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INSIDE TRACK

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Final Countdown

Keeneland Hosts Final Breeders' Cup Preps. Who's In?



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WELCOME



This **Inside Track to the Keeneland Turf Mile** wagering guide gives you an inside look at the five stakes running at Keeneland on October 9, 2021 - four of which are crucial Breeders' Cup "Win and You're In" Challenge Series events for the Breeders' Cup World Championships.

The Racing Dudes have been at it for over 9 years, offering daily handicapping picks and analysis for every track across the country. For this year's **Inside Track to the Keeneland Turf Mile**, our lead handicappers have been scouring through the card at Keeneland in search of winning tickets on this loaded day of racing.

Along with the \$750,000 Keeneland Turf Mile (G1), the other stakes Saturday at Keeneland are the \$500,000 Claiborne Breeders' Futurity (G1), the \$400,000 First Lady (G1), the \$250,000 Thoroughbred Club of America, and the \$200,000 Woodford (G2).

But that's not all! Along with the five major stakes races, this Inside Track to the Keeneland Turf Mile wagering guide also includes race-by-race analysis, betting suggestions, and multi-race plays for Keeneland's entire Saturday card.

For each of the five stakes at Keeneland, you will find the following:

FULL PREVIEW FOR THE RACE, including:

- ◆ Race Overview
- ◆ Race Shape and Pace Analysis
- ◆ Top Selections
- ◆ Major Threats
- ◆ Longshots to Use

You will also find specific wagering under the "Picks and Plays" section, which includes:

- ◆ Win Bet
- ◆ Place or Show Bet
- ◆ Longshot to Play Across the Board
- ◆ Exacta
- ◆ Trifecta
- ◆ Superfecta
- ◆ Horses to use in Multi-Race Wagers
- ◆ What to Play on a Straight Wager
- ◆ What to Play on an Exotic Wager

Each Win, Place, Show, or Across the Board wager comes with a confidence rating so that you can see how strongly we feel about each pick.

Finally, always remember to wager responsibly and never wager more than you can afford.

Good luck today!



RACE No. 6:

5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF)
3-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD
\$200,000

WOODFORD STAKES (G2)

OVERVIEW:

Anytime you get a 5 1/2-furlong turf race in the state of Kentucky, especially at Keeneland, there are sure to be some fireworks. This year, the Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint seems to be wide open, so this race is very important as we continue trying to figure out who to pick in that event.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

Pure Speed: *Golden Pal, Firecrow*

Pressing Speed: *Johnny Unleashed*

Stalkers: *Charcoal, Extravagant Kid*

Closers: *Inhalation, County Final*

Like any good turf sprint, this race should have a pretty hot pace up front. Several of these want to be forwardly placed, so the horses who can sit just off the early pace should have the advantage.

TOP CHOICE: #2 GOLDEN PAL

It's hard to go against a horse like Golden Pal, who has looked like a freak when running in this country, never losing on the turf. However, he didn't look great at all in his last race, finishing a lackluster seventh in a Group 1 overseas. He gets back to racing in this country, which should help his cause. If he shows up with his normal effort, the rest of this group could be running for second.

MAJOR THREATS: #4 Firecrow, #6 Extravagant Kid

Firecrow runs second off the layoff in this spot, which could make him dangerous. He won a nice stakes race in record time 2 starts back and his last start came over a strange-playing Parx turf course. Extravagant Kid is a very consistent horse at this level. He gets back to the United States after 3 straight races overseas.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #5 Charcoal

It seems like this race is fairly top heavy, which will make it tough for anyone past the top three to get the job done here. However, Charcoal is worth a shot at a price, because he is always consistent at this distance. Perhaps he can hit the board here at a nice price.

OTHERS: #1 Johnny Unleashed, #3 Inhalation, #7 County Final

Simply put, these horses look completely overmatched by the top few in this race. They'll need them to show up with a poor efforts in order to have a chance.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

BET TO WIN: #2 Golden Pal - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

BET TO PLACE: #4 Firecrow - Confidence Level: 3.5 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #6 Extravagant Kid - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

EXACTA: 2,4,6 BOX

TRIFECTA: 2,4/2,4,5,6/2,4,5,6

SUPERFACTA: 2,4/2,4,5,6/2,4,5,6/2,4,5,6

MULTI-RACE WAGER HORSES: 2,4,6

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$20 Win on #2 Golden Pal

EXOTIC WAGER: \$2 Exacta BOX 2,4,6



RACE No. 7:



6 FURLONGS (DIRT)
FILLIES & MARES
3-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD
\$250,000

THOROUGHBRED CLUB OF AMERICA STAKES (G2)

OVERVIEW:

This field has attracted an interesting group of runners, all looking to cement a spot in the Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint. Gamine looms large as the horse to beat in the main event; however, this is a big race that could produce a threat to upset the event 4 weeks from now.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A SLOW PACE

Pure Speed: *Inthemidstofbiz*

Pressing Speed: *Frank's Rockette*

Stalkers: *Estilo Talentoso, Miss Mosaic*

Closers: *Club Car, Bell's the One*

The pace should be slow here, with only one true speed horse entered into the field. It's also a short field, which also hurts the chances of a fast pace materializing early on in this one.

TOP CHOICE: #6 BELL'S THE ONE

This filly has been running well in these sorts of spots for a while now, including several solid efforts over this track. She won the Honorable Miss Stakes (G2) at Saratoga 2 races back; however, she did get upset in her last start at Churchill Downs to Sconsin. Luckily for her, there isn't a horse like Sconsin entered here, which makes Bell's the One the horse to beat in this spot. The only worry is the pace setup, which might not be in her late-running favor.

MAJOR THREATS: #3 *Inthemidstofbiz*, #4 *Estilo Talentoso*

Inthemidstofbiz won this race last year and once again seems to have a pace advantage over the rest of this group. *Estilo Talentoso* always shows up with consistent efforts against this sort of competition.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #2 Club Car

This horse has to jump up in class for this one, which is a worry, but she has run consistently well all year long. This field isn't the toughest you'll ever see, which gives her even more of a chance to pull a minor upset.

OTHERS: #1 Frank's Rockette, #5 Miss Mosaic

Frank's Rockette seems to have lost her best form lately, which has us leaning against her at what should be a short price. *Miss Mosaic* looks outclassed.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

BET TO WIN: #6 *Bell's the One* - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

BET TO PLACE: #3 *Inthemidstofbiz* - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #4 *Estilo Talentoso* - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

EXACTA: 3,4,6 BOX

TRIFECTA: 3,6/2,3,4,6/2,3,4,6

SUPERFACTA: 2,3,4,6 BOX

MULTI-RACE WAGER HORSES: 2,3,4,6

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$10 Win on #6 *Bell's the One*

EXOTIC WAGER: \$2 Exacta BOX 3,4,6



RACE No. 8:



1 MILE (TURF)
FILLIES & MARES
3-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD
\$400,000

FIRST LADY STAKES (G1)

OVERVIEW:

Year after year, the First Lady produces amazing, talented winners. This year should be no different, with some of the best female turf horses here and abroad entered. This has a shot to be a productive Breeders' Cup prep event, as well as a fun race to watch unfold.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A SLOW PACE

Pure Speed: *Blowout*

Pressing Speed: *Star Command*

Stalkers: *Hendy Woods, Princess Grace*

Closers: *Abscond, Empress Josephine, Althiqa, Regal Glory, Daddy Is a Legend, Harvey's Lil Goil, Dalika, La Signare, Viadara*

We shouldn't see too swift of a pace here, with Blowout being the lone speed. If she's ready, then she has a shot to take them gate to wire.

TOP CHOICE: #3 ALTHIQA

This filly has come to the United States in dominating fashion this year. She impressively took home the Just A Game Stakes (G1) at Belmont Park before winning the Diana Stakes (G1) at Saratoga last time out. If she shows up with either sort of effort again, then it will be lights out for the rest of this field, as she already defeated many of these horses in those last 2 races.

MAJOR THREATS: #2 Empress Josephine, #6 Regal Glory, #8 Harvey's Lil Goil, #9 Blowout

Empress Josephine makes her United States debut in this race. Regal Glory won 2 of her last 3 starts but was fourth to our top choice in the race she lost. Harvey's Lil Goil gets back to the turf, which is her best surface. Blowout will be who they'll have to catch when turning for home.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #5 Hendy Woods, #7 Daddy Is a Legend, #13 Viadara

Hendy Woods won nicely at Kentucky Downs in her last start. Daddy Is a Legend always seems to have a chance to hit the board in races of this caliber. Viadara got back to the winner's circle last time out in an exciting race at Saratoga.

OTHERS: #1 Abscond, #4 Star Command, #10 Princess Grace, #11 Dalika, #12 La Signare

This group looks a bit overmatched in this extremely tough First Lady. It would be a surprise if any of these made an impact here, even though a lot of these horses have solid talent.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

BET TO WIN: #3 Althiqa - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

BET TO PLACE: #9 Blowout - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #8 Harvey's Lil Goil - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

EXACTA: 3,8,9 BOX

TRIFECTA: 3,6,8,9 BOX

SUPERFACTA: 3,6,8,9 BOX

MULTI-RACE WAGER HORSES: 3,9

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$20 Win on #3 Althiqa

EXOTIC WAGER: \$.50 cent Trifecta BOX 3,6,8,9



RACE No. 9



1 1/16 MILES (DIRT)
2~YEAR~OLDS
\$500,000

CLAIRBORNE BREEDERS' FUTURITY (G1)

OVERVIEW:

Last year, Essential Quality won this race before taking the Breeders' Cup Juvenile and eventually enjoying a tremendous 3-year-old season as well. Star horses such as Maxfield and Knicks Go also won this race recently, which shows the importance of this event.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

Pure Speed: *Stellar Tap, Don't Wait Up, Classic Causeway*

Pressing Speed: *Seal Beach, Mac's Time, Kevin's Folly*

Stalkers: *Mr. Bouma, Great Escape*

Closers: *Double Thunder, Rattle N Roll, King Curlin, Costa Terra, American Sanctuary*

We should see them going pretty fast early in this one, with several of these wanting to go to the front. Sitting off the pace will be important.

TOP CHOICE: #13 CLASSIC CAUSEWAY

After his impressive debut victory at Saratoga, this is the logical next step, and he's bringing jockey Jose Ortiz with him. From a speed figure standpoint, he stands out above the rest, and his pedigree suggests that he should enjoy stretching out in distance. The 13 post will be an issue, though, so it is good that Ortiz is staying on to ride. If he can work out a decent trip, then he'll be tough.

MAJOR THREATS: #3 Stellar Tap, #5 Don't Wait Up, #6 Rattle N Roll, #12 Kevin's Folly

Stellar Tap was not good in his last start; however, it's a good sign that they wheel him right back in this spot. Don't Wait Up was very impressive breaking his maiden at Saratoga, much like Kevin's Folly. Both should have a big shot here. Rattle N Roll won at this distance last time out.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #1 Double Thunder, #8 King Curlin, #10 Mac's Time

Double Thunder has won multiple stakes, but his speed figures are a bit underwhelming. King Curlin is an interesting horse making his dirt debut in this spot. Mac's Time really improved last time out in his second start.

OTHERS: #2 Mr. Bouma, #4 Seal Team, #7 American Sanctuary, #9 Great Escape, #11 Costa Terra

With 2-year-olds, you never want to totally write them off this early in their careers. This group could still turn out to be something, but here and now, they look overmatched.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

BET TO WIN: #13 Classic Causeway - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

BET TO PLACE: #3 Stellar Tap - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #12 Kevin's Folly - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

EXACTA: 3,12,13 BOX

TRIFECTA: 3,5,12,13 BOX

SUPERFACTA: 3,5,12,13 BOX

MULTI-RACE WAGER HORSES: 3,5,12,13

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$10 Win on #13 Classic Causeway

EXOTIC WAGER: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 3,5,12,13



RACE No 10:



1 MILE (TURF)
3-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD
\$750,000

KEENELAND TURF MILE STAKES (G1)

OVERVIEW:

The main event is here! This race is a staple of the season each year and signals that Keeneland is back up and running in full swing for the fall. The Breeders' Cup Mile is wide-open this season, so once again we'll need to analyze this race very closely for signs of what we might see next month.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

Pure Speed: *Brown Storm, Order of Australia, Somelikeithotbrown*

Pressing Speed: *Tell Your Daddy*

Stalkers: *Front Run the Fed, Space Traveller, Diamond Oops, Field Pass*

Closers: *Argentello, In Love, Ivar, Pixelate, Monarchs Glen*

It seems as though we'll see a swift pace in this one, which should set it up well for those coming from behind.

TOP CHOICE: #10 ORDER OF AUSTRALIA

The upset winner of last year's Breeders' Cup Mile (G1) over this course is back in the United States. Since that victory, he won just once in 6 starts, but he finished on the board in a couple of very tough races overseas. That bodes well for his chances to return to Keeneland and win this one. He's defeated a few of these already, which is a good sign.

MAJOR THREATS: #4 Space Traveller, #6 Ivar, #13 Somelikeithotbrown

Space Traveller should get plenty of pace to run into here, which could help. The same could be said for Ivar, who looks like he could be set up well for a repeat win. Somelikeithotbrown will likely try to take them gate to wire.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #7 Pixelate, #11 Diamond Oops

Pixelate come into the race hot winning 2 of his past 3. His last start, at Kentucky Downs, was very impressive. Diamond Oops always seems to be around in these sorts of races. He'll show up with a solid effort in this spot.

OTHERS: #1 Front Run the Fed, #2 Argentello, #3 In Love, #5 Tell Your Daddy, #8 Brown Storm, #9 Monarchs Glen, #12 Field Pass

This race is completely wide open, so don't be afraid to use any of these horses if you like them. This race could definitely produce a big price.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

BET TO WIN: #10 Order of Australia - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

BET TO PLACE: #6 Ivar - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #4 Space Traveller - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

EXACTA: 4,6,10 BOX

TRIFECTA: 4,6,10,13 BOX

SUPERFACTA: 4,6,10,13 BOX

MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES: 4,6,10,13

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$10 to Win on #10 Order of Australia

EXOTIC WAGER: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 4,6,10,13

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KEENELAND



NON-STAKES ANALYSIS & PLAYS

Race 1: 6-8-2-10

#6 Mo Heat has the most experience over the dirt and earned a speed figure last time out that will make him tough to beat in this spot. **#8 Gold Bear** should enjoy moving back to the dirt. **#2 My Favorite Uncle** finally drops down in class for this race, which should help. **#10 Blake B.** runs first off the claim for Chris Hartman, which usually leads to good results.

Exacta: 2,6,8 BOX

Trifecta: 2,6,8,10 BOX

Multi-Race: 2,6,8,10

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 2,6,8,10

Race 2: 3-5-10-1

#3 Combat Medal is a first-time starter for Steve Asmussen, who wins with debut horses often at Keeneland. **#5 Kaely's Brother** should run better after a poor showing on debut for Brad Cox, who's solid with second-time starters. **#10 B Sudd** is bred to run well on debut. **#1 Trademark** should bounce back after gaining experience last time out.

Exacta: 3,5,10 BOX

Trifecta: 1,3,5,10 BOX

Multi-Race: 1,3,5,10

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,3,5,10

Race 3: 4-3-1-8

#4 Modus Operandi ships in from overseas to run in this spot for new trainer Brenden Walsh. Last time out, he broke his maiden by 11 lengths. **#3 Orchestration** broke his maiden nicely at Saratoga last time out. He also has the training of Chad Brown on his side. **#1 Kittansett** switches to the turf for Cox after narrowly missing in a dirt allowance event last time out. **#8 Scarlet Fusion** has run well since moving to the turf.

Exacta: 1,3,4 BOX

Trifecta: 1,3,4,8 BOX

Multi-Race: 1,3,4,8

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Trifecta BOX 1,3,4,8

Race 4: 7-1-5-6

#7 Tuanis was nice winner on the turf last time out and is bred to run well on dirt. **#1 Baladi** gets back to dirt, the surface over which he broke his maiden 2 starts back. **#5 Rich Strike** broke his maiden in a claiming event last time out by 17 1/4 lengths. **#6 Elusive Target** looks to rebound after getting beaten badly as the favorite last time out.

Exacta: 1,7/1,5,7

Trifecta: 1,7/1,5,6,7/1,5,6,7

Multi-Race: 1,7

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta 1,7/1,5,6,7/1,5,6,7

Race 5: 8-4-6-1

#8 Stealth Fighter debuts after a series of solid workouts for Cox, who usually has his horses ready to run at this meet. **#4 Classic Moment** debuts for Asmussen, who also runs well at this meet. **#6 Switzer** is a well-bred debut runner who gets John Velazquez to ride. **#1 Jack Backed** is the only starter with experience. That could pay off against many first-timers.

Exacta: 4,6,8 BOX

Trifecta: 1,4,6,8 BOX

Multi-Race: 1,4,6,8

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,4,6,8

Race 11: 7-6-10-11

#7 Giant Game has a pedigree that suggests he'll like this longer distance. He was a solid third on debut last time out. **#6 Surfer Dude** also should enjoy a stretch out in distance after 2 solid efforts going shorter. **#10 Let My People Go** finished second in both starts so far. **#11 Gilded Age** runs long for the second time, which sometimes leads to a horse's best result. His connections are also solid at Keeneland.

Exacta: 6,7,10 BOX

Trifecta: 6,7,10,11 BOX

Multi-Race: 6,7,10,11

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Trifecta BOX 6,7,10,11



KEENELAND



MULTI-RACE ANALYSIS & PLAYS

RACE 1: \$0.50 PICK 5

2,6,8,10 with 1,3,5,10 with 1,3,4,8 with 7 with 1,4,6,8 = \$128

RACE 2: \$0.50 PICK 4

1,3,5,10 with 1,3,4,8 with 1,7 with 1,4,6,8 = \$64

RACE 6: \$0.50 PICK 5

2,4,6 with 2,3,4,6 with 3 with 3,5,6,12,13 with 4,6,10,13 = \$120

RACE 7: \$0.50 PICK 4

3,4,6 with 3,9 with 3,5,12,13 with 4,6,10,13 = \$48

RACE 8: \$0.50 PICK 4

3,9 with 3,5,6,12,13 with 4,6,10 with 6,7,10,11 = \$60

