

# GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By CHUCK DYBDAL



## **BEST BET: Ultra Blend (3rd race)**

### **First Race:1.Jiggly 2.Deputy Prize 3.Chief Bill**

JIGGLY stretches out for the first time here and, fortunately for him, draws the rail. Is bred to love a mile and will likely find himself on the lead here. Gets that big drop from straight maiden to claiming ranks, which often leads to the winner's circle. DEPUTY PRIZE has run well in his past two starts at this level on the turf. Ran so well in his start before that on the main track here that he was boosted up to this level. Capable of handling distance and this type of competition. CHIEF BILL has run much better in his past two starts with a pair of thirds. Was third head in photo last time, hanging a bit late after rallying wide on the turf. Has hit board twice in main-track routes here.

### **Second Race:1.Hava Java 2.Acekingqueenjacten 3.Charm Doll**

HAVA JAVA won three of her past four, including her first try at this level last time. Hit board in all nine starts last year. She likes the lead but has won from a stalking position. Loves this track with four wins and three thirds in seven starts. ACEKINGQUEENJACTEN drops a notch after running second in her past two starts following a win. Beaten less than a length in those two defeats. She has speed, but the top pick might be a step or two quicker. She's another that has run well here, but she seems to need the lead to win. CHARM DOLL will let the top two picks battle it out early and hope to pick up the pieces late with a stalking, first-run trip.

### **Third Race:1.Ultra Blend 2.Gold Goddess 3.Pretty Katherine**

ULTRA BLEND has speed, the perfect draw and has won three straight. She doesn't need the lead and has the best speed rider in the room to use her early foot in the best way. She's worked well and finds this race spaced perfectly for the Cal-bred who has looked good winning allowance races in her past two starts. GOLD GODDESS finished all right going longer against stakes company last time. Showed some speed early in her career when racing at two furlongs. Returned from a seven-month layoff with new style as she sat back to win her comeback. Note, though, that was in a claimer. PRETTY KATHERINE set a pressured pace in the Grade 3 Miesque on the turf at Hollywood Park. Will prefer the return to a main-track sprint here and should be a factor in the lane in her debut for the leading barn.

### **Fourth Race:1.Omi's Back 2.Starstream 3.Wonder Buns**

OMI'S BACK rallied wide to take the lead in the lane last time before tiring a bit. Despite the 0-for-3 mark at this distance, she can route and has hit the board twice in those three starts. Has run fairly well on synthetic surfaces and has run first and second in her two tries for this tag. STARSTREAM would prefer the turf, but she ran all right over the Tapeta surface last time out before fading late. Has never run this cheaply before, and she has good stalking speed. WONDER BUNS sinks to the bottom level here. She was a straight maiden winner but has been dropping down the claiming ladder with regularity of late. Overcame traffic problems to win first start on Tapeta and has earned paychecks in both starts since then.

### **Fifth Race:1.Mark of a Pirate 2.Brother Joe 3.Gold Guy**

MARK OF A PIRATE comes north and adds blinkers for the first time. He's been running at the bottom level down south and will be running at the bottom level here so the drop in claiming price is a bit illusory. Has pair of works over track and may have been brought north after a regression in his last start. Note that barn shows a flat-bet profit when adding blinkers. BROTHER JOE has never failed to pick up a check and has run second in three of four career starts. Held lead in lane before faltering last time and is coming off best effort of career. GOLD GUY has also picked up a check in each career start. Dropping a notch here after setting the pace last time before fading. Wants the lead, but there's other speed outside him, which could make things tough up front.

### **Sixth Race:1.Snuffy Smith 2. Panamanian Playboy 3.Uncle John S.**

SNUFFY SMITH moves to a new barn following a private transaction. Dropped to this level after fading in the lane when favored last time. Slow work for new barn and must try to make amends against several that beat him last time, including PANAMANIAN PLAYBOY, who passed him late as he struggled home. The playboy broke his maiden here last spring and then went to Canada before his return here in his last start. He and Snuffy were one-time stablemates. UNCLE JOHN S. faded last time in his first start against winners after chasing a brisk pace. Won't have to go so fast early here and should last better. Northwind Luck beat all of these on Dec. 13 but ran poorly in his next start.

### **Seventh Race:1.Any Wager 2.Wild Yankee 3.Scalding Passion**

ANY WAGER has been involved in tight finishes in his past four starts, twice winning photos, including last time when he put his head in front at the wire to win a stretch-long duel. Will get position early and is a game runner in the lane. WILD YANKEE is bidding for a fourth straight win here. He's undefeated against winners since getting a nearly four-month break after his maiden win. Stepped up to win for this claiming tag last time, but this is a tougher spot with the optional claiming provision. He is running for the allowance condition here as he continues to show improvement. SCALDING PASSION was a wire-to-wire turf winner two back. He couldn't hold off the top pick last time, fading after leading in the lane at 23-to-1. Should be a factor again here and has a six-furlong work since raced.

### **Eighth Race:1.Lupita'sluckyangel 2.Victoryasecret 3.Just Get'er Done**

LUPITA'SLUCKYANGEL makes her debut here after being claimed out of a similar race which she won on the turf at Hollywood Park. She's a proven winner and has earned over \$200K, but she still has allowance conditions, which appealed to new barn that wins 26 percent off the claim. VICTORYASECRET is on an uptick. Held on better last time when second after setting the pace. Has worked nicely since then. There is other speed here, but she appears the quickest. JUST GET'ER DONE has hit the board in all four starts here, winning twice. Wins came against easier, but she turned in an even effort when third against a similar band last time.

### **Ninth Race:1.Dam Near Freezing 2.Storms Rock 3.Concinnity**

DAM NEAR FREEZING has shown improvement in each start, although he tends to flatten out a bit in the lane. Has met some decent once despite competing at the bottom level and really only needs to repeat his last to get the win here. STORMS ROCK runs his best around two turns. Can handle the distance and will try to take advantage of the rail draw with his speed. Should be in contention heading into the stretch and then will have to finish stronger. CONCINNITY has run twice since coming here. Was stretched out last time by new barn and did better despite giving way late. Has nice stalking style that should have him in contention, and he should finish better with that first route under his belt.