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INSIDE TRACK

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This **Inside Track to the Arkansas Derby** wagering guide gives you an inside look at the four stakes running at *Oaklawn Park* on April 10, 2021, including the \$1 million *Arkansas Derby (G1)*. The 1 1/8-mile race is worth 100-40-20-10 points to the top 4 finishers on the Road to the Kentucky Derby (G1) and serves as the final major *Kentucky Derby* prep of the 2021 season.

Will Bob Baffert's Concert Tour assert himself again and be a *Kentucky Derby* favorite?

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 Arkansas Derby**, our lead handicappers have been scouring through the card at *Oaklawn Park* in search of winning tickets on this loaded day of racing.

The four stakes total \$2.15 million in purses and include the Arkansas Derby as well as the \$500,000 Count Fleet Sprint Handicap (G3), the \$400,000 Oaklawn Mile, and the \$250,000 Carousel.

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

For each of the four stakes at *Oaklawn Park*, 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 6: CAROUSEL STAKES

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

OVERVIEW:

The Carousel starts the stakes action on Oaklawn Park's biggest day of the meet. Frank's Rockette, who won the American Beauty last time out over this track, will try to make it 2 in a row against some new shooters.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

Pure Speed: *Frank's Rockette*

Pressing Speed: *Edgeway*

Stalkers: *Wildwood's Beauty, Best Kept Secret, Mucho Amor*

Closers: *Casual*

This one looks to set up well for horses on the lead, and the two likely favorites hold a pace advantage over the rest of the field. If Frank's Rockette and Edgeway control the early tempo, then they'll be tough to catch.

TOP CHOICE: #5 EDGEWAY

Let's take a swing against the favorite with Edgeway, who's entering this race off of an impressive allowance win at Santa Anita. Her recent workout leading into this contest was fantastic and she seems to be progressing nicely. She also drew outside the favorite, which should be to her advantage.

MAJOR THREATS: #4 Frank's Rockette, #6 Casual

Frank's Rockette makes sense as the favorite after picking up a win over this track last time out. She's easily the classiest horse in the race. Casual ran into a buzzsaw last time out, finishing second to Kamari in the Spring Fever Stakes. This race should give her some class relief.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #1 Wildwood's Beauty

It's hard to get past the top three horses in this race. A logical alternative is Wildwood's Beauty, runner-up in back-to-back allowance races at this track. She was third to Frank's Rockette 3 starts back.

OTHERS: #2 Best Kept Secret, #3 Mucho Amor

Best Kept Secret lost several times to the top horses here. Mucho Amor failed to impact 2 recent allowances over this race track.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

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

BET TO PLACE: #4 Frank's Rockette - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #6 Casual - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

EXACTA: 4,5,6 BOX

TRIFECTA: 4,5/1,4,5,6/1,4,5,6

SUPERFECTA: 4,5/1,4,5,6/1,4,5,6/1,4,5,6

MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES: 4,5,6

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$10 to Win on #5 Edgeway

EXOTIC WAGER: \$.50 Cent Trifecta 4,5/1,4,5,6/1,4,5,6



Race 9:

Oaklawn Mile Stakes

1 MILE (DIRT)
4-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD
\$400,000

OVERVIEW:

A solid field of 9 will line up for this race, including 2020 Oaklawn Handicap winner By My Standards. Several others have shown promise, including 2020 Louisiana Derby (G2) winner Wells Bayou. Plenty of betting options!

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

Pure Speed: Wells Bayou, Blackberry Wine, The Sound

Pressing Speed: Pioneer Spirit, Home Base

Stalkers: Long Range Toddy, Gun It, Rushie

Closers: By My Standards

There should be plenty of speed up front in this race, which is usually the case with 1-mile races at Oaklawn. The pace should set up well for runners coming from the back of the pack and those who can stalk the pace.

TOP CHOICE: #4 RUSHIE

There is no doubt this horse is best when going 1 mile, which was put on full display when he won the Pat Day Mile Stakes (G2) 2 starts back at Churchill Downs. He makes his 2021 debut in this spot but has been working out like a horse who's ready to run, plus he gets Joel Rosario aboard. He should be the perfect pace setup, and if he's improved at all from last season, then he'll be tough.

MAJOR THREATS: #3 Wells Bayou, #5 Blackberry Wine, #6 By My Standards

Wells Bayou runs second off the layoff in this spot, which should be to his liking. He also looks like he will get out in front of this group. Blackberry Wine won't be far behind after picking up a nice win over this track in his last start. By My Standards is the class of the field and had a big 2020, but this is his first race of the season.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #7 Pioneer Spirit, #9 The Sound

Pioneer Spirit runs first off the claim for Mike Maker, which is always dangerous. The Sound has powerful connections, so he could rebound from a poor effort sprinting last time out.

OTHERS: #1 Long Range Toddy, #2 Gun It, #8 Home Base

2019 was the last time Long Range Toddy and Gun It were at their best. It's hard to see that trend reversing here. Home Base looks outclassed.

PICKS and PLAYS:

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

BET TO PLACE: #3 Wells Bayou - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #6 By My Standards - Confidence Level: 3 out of 5

EXACTA: 3,4,6 BOX

TRIFECTA: 3,4,5,6 BOX

SUPERFECTA: 3,4,5,6 BOX

MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES: 3,4,5,6

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$10 to Win on #4 Rushie

EXOTIC WAGER: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 3,4,5,6



Race 11:

COUNT FLEET SPRINT HANDICAP (G3)

6 FURLONGS (DIRT)
3-YEAR-OLDS & UPWARD
\$500,000

OVERVIEW:

This should be awesome to watch! We get to see another edition of Whitmore vs. C Z Rocket, which is becoming a great rivalry. These are two of the best sprinters in the country and each seems to get the best of the other.

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A FAST PACE

Pure Speed: *No Parole, Mr. Jagermeister, Empire of Gold*

Pressing Speed: *Mojo Man, Strike Power*

Stalkers: *Whitmore*

Closers: *C Z Rocket*

They are going to absolutely fly in this race, as 3 of the 7 entries can really gun it out of the gate. We've also got a couple of more that can contend the early pace as well and keep the leaders in range. The closers should have an advantage here.

TOP CHOICE: #2 WHITMORE

It's just hard to go against this old pro at his home track. Yes, I know he lost to C Z Rocket last time out, but he missed a lot of training at Oaklawn Park during the winter storm, so he wasn't fully prepared to go. He should be loaded and ready for this one, and if he is, then he should get revenge on C Z Rocket this time around.

MAJOR THREATS: #1 No Parole, #6 C Z Rocket

No Parole gets back to the dirt for this one, which is clearly his best surface. If the pace set up a little better for him here, then he'd have a bigger chance to pull the upset. C Z Rocket is obviously the major danger here. He defeated Whitmore last out in the Hot Springs Stakes in a classic match-up.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #4 Strike Power, #5 Empire of Gold

Strike Power pulled off a dominant win last time out over this track, defeating allowance company with ease. Empire of Gold makes his 2021 debut after finishing a solid fourth in the Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1). He finished 2020 with multiple monster efforts.

OTHERS: #3 Mojo Man, #7 Mr. Jagermeister

Mojo Man picked up an allowance win over this track last time out. His stalking running style should fit the pace setup. Mr. Jagermeister was no match for the top two in this spot last time out.

PICKS and PLAYS:

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

BET TO PLACE: #6 C Z Rocket - Confidence Level: 4 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #1 No Parole - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

EXACTA: 2,6 BOX

TRIFECTA: 2,6/1,2,4,6/1,2,5,6

SUPERFECTA: 2,6/1,2,4,6/1,2,4,6/1,2,4,6

MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES: 2,6

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$20 to Win on #2 Whitmore

EXOTIC WAGER: \$10 Exacta BOX 2,6



RACE 12:

ARKANSAS DERBY (G1)

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

OVERVIEW:

It's Arkansas Derby time! The last chance to earn Kentucky Derby points is always exciting. Concert Tour could become the favorite on the first Saturday in May with a win here. Will he join the long list of great 3-year-olds to run at Oaklawn Park?

RACE SHAPE: EXPECT A MODERATE PACE

Pure Speed: *Caddo River, Concert Tour*

Pressing Speed: *Last Samurai*

Stalkers: *Super Stock*

Closers: *Hozier, Get Her Number*

It looks like a two-horse race up when it comes to the pace, as Caddo River and Concert Tour are the only ones with real early speed. Concert Tour got the jump on him last time out, so it will be interesting to see if that happens again.

TOP CHOICE: #5 CONCERT TOUR

Simply put, it looks as though he should destroy this field. He made short work of most of these when he dominated the Rebel Stakes (G2) while never seeming to get out of first gear. Additionally, this will be his second race around two turns, so there's a chance we could see improvement from him.

MAJOR THREATS: #3 Hozier, #4 Get Her Number

Let's try to find some prices underneath. The "other" Baffert, Hozier, seems to be improving with each start. He ran well over this track last time out, finishing second in the Rebel. Get Her Number should run better in his second start off the layoff. With a better trip, he can hit the board at a price.

LONGSHOTS TO USE: #2 Caddo River

The post time favorite for the Rebel ran too bad to believe, coming up empty down the stretch and finishing off the board. He's better than what he showed in that race, and if the price is right, then he's worth giving another shot.

OTHERS: #1 Super Stock, #6 Last Samurai

Super Stock and Last Samurai were both well-beaten in their last prep attempt over this track. They have a long way to go if they want to turn the tables here.

PICKS AND PLAYS:

BET TO WIN: #5 Concert Tour - Confidence Level: 5 out of 5

BET TO PLACE: #4 Get Her Number - Confidence Level: 2.5 out of 5

ACROSS THE BOARD PLAY: #3 Hozier - Confidence Level: 2 out of 5

EXACTA: 5/3,4

TRIFECTA: 5/2,3,4/2,3,4

SUPERFECTA: 5/2,3,4/2,3,4/2,3,4

MULT-RACE WAGER HORSES: 5

STRAIGHT WAGER: \$100 to Win on #5 Concert Tour

EXOTIC WAGER: \$10 Exacta 5/3,4



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OAKLAWN

NON-STAKES ANALYSIS & PLAYS



Race 1: 8-4-10-1

#8 Topf Road Rules was close at this level last time out. With more progression, he should win in this spot. **#4 Navy Seal** lost by a nose last time out in a very similar race. **#10 Zombie Lobo** should improve in his second start. **#1 Dover Lights** also will run better in his second start.

Exacta: 4,8,10 BOX

Trifecta: 1,4,8,10 BOX

Multi-Race: 1,4,8,10

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,4,8,10

Race 2: 8-6-4-1

#8 Gallant Plunger picked up a win last time out by 2 lengths, finally looking to be back in top form. **#6 Box of Chocolates** runs first off the claim for John Sadler and gets Joel Rosario aboard. **#4 Top Gunner** should set the pace and won by 10 lengths in his last start going gate to wire. **#1 Lonely Private** won at the \$30k claiming level last out by 3/4 of a length.

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 3: 1-8-5-3

#1 Sianara is a clear standout amongst all the other horses that have races under their belts. She should be tough in this spot. **#8 Berry Good** is a first-time starter who's been working well heading into this. **#5 Priddis**, another first-timer, has strong connections on her side. **#3 Coppelia** should improve in her second career start; however, she did not run well on debut.

Exacta: 1,8/1,5,8

Trifecta: 1,8/1,3,5,8/1,3,5,8

Multi-Race: 1,8

Suggested Bet: \$20 to win on #1

Race 4: 8-5-2-6

#8 Following Sea ran very well on debut in his last start, finishing second to stablemate Defunded. **#5 Happymac** earned solid speed figures last year. **#2 Rising Empire** has reason to improve in his second start. **#6 Amazing Rocket** is a first-time starter with a solid pedigree and connections.

Exacta: 5,8/2,5,8

Trifecta: 5,8/2,5,6,8/2,5,6,8

Multi-Race: 5,8

Suggested Bet: \$20 to win on #8

Race 5: 2-8-5-6

#2 Santos Dumont ran well off the layoff last time out, finishing a solid second in a tough race. **#8 Impossible Task** has been close in a couple of recent efforts at this level at Oaklawn Park. **#5 Truculent** won last time out against starter allowance runners. **#6 Prodigious Bay** usually runs well over this track and has been working very well leading up to his 2021 debut.

Exacta: 2,5,8 BOX

Trifecta: 2,5,6,8 BOX

Multi-Race: 2,5,6,8

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 2,5,6,8

Race 7: 7-8-6-2

#7 Violent Gigi should improve in his second career start. He ran well on debut to finish third. **#8 He'smyhoneybadger** should enjoy the cut back in distance to 6 furlongs. **#6 Star Sailor** should also enjoy moving back to one turn. He lost to some really nice horses in California. **#2 Global Appeal** ran well in his dirt debut last time out.

Exacta: 6,7,8 BOX

Trifecta: 2,6,7,8 BOX

Multi-Race: 2,6,7,8

Suggested Bet: \$2 Exacta BOX 6,7,8

OAKLAWN

NON-STAKES ANALYSIS & PLAYS



Race 8: 4-3-7-9

#4 Senor Jobim comes into this race off of a victory at Fair Grounds last time out. He and **#3 Ancient Warrior** are always competitive at this level. **#7 Shashashakemup** finished second in the Palos Verdes Stakes (G3) at Santa Anita last time out. **#9 One for Richie** has won 2 of 3 starts at Oaklawn this year.

Exacta: 3,4,7 BOX

Trifecta: 3,4,7,9 BOX

Multi-Race: 3,4,7,9

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 3,4,7,9

Race 10: 7-5-1-2

#7 Mighty Mischief broke his maiden impressively over this track last time out. With a similar effort, he should take this group gate to wire. **#5 Upstriker** faced tough company as a 2-year-old and makes his 3-year-old debut here. **#1 Name Rejected** broke his maiden in his eighth try last time out. **#2 Game Day Play** hit the board against similar in his last 2 races.

Exacta: 1,5,7 BOX

Trifecta: 1,2,5,7 BOX

Multi-Race: 1,2,5,7

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,2,5,7

Race 13: 11-3-4-1

#11 Time Is Yours should enjoy stretching out in distance. His last race seemed like a tune-up for this one. **#3 Reserve's** pedigree suggests that a stretch out in disgrace will be to his liking. **#4 Ardanwood** nearly won at a similar level over this track last time out. **#1 Continental Coins** has been decent going one turn but should stretch out nicely here.

Exacta: 3,4,11 BOX

Trifecta: 1,3,4,11 BOX

Multi-Race: 1,3,4,11

Suggested Bet: \$.50 Cent Trifecta BOX 1,3,4,11



OAKLAWN



MULTI-RACE ANALYSIS & PLAYS

RACE 1: \$0.50 PICK 5

1,4,8,10 with 1,4,6,8 with 1 with 5,8 with 2,5,6,8 = \$64

RACE 2: \$0.50 PICK 4

1,4,6,8 with 1,5,8 with 5,8 with 2,5,6,8 = \$48

RACE 5: \$0.50 PICK 5

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

RACE 6: \$0.50 Pick 4

4,5 with 2,6,7,8 with 3,4,7,9 with 3,4,5,6 = \$64

RACE 9: \$0.50 PICK 5

3,4,5,6 with 1,5,7 with 2,6 with 5 with 1,3,4,5,7,8,11 = \$84

RACE 10: \$0.50 PICK 4

1,2,5,7 with 2,6 with 5 with 1,3,4,5,7,8,11 = \$28

