

Fort Erie Selections: Tuesday, September 14th, 2021

Today's eleven race program includes a total of five stakes races and is highlighted by the second leg of the Canadian Triple Crown, the Prince of Wales Stakes! The Prince Of Wales is race 10 on the program and post time is scheduled for 5:35 PM EST. Good luck to today's connections and those wagering on the races! -Ashley Mailloux

Race 1: **#1 I Idolize You** finished third last time out while facing tougher competition up at Woodbine. This gelding won here two starts back at a comparable distance and he's proven that he prefers two turn distances. If he's able to replicate any of his most recent efforts, he'll be tough to beat today. **#5 A Initiative** is a new face this season at Fort Erie and since coming to the Border Oval this spring, he's done quite well, posting a 2-2-0 record from six starts. Last time out, he broke slowly and closed with interest, but ran out of ground. He figures to appreciate the stretch out in distance from six furlongs to a mile and a sixteenth. At the age of ten, **#4 Florida Won** is going to make his dirt debut. This stakes winner was winless in 2020, but this year, he's won one of his three starts. Last time out, he faced slightly tougher competition and finished fourth, beaten by just under five lengths. He certainly has a ton of backclass, but the dirt is something he'll have to tackle.

Race 2 - The Rondeau Bay: **#2 Sunspite** is still looking for her first win of her three-year old season, but as a two-year old, she won two of four starts and was second in a stakes race. This year, she's finished third in both her starts and figures to be getting into form. She'll be trying the dirt for the first time, but so far, she hasn't done much wrong in her career. **#3 Careful Java** is one of the locals in this race and she's been improving with each and every start. She broke her maiden against the boys last time out at a mile and a sixteenth over the main track and she did it with ease. She could be tough in this spot, and even though she's cutting back in distance today, the barn is three for four with the route to sprint angle. **#1 Red Equinox** won two starts back against allowance optional claimers. In her following start, she stepped up and while she was closing late, she still didn't have enough. She'll likely be closing from off the pace so she'll need something to run at.

Race 3: **#6 Ri N Ginger** has hit the board in all four of her career starts and last time out, she picked up her second lifetime win while in for the same tag as today. She figures to be part of the early pace scenario and based on her most recent race, she's a major player. **#3 Eight Speed** will drop down in class today after facing \$8k claimers last time out (non-winners of a race in 2021 or N4L). Prior to that, she picked up her second win with ease. With that said, this spot appears to be a better fit. **#7 Dad's Missy** is making her dirt debut after finishing third over the tapeta against similar competition in her last start. This is the first starter for the connections at the meet so they're hoping that this spot and a new surface help her today.

Race 4 - The Lake Erie: **#1 Forest Survivor** will try to make it three in a row after two gate-to-wire wins over the turf at Woodbine. This colt is quick and draws the rail today. He's never raced on the dirt, but his most recent work was over the training track at Woodbine in a swift :47.60 for four furlongs. He'll have to carry himself an additional furlong today, which may be a challenge for him considering all his wins have been at five furlongs, but the dirt typically plays nicely to speed. **#4 Dragon's Brew** struggled last time out in the Elgin, but prior to that, he was rolling late on the turf in the Lake Huron. That race was at five furlongs and he figures to appreciate today's six furlong distance. Furthermore, he should have some pace to run at. **#7 Red River Rebel** won the Frost King in his final start of his two year old season and since then, his best finish was two starts back when he finished third in the Queenston. The second place finisher came back to win next time out. Last time out, this son of Reload was sent to the front and faded. Hopefully, he'll be able to sit off the pace and will have something left in the stretch.

Race 5: #1 Duke of Hearts broke his maiden here on the turf last summer and after several lackluster performances on the dirt this winter and spring, he raced here on the turf on August 31st and finished third. He faced tougher competition and was closing nicely. He'll drop in for the \$3k tag and he appears to be the one to beat. **#6 Deputy of Egbert** exits consecutive two-furlong dashes where he didn't perform well and now, he'll get back to five furlongs on the turf. In his first start this year, he raced at this level and distance and finished fourth after forcing the pace. He likely needed that race so it wouldn't be shocking to see him perform better today. **#2 Shotgun Blast** will make his turf debut after finishing fifth on the dirt last time out while facing tougher competition. Prior to that, he was quite competitive in his other local starts. He's beaten several here in their prior races.

Race 6 - The Le Cinquième Essai Cup: #7 Seau was recently scratched from a local stakes race and now finds himself in another cup race. Six of his nine career wins have been on the dirt and last time out in his Fort Erie dirt debut, he was able to rally and draw clear in the end by over two lengths. He recorded a 78 Beyer in that race. Looking at his previous races, this gelding can close from off the pace, but he can also be close to the pacesetters early on. Major contender here, but he does have some fierce rivals, such as **#9 Be Vewy Vewy Quiet**, who set the tempo in the Puss N Boots Cup earlier this month. He ran quite well and held on for third. Prior to that, he had won two races here on the dirt with authority. The surface switch is key for him, but he just raced eight days ago. **#5 Awesome Miner** is a consistent gelding in the barn of Myckie Neubauer who finished second last time out behind Seau. He posts a 2-2-0 record here over the main track from five starts and he's another versatile runner. He's performed well at the distance and is one to consider in the exotics.

Race 7: #2 Lost Corsage won the Summer Solstice Cup in her first start of the year, but in her last two efforts, she's fallen flat late. She'll take a significant step down in class from allowance level N2L to \$6.25k N2L. While it's slightly discouraging that she's failed as the favorite in her two starts, the drop alone elevates her. **#3 Termsandconditions** finished second last time out while in for \$4.5k and she just missed after setting the pace. She'll cut back from five and a half furlongs to five furlongs, which is something she should appreciate. **#1 Play It Smart** is a filly owned by Ryan Alderson and trained by Anthony Alderson and while the barn has had a great meet, so has the filly. She's only missed the board once and that was when she was in deep waters. Last time out, she finished second at this level and simply was second best. It was her first time facing winners and she ran quite well.

Race 8 - The Molson Cup: #5 Cheeky Pint has shown time and time again that she's an honest racehorse - she's won half of her career starts and has only missed the board twice. This six-time winner has won her two local starts this year and she got very similar trips in both. In between her starts here, she finished a strong third after having some trouble in the stretch against starter allowance competition up at Woodbine. Her resume speaks volumes and she comes into this race with a sizzling workout of :46 flat on the tapeta up at Woodbine. **#2 Capoeira** might have started off the year in a so-so way, but she has improved with her starts and in her last two local races on the turf, she's finished second. Most recently, she was second at the distance behind Cheeky Pint. This mare deserves respect based on her last few starts and the barn has had a great meet, winning at 19%. **#8 Feature Creature** finished third in her first Fort Erie appearance and was claimed out of that race for \$8k. In her first start for the connections, she finished an even fourth, but this mare could improve in her second start for her new connections.

Race 9: #5 Fafa Foey picked up his first win of the year last time out against slightly lesser competition, but he was extremely game and was able to get the job done. He's won four times here over the main track and in his last two races with Juan Crawford in the irons, he's been salty. The waters may be deeper today, but he faced tougher competition last year and held his own. **#7 What's On Tap** has won three races this year and last time out, he was a decisive winner. He beat several runners here, including Brady O Brady and Tale of Vienna. He certainly won't be the price that he was in his last two races. **#4 Bangor**

Ridge overcame an extremely long layoff and started the season with two wins. In his last two starts, he's been facing tougher competition and hasn't fared well. He's better than he showed in August and the class relief might be what he needs to get back on track.

Race 10 - The Prince of Wales: A competitive field of eight has been assembled for this year's edition of the Prince of Wales Stakes. A majority of the field exit the Queen's Plate, including **#8 Keep Grinding**, who finished fifth in the Plate. He was extremely game in the stretch and only missed by two lengths, but several others were just moving better in the final 70 yards. He's only won one race in his career, but he's been extremely game in most of his starts. In terms of trip, he looks to be in the sweet spot here, not too far off the pace. A few runners breezed over the track last week and he recorded a solid bullet drill - he covered five furlongs in 59.40. **#1 Avoman** was further back in the Queen's Plate than Keep Grinding, but overall, he ran respectably. Prior to that, he won the compact Plate Trial quite nicely. While his final breeze over the training track was 38 flat for three furlongs, his pedigree suggests he should handle the dirt quite nicely. Several of his siblings have flourished on the dirt and he's out of a Tethra mare who won six of her nineteen career starts and they were all over the dirt. One of the newcomers to the Canadian Triple Crown is the lone filly, **#3 Curlin's Catch**, who exits a fifth-place finish in the Woodbine Oaks. She's intriguing in this race because of her dirt races - her two wins were on the dirt in Florida. While she didn't perform too well in the G2 Davona Dale and the G1 Ashland, she was facing sensational fillies such as Malathat. She looks to be training quite well in preparation for her second start against the boys.

Race 11: #4 Freret finished third in her first start for her new connections here on July 5th. She faced allowance level non-winners of two lifetime and attempted to close from off the pace. Prior to that, she was racing in Florida against steeper competition. If she can replicate some of earlier performances this year, the rest of the field will have their work cut out. **#6 Machisima** wore blinkers for the first time two starts back and significantly improved. Last time out on the drop in class, she was able to break her maiden against \$6.25k maiden claimers. She drew clear in the end by over two lengths. Chris Husbands stays aboard today and this daughter of Mucho Macho Man finds herself in a reasonable spot to face winners for the first time. **#10 Tourist Attraction** has finished in the top two in her two local turf appearances. She won her maiden last time out in front-end fashion at today's distance. On paper, it appears she's one of two runners that figure to be part of the early pace scenario and if she somehow finds herself on the lonely, she could be dangerous. It's also worth noting jockey Juan Crawford and trainer Ravendra Raghunath win at 23% together at Fort Erie.