

# BEST BETS

**MOST LIKELY**  
**1 WAR LIKE GOD (7-5)**  
**SAR 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**LONGSHOT**  
**11 DANSE MACAB (6-1)**  
**KD 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**BEST BET**  
**10 MISSION OF JOY (4-1)**  
**KD 10<sup>TH</sup>**

KENTUCKY DOWNS			KENTUCKY DOWNS			SARATOGA			SARATOGA		
RACE 7	PICK 5	\$294	RACE 8	PICK 4	\$392	RACE 9	PICK 5	\$288	RACE 10	PICK 4	\$360
RACE 7	7		RACE 8	6,12		RACE 9	2,3,7		RACE 10	3,7,9	
RACE 8	6,12		RACE 9	1,3,4,5,8,11,13		RACE 10	7		RACE 11	1,2,4,5,7,8	
RACE 9	1,3,4,5,8,11,13		RACE 10	1,2,3,4,6,9,10,11		RACE 11	1,2,4,5,7,8,10,11		RACE 12	1,3,4,6,7	
RACE 10	1,2,3,4,10,11		RACE 11	3,4,5,6,7,8,12		RACE 12	1,4,7		RACE 13	1,2,6,7,8,9,11,12	
RACE 11	3,4,5,6,7,8,12					RACE 13	1,2,6,7,8,9,11,12				

**7 – KENTUCKY DOWNS (4:42 ET) 47**  
**MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT 170K, 6F TURF**

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS  
**7 SCARLET POPPY** 2-1  
**1 LAURISTON** 4-1  
**8 MAURYA** 20-1  
**11 BELLOFTHEBLUEGRASS** 9-2

**PICK: 7 SCARLET POPPY**  
 Drew the rail in the last start at Saratoga. It turned out to be a disaster as she was blocked the entire stretch. She probably would have won the race had she had room to run. 8<sup>th</sup> beaten 6 from there came back to run 2<sup>nd</sup> a nose in a MSW routing on the dirt at SAR at 9-1. Two sibs won graded stakes overseas.

**VALUE: 8 MAURYA**  
 Can make excuses for all 3 starts. Was on the poly at W0 in the debut. No Lasix in the next start which could mean she bled as Lasix was added last time out. Routed from the 12 post with blinkers on first time and ran well. Aggressive gate rider on cutback.  
 A) 1,7 B) 4,6,8,9,11 C) 3,5,10,12 D) 2

**8 – KENTUCKY DOWNS (5:16 ET) 66**  
**NASHVILLE DERBY (G3) \$3.1M, 1M 5/16 TURF**

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS  
**6 BELLUM JUSTUM** 7-2  
**12 CUGINO** 4-1  
**11 LAGYNOS** 12-1  
**4 STROMBERG** 6-1

**PICK: 6 BELLUM JUSTUM**  
 Trainer doesn't bring many to the US but did bring The Foxes for the 2023 G1 Belmont Derby for same owner and was 2<sup>nd</sup> beaten one length. Winner two back returned to run second in the G2 Guillaume at Deauville France next. Dwelt three back in the Group 1 Betfred Derby. Superstar rider Dettori is up.

**VALUE: 11 LAGYNOS**  
 Has won over this track when he took the debut in Sep 2023. Has nibbled in good company since and is arguably in off a career best effort at Saratoga in the last start. Winner of last was second in the G2 Secretariat next. Will be overlooked at the window.  
 A) 6,12 B) 4,11 C) 3,7,8,9 D) 1,2,10

**9 – KENTUCKY DOWNS (5:50 ET) 57**  
**LADIES SPRINT (G2) \$1.5M, 6.5F TURF**

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS  
**11 DANSE MACABRE** 6-1  
**8 SECRET MONEY** 8-1  
**5 OCEAN CLUB** 8-1  
**1 RUBY NELL** 7-2

**PICK: 11 DANSE MACABRE**  
 Consistent filly absolutely runs her race every time out. Was just outfinished in the Caress, a race that many of these come out of. She's run twice on this turf taking a 450k stakes as a 2YO and then a solid runner-up in a G3 last year. Love the wide post for her considering her style. Regular rider Beschizza up.

**VALUE: 8 SECRET MONEY**  
 Lone race on this Kentucky Downs surface came in a 5-1 win in the G3 Music City last year over the top choice. Think she's better going beyond 5.5F and is going to get that year. Gaffalione was the leading rider here last year. Will get pace to close into here.  
 A) 8,11 B) 1,3,4,5,13 C) 2,6,9,10,12 D)

10 – KENTUCKY DOWNS (6:24 ET) 73  
LADIES TURF (G3) \$1.5M, 1M TURF

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS

10 MISSION OF JOY 4-1  
3 FLUFFY SOCKS 9-2  
2 SACRED WISH 10-1  
4 IMPLICATED 6-1

**PICK: 10 MISSION OF JOY**

Hasn't won since she took the Regret at CD in June 2023. But she's been close in some major turf races since. Really hindered by the slow pace set by wire to wire winner Whitebeam last out. Got a fair pace 2 back in the G1 Just a Game and almost got there for the win at 13-1. 2<sup>nd</sup> in last won the G2 Beverly D. next.

**VALUE: 2 SACRED WISH**

There appears to be plenty of speed, and the kind of speed that should be contested. Anyone sitting just behind the duel up front, like this one might be, can get the run of the race. Winner of the most recent start won the G2 Balast Spa at SAR next out.

A) 3,10 B) 1,2,4,11 C) 5,6,8,9,12 D) 7

11 – KENTUCKY DOWNS (6:56 ET) 48  
MAIDEN SPECIAL WEIGHT 170K, 1M TURF

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS

6 FOR LOVE AND HONOR 6-1  
4 ON COMMAND 5-1  
5 BIRDWATCHING 9-2  
8 SCENIC BEAUTY 30-1

**PICK: 6 FOR LOVE AND HONOR**

She gets a pretty big rider change to Jose Ortiz here. She had a wide post in the last start and had a very wide trip which all but eliminated her chances. She was close in back to back starts at Indiana. Winner two back returned to win an opt clm 80k at SAR next at 17-1. Ortiz was 5<sup>th</sup> leading rider in the Nation in '23.

**VALUE: 8 SCENIC BEAUTY**

Been on the turf just once and that race (two back) turned out to be a key race (3 next out winners and another who won two starts later). She had the 12 post in there and tired pressing the pace. 2<sup>nd</sup> dam was a multiple graded stakes winner. Has a chance.

A) 4,6 B) 3,5,7,8,12 C) 1,9 D) 2,10,11

10 – SARATOGA (5:04 ET) 80  
PRIORRESS STAKES (G3) 200K, 6F DIRT

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS

7 TWO SHARP 7-5  
9 BRIGHTWORK 9-2  
3 TRICKY TEMPER 7-2  
5 CARMELINA 10-1

**PICK: 7 TWO SHARP**

Was crushed in the betting in the debut which said there was serious run here. She was off slow and got a wide trip in a typical debut. Beat a first timer for Chad Brown (who hasn't run back) in the big win last out. 2<sup>nd</sup> dam a multiple graded stakes winner on dirt. 925k price tag indicates she can be very good.

**VALUE: 3 TRICKY TEMPER**

Back to back wins in Ny-bred races. Really looked very good beating 5 foes last time out. Dylan Davis was up for two races and it included a runner-up at Aqueduct at 16-1 in her 3<sup>rd</sup> career start. Davis is really riding well here. Could be finishing best late.

A) 7,9 B) 3 C) 1,2,5 D) 4,8

11 – SARATOGA (5:41 ET) 66  
SPINAWAY STAKES (G1) 300K, 7F DIRT

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS

8 THE QUEENS M G 7-2  
5 SLANG 15-1  
2 SHERBINI 8-1  
1 IMMERSIVE 8-1

**PICK: 8 THE QUEENS M G**

Cost just 3500 last October but she's already won 254k so it's been quite a bargain. Back to back big wins here following a flop as the favorite. Filly she beat in the debut returned to win a 250k stakes in the next start. Can't overlook the meet this trainer (Saffie Joseph) has had (33%). Can sit in a good spot.

**VALUE: 5 SLANG**

We can really only evaluate her talent on one race. That was the win in the second start at 10-1. Bet in the debut but the track was very sloppy there. Was pulled up in the last start. Cost 190k back almost a year ago. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> two back won MSW next starts.

A) 8 B) 1,2,4,5,7,10,11 C) 6,9 D) 3

12 – SARATOGA (6:15 ET) 82  
FLOWER BOWL (G2) 500K, 1M 3/8 TURF

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS

1 WAR LIKE GODDESS 7-5  
7 MCKULICK 3-1  
4 ETERNAL HOPE 5-1  
3 PARNAC 12-1

**PICK: 1 WAR LIKE GODDESS**

Tremendous 7YO mare. She's won 2.7M and nearly 900k came at this distance. She won this race in 2021 and was second beaten a neck in this race in 2022. Troubled trip from the 11 post in the BC Turf vs. males. Likely needed the race in the G1 New York 2 back. Third start in a form cycle. Will save ground.

**VALUE: 6 NEECIE MARIE**

Was in maiden claiming 25k in her first two starts but has since become a legitimate G1 turf runner. Beat the top choice in the G1 New York when 2<sup>nd</sup> at 26-1 three back. Very wide trip in the G1 Diana two back. Split the small field in the G2 Beverly D. in last.

A) 1 B) 3,4,7 C) 5,8,9 D)

13 – SARATOGA (6:48 ET) 44  
OPTIONAL CLAIMING 70K, 1M 1/16 TURF

SELECTIONS AND ANALYSIS

12 PALACE VIEW 7-2  
9 KICK A BUCK 9-2  
2 HEATHGUARD 15-1  
6 JHIRSCH 5-1

**PICK: 11 PALACE VIEW**

He's been pretty consistent for this level. Normally comes from off the pace but Irad sent him to be up near the front in the last start. Thinking he takes back into a normal position from the wider post in here. Blinkers on for the first time. Casse having a pretty big meeting (33%). Dangerous trainer/rider.

**VALUE: 2 HEATHGUARD**

Lone start for the required tag was three back at Tampa when he closed strongly to win. Entered in this condition in the last two and was hurt by wide trips. Was behind a slow pace two back but closed strongly. Inside post produces a different trip today.

A) 2,6,9,12 B) 1,7,8,11 C) 3,5 D) 4,10