

FULL RACE PREVIEWS & WAGERING STRATEGIES FOR ALL STAKES RACES ON THE CARD

# **RACING DUDES** **INSIDE TRACK** TO RISEN STAR DAY



**RISEN  
STAR  
DAY**  
FAIR GROUNDS  
NEW ORLEANS  
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\$29.95 US \$39.95 CAN



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# WELCOME



This **Inside Track to the Risen Star** wagering guide gives you an inside look at the six stakes races running at *Fair Grounds Race Course* on February 13, 2021, including the \$400,000

*Risen Star Stakes* (G2) contested over 1 1/8 miles. *The Risen Star*, named for the 1988 U.S. Champion Three-Year-Old Colt, is worth 50-20-10-5 points to the top 4 finishers on the *Road to the Kentucky Derby* (G1).

**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 Risen Star**, our lead handicappers have been scouring through the card at *Fair Grounds* in search of winning tickets on this loaded day of racing.

The six stakes races total \$1.25 million in purses and include both *Kentucky Derby* and *Kentucky Oaks* (G1) prep races: the *Risen Star*, the \$300,000 *Rachel Alexandra* (G2) for the Oaks, the \$200,000 *Mineshaft* (G3), the \$150,000 *Fair Grounds* (G3), the \$100,000 *Albert M. Stall Memorial*, and the \$100,000 *Colonel Power*.

**But that's not all! Along with the six major stakes races, this Inside Track to the Risen Star wagering guide also includes race-by-race analysis, betting suggestions, and multi-race plays for Fair Ground's entire Saturday card.**

For each of the **six stakes** at *Fair Grounds*, you will find the following:

FULL RACE 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 7:

## COLONEL POWER STAKES

5 1/2 FURLONGS (TURF)  
4-YEAR-OLDS & UP  
\$100,000

### OVERVIEW:

The stakes action kicks off with a wide-open edition of the Colonel Power, which like most turf sprint fields has several horses who have a solid shot at winning. The headliner is Extravagant Kid, who ships from Florida and returns to grass after nearly winning on dirt last time.

NOTE: The race is now on the dirt.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A SLOW PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Just Might*

**Pressing Speed:** *Extravagant Kid*

**Stalkers:** *Archidust, Went West*

**Closers:** *Manny Wah, Bango, Jack the Umpire*

It's shocking to see such a lack of speed signed on for a sprint stakes like this one. Just Might should get a lone lead and be really tough to catch going this distance. If he takes to the dirt, look out.

### TOP CHOICE: #4 EXTRAVAGANT KID

This horse is the class of the field. Now that the race has been taken off the turf, he probably sticks out even more on paper. This is a horse that has shown that he can win on any surface, making him the logical top choice.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #3 Just Might, #7 Archidust, #1 Manny Wah

Just Might has a significant pace advantage on paper and could take this field gate to wire. Archidust is an ultra-consistent turf sprinter who should show up with a solid effort here. Manny Wah pulled an upset last time out, winning the Duncan Kenner Stakes over this course and distance at odds of 12/1.

### LONGSHOTS TO USE: #2 Bango

Bango could be an upsetter today with the race being taken off the turf.

**OTHERS:** #6 Jack the Umpire,  
#8 Captivating Moon, #9 Went West

These three will need to show improvement to make an impact in this spot that seems a little top-heavy. Captivating Moon has scratched.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #4 Extravagant Kid - Confidence Level: 3.5 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #3 Just Might - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #1 Manny Wah - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 1,3,4 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 1,3,4,7 BOX

**SUPERFECTA:** 1,3,4,7 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,3,4,7

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #4 Extravagant Kid

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,3,4,7



# RACE 9:

## ALBERT M. STALL MEMORIAL STAKES

1 1/16 MILES (TURF)  
4-YEAR-OLDS & UP  
\$100,000

### OVERVIEW:

The fillies and mares take center stage in this turf event, which drew a solid field of 12. Several hard-knockers are entered and make this a very difficult race to handicap. This kicks off a very attractive Late Pick 5 that could pay major bucks. Don't go too short; a big price could win.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

**Pure Speed:** *His Glory*

**Pressing Speed:** *Joy Epifora*

**Stalkers:** *Dalika, Amazima, Xanthique*

**Closers:** *Temple City Terror, Pass the Plate, Room to Finish, Secret Message*

There seems to be a moderate pace on paper, with only a couple who've shown any interest in leading. Everyone should have a pretty fair shot.

### TOP CHOICE: #9 SECRET MESSAGE

Secret Message won the Marie Krantz Memorial Stakes, the local prep for this event, last time out. She seems like the best option after all the scratches, while the soft turf shouldn't be something that bothers her.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #3 Pass the Plate, #2 Temple City Terror, 7 Dalkia

Pass the Plate won a stakes here last time out and always shows up with a solid effort. With a better trip, Temple City Terror should be ultra-tough at a solid price. Dalika went off as the favorite in the Krantz Memorial, only to fade to fifth.

**LONGSHOTS TO USE:** #1 His Glory, #10 Joy Epifora

His Glory moves back to turf, which seems to be her best surface. She may enjoy the soft surface, which you can also say about Joy Epifora.

**OTHERS:** #5 Room to Finish, #8 Amazima, #10 Joy Epifora, #12 Xanthique

Many of these have lost their top form, making it hard for them to make an impact here. This race does seem pretty wide open, though, so anything is possible.

### PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #9 Secret Message - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #2 Temple City Terror - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #3 Pass the Plate - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 2,3,9 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 2,3,7,9 BOX

**SUPERFECTA:** 2,3,7,9 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 2,3,7,9

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$10 to Win on #9 Secret Message

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 2,3,7,9



# RACE 10:

## MINESHAFT STAKES [G3]

1 1/16 MILES (DIRT)  
4-YEAR-OLDS & UP  
\$200,000

### OVERVIEW:

The action gets serious with what might be the most intriguing race on the card. The undefeated Maxfield headlines a group of seven that also features last year's Lecomte Stakes (G3) winner Enforceable. These two should put on quite a show.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A SLOW PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Blackberry Wine*

**Pressing Speed:** *NONE*

**Stalkers:** *Dinar*

**Closers:** *Enforceable, Chess Chief, Maxfield, Sonneman*

It seems like Blackberry Wine could have the lead all to himself in this spot. With him controlling things early, there is no doubt he could end up with an easy lead.

### TOP CHOICE: #4 MAXFIELD

He returned from yet another injury and still looked great in the Tenacious Stakes last time out, winning with ease. The waters get a bit deeper here, but he might just be better than the rest of this field. If he stays healthy (and that's a big "if"), then he could develop into one of the country's top older horses.

### MAJOR THREATS: #1 Enforceable

Enforceable looked amazing in his last race and is a big threat after showing a big turn of foot in that allowance victory, winning by 8 lengths.

**LONGSHOTS TO USE:** #3 Chess Chief,  
#7 Blackberry Wine

Chess Chief can pick up the pieces if the pace melts down, like he did to win an allowance over this course and distance last time out. Blackberry Wine could benefit from a lack of pace. He nearly took the field gate to wire last time out in the Louisiana Stakes (G3).

**OTHERS:** #5 Dinar, #6 Sonneman

These two are probably not good enough to win at this level.

### PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #4 Maxfield - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #1 Enforceable - Confidence Level: 3.5 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #7 Blackberry Wine - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 1,4/1,4,7

**TRIFECTA:** 1,4/1,4,7/1,3,4,7

**SUPERFECTA:** 1,3,4,7 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,4

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$40 to Win on #4 Maxfield

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$5 Exacta 1,4/1,4,7





# RACE 11:

## FAIR GROUNDS STAKES [G3]

1 1/8 MILES (TURF)  
4-YEAR-OLDS & UP  
\$150,000

### OVERVIEW:

We move back to turf for what should be a hell of a race. Factor This won last year's race, along with a slew of other major stakes. He'll be tough again in this spot; however, several other really good horses could take him down. This field of 11 plays a critical role in the Pick 4 and Pick 5; an upset would be massive for the payouts.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Blackberry Wine, Factor This*

**Pressing Speed:** *Logical Myth, Spectacular Gem*

**Stalkers:** *Artie's Rumor, Dontblamerocket, Peace Achieved*

**Closers:** *Set Piece, Danceteria, Midnight Tea Time, Captivating Moon*

Whether or not Blackberry Wine runs, there's a pretty good chance that it's going to be pretty quick up front.

### TOP CHOICE: #2 SET PIECE

He tries his hand at tougher competition after 2 straight wins at Turfway Park, where he showed an amazing turn of foot that could be deadly if he catches a hot pace. He also lures Florent Geroux to ride, a very positive sign.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #4 Danceteria, #6 Logical Myth, #8 Factor This

Danceteria finished second in his American debut, a Gulfstream Park allowance, and should continue to improve. Logical Myth won impressively over this surface in his last 2 starts. Factor This is the class of this field and defending champion.

**LONGSHOTS TO USE:** #7 Dontblamerocket, #9 Peace Achieved, #11 Spectacular Gem

Dontblamerocket returns from a needed freshening and has shown the ability to compete with these horses in the past. Peace Achieved should improve in his second start after the layoff. Spectacular Gem is usually competitive in these kinds of races.

**OTHERS:** #1 Blackberry Wine, #3 Artie's Rumor, #5 Midnight Tea Time, #10 Captivating Moon

Blackberry Wine hasn't been on turf in quite some time, so he'd be interesting if he runs here instead. The others have some improving to do before being seriously considered.

### PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #2 Set Piece - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #8 Factor This - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

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

**EXACTA:** 2,4,8 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 2,4,6,8 BOX

**SUPERFECTA:** 2,4,6,8 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 2,4,6,8

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$10 to Win on #2 Set Piece

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 2,4,6,8



# RACE 12:

## RACHEL ALEXANDRA STAKES [G2]

1 1/16 MILES (DIRT)  
FILLIES 3-YEAR-OLDS  
\$300,000

### OVERVIEW:

The 3-year-old fillies take their first major steps towards the Kentucky Oaks (G1) in a race that's produced several great eventual Oaks winners. Will Travel Column follow in the footsteps of her stablemate Monomoy Girl, who launched her epic 3-year-old campaign here in 2018?

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Off We Go, Zoom Up*

**Pressing Speed:** *Becca's Rocket*

**Stalkers:** *Souper Sensational, Littlestitious, Travel Column, Charlie's Penny*

**Closers:** *Clairiere, Moon Swag*

The tempo shouldn't be too fast up front. Several horses like to be forwardly placed, but none of the entries need the lead in order to be successful.

### TOP CHOICE: #8 TRAVEL COLUMN

She looks like the next big star filly from the Brad Cox barn after easily winning the Golden Rod Stakes (G2) last time out at Churchill Downs. Her recent workouts suggest that she's ready to run, Cox has been on fire to kick off the season, and jockey Florent Geroux is riding light outs. She should fire a big effort.

### MAJOR THREATS: #1 Clairiere, #6 Zoom Up, #2 Souper Sensational

Clairiere ran well against Travel Column in the Golden Rod, finishing second by only 1 length. Zoom Up has won 2 straight including an allowance over this track last time out. Souper Sensational had a lot of hype entering the Silverbulletday but was a well-beaten second.

### LONGSHOTS TO USE: #4 Off We Go

Off We Go has a distance pedigree, so this stretch out in distance might be to her liking.

### OTHERS: #3 Moon Swag, #5 Becca's Rocket, #7 Littlestitious

It's tough to see anyone from this group making a big impact. The top 3-4 look a bit too tough for this group.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #8 Travel Column - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #1 Clairiere - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #6 Zoom Up - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 1,6,8 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 1,2,6,8 BOX

**SUPERFECTA:** 1,2,6,8 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,8

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #8 Travel Column

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$2 Exacta BOX 1,6,8



# RACE 13:

## RISEN STAR STAKES [G2]

1 1/8 MILES (DIRT)  
3-YEAR-OLDS  
\$400,000

### OVERVIEW:

Finally, after 12 tough races, we get to the main event on the card. The Risen Star serves as the first 50-point Kentucky Derby prep race of the season and is always an exciting event. With a large field of 13 signed on to run for some of the best trainers in the game, this should be an excellent betting event.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Midnight Bourbon, Rightandjust*

**Pressing Speed:** *Santa Cruiser, Mandaloun*

**Stalkers:** *Starrininmydreams, Proxy, Beep Beep*

**Closers:** *Carillo, Senor Buscador, O Besos, Sermononthemount*

Plenty of these will want to be forwardly placed, with Midnight Bourbon and Rightandjust leading the charge to the front and Santa Cruiser not far behind. They should speed things up early.

### TOP CHOICE: #5 SENOR BUSCADOR

We've been waiting for this horse to run back after dominating the Remington Park Springboard Mile. He likes to drop well out of the race early, but he has a devastating turn of foot when asked to pick things up. If he can run back to his Springboard Mile effort, then he'll be hard to hold off down the stretch.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #2 Proxy, #6 Midnight Bourbon, #11 Mandaloun

Midnight Bourbon, Proxy, and Mandaloun were the 1-2-3 finishers of the Lecomte Stakes (G3) last time out and every right to improve, making them dangerous once again. Each of the three horses also should be just find stretching out in distance. All three have a solid two-turn pedigree.

**LONGSHOTS TO USE:** #1 Starrininmydreams, #4 Carillo, #13 Rightandjust

Starrininmydreams won both starts as a 2-year-old and could be a nice prospect moving into this season. Carillo steps up for his second start after winning at Aqueduct on debut. Rightandjust defeated a very solid allowance field with ease last time out over this track.

**OTHERS:** #3 Beep Beep, #7 O Besos, #8 Sermononthemount, #10 Santa Cruiser

This group will need to pick things up substantially from a speed figure standpoint to have a chance to win this race. The others just look a bit faster than this group.

NOTE: #12 Keepmeinmind will be scratching from this race.

### PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #5 Senor Buscador - Confidence Level: 3.5 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #6 Midnight Bourbon - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #2 Proxy - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 2,5,6 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 2,5,6,11 BOX

**SUPERFECTA:** 2,5,6,11 BOX

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 2,5,6,11

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$10 to Win/Place on #5 Senor Buscador

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 2,5,6,11



# FAIR GROUNDS

## NON-STAKES ANALYSIS & PLAYS



### Race 1: 3-5-6-1

**#3 Rookery** has finished second 3 straight times, making her the best of the experienced horses. **#5 A Real Jewel** and **#6 Caribbean Capar** have solid connections. **#1 Perfect Limit** debuts after a solid workout.

**Exacta:** 3,5,6 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,3,5,6 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,3,5,6

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 3,5,6

### Race 2: 1-6-4-3

**#1 Ronnie's Peso** was third at this level last time out. **#6 Miss Underrated** has always been consistent in these sorts of races. **#4 Star Prado** should run well in her third start off the layoff. **#3 Rockin Sunday** becomes a usable horse with the scratch of the 5 horse.

**Exacta:** 1,4,6 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,3,4,6 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,4,6

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 1,4,6

### Race 3: 8-1-3-2

**#8 Onerollofthedice** is a first-time starter for trainer Brad Cox. **#1 Euphoric** ran a huge second over this course and distance last time. **#3 Lady Frosted** should improve in her second start. **#2 Chione** has solid works leading up to her debut.

**Exacta:** 1,3,8 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,2,3,8 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,2,3,8

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,2,3,8

### Race 4: 2-3-8-1

**#2 Alejandro** finished second to a really good horse in his last race. **#3 Cash Rocket** made a big improvement in his second start last out. **#8 Run Classic** ran well on debut and could win if he brings the same effort around two turns. **#1 Ghostliner** should run better in his second time going long.

**Exacta:** 2,3,8 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,2,3,8 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 2,3,8

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,2,3,8

### Race 5: 12-11-9-13

**#12 Global Empire** debuts after posting some really sharp workouts and gets Florent Geroux aboard. **#11 Hot Stove League** nearly won over this course last time out. **#9 Sharp Rocket** could improve in his second turf start. He also has Brad Cox on his side. **#13 Committed** has solid dirt breeding, which makes this horse dangerous with the surface switch.

**Exacta:** 9,11,12 BOX

**Trifecta:** 9,11,12,13 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 9,11,12,13

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 9,11,12,13

### Race 6: 9-3-2-6

**#9 Sainthood** ran well on debut, finishing second by a head in a tough Gulfstream Park maiden special weight. **#3 Dolder Grand** nearly won on both occasions since switching to dirt. **#2 Tiwanaku** nearly broke his maiden here at this distance last time. **#6 Cool Rags** is a long shot worth using if the pace falls apart; he could run them down late.

**Exacta:** 2,3,9 BOX

**Trifecta:** 2,3,6,9 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 2,3,6,9

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 2,3,9

### Race 8: 10-4-9-8

**#10 Big Lake** won impressively last time out over this course and distance, and now he gets John Velazquez aboard. **#4 Defeater** is cross-entered in the Risen Star, but this seems to be where he should run. **#9 Whiskey Double** should run better in his second start off the layoff. **#8 Gagetown** was close to winning last time out, finishing second to Risen Star contender Rightandjust.

**Exacta:** 4,9,10 BOX

**Trifecta:** 4,8,9,10 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 4,8,9,10

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 4,9,10





# TICKET SUGGESTIONS

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## Race 1: \$0.50 Pick 5

1,3,5,6 with 1,4,6 with 1,2,3,8 with 2 with 9,11,12,13 = \$96

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## Race 2: \$0.50 Pick 4

1,4,6 with 1,2,3,8 with 2,3,8 with 9,11,12,13 = \$72

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## Race 4: \$0.50 Pick 4

1,2,3,8 with 9,11,12,13 with 3,9 with 1,3,4,7 = \$64

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## Race 7: \$0.50 Pick 4

1,3,4,7 with 4,8,9,10 with 2,3,7,9 with 4 = \$32

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## Race 9: \$0.50 Pick 5

2,3,7,9 with 1,4 with 2,4,6,8 with 1,8 with 2,5,6,11 = \$128

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## Race 10: \$0.50 Pick 4

1,4 with 2,4,6,8 with 1,8 with 1,2,5,6,11 = \$40

