

Fort Erie Selections: Tuesday July 9th, 2019

Today's program is simply stellar, with nine races on the card. Best of luck to all the horses, their connections, and everyone wagering on today's card!

-Ashley Mailloux

R1: #3 Queen of the North was claimed two starts ago and, in that race, she ran a very strong second over the turf to Shanghai Chick, who took them gate to wire that day. This three year old daughter of Court Vision seemed to her best stride late in that race and today she'll get some extra distance to run at which should be to her benefit. **#1 Diamonds Will Do** has two starts, both of which were over the dirt and today her connections will try her on the grass in hopes of getting her to the winner's circle. In her debut, she was third, beaten by over 12 lengths. After her most recent start, which resulted in a fifth place finish, she'll receive Lasix for the first time. **#6 Gabby's Ballerina** was scheduled to run on the grass last time out in her first race of the year, but the race was moved to the main track. She was never close, and the field was very strung out; she finished fourth beaten by 20. Her only on the board finishes came over this turf course and her Beyer numbers are drastically better over the turf. It wouldn't be surprising to see this mare pick it up today.

R2: #2 Loosely Brewed certainly likes the dirt course, posting a 1-3-1 record from 8 starts. In his first start off the layoff, he made a nice move in the stretch, but then flattened. The top two runners out of that event have both come back and raced nicely, one picking up a win and the other picking up two second place finishes. **#3 Silent Gold** broke her maiden and was claimed two starts back for \$7k up at Woodbine. In her first race facing winners, she had all sorts of trouble early on and was eased by Luis Contreras. She's coming back to the races off a week and a half of rest and will try the dirt for the first time. **#5 Ciminio** has primarily raced one turn distances but last time out, his connections stretched him out to a mile and seventy yards which proved to be too far for him. He's done well at the track, hitting the board 7 out of 10 starts. Stamina has been an issue for him while sprinting, but the barn does quite well switching from a route to a sprint, winning at 27%.

R3: #2 Smoky Blues was sensational in his FE debut, widening his margin to nearly seven lengths when it was all said in done. After that performance, his connections decided to see if he could hang with optional claiming company and he attempted to take it on the front end, but the field was closing in hard. Unfortunately, there is another speedy runner who he will have to battle it out with. **#6 Bronze Age** made his local debut here and set some very quick fractions that set up for FE's 2018 HOY, Gold Shark. This five year old gelding has a ton of back class and will drop in class today. As of this year, his best races have been when he makes the lead early. **#4 Vaughan** raced over the dirt this winter at GP, finishing second and third from three starts. He broke his maiden three starts back and in his following start, he returned to the winner's circle. While he does have a fair amount of speed right out of the gate, in Florida he found himself rating and it may be a good idea for him to do the same and allow Smoky Blues and Bronze Age to hook up early.

R4: #6 Spanish Blessing has a strong 1-3-2 record here at Fort Erie over the dirt from 7 starts. Since the maiden score late last season, she's been facing tougher company than today's group and still has claimed some minor shares. She'll be dropping from a \$6k tag and comes into this race off a very solid :47.40 breeze over the training track at Woodbine. **#4 Coddiwomple** finally broke her maiden last time against maiden claimers at six and a half furlongs, which is slightly longer than today's distance. This filly gives it her all just about every single time she runs and after such a strong win, she appears to be top two material. **#3 La Dolce Uno** enters this race off a fourth place finish at this level less than two weeks ago. The first and third place finisher in that race both shipped in from Woodbine where they were facing tougher competition throughout their careers. She looks capable of a minor share.

R5: #8 My Rosebud has excelled over this course and has yet to finish worse than fourth. Her best race this year was at this distance two starts ago where she finished second to Annie O'Schiller. With a lack of speed on paper, she may find herself on the front end as she essentially took them gate to wire in her turf win last year. **#4 Nifty Nellie** hasn't been seen on the turf since the fall when she was racing in Illinois. She ran a very game third against \$10k claimers (for non-winners of 2 lifetime), missing by just a length. Her best races have been over the grass, but this distance may be a bit too short for her. **#1 Rebel Lioness** has run some strong races over this turf course but has yet to win from eight attempts. Last season, she just missed in a \$6.25k claimer and was competitive in an optional claimer. Expecting this mare to return to form over the grass.

R6: #2 Grin n' Bear needs no introduction, as he's one of the most consistent sprinters on the grounds. From ten starts, he's finished in the top two a total of 9 times and in his first race back since returning from the US, he ran a huge race. He surely won't offer much value but it's obvious that he demands respect. **#5 Bangor Ridge** has been tackling starter allowance company in his most recent starts, one of which resulted in a win. He finished second to Sniper last time out, who is 2 for 2 this season at FE. With a lot of speed horses in here, he may be able to rate and get a great trip. **#1 Martinkelly** was a very nice claim last year for \$3k and since joining the barn of Sharon Ceccato, he's only missed the board twice. Most recently, he was second to his stablemate and was just second best. Not sure he can beat the others, but he'll try to stick around for a share.

R7: #3 Love in the Forest has been running some huge races this year over the tapeta. He was lightly raced as a four year old and missed in both of his starts, but this year, he's picked up two wins from three starts. He comes into this race fresh off a win against \$7.5k claimers. He should have no problem today while moving to the turf. With plenty of speed in this race, **#4 Bangla Dancer** might once again get the perfect stalking trip. In her most recent start against the boys, she rated just a few lengths off the leaders and after the speed runners hooked up early, she was able to make her run late and showed that she was the best. She's tough over this turf course, especially at today's distance. **#7 Diddley** was claimed for \$25k this winter at GP and since then, his only win has come over the dirt. Most recently, he peddled backwards in a claiming event at WO. He's dropping in class and has run well at the 5 furlong distance over the turf in the past.

R8: #5 Perfect Ella was picture perfect in her two dirt wins here last season, as she won by over 6 lengths and 13 lengths. After racing wrapped up here, she raced at Mahoning Valley and Mountaineer where she recorded two more wins. She has raced three times this year but has yet to finish better than third. She has had almost two and a half months to regroup. **#2 Tickety Boo** set the pace in her last race but was unable to sustain her run and faltered in the stretch. In 2018, she won three races from 11 starts and all those wins were at one mile or longer. Trainer Shane Meyers, who is based out of Ohio has had only three starts here so far this meet, so he has to think it's worth it to ship her in and that the spot is a good one for her. **#4 Classy Scarlett** was bet down heavily from 12-1 morning line in her most recent and the betting public got it right, as she got up in the stretch to get the win. She was training very nicely going into that race and showed up on race day. While she's stepping up in class, she deserves a shot at this level after that performance which was her first this year.

R9: #6 Get'erdonebud won two starts back against \$7k claimers at Woodbine and after losing the N3L condition, in his last, he closed with determination in the stretch to finish third, two and a quarter lengths behind the winner. His last turf start was in June 2018 up at Woodbine, where he pressed the pace setters and ended up fourth. That field was much tougher than today's and he drops in for the lowest tag of his career. **#7 Holtz** has won three starts in his career and two of those were over this course. He comes into this race off his best performance of the year, which resulted in a third place finish and it was over the turf. He may be stretching out in distance, but he does have a win at seven furlongs and seems to be on the right track. Last year, **#3 Magical Breeze** made his first turf start here at FE. He broke slowly and found himself last for much of the race but overcame the tardy start to steal third. He's been running well on the dirt so far, but I'm very curious to see how he'll run returning to the turf.