

MEET THE CONTENDERS

2025

SUNLAND DERBY

1



ITSMYBIRTHDAY



PRO: Won by wide margins in first two, including allowance over next-out winner.
CON: Faces a much stronger class of horse here than he did at Turf Paradise.

2



REMEMBER BIG JIM



PRO: A surprise runner-up in Riley Allison Derby and should get another favorable pace.
CON: Still a maiden after four starts, and these types rarely upset stakes like this.

3



SMASH IT



PRO: Stakes winner held third as heavy favorite in Riley Allison Derby most recently.
CON: Louisiana-bred has not been as effective in two-turn attempts so far.

4



GETAWAY CAR



PRO: G3 scorer possesses the class edge going in, given Southern Cal form.
CON: Speedy colt is 0-for-3 at 1 1/16 miles, thus a beatable favorite.

5



SPENARD



PRO: Has won or placed in all three starts; dominated maiden rivals last time.
CON: Fields he's faced have been comparatively soft; looks up against it on paper.

6



TAKE CHARGE TOM



PRO: Has pulled out a pair of stakes wins lately, including one over local strip.
CON: Although undefeated, this will be the biggest class test he will have faced.

7



MCKINZIE STREET



PRO: Has placed twice against G1 company, including versus champion Citizen Bull.
CON: Form in Southern California has been on the decline in recent months.

8



TOUCHY



PRO: Dual stakes-placed colt bred to handle extra ground asked of him here.
CON: Tends to need at least two months between starts, and this is a shorter turnaround.

9



CALDERA



PRO: Addition of blinkers last time helped him easily land an Oaklawn maiden.
CON: Jump from non-winner ranks to stakes not insignificant.