

GOLDEN GATE ANALYSIS

By **CHUCK DYBDAL**



BEST BET: Sanfran (3rd race)

First Race: 1.Low Gear Power 2.Lucky Bet 3.Capital Cat

LOW GEAR POWER ran evenly in his debut when running at this level. He showed improvement when dropped for start No. 2. Barn's willingness to boost him back up the ladder is a plus as he stretches out around two turns for the first time. Breeding suggests he'll handle the added distance, and he's had a decent work since his last start. May offer some value. LUCKY BET just chased the top pick and is also stretching out for the first time. Has hit board in all four starts and was disqualified from a win two back. Another with a decent maintenance work since his last start. CAPITAL CAT runs for a tag for the first time. Blinkers come off here, but he ran all right without them before. Has enough natural speed that he should be able to get the lead if he wants.

Second Race: 1.Do Boy 2.Gold Guy 3.Wizard of Dormello

DO BOY set the early pace when stretched out last time. Also grabbed the lead early in his previous sprint start. Rail not as big a detriment at this distance. Leading rider takes the mount again, and leading barn adds blinkers for this. Has nice gate drill since his last start. GOLD GUY has earned a check in each career start and did run second against better. Didn't show as much speed last time and wound up racing wide. Gets weight break with apprentice that has done well since his arrival here. WIZARD OF DORMELLO has had a number of chances. Spent more than 16 months on the sideline and has run all right since his comeback. Will offer value and seems one that could help on the bottom end of exotics.

Third Race: 1.Sanfran 2.Johnny the Watch 3.First Takin

SANFRAN is far from a win machine, but he's run very consistently of late. Like the way he finishes, and he did run second in the race that qualified him for this starter allowance spot. Had a bit of trouble, breaking slowly and racing a bit wide in that race. Has easy maintenance drill since then. JOHNNY THE WATCH loves this track with four wins in six starts here and does well at the distance with three wins in six tries. Moves to new barn and takes blinkers off here as he makes his third start following a nearly eight-month layoff. Hung late last time after racing wide. FIRST TAKIN has been sprinting of late but has won at this distance. Drawn nicely and has enough speed to get a good position early.

Fourth Race: 1.Saipan 2.Tijuana Tuesday 3.Noble Courage

SAIPAN makes his third start off a long layoff. Ran second, losing a photo as the favorite last time. Note that he ran third in a stakes in his third career start last year. Followed up his photo loss with a decent maintenance drill. Has done his best work sprinting and gets outside draw with chance to stalk today. TIJUANA TUESDAY looked good winning his debut in impressive style, stalking early and pulling away late. That was at the bottom maiden claiming level so he will have to meet much tougher here. Can he handle the jump? NOBLE COURAGE graduated in a straight maiden even and ran evenly at this level in his first start against winners. Couldn't handle the top pick, but he should show improvement here.

Fifth Race: 1.Fool Me Once 2.Hypnotizing 3.Flyin Kim

FOOL ME ONCE drops to the bottom level here after losing a photo last time out. Like her recent efforts, and she seems to like two turns. Hasn't shown much speed but has closed nicely since stretching out. HYPNOTIZING comes north and stretches out. Really not dropping all that much despite the big price gap. Was running in the second lowest level down south. Showed improvement in her second start, but there's a question whether she wants to go this far. Has found a pretty easy spot to experiment. FLYIN KIM has had a number of chances. Did run third with her highest career Beyer in her last start at this distance, sitting close early before fading in the lane.

Sixth Race: 1.Game of Luck 2.Castle Dermot 3.Don Elias M.

GAME OF LUCK is undefeated here and has won six straight while moving up the claiming ladder. Has enough speed to go wire-to-wire but has shown an ability to stalk and still win as she did last time at the highest level she has run in to date. Leading rider quick to accept the mount again, which is another plus. CASTLE DERMOT just won a claiming race for this tag but is running in the allowance condition here. He has turned in two straight solid efforts, improving his Beyer in both. He'll make the top pick work in the lane. DON ELIAS M. ran second to the top pick last time after winning a race for this tag. Running for a tag again here and can't be ignored with his consistency. Outside post helps as he'll be able to sit pretty much where he wants.

Seventh Race: 1.Nina's Benchmark 2. Trainspotting 3.Mr. Monkey Jones

NINA'S BENCHMARK had a two-race win streak snapped last time when he turned in an even effort before fading a bit late in a stakes. Has picked up a check in each start. Adding blinkers here, which could keep him focused better early and late. TRAINSPOTTING makes his debut here after being claimed when second as the favorite down south. Sharp barn wins 25 percent off the claim, and this one has good speed. Been beaten favorite and claimed in each of his past two starts. Does have a work over the track. MR. MONKEY JONES engaged in a head-and-head duel early in his debut but pulled clear to win easily. Draws rail again here, but it was no problem last time, and he seems to have enough speed that it shouldn't be a problem here either.

Eighth Race: 1.Victorina 2.Lady Railrider 3.In My Glory

VICTORINA has more stakes victories than any of her rivals here have career wins, but she's far from a lock. She has the speed to sit where she wants, and she's content to sit and make her move in the lane. Has plenty of quality and just won at this distance in a Socal stakes. LADY RAILRIDER ran second in the Sunshine Millions but came out of that race two weeks ago so well that barn brings her back here. She's at the top of her game and, like the top pick, has run very well here. IN MY GLORY beat the top pick two back, but that race was on the turf. Set the pace in the Grade 2 Dahlia at Hollywood Park before settling for third in her last start. Timing is right, and she's worked nicely, but she seems better on the turf, although she has won on a synthetic surface before.

Ninth Race: 1.Simply Michael 2.Affirmator 3.Luck Is Fleeting

SIMPLY MICHAEL has been showing improvement of late and was a solid second last, rallying wide and finishing strong. No reason he can't repeat, and this is a track where late-runners are not penalized. Don't know how much he'll like the distance, but his last effort suggests he'll be tough with the extra distance. AFFIRMATOR was a beaten favorite last time and meets two runners that beat him. Turned in even effort with a good stalking trip. Those that passed him last time, including the top pick, will have to do it again here. LUCK IS FLEETING has hit the board in his past two starts since coming north. His breeding suggests that distance will be no problem, and high-percentage barn picks up the leading rider for this.