

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%	E	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%



MEET THE CONTENDERS

BREEDERS' CUP™ JUVENILE







PRO: New York's best rallied strongly to win Hopeful (G1) and Champagne (G1). **CON:** Beneficiary of strong paces and no guarantee it will be as fast going two turns.

CITIZEN BULL



PRO: Returned to form in American Pharoah (G1) though not challenged strongly up front. **CON:** Couldn't close into fast pace in Del Mar Futurity (G1); lesser of stable's entries?



DAPPER MOON



PRO: Big maiden win at Saratoga but chased hot pace and faded in Breeders' Futurity (G1). **CON:** Potentially more effective around one turn.



DR RUBEN M



PRO: Much improved since stretching out and barn has won this before. **CON:** Only just graduate and hard to see him repeating in this company.



EAST AVENUE



PRO: Has won both starts by open lengths, including Breeders' Futurity in fast time. **CON:** Pace scenario and pressure could be a lot different this time.



ECORO AZEL



PRO: Japanese raider has won one of two; presumably remains with upside. **CON:** No factor last time and domestic contingent a solid group.



FEROCIOUS



PRO: Acquitted himself well against both leading contenders in this race. **CON:** Obviously has a bit to find to turn on the tables on one or both.



GAMING



PRO: A clear second in the Champagne after setting a solid pace. **CON:** Might prove more formidable around one turn, rather than two.



GETAWAY CAR



PRO: Stellar debut at Saratoga and surely better than what he showed in Champagne. **CON:** Mud might have exaggerated actual ability first out; untested on a fast surface.



HILL ROAD



PRO: Pedigree, which is dirt oriented, is main selling point.

CON: Irish raider finished far back in that country's top juvenile race.



JONATHAN'S WAY



PRO: Ohio-bred has looked solid in both wins and poised to possibly handle class hike.

CON: Might end up being one better suited to one turn.





MEET THE CONTENDERS CONT.

BREEDERS' CUP™ JUVENILE



MCKINZIE STREET



PRO: Form is respectable and both sire and grandsire performed well in Breeders' Cup. **CON:** Has fallen short against circuit's best and this will be more difficult.

SHIN BELIEVE



PRO: Dominated lone start in Japan; Constitution colt brought a lot of money in March. **CON:** Hard to gauge how Japanese form will transfer to the U.S.



Brisnet is bringing the Ultimate to the Breeders' Cup World Championships with the Ultimate Breeders' Cup Handicapping Package! Get all the essentials to handicap the races on Nov. 1-2 at Del Mar for one low price (\$29.99):

- Ultimate Past Performances for all pre-entries (now available) & full card (\$14 value)
- Historical PPs & Charts for every Breeders' Cup race since 2013 (now available!) (\$20 value)
- Kellie Reilly's International Scouting Report (\$15 value)
- Breeders' Cup Handicapper's Sheet (\$24 value)
- Insider Picks & Power Plays (\$12 value)
- Profit Line fair-odds value and angle finder (\$11.50 value)

That's \$96.50 worth of handicapping products all for just \$29.99! (save 70%)

PLUS receive 20% off these other Breeders' Cup handicapping reports when you purchase the package: Daily Selections, Spotlight Selections, Bruno's Special Race Day Selections/Analysis/Workouts, Super Screener, Winner's Choice, and more!



MEET THE CONTENDERS

BREEDERS' CUP™ CLASSIC



Continues on next page >>

MEET THE CONTENDERS CONT.

BREEDERS' CUP™ CLASSIC



PRO: Has his moments at times, including win in Oaklawn H. (G2) over Highland Falls. **CON:** Threw away big lead in Woodward (G2) last time, not the kind of prep you want.

TAPIT TRICE



PRO: Dazzled in Monmouth Cup (G3) and later rebounded off bad loss to take Woodward. **CON:** Inconsistency over last couple of seasons is the main knock against.

USHBA TESORO



PRO: Saudi Cup (G1) and Dubai World Cup (G1) runner-up; respectable fifth in this last year. **CON:** As a seven-year-old, has far more miles on him than other players.

PYRENEES



PRO: Excellent form this year, winning Pimlico Special (G3) and placing twice at G1 level. **CON:** Does not appear to have quickened appreciably since last year.

RATTLE N ROLL



PRO: Distance surely no problem and could move forward some off Lukas Classic (G2) third. **CON:** Has raced but once this year; entered in Oct. 26 Fayette (G2) at Keeneland.





BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES: 5 TRENDS FOR EXPERT BETTING

by Keeler Johnson

At first glance, determining the most likely winner of the Nov. 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (G1) at Del Mar isn't an easy task.

Most of the expected entrants have run only two, three, or four races apiece, and lightly raced two-year-olds can improve rapidly from one race to the next. Without much form to analyze, predicting which horse(s) will peak on Breeders' Cup day can seem like a difficult job.

But the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies is arguably the most straightforward Breeders' Cup race to analyze in any given year. The following five trends consistently show up in the results and can be used to bet the Juvenile Fillies in expert fashion:

1. FAVORITES WIN NEARLY 50% OF THE TIME

The Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies is incredibly kind to favorites. Bettors have correctly identified the most likely winner in 19 out of 40 editions, giving favorites a spectacular 47% win rate. Furthermore, 31 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winners (77%) started at odds of 7-1 or less.

2. GRADE 1 EXPERIENCE IS CRITICAL

Since the turn of the century, it's been highly uncommon for fillies without Grade 1 experience to prevail in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Only three have done so since 2000, which means 21 of the last 24 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winners (87%) brought Grade 1 experience into the race.

3. FRIZETTE STARTERS ROUTINELY PREVAIL

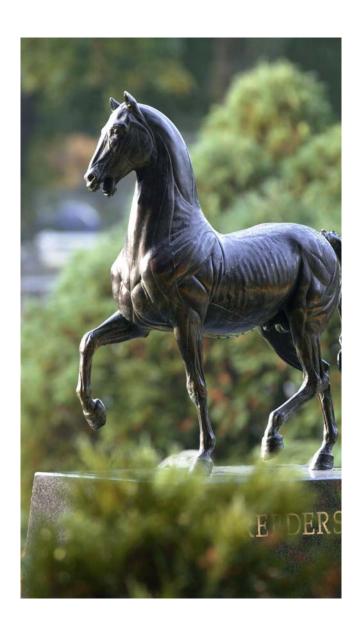
Not all Grade 1 races are created equal. When it comes to Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies preps, the Frizette (G1) — currently held at Aqueduct — stands above all. Seven of the last 13 editions of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (54%) have been won by fillies exiting the Frizette.

4. ROUTE RACERS OUTPERFORM SPRINTERS

Bettors should strongly consider opposing fillies who have raced exclusively in sprints. No fewer than 17 of the last 18 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies winners had previously contested a race over one mile or farther.

5. TACTICAL SPEED IS AN ASSET

Tactical speed is a useful weapon in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies. Did you know 14 of the last 19 winners (74%) were positioned in first, second, or third place after half a mile? That includes seven (37%) who were leading at that juncture.



BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES TURF: 5 TRENDS FOR EXPERT BETTING

by Keeler Johnson

Wondering which horse(s) to bet in the Nov. 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1) at Del Mar? You've come to the right place.

The Juvenile Fillies Turf is a relatively young Breeders' Cup race, but it's already produced several recurring trends that handicappers can utilize to expertly bet the race. Here are five to keep in mind:

1. NORTH AMERICAN FILLIES ARE DOMINANT

Horses from Europe generally excel in grass races at the Breeders' Cup, but the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf is an exception. Fillies based in North American have won 13 out of 16 editions, including nine of the last 10.

2. CHAD BROWN IS THE WINNINGEST TRAINER

Four-time Eclipse Award-winning trainer Chad Brown won the inaugural Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf in 2008 and has picked up five more wins since 2014. His six overall wins are spectacular given that no other trainer has won the race more than once.

3. SHORT-PRICED RUNNERS ARE ON A ROLL

Early on, the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf was an unpredictable race; the first six favorites fell to defeat while the winners started at odds between 6-1 and 13-1. But an opposite trend has emerged within the last decade. Four of the last 10 favorites (40%) have visited the winner's circle, and five other winners started at single-digit odds.

4. TACTICAL SPEED IS HELPFUL

The Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf almost always features a full field of 14 starters, so having the tactical speed to stay close to the pace (and out of traffic trouble) is beneficial. No fewer than 10 out of 16 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf winners (62%) were racing in the top five after the opening half-mile, including five (31%) who were positioned first or second.

5. OUTSIDE POSTS AREN'T DISADVANTAGEOUS

Some bettors may hesitate to play Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies entrants who are drawn in outside posts, figuring they'll receive wide trips. But guess what? Fillies drawn in posts 10-14 have comprised 34% of Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf starters, and they've won six editions (37%), suggesting they aren't disadvantaged by their wide draws.





BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE TURF SPRINT: 5 TRENDS FOR EXPERT BETTING

by Keeler Johnson

The youngest Breeders' Cup race is the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint (G1), inaugurated in 2018 and slated to be run on Nov. 1 at Del Mar.

The grass dash for two-year-olds pits speedy American sprinters against talented challengers from Europe. It can be an imposing race to handicap at first glance, but so far it's proven surprisingly simple to analyze.

Indeed, the first six editions of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint have produced five noteworthy trends you can use to narrow down the most likely win contenders:

1. SPEED IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

As is befitting for a short sprint, speed is dominant in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint. Four out of six editions have been won in gate-to-wire fashion, and a fifth went to a pace-pressing winner who was never more than half a length off the lead.

2. WESLEY WARD IS THE DOMINANT TRAINER

Wesley Ward is known for training early-maturing juvenile sprinters, so it's unsurprising that Ward has won three of the five editions of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint in which he's saddled a starter. Plus, in one of the years Ward was beaten, he saddled the runner-up at 24-1 odds.

3. BEWARE JOCKEY IRAD ORTIZ, JR.

Five-time Eclipse Award-winning jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. has enjoying resounding success in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint. He's ridden in all six editions and has recorded three victories, all aboard Wesley Ward trainees.

4. EUROPE IS RISING TO THE OCCASION

American horses dominated the first three editions of the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint. But Europe is quickly catching up. Horses who prepped in Europe (including one American-trained filly) swept the exacta in 2021 and 2022, and they occupied the top three finishing positions in 2023.

5. FAVORITES AND SHORT-PRICED RUNNERS PERFORM BEST

Despite the typically large field size, the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf Sprint has churned out predictable winners. Favorites have gone 2-for-6 (33%), and every winner has started at under 7-1 odds. Placing \$10 win bets on the top two betting choices each year would have cost \$120 for a return of \$200 while cashing in five out of six years.





BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE: 6 TRENDS FOR EXPERT BETTING

by Keeler Johnson

The Nov. 1 Breeders' Cup Juvenile (G1) at Del Mar is expected to draw a strong field packed with talented two-year-olds.

Planning to bet the race, but not sure which horses(s) to back? These six trends for expert betting can help you narrow down the contenders:

1. GRADE 1 EXPERIENCE IS IMPORTANT

Each of the last 10 Breeders' Cup Juvenile winners prepped in a Grade 1 race. Five winners came out of the American Pharoah (G1), while three utilized the Breeders' Futurity (G1) and two came via the Champagne (G1).

2. BAFFERT AND PLETCHER ROUTINELY WIN

Hall of Fame trainers Bob Baffert and Todd Pletcher are known for their prowess conditioning top-tier two-year-olds, and they regularly win the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. Baffert has won the race five times since 2002, while Pletcher boasts four wins since 2010, including the last two editions with Forte (2022) and Fierceness (2023).

3. SONS OF GRADE 1-WINNING ROUTER RACERS ARE MOST LIKELY TO SHINE

The last 14 Breeders' Cup Juvenile winners have been sired by stallions who won at the Grade 1 level over 1 1/16 miles or farther. Sons of sprinters and sons of stallions who weren't Grade 1-caliber rarely take first prize in the Juvenile.

4. FAVORITES RUN BELOW EXPECTATIONS

Favorites have struggled in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, winning only five of the last 25 editions. That's a 20% win rate lower than typical for favorites in Thoroughbred horse racing.

5. LAST-OUT WINNERS HAVE A STRONG SUCCESS RATE

While it's not impossible for horses who lost their final prep race to bounce back and win the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, 10 of the last 14 winners (71%) entered off a victory, so horses in winning form have the best chance to succeed in the Juvenile.

6. OVERSEAS CHALLENGERS HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING

Once in a while, a horse based overseas manages to win the Breeders' Cup Juvenile. But the last to do so was Vale of York over a synthetic track at Santa Anita in 2009, and since then, horses exiting races outside the U.S. have gone 0-for-10 in the Juvenile, with none recording top-three finishes.





2024 BREEDERS' CUP TRAINER AND JOCKEY TRENDS

by Ashley Anderson

The 2024 Breeders' Cup will descend upon Del Mar on Nov. 1 and 2, when the top trainers and jockeys from around the globe compete in the 41st running of the World Championships.

Trainer Bob Baffert continues to inch closer to the all-time mark for Breeders' Cup victories, but the current record holder, D. Wayne Lukas, still has a chance to add to his tally, too.

The all-time leading jockey in Breeders' Cup earnings, Mike Smith, is also likely to appear in this year's two-day event, yet the door is wide open for John Velazquez to lessen the gap between him and Smith in both earnings and victories.

Below, TwinSpires dives deeper into these numbers and more with the top trainer and jockey trends ahead of 2024.

THREE TRAINERS COULD OVERTAKE LUKAS' WINS RECORD IN 2024

With 20 Breeders' Cup victories across his lengthy career, Lukas is the all-time leader at the World Championships, but any one of Baffert, Chad Brown, or Irish icon Aidan O'Brien could end up at the top of the wins rankings in 2024.

Lukas first visited the Breeders' Cup winner's circle in 1985, when Twilight Ridge won the Juvenile Fillies and Life's Magic crossed the wire first in the Distaff. He could enhance his Breeders' Cup win tally in 2024 with Preakness (G1) victor Seize the Grey, who's pre-entered in the Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile (G1) and coming into the race in good form off a 3 3/4-length romp in the Pennsylvania Derby (G1).

Lurking close behind Lukas is that trio of trainers with 18 Breeders' Cup victories. All of them have multiple Breeders' Cup pre-entries this year, and any of them could hold the wins record by the end of Breeders' Cup weekend.

BAFFERT THE KING OF THE CLASSIC

When it comes to the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1), Baffert is easily in





the lead for earnings, with \$22,124,400. He's saddled four winners, six runners-up, and three third-place finishers from 29 starters and will go for a fifth victory in 2024 with Newgate.

All four of his previous victories have come in the last decade, beginning with Bayern in 2014, followed by Triple Crown winner American Pharoah in 2015, Arrogate in 2016, and Authentic in 2020.

Behind Baffert are four trainers tied for second in Classic wins with two apiece: Bill Mott, John Sadler, Steve Asmussen, and Rick Dutrow. Sadler is the only other trainer to win the Classic twice in the last decade. He did so in 2018 with Accelerate and 2022 with Flightline, who achieved the largest margin of victory in the Classic at 8 1/4 lengths.

AIDAN O'BRIEN TOO TOUGH ON THE TURF

In the Breeders' Cup Turf (G1), European trainers tend to dominate, and no one is more successful than O'Brien, with seven Breeders' Cup Turf successes and \$17,535,600 in earnings. Of his 34 starters thus far, six have also placed second, and five have come home third.

Dating back to 2014, O'Brien has visited the winner's circle three times in the Turf, including with last year's victor Auguste Rodin.

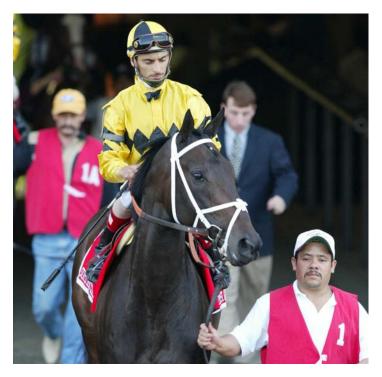
Charlie Appleby has also had multiple winners over the last decade, in 2021 with Yibir and 2022 with Rebel's Romance, who's looking for his second Turf title in 2024.

Continues on next page >>



2024 BREEDERS' CUP TRAINER AND JOCKEY TRENDS CONT.

by Ashley Anderson



Only two American trainers have won the Turf since 2014; they are Graham Motion with Main Sequence in 2014 and Chad Brown with Bricks and Mortar in 2019. Four American trainers are pre-entered in the 2024 Turf: Francisco Garcia with El Encinal, Christophe Clement with Far Bridge, Phil D'Amato with Gold Phoenix, and Todd Pletcher with Grand Sonata.

TOP JOCKEYS HEADED TO 2024 BREEDERS' CUP

At the age of 59, Smith is still active in racing and could show up at Del Mar in an effort to extend his already staggering record of 27 wins at the World Championships. The Triple Crown-winning jockey has also earned a record \$38,464,605 at the Breeders' Cup, but John Velazquez is getting closer to that total, with \$37,030,275 in earnings at the two-day event.

Velazquez and Irad Ortiz Jr. are tied for the second most wins by a jockey, with 20. Ortiz, at age 32, got his first Breeders' Cup mount in 2012 and is on pace to far surpass Smith's record by the time Ortiz retires. Dating back to 2018, he has won the Bill Shoemaker Outstanding Jockey Award at the Breeders' Cup every year but 2022, when Ryan Moore earned the honor. At Keeneland that year, Moore had three Breeders' Cup victories, the same as Ortiz, but Moore tallied three second-place finishes compared to Ortiz's one.

OLDEST, YOUNGEST WINNING BREEDERS' CUP TRAINERS, JOCKEYS

The oldest trainer to win a Breeders' Cup race is Lukas, who triumphed in the 2014 Juvenile Fillies with Take Charge Brandi when Lukas was 79. Now age 89, he could set a record with Seize the Grey should he seize the Dirt Mile.

O'Brien's son Joseph became the youngest trainer (age 26) to win at the World Championships in 2019 with Iridessa in the Filly & Mare Turf. He's likewise the youngest jockey to finish first at the Breeders' Cup. Eight years prior to his feat as a trainer, Joseph guided St Nicholas Abbey to a win in the 2011 Breeders' Cup Turf.

His brother Donnacha, age 26, will look to follow in his sibling's footsteps as the trainer of Porta Fortuna, a pre-entry in the Breeders' Cup Mile (G1).

The oldest jockey to win at the Breeders' Cup is Bill Shoemaker, who was 56 when he guided future Horse of the Year Ferdinand to glory in the 1987 Classic. It was Shoemaker's lone victory at the Breeders' Cup from 14 career mounts. He also finished second twice and third twice as well as earned \$2,226,000 at the World Championships.





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
KEIAIOCKI OMKO WIIAIAEKO	IOAFIAIFF LIFFIF2 LIMI2II

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.





BREEDERS' CUP TRENDS: DIRT RACES

by John Mucciolo

The Breeders' Cup World Championships is nearly upon us, as Del Mar will play host to an incredible two days of racing on Nov. 1 and 2. There have been five editions held at Santa Anita dating back to 2012, and the picturesque venue is one of the best locations to host the Championships, in my opinion. Below are a few things to consider when handicapping the dirt races over the weekend.

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE

Since 2010, six California-based youngsters have come out on top in the event, which includes three of the five held in Arcadia as of late. New Year's Day (2013), Texas Red (2014), and Storm the Court (2019) were the victors. With that said, I will pay extra attention to the two-year-olds that have raced in the Golden State in 2023.

BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES

A pair of California girls were victorious in the contest over the past five runnings, with the mighty Beholder (2012) and Champagne Room (2016) coming out on top. On the whole, however, the winners of the affair have been fair to all types of runners from different regions of the country. Having a measure of early speed is advantageous, but not a necessity.

BREEDERS' CUP DIRT MILE

The Golden State has been represented by five winners of the demanding race since 2010, with Goldencents carrying the local flag on two occasions at Santa Anita in 2013 and 2014. Speed has been a good thing for the majority of recent winners of the Dirt Mile, but the stunning late run produced by 2016 star Tamarkuz shows that horses can rally from well back and succeed in the tilt on this surface, as well.

BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT

Following a four-year run from 2006-2009 with California-based runners taking down the dash, surprisingly only four West Coasters have eclipsed the heat since 2010. Two of those, however, did so at Santa Anita with Secret Circle (2013) and Drefong (2016) earning the glory. The perception that California has the "fastest" sprint runners is a bit overstated, in my view.

BREEDERS' CUP FILLY AND MARE SPRINT

The tally registered by Ian Kruljac trainee Finest City in 2016 is the lone victory in the race by a locally-based lass in the last five local runnings. This event has produced some unexpected results, and I haven't noticed a recipe for success in the dash for the ladies, except that late-running types often make a lot of noise in the fray. I will not be scared to use deep closers in the Filly and Mare Sprint.

BREEDERS' CUP DISTAFF

The legendary Beholder is the lone California-based distaffer to capture this affair since 2010, which was quite surprising to me after

researching it. She did so on two occasions (2013 and 2016) with both coming on this surface, and I will have a hard time backing the locals with any measure of confidence in the race.

BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC

Bob Baffert saddled 2014 hero Bayern and 2016 victor Arrogate to wins in the marquee event on this course, and a total of six Golden Staters have taken down the lucrative purse in the Classic dating back to Bayern's coup. Having early speed translates well to success when going 1 1/4 miles on the Santa Anita main surface.

