Filly & Mare Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 5	
5	12:41PT	Turf Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 4	All Turf P4
6	1:21PT	Distaff	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD	SPDD	Pick 3	Pick 4	All Dirt P4
7	2:01PT	Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 4	Pick 6	
8	2:41PT	Classic	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 5	
9	3:25PT	Filly & Mare Turf	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3	Pick 4	
10	4:05PT	Sprint	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD		Pick 3		
11	4:45PT	Mile	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5	DD				
12	5:25PT	Dirt Mile	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	H-5					

Wagering Notes

Special Daily Doubles (SPDD) on Friday consist of leg one on Friday and leg two on Saturday.

- Friday Race 7 with Saturday Race 6
- Friday Race 9 with Saturday Race 8
- Friday Race 10 with Saturday Race 7
- Friday's Pick 6, Pick 5's and High 5 may carry over to Saturday.
- Any Pick 5 carryover from Friday or the early Pick 5 on Saturday will carry over to the late Pick 5 on Saturday. The middle Pick 5 on Saturday will have a mandatory payout.
- Special Daily Double (SPDD) on Saturday will be the Breeders'

Cup Distaff as leg one and the Breeders' Cup Classic as leg two.

• Saturday's Pick 6, late Pick 5 and Super High 5 will have a mandatory payout on Breeders' Cup Saturday.

Bet Minimums

\$3 All-Turf Pick 3

\$1 WPS, Exacta, Daily Double, Pick 6, and SPDD

\$.50 Trifecta, Pick 3, Pick 4, All-Turf Pick 4, All-Dirt Pick 4, Pick 5, Super High 5

\$.10 Superfecta



DEL MAR AT A GLANCE

A look at the previous Del Mar meet.

AVG. WINNING ODDS: 5.63 - 1

FAVORITE WIN%: 35% FAVORITE ITM%: 70%

EXOTICS	PAYOFF
Pick 3	701.99
Pick 4	4,909.78
Pick 5	39,504.87
Pick 6	90,417.26
Daily Double	96.30
Exacta	104.94
Place Pick All	21,248.66
Quinella	53.76
Superfecta	4,545.95



TRACK BIAS MEET (07/20 - 09/08)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
6.0fDirt	35	29%	E/P	Mid/Out
6.5fDirt	22	32%	E/P	Rail/Ins
1 MileDirt	47	47%	Е	Rail
Turf Sprint	47	28%	E	Outside
Turf Routes	91	21%	E/P	Rail/Ins

TRACK BIAS WEEK (09/02 - 09/08)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
6.0fDirt	7	14%	E/P	Mid/Out
6.5fDirt	7	29%	E/P	Rail/Ins
1 MileDirt	8	38%	Е	Middle
Turf Sprint	7	29%	E/P	Middle
Turf Routes	15	27%	E/P	Inside

WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT

HOT TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'23-'24 Win %
Mullins Jeff	10	5	2	0	5.44	2	20%
Ellis Ronald W.	5	2	0	1	19.52	1	18%

COLD TRAINERS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Winning Favorites	'23-'24 Win %
Garcia Antonio C.	10	0	2	1	21.41	1	10%
Mathis Andy	10	0	0	1	19.33	0	19%
Ruis, Sr. Mick	10	0	0	0	33.55	0	13%

COLD JOCKEYS	Starts	Wins	Place	Show	Avg. Odds	Beaten Favorites	'23-'24 Win %
Talamo Joseph	19	0	1	2	27.92	0	9%



EXPERT PICKS FOR BREEDERS' CUP

We've assembled an expert team of handicappers to give their top picks for several key graded stakes races

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 Del Mar











JUVENILE (G1)

7 Gaming 10 Chancer McPatrick 1 East Avenue

10 Chancer McPatrick 1 East Avenue 7 Gaming

7 Gaming 10 Chancer McPatrick

1 East Avenue

10 Chancer McPatrick 6 Citizen Bull

12 Aomori City

6 Citizen Bull 1 East Avenue 10 Chancer McPatrick

JUVENILE TURF (G1)

13 Henri Matisse 12 Aomori City 11 New Century

13 Henri Matisse 11 New Century 10 Mentee

1 Satono Carnaval 12 Aomori City 11 New Century

13 Henri Matisse 5 Zulu Kingdom

1 East Avenue

13 Henri Matisse 12 Aomori City 7 Seagulls Eleven

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2 Del Mar











CLASSIC (G1)

13 Newgate 9 Fierceness 11 Sierra Leone 3 City of Troy 12 Arthur's Ride 1 Forever Young

3 City of Troy 1 Forever Young 2 Highland Falls

13 Newgate 2 Fierceness 3 City of Troy 14 Next 12 Arthur's Ride 1 Forever Young

FILLY & MARE TURF (G1)

7 Content 4 War Like Goddess 5 Didia

3 Cinderella's Dream 10 Moira 4 War Like Goddess

4 War Like Goddess 7 Content 10 Moira

10 Moira 5 Didia 7 Content 10 Moira 4 War Like Goddess 5 Didia

SPRINT (G1)

3 Federal Judge 10 Mullikin 8 Straight No Chaser

10 Mullikin 1 Raging Torrent 4 Nakatomi

9 Remake 4 Nakatomi 10 Mullikin

8 Straight No Chaser 4 Nakatomi 1 Raging Torrent 4 Nakatomi

9 Remake 8 Straight No Chaser

MILE (G1)

7 Porta Fortuna 12 Carl Spackler 9 Johannes

6 Notable Speech 1 Ramatuelle 8 More Than Looks 1 Ramatuelle 12 Carl Spackler 6 Notable Speech 12 Carl Spackler 9 Johannes 8 More Than Looks 6 Notable Speech 7 Porta Fortuna 8 More Than Looks

TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET

2024 BREEDER'S CUP JUVENILE

A stout field of 10 juveniles will go postward in Friday's \$2 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) at Del Mar on Friday. The 2025 Road to the Kentucky Derby challenge series contest will reward the top five finishers of the heat qualifying points on a 30-15-9-6-3 basis.

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	East Avenue	5-2
2	Getaway Car	20-1
3	Hill Road	30-1
4	Ferocious	6-1
5	Jonathan's Way	9-2
6	Citizen Bull	10-1
7	Gaming	8-1
8	Shin Believe	10-1
9	Ecoro Azel	30-1
10	Chancer McPatrick	3-1

TOP PICKS
#6 Citizen Bull
#5 Jonathan's Way
#1 East Avenue
#10 Chancer McPatrick

WAGERS
\$20 win and place #6 Citizen Bull
\$5 exacta key box 6 with 1,5,10
50-cent superfecta 6 with 1,5,10 with 1,5,10 with ALL

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#1 EAST AVENUE (5-2) – Unblemished son of Medaglia d'Oro outran his foes in a facile Breeders' Futurity (G1) score and comes in as a morning-line choice in the contest. Godolphin homebred received a tricky rail draw, but he is a superb prospect and will be formidable with a clean break from the inside post slot. Tyler Gaffalione has the call for trainer Brendan Walsh.

#2 GETAWAY CAR (20-1) – Grade 3 winner finished a clear second in the American Pharoah S. (G1) most recently behind the top play and will add plenty of early speed to the event. The dark bay son of Curlin is especially swift from the gate and stayed on well in his route debut in his latest appearance. He will be in the hunt late with any improvement on Friday.

#3 HILL ROAD (30-1) – European import is bred to run on any surface but faces a tall task while making his first run on the dirt in this spot. Adrian Murray trainee was unplaced in his first run against winners at the Curragh most recently, and the son of Quality Road would be a surprise with Umberto Rispoli in the silks.

#4 FEROCIOUS (6-1) – Expensive son of Flatter has been first or second in each of his trio of lifetime runs, led by runner-up showings in the Hopeful S. (G1) and Breeders' Futurity (G1). Gustavo Delgado charge was well clear of the third-place finisher at Keeneland most recently, and he seems like a fine fit for the race with Javier Castellano riding.

#5 JONATHAN'S WAY (9-2) – Phil Bauer pupil is perfect from two lifetime starts, and the son of Vekoma has displayed versatility early in his career. The \$290,000 weanling buy led throughout in a professional Iroquois S. (G3) triumph in advance of this and has trained well in the interim. Joel Rosario retains the mount.

#6 CITIZEN BULL (10-1) – Top selection earned a lifetime-best 100 Brisnet Speed number in taking the American Pharoah S. (G1) for trainer Bob Baffert. The Into Mischief colt broke his maiden on debut at Del Mar, and I expect him to sit a fine trip just off of dueling leaders to the top of the lane. Martin Garcia has the assignment.

#7 GAMING (8-1) – Del Mar Futurity (G1) victor is perfect from a pair of lifetime appearances, both at Del Mar, and he is a contender in a field full of them. Bob Baffert trainee has proven to be capable of winning from on or off of the early tempo, and the son of Game Winner figures to be a late threat on Friday at a nice price. Irad Ortiz Jr. taking the reins adds to his appeal.

#8 SHIN BELIEVE (10-1) – \$800,000 two-year-old purchase was a dominant winner in his debut run in Japan at about 1 1/8 miles for the brilliant Hideyuki Mori. The chestnut colt is an obvious wild card in the group, but he is proven going long and could be almost any kind at a big price. Yutaka Take will be in the stirrups.

#9 ECORO AZEL (30-1) – The second of the two Mori trainees arriving from Japan was a smart winner at first asking prior to checking in fifth in his black-type debut at Chukyo on Sept. 28. Shancelot colt brought \$215,000 at OBS in March, but he is bred to be more of a one-turn type and is a question mark while routing for the initial time on this occasion.

#10 CHANCER MCPATRICK (3-1) – Unbeaten McKinzie colt comes in with scores in both the Hopeful S. (G1) and Champagne S. (G1) for conditioner Chad Brown, who won this race in 2017 at Del Mar with Good Magic. The \$725,000 juvenile purchase has arguably the best turn of foot in the field, and he could get a nice setup in a cast with ample early foot in the mix. Flavien Prat will be in the silks.



TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET

2024 BREEDER'S CUP CLASSIC

A sensational cast of 15, with one being an also-eligible entrant, will travel 1 1/4 miles over the Del Mar dirt in the \$7 million Breeders' Cup Classic (G1) on Saturday.

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Forever Young	6-1
2	Highland Falls	20-1
3	City of Troy	5-2
4	Mixto	30-1
5	Senor Buscador	30-1
6	Derma Sotogake	20-1
7	Ushba Tesoro	12-1
8	Pyrenees	3-1
9	Fierceness	3-1
10	Tapit Trice	30-1
11	Sierra Leone	12-1
12	Arthur's Ride	15-1
13	Newgate	20-1
14	Next	8-1
15	Rattle N Roll (AE)	30-1

TOP PICKS
#12 Arthur's Ride
#7 Ushba Tesoro
#3 City of Troy
#1 Forever Young
#11 Sierra Leone

WAGERS	
\$20 win and place #12 Arthur's Ride	
\$5 exacta key box 12 with 1,3,7	
\$1 trifecta 12 with 1,3,7 with all	

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#1 FOREVER YOUNG (6-1): Once-beaten Japanese import gets a tricky post on the rail but gave a fine account of himself when an unlucky third in the Kentucky Derby (61) in his lone run on U. S. soil. The son of Real Steel was a measured winner in his prep for Saturday at Tokyo City last out, and his best showing will find him in the mix late with regular rider Sakai in the silks.

#2 HIGHLAND FALLS (20-1): Godolphin homebred ran the best race of his life when annexing the Jockey Club Gold Cup (GT) at Saratoga in his latest performance for trainer Brad Cox. The chestnut son of Curlin has trained swiftly in the interim, and the four-year-old rates as a top-four finisher with even slight improvement off of this latest outing. Luis Saez inherits the mount.

#3 CITY OF TROY (5-2): Fantastic son of Justify comes in with a three-race win streak, all in Group 1 events, and he will try the dirt for the first time. Aidan O'Brien pupil checks almost all of the boxes, and if he thrives on the surface change, then the sophomore will be formidable in his stateside bow with the superb Ryan Moore in the silks.

#4 MIXTO (30-1): Doug O'Neill pupil earned a hefty 108 Brisnet Speed number in his Pacific Classic (G1) tally on the course in his latest endeavor and will be a contender with a repeat of that race. Good Magic colt had never run that fast in the past, however, and he didn't beat a classy field in his signature win to date, so I will let him beat me on Saturday.

#5 SENOR BUSCADOR (30-1): Saudi Cup (G1) star has not been in peak form since returning from a pair of races in the desert, and his deep-closing style might not be ideal for a race that lacks an abundance of pace. The \$12 million earner will have Joel Rosario in the controls.

#6 DERMA SOTOGAKE (20-1): Grade 2 winner was a fine runner-up in the 2023 Classic at Santa Anita for conditioner Hidetaka Otronashi. The four-year-old chestnut will run with blinkers on, and while others appear to be more likely in the field, I can still envision the colt rallying for a minor award with his top performance. Christophe Lemaire has the call.

#7 USHBA TESORO (12-1): Top class seven-year-old was a solid fifth, beaten by 3 ¼ lengths, in this race last campaign and I expect him to improve off of that this season. Runner-up in both the Saudi Cup (G1) and Dubai World Cup (G1) this year, the son of Orfevre had a great prep run for the Classic and is among the top late runners in the cast. The Takagi trainee will have Yuga Kawada taking the reins.

#8 PYRENEES (30-1): Into Mischief colt has been very good with four wins and two seconds since December. The Grade 3 victor from the sizzling Cherie DeVaux barn appears to be a cut below the best in this particular spot, however. Brian Hernandez Jr. will be in the irons.

#9 FIERCENESS (3-1): Champion son of City of Light was last seen eclipsing the Travers S. (G1) for Todd Pletcher and will be a forward presence on Saturday. A three-time Grade 1 star, he is reportedly training in his typical fine fashion, and the bay can run with any horse on his best day. John Velazquez stays in the silks atop the accomplished colt.

#10 TAPIT TRICE (30-1): Grade 1 victor enters the Classic off of a game score in the Woodward S. (G2) at Aqueduct for Pletcher. The long-striding son of Tapit faces a much more daunting task on Saturday, though, and he would be a surprise to me despite the presence of Irad Ortiz Jr. in the silks.

#11 SIERRA LEONE (12-1): Consistently good son of Gun Runner comes in off of a well-earned rest and seems poised to run his best race for Chad Brown. The \$2.3 million yearling purchase has never finished out of the money in his eight career assignments, and I expect him to be passing a lot of runners in the stretch with Flavien Prat on board once again.

#12 ARTHUR'S RIDE (15-1): Upset pick is the potential pacesetter in the field and I expect him to parlay a great trip into a victory under Junior Alvarado. The Whitney S. (G1) romper still has room to improve with just eight lifetime runs to his credit, and I love that he got a local morning move in to get acclimated to Del Mar, as well. Tapit colt will be flashing his natural early foot from the opening bell for conditioner Bill Mott.

#13 NEWGATE (20-1): Santa Anita H. (G1) victor comes off a fine third-place effort in the California Crown (G1) at The Great Race Place and can't be overlooked despite being assigned a wider post slot. The four-year-old son of Into Mischief will be equipped with blinkers on Saturday and has the tactical speed to avoid an horrific voyage in the contest with Frankie Dettori picking up the ride.

#14 NEXT (8-1): Superstar marathoner has dominated his foes by a combined 52 1/4 lengths from four 2024 appearances and will cut back in distance for Doug Cowans. The gray son of Not This Time continues to train forwardly and he will be a major factor if the 10-furlong distance is to his liking. Luan Machado will pilot the fantastic gelding.

#15 RATTLE N ROLL (Also-Eligible) (30-1): McPeek charge needs a defection to draw into the field, and even if he does, the five-year-old son of Connect would be a big surprise from the far outside beneath Jose Ortiz.



FINDING VULNERABLE FAVORITES IN THE 2024 BREEDERS' CUP

by Vance Hanson

As I've noted several times in other posts, last year's Breeders' Cup Saturday was a tough day to try and beat the chalk. However, I did improve slightly over previous years by correctly fading two of the three horses mentioned in this column. (Note: Arabian Knight wound up going off as the second choice in the Classic [G1] and losing to post-time favorite White Abarrio).

It's that time again to pick out a few horses to fade for next weekend's festivities at Del Mar, a decision made slightly more difficult following recent defections like National Treasure, who most certainly would have been included on this list.

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES (G1)/JUVENILE (G1)

This two-fer will go on expected favorites Immersive and East Avenue, both of whom are campaigned by Godolphin. Besides the not-great track record of Alcibiades (G1) and Breeders' Futurity (G1) winners in the Breeders' Cups held in California (Del Mar especially), there are a couple other factors.

Although this doesn't appear a stellar renewal of the Juvenile Fillies on paper, Immersive, despite being a dual Grade 1 winner, hasn't run all that much faster than rivals like Non Compliant and Scottish Lassie. From an odds and betting perspective, there simply doesn't appear as if there will be a large margin for error on her part at that price available.

As far as East Avenue goes, his facile performances to date are definitely compelling. However, he encountered no serious pace pressure in either start in Kentucky, something he might not be able to avoid here. Perhaps he'll be good enough to overcome it or luck out again in not getting any, but it will be difficult to take the shortest price in a quality group with several other promising types.

BREEDERS' CUP FILLY & MARE SPRINT (G1)

The three-year-old Ways and Means is all the rage following back-to-back wins in the Test (G1) and Gallant Bloom (G2), but both races occurred on off tracks and lacked depth. The older Filly & Mare Sprint division was fairly strong all season, and Breeders' Cup rivals Society and Vahva were among the best. Society, in particular, showed a new dimension by winning the Ballerina (G1) from slightly off the pace and enters the Breeders' Cup very fresh with just two previous starts this season.

Another concern for Ways and Means is that three-year-olds don't have a great record of winning this race. Only three have done so since 2007, and two of them, Covfefe and Gamine, looked a bit stronger on paper than Ways and Means does here.



2024 BREEDERS' CUP CONTENDERS WORTH CONSIDERING AT A PRICE

by Vance Hanson



Breeders' Cup Saturday in 2023 was unusual in the 40-year history of the event: a virtual beatdown for bettors looking for longer-priced winners. Of the nine Breeders' Cup races on the card, seven were won by the post-time favorite. Another winner, Master of The Seas in the Mile (G1), wasn't far off from being number eight.

It's not exactly a trend that inspires the creation of content endorsing horses to watch at a price, but I'm not the only one assuming, and hoping, the events of 12 months ago was a one-off.

Here, then, are a few horses to keep an eye on Nov. 2.

BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC (G1)

The three-year-olds Fierceness and City of Troy are all the rage, and with good reason. That's due in part to the older dirt male division this season being fairly weak, with no standout.

He's not necessarily going to be my top selection by the time the Classic is run, but if you had to take a stand against the big two, you'd have to at least consider Arthur's Ride. His two winning performances at Saratoga over the summer, in an allowance and in the Whitney (G1), were among the fastest turned in by any older male this term, and certainly compare favorably to Fierceness' wins in the Florida Derby (G1) and Travers (G1) from a Brisnet Speed rating perspective.

True, Arthur's Ride threw in the towel early in the Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1). It's not the kind of prep you wanted to see, obviously, but that running line is going inflate his Classic price considerably. Also, trainer Bill Mott is no stranger to winning this race, having done so with Cigar (1995) and Drosselmeyer (2011).

BREEDERS' CUP FILLY & MARE TURF (G1)

The 1000 Guineas (G1) at Newmarket in May was one of the key races of the European flat season, one that included such top-level talents as Porta Fortuna, Ramatuelle, Fallen Angel, and Tamfana.

Quietly seventh in that 16-filly field was Cinderella's Dream, who came to summer in the U.S. and subsequently won the Belmont Oaks (G1) and Saratoga Oaks (G1). You can question the quality of competition she defeated in both those races (restricted to three-year-olds), but the bottom line is this filly is 6-for-7 and still has room to improve stepping up both in class and trip to 1 3/8 miles for the first time.

Frankly, this isn't the strongest renewal of the Filly & Mare Turf we've seen in recent years. Cinderella's Dream might surprise for connections who know how to win at this fixture in bundles.

BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT (G1)

Devoted viewers of TwinSpires' Racing Roundtable will know that I've been rather high on Mullikin going into this six-furlong dash. Undefeated in four starts this season, he's looked the "now horse" in the division when taking the John A. Nerud (G2) and Forego (G1) in eye-catching fashion.

Though ostensibly a seven-furlong specialist, he's won over six, and the fact he is capable of stretching his speed farther suggests he might still have more in the tank in the event of a fast and/or contested pace. His price will take a hit following the recent defection of The Chosen Vron, but I'd be slightly surprised if he were the actual favorite in a race that lacks a true standout.





5 KEY BREEDERS' CUP BETTING TRENDS FOR TURF RACES

by Jennifer Kelly



The Breeders' Cup is one of the year's most anticipated events, with its seven turf races offering thrills for fans and challenges for bettors looking to score on these championship days. Its seven turf races feature the sport's top horses, with America's best sharing the track with international stars.

With the unpredictable nature of turf racing, coupled with the international talent it draws, identifying winning trends can provide an edge when placing bets. From European dominance to post-position advantages, understanding these patterns is key. By analyzing the winners from the past decade of Breeders' Cup history, we'll uncover some of the most significant trends that have shaped Breeders' Cup turf races, offering you valuable insights into past performances and what to look out for when betting.

In addition to the usual slate of wagers, from win bets to superfectas, the 2024 Breeders' Cup wagering menu will include a **\$3 ALL-TURF PICK 3 ON FRIDAY**, covering the three turf races on Future Stars Friday:

RACE 6: Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G1)
RACE 8: Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1)
RACE 10: Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (G1)

On Breeders' Cup Saturday, Del Mar is offering an **ALL-TURF PICK** 4 is a 50-cent minimum wager and combines the day's four turf races:

RACE 5: Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (G1)
RACE 7: Breeders' Cup Turf (G1)

RACE 9: Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1)

RACE 11: Breeders' Cup Mile (G1)

As you plan your wagers for these two championship days, these five trends can help you narrow down your choices for each race as well as those multi-race wagers.

FIVE TRENDS TO CONSIDER

Fade Kentucky Downs winners – Horses who have won at Kentucky Downs have not won at the Breeders' Cup. For example, since 2014,

six of the 10 previous winners of the Kentucky Downs Turf Sprint Stakes (G2) competed in the Turf Sprint and all finished up the track, with Gear Jockey's sixth in the 2023 edition the best showing.

Cogburn exited that Kentucky Downs stakes with a 3 1/4-length victory over a field that included 2023 Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint victor Nobals, who finished fourth. The Steve Asmussen trainee has put in some sparkling performances in 2024, but recent history is not on his side. Most of the Turf Sprint winners have come into the five-furlong sprint with their most recent starts coming within four to eight weeks of their turn in the Breeders' Cup.

Nobals led into his 2023 Turf Sprint win with a final prep at Colonial Downs eight weeks prior to his turn at Santa Anita.

Caravel won the 2022 Turf Sprint at Keeneland off a win in the Franklin Stakes (G3), also at Keeneland, just three weeks earlier.

Golden Pal entered the 2021 Turf Sprint with a win in the Woodford Stakes (G2) at Keeneland as his last start prior to winning at Del Mar.

Glass Slippers took the 2020 edition four weeks after a second-place finish at Longchamps, while Belvoir Bay won five months after a fourth-place finish in the Jaipur (G1) at Belmont Park.

Stormy Liberal won consecutive editions of the Turf Sprint in 2017-18 off of starts at Del Mar and Belmont Park, the former four weeks earlier and the latter five months earlier.

Obviously's 2016 win came after a third in the City of Hope Mile (G2) at Santa Anita in early October.

Mongolian Saturday took the 2015 Turf Sprint at Keeneland four weeks after a second in the Woodford (G3) at the same track.

Bobby's Kitten was third in the Woodbine Mile (G1) six weeks before trying and winning the 2014 Turf Sprint.

On the other end of the spectrum, winners of the 1 1/2-mile Kentucky Turf Cup (G2) at Kentucky Downs have seen similar results in the Breeders' Cup Turf, also a 12-furlong contest.

Since 2014, four winners did not go on to compete in the Turf, while two-time winners Arklow (2018 and 2020) and Da Big Hoss (2015 and 2016) as well as Red Knight (2022) and Zulu Alpha (2019) all competed at Breeders' Cup this same year. Of those four horses, only Arklow in 2018 and Zulu Alpha in 2019 have finished anywhere close to the top three, each finishing fourth. Those trends indicate that Grand Sonata, this year's Kentucky Turf Cup winner, is a likely fade for this year's Turf.

Continues on next page >>



5 KEY BREEDERS' CUP BETTING TRENDS FOR TURF RACES CONTINUED

by Jennifer Kelly

EUROPEAN SHIPPERS

Give this year's European horses a second look – European shippers like Emily Upjohn, 2021 Turf champion Rebel's Romance, and Porta Fortuna, second in last year's BC Juvenile Fillies Turf and Group 1 winner at Royal Ascot, are worth another look, especially given trainer Aidan O'Brien's record in these races. O'Brien, who has 18 horses listed in this year's Breeders' Cup pre-entries, has 18 wins, with the majority coming in the Turf, including Auguste Rodin's three-quarters of a length victory in 2023.

Charlie Appleby has also found success at the Breeders' Cup, amassing 10 wins since his first victory with Outstrip in 2013. He brings back Rebel's Romance, the 2022 Turf winner, and adds Notable Speech, the 2000 Guineas victor, and Cinderella's Dream, winner of the Belmont Oaks and Saratoga Oaks. The English trainer has won the last three editions of the Mile and has wins in five of the six Breeders' Cup turf races. His starters merit consideration when building tickets, as he tends to bring horses that are ready to fire on Breeders' Cup weekend.

LATE RUNNERS ON TURF

Late runners dominate on turf – Of the last 10 Breeders' Cup Turf winners, only one, Highland Reel in 2016, won going gate-to-wire. That means most winners made their run in the stretch to win, often coming from midpack or farther back and finding an open lane to rally late. European jocks like Ryan Moore and Frankie Dettori tend to have more experience with this type of riding style, so look for horses who have success with late rallies on turf.

The same trends hold up with the Mile, the Filly & Mare Turf, the Juvenile Turf, and the Juvenile Fillies Turf. Rarely do horses take the lead from the gate and maintain it all the way to the wire. With these shorter distances, ranging from a mile to 10 furlongs, winners tended to come from off the pace, much like Turf winners, but sat closer to the pace early, with most positioned midpack or closer for the first half-mile to three-quarters, and then moving for the lead in the stretch. These races tend to be split between jocks like William Buick, Dettori, and Moore, while Irad Ortiz Jr. has found success in these races as well, with seven of his 20 Breeders' Cup wins coming in turf races.

Conversely, in the two five-furlong sprints, gate-to-wire performances are more likely than with the longer turf races. The Juvenile Turf Sprint has four of six winners who were on the lead at every call while the last 10 Turf Sprints have also had four gate-to-wire victors. With that in mind, look for horses who are close to the pace or on the lead in their previous starts when considering who to include in your betting plans for these sprints.

KEY POST POSITIONS

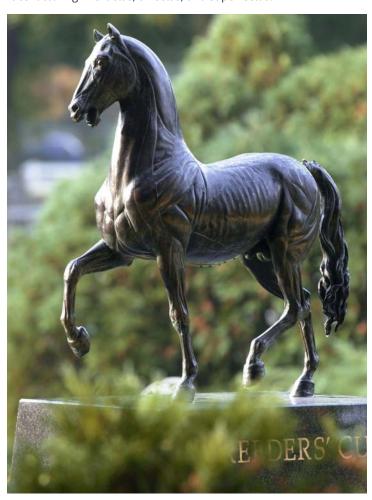
Post position can be key – The seven turf races on the Breeders' Cup cards have had winners from all 14 post positions, but two have been the most successful. Post 5 has had nine winners while post 6 has had seven, with posts 1 and post 9 right behind with six each. Though these four have seen the most winners, each of the seven races has

a smattering of winners from both inside and outside, with no trends showing up in either. However, posts 1-6 have the preponderance of winners at both sprint and route distances, with posts 9 and 11 also factoring into the numbers.

When considering who to bet on Breeders' Cup Friday and Saturday, start with horses breaking from these posts. Combined with the right rider, these horses could be the key to winning big this year.

FOLLY IN FAVORITES

Favorites don't always show up – Turf races tend to reward those with favorable trips who can bid for the lead late. Since 2014, favorites have fallen short of the winner's circle more often than not at the Breeders' Cup. Of the 66 turf races since 2014, 17 post-time favorites have won, a strike rate of just under 26%. However, favorites have finished second or third more often, with 21 of 66 favorites finishing in the top three; combine that with winning favorites and the horses who enter the gate at the shortest odds are finishing in the money at a rate of 58%. With that in mind, count on the favorite in each turf race factoring in exactas, trifectas, and superfectas.





HOW MUCH OF A CONNECTION DOES THE BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES HAVE TO THE KENTUCKY OAKS?

by Ashley Anderson

Dating back to the inaugural running of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) in 1984, just two horses have returned off victories in the race to win the Kentucky Oaks (G1) the following season.

The two horses to accomplish the Juvenile Fillies/Kentucky Oaks double are the D. Wayne Lukas-trained Open Mind (winner of the 1989 Oaks) and Bob Baffert pupil Silverbulletday, the 1999 Oaks heroine.

There was nearly a third runner to join the exclusive list, but the first-place finisher in the inaugural Juvenile Fillies in 1984, Fran's Valentine, was disqualified and placed 10th.

The following season, the California-bred opened her three-year-old campaign with a win in the Las Virgenes (G3) at Santa Anita, followed by a victory in the Santa Susana (G1), now known as the Santa Anita Oaks. She next came home fifth in the Ashland (G2) at Keeneland before her triumph in the Kentucky Oaks.

KENTUCKY OAKS WINNERS	IUVENILE FILLIES FINISH
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Fran's Valentine (1985)	1st, DQ'd to 10th
Open Mind (1989)	1st
Lite Light (1991)	12th
Sardula (1994)	2nd
Silverbulletday (1999)	1st
Ashado (2004)	2nd
Blind Luck (2010)	3rd
Untapable (2014)	8th
Serengeti Empress (2019)	7th

FEW JUVENILE FILLIES WINNERS HAVE RACED IN THE KENTUCKY OAKS

Since Silverbulletday scored the Juvenile Fillies/Oaks double, just seven Juvenile Fillies winners have gone on to even race in the Kentucky Oaks.

The 1999 hero of the Juvenile Fillies, Cash Run, finished 13th of 14 in the 2000 Oaks, while 2006 Juvenile Fillies victress Dreaming of Anna was sixth in the Oaks the next season.

In 2012, three-time Breeders' Cup champ Beholder was just barely denied the Juvenile Fillies/Oaks double when she was beaten a half-length by 39-1 longshot Princess of Sylmar. Beholder went on to win 12 of her next 13 starts; the exception being a fourth in the 2014 Ogden Phipps (G1).

Dating back to 2013, just four Juvenile Fillies winners have competed in the Kentucky Oaks, with 2021 Juvenile Fillies champion Echo Zulu performing best of those four in the Oaks with a fourth-place finish. The other three Juvenile Fillies winners to race in the Oaks over the last decade are Ria Antonia (sixth in the 2014 Oaks), Jaywalk (sixth but disqualified to 13th in the 2019 Oaks), and Wonder Wheel (ninth in the 2023 Oaks).

SERENGETI EMPRESS THE LAST JUVENILE FILLIES ALSO-RAN TO WIN THE OAKS

As for Kentucky Oaks winners who had previously raced in the Juvenile Fillies but did not win the Breeders' Cup event, 1991 Oaks winner Lite Light was 12th in the two-year-old race, 1994 Oaks heroine Sardula was second by a head in the Juvenile Fillies, and 2004 Oaks winner Ashado was second by 2 1/2 lengths to post-time favorite Halfbridled at two as well.

In 2009, Blind Luck came home third as the favorite in the Juvenile Fillies, 2014 Oaks winner Untapable was eighth in the Juvenile Fillies, and Serengeti Empress finished seventh in the 2018 running of the Breeders' Cup event.

While there has not been much cross-over between the winner of the Juvenile Fillies and the eventual Kentucky Oaks champ, the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies has a significant connection to the Eclipse Award for two-year-old female. All but four of the horses who visited the winner's circle in the Juvenile Fillies have gone on to collect American Champion Two-Year-Old Filly honors.

Maybe this year we'll see a filly buck the trend, but chances are the winner of Churchill Downs' prestigious race for three-year-old fillies will come from another prep along the Road to the Kentucky Oaks.





