# MEET THE CONTENDERS GOTHAM STAKES

#### SCORCHING

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**PRO:** Form in Canada last year was solid over multiple surfaces. **CON:** Whether he can replicate his form over dirt is the primary question.

#### **NORMANDY COAST**



**PRO:** Enters off open company wins at Ellis and Fair Grounds, so appears to fit. **CON:** Held on to win only narrowly last time and hasn't yet raced beyond 7f.

#### CALLING CARD



**PRO:** Lone previous try over this track and distance resulted in 17-length maiden win. **CON:** Dull try last time in a slow renewal of Lecomte (G3).

#### SACROSANCT



**PRO:** Enjoyed flawless juvenile campaign, which included three stakes wins. **CON:** Untried in open company and figures to see plenty of other speed here.

#### SAND DEVIL



**PRO:** Undefeated from three starts and Brisnet Speed ratings consistently in the mid-90s. **CON:** Has beaten only NY-breds and had to work much harder than expected last time.

#### PAGODE



**PRO:** Just got up to win debut going 6.5f so sure to appreciate added ground. **CON:** Relatively inexperienced and this marks first attempt over dirt.

#### FLOOD ZONE



**PRO:** Crushed maiden rivals at a big price, earning 94 Brisnet Speed rating. **CON:** Was only beating Florida-breds last time and one of several potential underlays.

#### MCAFEE



**PRO:** Dutrow trainee ran well at Churchill last fall, albeit against softer. **CON:** Relative class a concern, as is length of his layoff.

#### GARAMOND



**PRO:** Juddmonte homebred by Uncle Mo won at first asking down at Tampa. **CON:** Has plenty of upside but sure to be overbet, given his connections.

### MY MITOLE



**PRO:** Two-time track-and-distance winner hails from barn having a strong meet. **CON:** Coming back rather quickly off two weeks' rest.

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2