

Date: April 16th, 2022

Track: Santa Anita

By Randy Goulding

Race 2

Electro

Debut was a disaster but he must have learned something because he came back with an impressive outing in his second start; the 97 Beyer he received for his powerhouse performance is the best in the field and it was validated when the runner-up and third-place finisher each won their next race with 88 and 89 Beyer's; easy to imagine him moving forward with a strong race behind him and he could be tough to handle if he gets away cleanly breaking from the inside post; the pick.

McLaren Vale

He will appreciate the class relief after finishing third in the Grade 2 San Vicente in just his second start; the winner repeated in the Grade 2 San Felipe with a 98 Beyer and the runner-up picked up a nice chunk of change when he won the G3, \$1.5 million Saudi Derby in his next start; not too concerned about the trainer change and he has been working nicely leading up to this so expecting another strong effort; lone 3-year-old in the field could have plenty of upside, too; contender.

Brutto

Second from McCarthy faded when he tried two turns prior to going on the shelf but something must have gone amiss as he took a while to come back; he was facing a tough group as three came back to win including Ginobili who won the Grade 2 Pat O'Brien in his next start and followed that up with a runner-up finish in the G1 Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile; this guy was the runner-up in his comeback race at this level and has a right to move forward with a race behind him; his bullet 5 furlong move in :58.60 seconds April 10 tells us all we need to know about how he's feeling; contender.

Rookie Mistake

5-year-old is easily the top earner in the field with over \$250K in the bank but all his victories came in races restricted to Cal-breds and his last win came in 2020; it looked like he might do some damage when he moved into serious contention on the turn in his latest but he faded badly in the stretch; he is listed as a first-time gelding so he might be more focused today; others are more appealing, though.

Zimba Warrior

All of his wins have come sprinting and he beat Quarter Horses going 1000 yards a couple of times at Los Al, so he should appreciate the move back to a sprint after a couple of route attempts where he wasn't a serious threat while not wearing blinkers for the first time in quite some time; they go back on here so he will likely show more speed; this does seem like a tough task for him, though.

Rifey

Cal-bred is a 2-time sprint winner so he won't mind the cutback in distance following his runner-up finish in a one-mile \$50K starter race March 6; both of his wins came in races restricted to Cal-breds, though, and it looks like there are a couple of potential stars in this field; he should be rolling late and may get up in time to be part of the exotics, that's about it, though.