

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

# **RACING DUDES** **INSIDE TRACK**

TO THE 2020 CIGAR MILE DAY



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MULTI-RACE PLAYS FOR THE ENTIRE AQUEDUCT SATURDAY CARD

\$29.95 US \$39.95 CAN





# WELCOME



This **Inside Track to the Cigar Mile** wagering guide gives you an inside look at the four stakes races running at *Aqueduct* on December 5, 2020, including the \$250,000 *Cigar Mile Handicap (G1)* for 3-year-olds and up. *The Cigar Mile* is one of the country's top dirt mile events each year, attracting both sprinters and distance horses.

*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 Cigar Mile**, our lead handicappers have been scouring through the card at *Aqueduct* in search of winning tickets on this loaded day of racing.

Along with the *Cigar Mile*, *Aqueduct's* other three stakes on Saturday are the \$150,000 *Remsen Stakes (G2)*, a *Kentucky Derby* prep race; the \$150,000 *Demoiselle Stakes (G2)*, a *Kentucky Oaks* prep race; and the \$100,000 *Go For Wand Handicap (G3)*.

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

For each of the **four stakes** at *Aqueduct*, 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 4:

## REMSSEN STAKES [G2]

1 1/8 MILE (DIRT)  
2-YEAR-OLDS  
\$150,000

### OVERVIEW:

The stakes action on this card starts with the Remsen, which features 2-year-olds taking their first steps towards the 2021 Kentucky Derby! The Remsen has not been a great race for producing Derby winners lately, but it has produced 10 Grade 1 winners since 2012. This year's field is small, but each entry has the potential to make a big impact next season.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A SLOW PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Ten for Ten*

**Pressing Speed:** *Pickin' Time, Known Agenda,*

**Stalkers:** *Brooklyn Strong*

**Closers:** *Erawan*

The pace should be pretty slow, with only one true speed horse signed on to run. Look for Ten for Ten to get a perfect trip in this spot and feel little to no pressure on the front end.

### TOP CHOICE: #5 TEN FOR TEN

Even though he was beaten by Pickin' Time last time out in the Nashua Stakes (G3), the pace setup should work out beautifully in his favor this time around. He also gets Jose Ortiz to ride in this spot; he knows this horse well and should be able to take the field gate to wire, like when they teamed up to break his maiden.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #1 Pickin' Time, #2 Known Agenda

Pickin' Time has the most experience in the field and seemed to easily win the Nashua, the local prep race for this one, so he is logical here. Known Agenda looks like a nice up-and-comer after breaking his maiden over this track last time out. His pedigree suggests that he will be very dangerous going this distance.

### LONGSHOTS TO USE: #3 Brooklyn Strong

The New York-bred will try open company after taking home the Sleepy Hollow Stakes at Belmont Park last time out. He has won 2 of 3 starts so far while never finishing outside of the money, and it's also a good sign that Joel Rosario picks up the ride for the first time.

### OTHERS: #4 Erawan

We'll see if this colt can bring his Laurel Park form to the NYRA circuit. He defeated maiden special weight company won by 1 1/4 lengths but crossed fourth against optional claimers last time out. This level of competition will be much tougher for him.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #5 Ten for Ten - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #1 Pickin' Time - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #2 Known Agenda - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 5/1,2 and 1,2/5

**TRIFECTA:** 1,2,5/1,2,5/1,2,3,5

**SUPERFECTA:** NONE

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,2,5

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #5 Ten for Ten

**EXOTIC WAGER:** NONE (No Value)



# RACE 6:

## GO FOR WAND HANDICAP [G3]

1 MILE (DIRT)

FILLIES & MARES 3-YEAR-OLDS & UP

\$100,000

### OVERVIEW:

The stakes action continues with the Go For Wand, which drew a small group of 6. Don't let the field size fool you, though; this looks wide open on paper. This is also an important race to get correct, as it kicks off a Late Pick 5 that could pay a solid amount. We'll see if we can catch one of these fillies at a price and move on here.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

**Pure Speed:** Portal Creek, Sharp Starr

**Pressing Speed:** Nonna Madeline, Graceful Princess

**Stalkers:** Stand for the Flag

**Closers:** Overheated

With a field of only 6, it's hard to see the pace being very quick up front. However, Portal Creek and Sharp Starr do their best running early, so it shouldn't be quite as slow as the Remsen. All runners should have a fair shot in here.

### TOP CHOICE: #3 SHARP STARR

This filly is 2-for-2 at the distance and won by 15 3/4 lengths over this course last time out. She gets the services of Jose Ortiz once again, another positive. This race came up fairly weak, so it's not going to take a monster effort to get the job done here.

### MAJOR THREATS: #1 Nonna Madeline, #2 Portal Creek

Nonna Madeline is the class of the race and the deserving favorite. She won a pair of stakes earlier this year. Portal Creek has gotten hot lately, but this is a bit of a class jump after racing at Parx for most of the year.

### LONGSHOTS TO USE: #5 Stand for the Flag, #6 Graceful Princess

Stand for the Flag was supplemented to this race, so perhaps her connections know something we don't. Her resume isn't great. Graceful Princess also doesn't look like much on paper, but trainer Todd Pletcher has been on fire lately and Joel Rosario is a top-class jockey.

### OTHERS: #4 Overheated

This one just seems to be outclassed no matter who you look at it. She'll need to improve several lengths to have a shot.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #3 Sharp Starr - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #1 Nonna Madeline - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

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

**EXACTA:** 1,2,3 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 1,3/1,2,3,6/1,2,3,6

**SUPERFECTA:** 1,3/1,2,3,6/1,2,3,6/1,2,3,6

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,2,3

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$10 to Win on #3 Sharp Starr

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$1 Exacta BOX 1,2,3



# RACE 9: DEMOISELLE STAKES [G2]

1 1/8 MILES (DIRT)  
FILLIES 2-YEAR-OLDS  
\$150,000

## OVERVIEW:

A solid field of eight 2-year-old fillies take center stage in this event. The Todd Pletcher-trained Malathaath definitely seems to be the standout, winning 2 straight in dominant fashion. A few contenders could upset her in this spot, though, as the long distance of this event is always a big question mark this early in a horse's career.

## RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A SLOW PACE

**Pure Speed:** *Malathaath, Caramocha*

**Pressing Speed:** *Traffic Lane*

**Stalkers:** *Malibu Curl, Cafe Society*

**Closers:** *Millefeuille, Dollar Mountain, Celestial Cheetah*

We aren't going to see anything too fast with these fillies stretching out to this distance for the first time. There also isn't much speed in this race anyway, making for what should be a favorable pace scenario for the front-runners. You probably need to be close to the pace to win.

## TOP CHOICE: #1 MALATHAATH

You can't deny how good this horse has looked in 2 starts so far. She broke her maiden with ease at Belmont Park on debut, then dominated the Tempted Stakes over this course last time out. The extra distance should suit her fine, being by Curlin out of an A.P. Indy mare.

## MAJOR THREATS: #3 Millefeuille, #6 Cafe Society

Millefeuille looks to be the main challenger to the favorite after breaking her maiden in style last time out at Belmont Park. Cafe Society also seems like a horse who can excel, but she was beaten badly by Malathaath last time out. She might be best as an underneath play.

## LONGSHOTS TO USE: #4 Malibu Curl

This filly seems mildly interesting after breaking her maiden on closing weekend at Saratoga. Her pedigree also seems to be suited well for this distance, being by Curlin out of a Malibu Moon mare. At the right price, she might be worth a shot.

## OTHERS: #2 Traffic Lane, #5 Dollar Mountain, #7 Caramocha, #8 Celestial Cheetah

These fillies need to improve their speed figures to have a shot. This is one of the deeper races on the card.

## PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #1 Malathaath - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

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

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #6 Cafe Society - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 1,3,6 BOX

**TRIFECTA:** 1,3/1,3,4,6/1,3,4,6

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

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

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$50 to Win on #1 Malathaath

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta 1,3/1,3,4,6/1,3,4,6





# RACE 10:

## CIGAR MILE HANDICAP [G1]

1 MILE (DIRT)  
3-YEAR-OLDS & UP  
\$250,000

### OVERVIEW:

The last Grade 1 race in the state of New York is set for this Saturday. The Cigar Mile drew a solid field of nine entries this year, including Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) third-place finisher Firenze Fire. He'll be stretching out in distance against several others who might be better suited for it. We'll see if that creates an upset.

### RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

**Pure Speed:** King Guillermo, Mr. Buff

**Pressing Speed:** Firenze Fire, Performer

**Stalkers:** Majestic Dunhill, Snapper Sinclair, True Timber

**Closers:** Bon Raison, Mind Control

King Guillermo will be ready to run early coming off of a long layoff and Mr. Buff always does his best running on the lead. Drawn on the rail, Performer will most likely speed up the early pace as well and Firenze Fire will sit right off the top trio, making for a quick early tempo.

### TOP CHOICE: #1 PERFORMER

Finally, this horse will get his shot at Grade 1 glory after beating up on lesser horses in his last 5 starts. Injuries forced him to miss almost the entire year, but he's fit and ready to go in his second start back, so maybe he can make a little noise before we head into 2021.

**MAJOR THREATS:** #4 Firenze Fire, #5 Mr. Buff, #6 King Guillermo, #3 Snapper Sinclair

Firenze Fire is easily the class of this race, but has now scratched. Mr. Buff has struggled against open company in the past, but this distance and setup may suit him well. King Guillermo has a shot to be the most talented horse in the race, but we haven't seen him since May. The sloppy track now makes Snapper Sinclair dangerous.

**LONGSHOTS TO USE:** #7 Majestic Dunhill, #8 True Timber

Majestic Dunhill runs back on very short rest after finishing last in this past Sunday's Fall Highweight (G3). True Timber always seems to hit the board in races like this, but he never really threatens to actually win. He's a perfect underneath horse to use.

**OTHERS:** #2 Mind Control, #9 Bon Raison

Mind Control has lost form recently and he hates a wet race track, so he has been scratched. Bon Raison is a bit too inconsistent to be trusted in an event like this one.

### PICKS AND PLAYS:

**BET TO WIN:** #1 Performer - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**BET TO PLACE:** #6 King Guillermo - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

**ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY:** #3 Snapper Sinclair - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

**EXACTA:** 1,3,6 BOX

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

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

**MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES:** 1,3,5,6

**STRAIGHT WAGER:** \$20 to Win on #1 Performer

**EXOTIC WAGER:** \$1 Exacta BOX 1,3,6

# aqueduct

## NON-STAKES ANALYSIS & PLAYS

### Race 1: 6-7-5-8

**#6 King of Dreams** gets jockey Jose Ortiz aboard for his debut race, which is a great sign. His workout pattern suggests he is ready to roll. **#7 Weyburn** was close last time out, losing by a little over a length. He will be tough again here. **#5 Officiating** was second last time out to Ten for Ten, who's running in the Remsen. **#8 Cost Average** has tough New York connections, but must improve adding blinkers after a dismal debut.

**Exacta:** 5,6,7 BOX

**Trifecta:** 5,6,7,8 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 5,6,7,8

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 5,6,7,8

### Race 2: 3-6-7-4

**#3 Cover Photo** has been running consistently in these sort of races on this circuit all year long. **#6 Rude Awakening** won over this track last time out on a muddy surface. With rain in the forecast, that could be helpful. **#7 Amers** takes a big class drop for this event. **#4 Flat Awesome Jenny** will look to rebound today after a poor effort last time out. Her best race gives her a shot in this spot.

**Exacta:** 3,6,7 BOX

**Trifecta:** 3,6/3,4,6,7/3,4,6,7

**Multi-Race:** 3,6

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 3,6,7

### Race 3: 10-2-1-4

**#10 Judge Alexander** could be the best of a bad bunch in this spot. Jose Ortiz jumps aboard for the fourth straight time, which is a good sign. **#2 Posse Can Disco** nearly won at this level last time out, losing by only a 1/2-length. **#1 Fusilli** should run a bit better in his second start on the NYRA circuit. **#4 Moonshine Maker** gets a small drop in class after nearly winning at the \$30k maiden claiming level last time out.

**Exacta:** 1,2,10 BOX

**Trifecta:** 1,2,4,10 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 1,2,4,10

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,2,4,10

### Race 5: 6-5-10-3

**#6 La Urbana** nearly won last time out in the slop, which could come in handy with rain in the forecast. **#5 Summer Brew** has finished second in 3 of 4 career starts. She could be ready to break though in this easier spot. Trainer Mike Maker has been winning in bunches lately. **#10 Nythingzpzible** might show improvement as she gets back to the dirt. **#3 Chilly Choos** should like the off track today.

**Exacta:** 5,6,10 BOX

**Trifecta:** 3,5,6,10 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 5,6

**Suggested Bet:** \$1 Exacta BOX 5,6,10

### Race 7: 14-6-15-13

**#14 Prairie Fire** becomes a big favorite in this spot after the race was taken off the turf. She has the best off track form of the group. **#6 Mrs. S** also will benefit from the race being taken off the turf. Dirt is her best surface. **#15 Jump for Joy** won over a slope surface last time out with ease. **#13 Dovey Lovey** is a decent of enough price to take a swing.

**Exacta:** 6,14,15 BOX

**Trifecta:** 6,13,14,15 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 6,13,14,15

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 6,13,14,15

### Race 8: 2-3-12-9

**#2 Wasp** picked up a blowout victory last time out over a sloppy track, which is a major positive considering Saturday's expected conditions. **#3 Courageous Girl**, and **#12 Blitchton Lady**, both exit the same race where they lost to Sharp Starr, who is running in the Go For Wand. They aren't likely to face anyone of that caliber in this spot. **#9 Amos** won over a sloppy surface last time out.

**Exacta:** 2,3,12 BOX

**Trifecta:** 2,3,9,12 BOX

**Multi-Race:** 2,3,9,12

**Suggested Bet:** \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 2,3,9,12

## TICKET SUGGESTIONS

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### Race 1: \$0.50 Pick 5

5,6,7,8 with 3,6 with 1,2,4,10 with 1,2,5 with 5,6 = \$96

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### Race 2: \$0.50 Pick 4

3,6 with 1,2,4,10 with 1,2,5 with 3,5,6,10 = \$48

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### Race 6: \$0.50 Pick 5

1,2,3 with 6,13,14,15 with 2,3,9,12 with 1 with 1,3,5,6 = \$96

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### Race 7: \$0.50 Pick 4

6,13,14,15 with 2,3,9,12 with 1,3 with 1,3,5,6 = \$64

