



# BELMONT STAKES BETTING GUIDE

presented by **twinspires**





twinspires®



# BELMONT STAKES 156 BETTING GUIDE



## CONTENTS

- 3 Race Schedule / Wager Menu
- 4 Belmont Park At A Glance
- 5 Expert Panel Picks
- 6 Belmont Stakes Meet The Contenders
- 7 Belmont Stakes Tipsheet
- 8 2024 Belmont Stakes:  
Brisnet Speed Rating Report
- 9 Belmont Stakes Trends/Analysis
- 11 2024 Belmont Stakes: Which Horses  
Are Bred to Handle the Distance

# BELMONT STAKES 156 WEEK STAKES RACES

## FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024

<b>Intercontinental Stakes</b>	\$200,000 Guaranteed
<b>Just a Game Stakes</b>	\$500,000 Guaranteed
<b>New York Stakes</b>	\$750,000 Guaranteed
<b>Acorn Stakes</b>	\$500,000 Guaranteed



## SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024

<b>True North Stakes</b>	\$350,000 Guaranteed
<b>Poker Stakes</b>	\$350,000 Guaranteed
<b>Suburban Stakes</b>	\$350,000 Guaranteed
<b>Ogden Phipps Stakes</b>	\$500,000 Guaranteed
<b>Woody Stephens Stakes</b>	\$500,000 Guaranteed
<b>Jaipur Stakes</b>	\$500,000 Guaranteed
<b>Metropolitan Handicap</b>	\$1,000,000 Guaranteed
<b>Manhattan Stakes</b>	\$1,000,000 Guaranteed
<b>Belmont Stakes</b>	\$2,000,000 Guaranteed

# AT A GLANCE

Saratoga At a Glance September 4, 2023.

**AVG. WINNING ODDS:** 5.02 - 1

**FAVORITE WIN%:** 35% **FAVORITE ITM%:** 72%

EXOTICS	PAYOFF
Quinella	27.91
Exacta	75.73
Daily Double	77.17
Trifecta	519.21
Pick 3	486.78
Superfecta	3,622.14
Pick 6	141,342.09
Pick 4	3,100.93
Pick 5	30,154.94
Grand Slam	125.35



## TRACK BIAS MEET(07/13 - 09/03)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
6.0fDirt	63	37%	E	Outside
7.0fDirt	43	28%	E	Outside
1 MileDirt	68	26%	E	Rail
1 1/8mDirt	28	32%	E	Middle
Turf Sprint	45	20%	P	Rail/Ins
InTf Routes	63	24%	E	Inside
Turf Routes	22	14%	P	Outside

## TRACK BIAS WEEK(08/28 - 09/03)

Distance	# Race	% Wire	Best Style	Best Posts
6.0fDirt	6	17%	E	Outside
7.0fDirt	9	33%	E	Inside
1 MileDirt	10	40%	E	Rail
1 1/8mDirt	2	100%	E	Middle
Turf Sprint	6	0%	S	Rail/Ins
InTf Routes	10	30%	E	Outside
Turf Routes	3	0%	P	Inside

## WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT

HOT TRAINERS	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	AVG. ODDS	WINNING FAVORITES	'22-'23 WIN %
Cox Brad H.	19	7	6	2	4.38	2	26%
Asmussen Steven M.	9	4	1	0	11.18	2	18%
Bauer Philip A.	6	3	0	0	12.26	0	19%
Kantarmaci Mertkan	6	3	1	0	15.30	0	14%
Casse Norm W.	3	2	0	0	9.82	0	22%
Quick Patrick J.	5	2	0	0	6.08	0	13%
Trombetta Michael J.	5	2	0	0	9.99	1	16%
Englehart Jeremiah C.	6	2	0	0	10.41	1	22%

HOT JOCKEYS	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	AVG. ODDS	BEATEN FAVORITES	'22-'23 WIN %
Lezcano Jose	24	6	2	1	10.30	1	17%
Gaffalione Tyler	9	5	0	1	4.69	3	18%
Ortiz Jose L.	15	4	2	3	6.61	2	18%

COLD TRAINERS	STARTS	WINS	PLACE	SHOW	AVG. ODDS	BEATEN FAVORITES	'22-'23 WIN %
McPeck Kenneth G.	18	0	4	1	18.32	2	14%
Jacobson David	11	0	1	0	12.16	1	20%
Morley Thomas	11	0	0	1	13.94	0	14%
Abreu Jorge R.	10	0	1	0	12.13	2	15%
Handal Raymond	10	0	1	1	9.04	0	19%



# EXPERT PICKS FOR THE BELMONT

We've assembled an expert team of handicappers to give their top picks for each graded stakes race for The Belmont Stakes.

## FRIDAY, JUNE 7 Saratoga



### NEW YORK STAKES

5 American Sonja  
2 English Rose  
6 Fev Rover

6 Fev Rover  
5 American Sonja  
10 War Like Goddess

6 Fev Rover  
1 McKulick  
2 English Rose

2 English Rose  
10 War Like Goddess  
5 American Sonja

2 English Rose  
6 Fev Rover  
5 American Sonja

### ACORN STAKES

4 Just FYI  
9 Thorpedo Anna  
5 My Mane Squeeze

9 Thorpedo Anna  
4 Just FYI  
7 Regulatory Risk

4 Just FYI  
9 Thorpedo Anna  
6 Where's My Ring

5 My Mane Squeeze  
4 Just FYI  
9 Thorpedo Anna

9 Thorpedo Anna  
4 Just FYI  
6 Where's My Ring

## SATURDAY, JUNE 8 Saratoga



### JAIPUR STAKES

6 Star of Mystery  
8 Cogburn  
2 Arzak

8 Cogburn  
2 Arzak  
3 Dancing Buck

5 Big Invasion  
6 Star of Mystery  
8 Cogburn

8 Cogburn  
2 Arzak  
12 Mischief Magic

8 Cogburn  
2 Arzak  
6 Star of Mystery

### MET MILE

6 White Abarrio  
3 Post Time  
3 National Treasure

6 White Abarrio  
4 Blazing Sevens  
3 Post Time

6 White Abarrio  
3 Post Time  
2 National Treasure

6 White Abarrio  
5 Hoist the Gold  
2 National Treasure

4 Blazing Sevens  
6 White Abarrio  
2 National Treasure

### MANHATTAN STAKES

7 Nations Pride  
5 Program Trading  
6 Al Riffa

7 Nations Pride  
6 Al Riffa  
5 Program Trading

6 Al Riffa  
9 Measured Time  
7 Nations Pride

5 Program Trading  
6 Al Riffa  
9 Measured Time

9 Measured Time  
5 Program Trading  
7 Nations Pride

### THE BELMONT STAKES

1 Seize the Grey  
9 Sierra Leone  
3 Mystik Dan

9 Sierra Leone  
10 Mindframe  
3 Mystik Dan

9 Sierra Leone  
8 Honor Marie  
3 Mystik Dan

8 Honor Marie  
9 Sierra Leone  
10 Mindframe

10 Mindframe  
1 Seize the Grey  
9 Sierra Leone

# MEET THE CONTENDERS



## SEIZE THE GREY



**PRO:** Pulled off surprise in Preakness (G1) and chances perhaps enhanced if track wet again.

**CON:** Record is less stellar when he has a lot of ground to make up.

## RESILIENCE



**PRO:** Sixth in Kentucky Derby after making early move; possibly capable of better.

**CON:** Seemingly a cut below based on Kentucky Derby (G1), Risen Star (G2) placings.

## MYSTIK DAN



**PRO:** Derby hero ran a good race in Preakness behind loose-on-the-lead rival.

**CON:** Just lasted at Churchill and others likely a bit more comfortable going 10 furlongs.

## THE WINE STEWARD



**PRO:** Consistency a huge plus and rarely gets beaten by much.

**CON:** Two of his three wins have been against NY-breds and hasn't yet won beyond six furlongs.

## ANTIQUARIAN



**PRO:** Took a step forward in winning Peter Pan (G3) and better sure to come.

**CON:** Like others, has some class questions to answer.

## DORNOCH



**PRO:** Pace player was taken out of his game right away in Derby; will take these as far as he can.

**CON:** Seemingly better suited for shorter races than this.

## PROTECTIVE



**PRO:** Connections exude confidence in him by taking a shot, despite his maiden status.

**CON:** Will need several of the more obvious players to have an off day.

## HONOR MARIE



**PRO:** Endured a rough trip in the Kentucky Derby and benefits from smaller field here.

**CON:** No one factor suggests that he will outrun Sierra Leone this time, for one.

## SIERRA LEONE



**PRO:** Narrowly denied in Kentucky Derby after eventful stretch run; looks the one to beat.

**CON:** Tendency to not maintain straight course a potential concern in a tight battle.

## MINDFRAME



**PRO:** Dominating winner in both starts, albeit in overnight company.

**CON:** Concedes crucial stakes experience against most of the best in the crop.

# TWINSPIRES TIPSHEET



## 156TH RUNNING OF THE BELMONT STAKES

Belmont Stakes (Gr 1) – 1-1/2 Miles – PURSE \$2,000,000

POST	HORSE	ML ODDS
1	Seize the Grey	5-1
2	Resilience	10-1
3	Mystik Dan	5-1
4	The Wine Steward	15-1
5	Antiquarian	12-1
6	Dornoch	15-1
7	Protective	20-1
8	Honor Marie	12-1
9	Sierra Leone	9-5
10	Mindframe	7-2

TOP PICKS
#9 Sierra Leone
#8 Honor Marie
#2 Resilience
#3 Mystik Dan

2024 BELMONT STAKES WAGERS
\$40 win #9 Sierra Leone
\$10 exacta key box 9 with 2,8
\$.50-cent superfecta 9 with 2,3,8 with 2,3,8 with all

powered by **brisnet.com**

**#1 SEIZE THE GREY (8-1):** Preakness (G1) star is in career form entering the Belmont and will be sent from the rail for D. Wayne Lukas. The Arrogate colt bounced out of his win at Pimlico in good shape and has to be respected for sure with Jaime Torres retaining the mount.

**#2 RESILIENCE (10-1):** Bill Mott trainee made a big move at the top of the lane in the Derby before tiring late, and he has upset appeal following some smart morning drills as of late. The Wood Memorial (G2) victor owns the tactical speed to stay close and save ground in the early going, and the Into Mischief colt will be in the mix turning for home if he runs his best race under Junior Alvarado.

**#3 MYSTIK DAN (5-1):** Kentucky Derby (G1) winner gave a nice account of himself when a good second in the Preakness (G1) and will be as fit as any runner in the field for Kenny McPeck. The son of Goldencents has a quick turn of foot and will be a danger approaching the turn for home beneath Brian Hernandez, Jr.

**#4 THE WINE STEWARD (15-1):** Vino Rosso colt is a bit underrated coming into his first Classic race for Mike Maker. First or second in each of his six lifetime tries to date, the New York-bred is a stakes

winner on the surface and is another who will be in the hunt at the head of the stretch with a clean voyage. Manny Franco will be in the stirrups.

**#5 ANTIQUARIAN (12-1):** Late-developing sophomore finished an even sixth in the deep Louisiana Derby (G2) two back, which preceded a measured score in the Peter Pan S. (G2) at Aqueduct last time out. The first of three Todd Pletcher pupils in the field gives the impression of a colt who will thrive at the distance, and he wouldn't be a surprise if he improves under John Velazquez.

**#6 DORNOCH (15-1):** Fountain of Youth (G2) victor didn't have the best of trips when breaking from the rail in Louisville and gets a much better starting slot for this event. This Danny Gargan trainee will need improvement to upset this deep field, but he could grab a minor award with a lifetime best beneath regular pilot Luis Saez.

**#7 PROTECTIVE (20-1):** Maiden finished third in the Wood Memorial (G2) and Peter Pan (G2) in his last two tries for Pletcher. The talented colt ran well on debut on this surface, and he's not impossible in his initial try at 1 1/4 miles. Tyler Gaffalione riding adds to his appeal.

**#8 HONOR MARIE (12-1):** Longshot contender lost his chance in the Derby soon after the start, although he did show interest when finishing a non-threatening eighth. This Whit Beckman trainee owns a robust turn of foot and has worked well as of late according to his connections. If the pace is contested early, which is very likely, then he will be a factor inside the final furlong. Florent Geroux inherits the mount. **#9 SIERRA LEONE (9-5):** Morning-line choice and top pick just missed in Louisville and looks to be the one to hold off in the stretch for Chad Brown. The standout son of Gun Runner is a pair of noses shy of being unbeaten from five career performances, and I expect him to enjoy the local surface in his first appearance at The Spa, as well. Flavien Prat will guide the stout late runner.

**#10 MINDFRAME (7-2):** Wildcard in the group draws widest of all and comes in with a pair of dominant victories from as many starts for Pletcher. The son of Constitution made easy work of an allowance field at Churchill on Derby Day, but he has yet to be tested against a field of this quality at this stage of his development. Irad Ortiz Jr. stays in the silks and will have the Maryland-bred forwardly placed from the start.



# 2024 BELMONT STAKES: BRISNET SPEED RATING REPORT

by James Scully

Saturday's \$2 million Belmont S. (G1) will be contested over 1 1/4 miles at Saratoga due to the refurbishment of Belmont Park, and Kentucky Derby (G1) runner-up Sierra Leone heads a cast of 10 three-year-olds. The final leg of the Triple Crown will return to a 1 1/2-mile distance at Belmont next year.

Here is a look at Brisnet Speed ratings and projected run styles for the 2024 field.

SEIZE THE GREY	105 92 89
MYSTIK DAN	102 97 92
SIERRA LEONE	97 101 93
MINDFRAME	97 108 n/a
ANTIQUARIAN	94 95 87
THE WINE STEWARD	93 94 95
PROTECTIVE	92 100 81
RESILIENCE	88 104 89
HONOR MARIE	82 99 86
DORNOCH	77 94 94

## SPEED RATINGS

Here are the last three Brisnet Speed ratings for the Belmont contestants except Mindframe, who has raced only twice. Horses are ranked by top last-out number.

## ANALYSIS

Four entrants – Antiquarian, Dornoch, Honor Marie, and The Wine Steward – have failed to register a triple-digit Speed rating in their career.

The last 10 Belmont winners, including longshots Creator (16-1) and Sir Winston (10-1), reached the triple-digit threshold in their three previous starts. Palace Malice (2013) is the last who failed to do so, but he registered a 101 Speed rating in his seasonal opener five starts earlier. Ruler on Ice, who upset the 2011 edition at 24-1, is the

last Belmont winner to never earn a triple-digit Speed rating. None of this year's runners have registered multiple triple-digit numbers in the last three outings, but Kentucky Derby (G1) winner and Preakness (G1) runner-up Mystik Dan earned a 101 figure when romping by eight lengths in the Southwest (G3) four starts back. Preakness upsetter Seize the Grey and Mystik Dan bring a positive Speed rating pattern into the race, the only runners to net increasing numbers in the last two starts.

Sierra Leone took a slight step back from a number perspective in the Kentucky Derby, with a four-point Speed rating decline, but his last two numbers (97 and 101) remain formidable in this year's field. Mindframe owns the top figure, registering a 108 Speed rating for a 13-length debut win at seven furlongs on March 30.

A pair of runners are winless at two-turn distances. The Wine Steward has narrowly missed thrice, finishing a close second in the Peter Pan (G3), Lexington (G3), and Breeders' Futurity (G1). Protective is still a maiden, dropping his first four career starts, and he will seek to improve upon a pair of non-threatening thirds in the Peter Pan and Wood Memorial (G2).

## RUN STYLES

This year's Belmont pace is eligible to be faster than normal at the shortened 1 1/4-mile distance.

Early types – Seize the Grey chased a hot pace winning the one-mile Pat Day Mile (G2) two back and wired the Preakness field at 9.80-1, scoring by 2 1/4 lengths. The D. Wayne Lukas-trained gray colt will send hard from his innermost post with Jaime Torres.

Dornoch will play a key role for late runners. He didn't break sharply from the rail post in the Kentucky Derby, winding up 10th, but Dornoch has come back with several sharp drills in Saratoga and figures to be asked for speed from post 6. The Good Magic colt registered 103 E1 and 110 E2 Pace ratings winning the Remsen (G2) on the front end last December, and Dornoch has the speed to push the pace if he breaks better.

Early/Pressers – Mindframe led all the way winning a two-turn allowance by 7 1/2 lengths on the Kentucky Derby undercard, but he rallied from fourth to break his maiden. The lightly raced close will probably be hustled to avoid losing ground, tracking the frontrunners from his far outside post in the Belmont.

The Wine Steward has also displayed the versatility to race up close or settle more toward midpack.

Pressers – Mystik Dan won't be far back in the early stages, racing sixth in the opening stages of the Kentucky Derby and fourth in the Preakness. Brian Hernandez Jr. will look to establish an inside ground-saving trip, and with Seize the Grey and Resilience to his inside in the starting gate, it will be interesting to see whether Mystik Dan lets those two rivals go and looks to drop in behind them. Resilience added blinkers two starts back and wasn't far back in the early stages of the Kentucky Derby. Antiquarian also possesses some tactical ability. Protective rates more as a one-run stalker. Sustained – Sierra Leone has shown a willingness to take the overland route closing from far back, and trainer Chad Brown will change the bit and jockeys (Flavien Prat takes over) in search of his first Belmont victory.

Grade 2 winner Honor Marie, a troubled eighth in the Kentucky Derby, will also look to close from out the back.



# 2024 BELMONT STAKES TRENDS & ANALYSIS

by Ashley Anderson

The 156th running of the Belmont S. (G1), the third leg of the American Triple Crown, will break tradition on Saturday, June 8, when it's run at 1 1/4 miles at Saratoga Racecourse.

Known as the "Test of the Champion," the Belmont was first hosted on June 19, 1867, at Jerome Park Racetrack in the Bronx but is traditionally held at the distance of 1 1/2 miles on Belmont Park's main track in Elmont, New York. Because of ongoing construction at the historic racetrack, the 2024 Belmont S. will be held at Saratoga and shortened to 1 1/4 miles as a result of the smaller size of Saratoga's dirt track.

While the 2024 edition will buck tradition, this is not the first time the Belmont has been held at a distance shorter than 12 furlongs. The inaugural running was contested over 1 5/8 miles and remained at that distance until 1873. The Belmont has also been run at 1 1/8 miles (1893-1894, 2020); 1 3/8 miles (1896-1903, 1906-1910, and 1913-1925); and 1 1/4 miles (1890-1892, 1895, and 1904-1905). The race was not run from 1911-12 because of the Hart-Agnew Law.

The winningest trainer of the Belmont is James G. Rowe Sr., who won his first Belmont S. in 1883 and his eighth and final in 1913. Jim McLaughlin (1882, 1883, 1884, 1886, 1887, 1888) and Eddie Arcaro (1941, 1942, 1945, 1948, 1952, 1955) are tied for most victories by a jockey, with six.

## TEN-YEAR TRENDS IN BELMONT S.

Dating back to 2014, Bob Baffert and Todd Pletcher are the only multiple-winning Belmont trainers, and Irad Ortiz Jr. and Joel Rosario have two wins apiece in the last decade.

The fastest winning time since 2014, excluding the 1 1/8-mile result in 2020, is 2:26.65 by Triple Crown winner American Pharoah. The overall fastest winning time in the Belmont at 1 1/2 miles is 2:24 flat by Secretariat in 1973. The fastest winning time in the Belmont at 1 1/4 miles is 2:06.60 by Delhi in 1904.

Post-time favorites have crossed the wire first in five of the last 10 runnings. The longest shot of the last decade to win is 16.40-1 longshot Creator, who beat 8.40-1 choice Destin by a nose. The \$2 exacta paid \$269.

Now that we've glanced at some of the recent Belmont trends, let's look at each runner in the 2024 field.

## BELMONT STAKES HORSE-BY-HORSE ANALYSIS RACE 12, BELMONT S. (G1), 1 1/4 MILES, 3YOS (6:41 P.M. ET)

**#1 Seize the Grey (8-1)** — Preakness winner flashed a career-best 105 Brisnet Speed figure when going gate to wire in the 1 3/16-mile event. With the Belmont shortened to 1 1/4 miles, the Arrogate gray



has a shot. Jaime Torres will retain the mount and has won two straight with the colt. D. Wayne Lukas is a 16% winner with horses that won their last race. In his two prior starts at the Spa, Seize the Grey broke his maiden racing 6 1/2 furlongs over a sloppy track, then came home third over a muddy track in the 5 1/2-furlong Skidmore.

**#2 Resilience (10-1)** — Into Mischief colt won two back in the 1 1/8-mile Wood Memorial (G2), then finished sixth by 7 3/4 lengths in the Kentucky Derby (G1). Bill Mott is a 22% winner in graded stakes, and

Junior Alvarado will retain the mount. He recorded a sharp four-furlong workout June 2 at Saratoga, but Resilience's lone previous start at Saratoga was a distant sixth in his career debut while racing a mile.

**#3 Mystik Dan (5-1)** — The surprise Kentucky Derby winner came home second to Seize the Grey by 2 1/4 lengths in the Preakness when sent off as the favorite and clocked a career-best 102 BRIS figure. The Goldencents colt will ship to New York for the first time, and he'll keep regular rider Brian Hernandez Jr., a 21% winner with routes. Kenny McPeck is also a 21% winner with beaten favorites but an 11% winner overall in graded stakes.

**#4 The Wine Steward (15-1)** — The Vino Rosso colt won his first three starts, then finished second by less than a length in each of his last three. The Mike Maker trainee has yet to win at a route distance, and he's stretching out farther today. Manny Franco will pick up the mount and is winning at a 25% clip when paired with Maker over the last 60 days. This three-year-old may improve third start off the layoff but speed figures are light compared to other rivals.

**#5 Antiquarian (12-1)** — The Peter Pan (G3) winner is one of three for Todd Pletcher in the field. By Preservationist, the lightly raced colt will make his fifth career start and will keep regular rider John Velazquez in the saddle. His lone previous try near today's distance resulted in a four-length sixth in the Louisiana Derby (G2). Raced well in the mud when breaking his maiden at Fair Grounds and may get similar track conditions here.

**#6 Dornoch (15-1)** — Full-brother to last year's Kentucky Derby winner Mage, the Good Magic three-year-old finished 10th of 20 in the Kentucky Derby and was last seen in the winner's circle three starts back in the 1/16-mile Fountain of Youth (G2), where he faced just four rivals. Danny Gargan is a 19% winner with shippers, and Luis Saez will retain the mount. Sharp four-furlong workout June 1 at Saratoga.

**#7 Protective (20-1)** — Another from Todd Pletcher's barn, the Medaglia d'Oro colt is still a maiden after four starts but has achieved third-place finishes in the Wood Memorial and the Peter Pan. Late runner will pick up Tyler Gaffalione and may improve with the added distance.

**#8 Honor Marie (12-1)** — Deep closer had a troubled trip in the Kentucky Derby and came home eighth in the first leg of the Triple Crown. He rallied late to finish a length second to Catching Freedom two back in the Louisiana Derby, and he posted a triple-digit Late Pace rating four back in his most recent win, the Kentucky Jockey Club (G2) in November of 2023. Florent Geroux will pick up the mount and strikes at a 23% rate with routes. Whit Beckman will get his first Belmont starter here and has one win from 18 graded stakes starts.

**#9 Sierra Leone (9-5)** — The \$2.3 million yearling purchase is 3-for-5 for his career, with both losses coming by a nose, including in his most recent start, the Kentucky Derby. Trainer Chad Brown is a 25% winner with shippers and a 21% winner in graded stakes. Flavien Prat will pick up the mount and is 4-for-16 paired with Brown over the last two months.

**#10 Mindframe (7-2)** — Making just his third career start for Pletcher, the Constitution colt is the second choice on the morning line after winning by a combined 20 1/2 lengths in his first two starts. Owned by Repole Stable and St. Elias Stables, Mindframe romped to a 13-length win on debut at Gulfstream Park on March 30, then won an allowance optional claimer by 7 1/2 lengths at Churchill on May 4. He'll keep rider Irad Ortiz Jr., who last won the Belmont aboard the Pletcher-trained Mo Donegal.





# 2024 BELMONT STAKES: WHICH HORSES ARE BRED TO HANDLE THE DISTANCE?

by Keeler Johnson

Due to renovations at Belmont Park, the 2024 Belmont S. (G1) is taking place at Saratoga over a shortened 1 1/4-mile distance.

Which of the 10 entrants are bred to handle the abbreviated trip? We've gone through the field and ranked the top five contenders based on pedigree:

## 1. SEIZE THE GREY

Preakness (G1) winner Seize the Grey is a son of Arrogate, who won the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1), Dubai World Cup (G1), and Travers (G1) racing 1 1/4 miles. He's also the sire of 2023 Belmont winner Arcangelo. Seize the Grey's dam is Smart Shopping, a daughter of acclaimed stallion Smart Strike, the sire of long-winded champions Curlin, Lookin At Lucky, and English Channel as well as the damsire of Kentucky Derby winners Mine That Bird and Rich Strike. Seize the Grey's pedigree is absolutely stuffed with classic stamina, and racing 1 1/4 miles in the Belmont should prove no obstacle.

## 2. DORNOCH

As a son of champion two-year-old male Good Magic out Gazelle (G2) runner-up Puca (in turn a daughter of Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Big Brown), Dornoch is a full-brother to 2023 Kentucky Derby winner Mage. From a pedigree perspective, there's no reason to doubt Dornoch's ability to handle 1 1/4 miles during the spring of his sophomore season.

## 3. RESILIENCE

Mixing speed with stamina can be a recipe for success over 1 1/4 miles, and the pedigree of Resilience contains both. Sire Into Mischief was best as a sprinter/miler, and many of his runners have followed suit, but he's also the sire of Kentucky Derby winners Authentic and Mandaloun and the grandsire of Kentucky Derby winner Mystik Dan. Meanwhile, Resilience's dam is Meadowsweet, a daughter of the above-mentioned Smart Strike. There's a lot to like about this pedigree cross.

## 4. HONOR MARIE

Honor Marie is a son of 1 1/8-mile Whitney (G1) winner Honor Code out of Dame Marie, a daughter of Smart Strike. Honor Code has sired 1 1/4-mile Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) winner Max Player and is a son of Belmont winner A.P. Indy (a major stamina influence), so Honor Marie is bred to handle 1 1/4 miles.

## 5. PROTECTIVE

Protective's sire, Medaglia d'Oro, won the Travers (G1) over 1 1/4 miles and finished a close second in the Belmont. At stud, he's sired plenty of star route racers, including Preakness winner Rachel Alexandra. Protective's dam, Grace Hall, won the seven-furlong Spinaway (G1) as well as a trio of Grade 2 route races and is a daughter of Belmont winner Empire Maker, so this is a pedigree packed with class and stamina.





# SHARE THE THRILL! BETSHARE

**BET WITH** **twinspires**<sup>®</sup>

VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. OFFER FOR TWINSPIRES RACING ONLY. SEE TWINSPIRES.COM FOR DETAILS. MUST BE 18+ (21+ WHERE APPLICABLE). FOR HELP WITH A GAMBLING PROBLEM, CALL 1-800-GAMBLER.