# The Experts SELECTIONS

# PICKS

#### KEN MIDDLETON, JR.

#### **PICK-5 TICKET**

RACE 6	1, 2, 4, 5
RACE 7	1, 2
RACE 8	1, 3, 4
RACE 9	4, 9
RACE 10	3, 5, 7

**COST** \$144

(or \$28.80 for the \$0.20 option)

#### **CHAD ROZEMA**

#### **PICK-5 TICKET**

1, 2
1, 3
9
3, 5, 7
8, 9

**COST** \$24

(or \$4.80 for the \$0.20 option)

There is a Pick-5 wager that covers the Breeders Crown finals on tonight's card (races 6-10, guaranteed at \$100,000).

**RACE**warm up pad:

**YELLOW** 

\$786,000

2YOFT



#### MARK MCKELVIE

SELECTIONS: 2 - 5 - 1 - 9

- 2 SISTER SLEDGE brought her 'A' game to the elim to take down my second choice. Yes, it was a perfect trip, but she has had the look of something special all year. Shouldn't have lost two starts back, so last week's win gives me full confidence she'll deliver.
- 5 MS SAVANNAH BELLE impressive winner in last week's elim and that was after two weeks off. Her starts have been spaced out and she should be fresh for the Crown. She knows how to pass horses late and that's what I'm expecting to see.
- 1 HYPNOTIC AM tasted defeat for the first-time last week in what was her first start in over a month. It's understandable she might've been a little short. Super talented, but does the loss hurt her confidence? I'll say yes because rail doesn't help.
- 9 VIOLET STRIDE this filly is always in the mix and I'll bank on that again tonight. She's got three wins in 10 starts and while those are her only three 'on the board' finishes, she's earned a cheque in nine of 10.



#### **JASON PORTUONDO**

SELECTIONS: 2 - 1 - 10 - 5

- 2 SISTER SLEDGE played the role of giant killer in the first elimination beating a previously undefeated filly. She's been a solid horse from day one and can build off that win. Yannick's choice and mine too... top pick.
- 1 HYPNOTIC AM came up short in her local debut tasting defeat for the first time in eight starts. The Chapter Seven filly who has pole position is an obvious player in the final and could be poised to avenge last week's loss.
- 10 RAMONA HILL didn't exactly enjoy her introduction to Canadian racing as a long outside journey led to a third-place finish. The dreaded draw makes it tough but she has bounce back potential after suffering her first career loss...price play.
- 5 MS SAVANNAH BELLE was a 4-1 winner in the second elim benefitting from a pocket ride. She gets a favourable post to work with which might lead to the same type of trip with Tim Tetrick taking over. Your call.



\$786,000

2YOFP



#### KEN MIDDLETON, JR.

SELECTIONS: 1 - 4 - 3 - 2

- 1 LYONS SENTINEL brings a seven-race winning streak into this rich affair, and I'll look for her to make it eight straight. The Captaintreacherous miss can handle any type of trip, and she's as tough as they come. She gets the nod for the top spot.
- 4 NEW YEAR was a late starter to the season, but at this stage of the game it's not a bad thing. She's fresh, fierce and fast as noted in last week's dominant performance for the tandem of driver Corey Callahan and trainer Ross Croghan.
- ② PRIGHLESS appears to be over the breaking issues that reared its ugly head on occasion earlier this fall. She was a powerhouse winner in last week's elim, and it looked like she barely broke a sweat in doing it. She's worthy of big respect.
- 2 ALICORN had things her own way last week, but failed to capitalize. She put up a good fight, but failed to hold off hard-driving New Year in the closing strides. What she lacks in size, she makes up for in heart and toughness.



#### **EMILY GASKIN**

SELECTIONS: 1 - 3 - 8 - 4

- 1 LYONS SENTINEL few horses racing tonight with as much confidence as this filly. She's been an open-lengths winner while extending her win streak. Owns the fastest lifetime mark in the field and is 3 for 3 over this oval — remains the one to beat.
- ❸ PRIGHUESS has handled everything with ease to this point and we've not seen the best from her yet. The race could set up perfectly for her best performance yet. She loves to chase horses and is accustomed to battling down a long stretch.
- 8 REFLECT WITH ME has put together a nice freshman campaign while battling a very deep group of fillies. She kicked home impressively after opting for a trip off the pace in her elim. Owns some versatility which could be used advantageously if things get hot early.
- 4 NEW YEAR lightly-raced filly appears to be coming into this race in peak form and is very fresh. She was able to overcome a first-over grind and win her elim and has the pedigree to carry her a long way.

#### **JASON PORTUONDO**

#### **PICK-5 TICKET**

RACE 6	1, 5
RACE 7	1, 2, 10
RACE 8	1, 3, 4
RACE 9	7, 9
RACE 10	3, 7

**COST** \$72

(or \$14.40 for the \$0.20 option)

#### **MARK MCKELVIE**

#### **PICK-5 TICKET**

RACE 6	5
RACE 7	1, 2, 3, 4
RACE 8	4, 8, 9
RACE 9	3, 5, 7
RACE 10	8, 9

**COST** \$72

(or \$14.40 for the \$0.20 option)

#### **MONIQUE VAG**

#### **PICK-5 TICKET**

RACE 6	1, 9
RACE 7	1
RACE 8	1, 3
RACE 9	4, 5, 8, 9, 10
RACE 10	3, 5, 7, 9

**COST** \$80

(or \$16 for the \$0.20 option)

### RACE



**GREY** 





#### **GARNET BARNSDALE**

SELECTIONS: 9 - 4 - 8 - 7

- 9 REAL COOL SAM got up to keep his win streak alive at Lexington and while this will only be his third race in 6 1/2 weeks, the freshness factor likely plays to his favor this late in the year. He is the horse to beat here.
- 4 AMIGO VOLO made a big recovery after breaking early as the odds-on choice in his elim. That he has broke in two straight races is an obvious concern, but there is no doubting his talent and, if he behaves, he should be right there.
- 8 CAPRICORNUS raced great here in the Wellwood Memorial and his speed and consistency should be respected in this spot. Having Tetrick in the bike is an obvious bonus for this colt and we probably haven't seen his best race yet.
- 7 THIRD SHIFT was making an eye-catching move in the final turn in his elimination, but he went wider than necessary as the pocketsitter was finding racing room. He was a bit unlucky to get beaten there and he can offer some exotics value here.



#### **CHAD ROZEMA**

SELECTIONS: 9 - 8 - 4 - 5

- **9 REAL COOL SAM** Accepted a bye straight to the final. For those concerned about him not racing in more than three weeks, keep in mind he set a world record in Lexington following 25 days off. I don't even think post 9 can stop him!
- 8 CAPRICORNUS Also took a bye and the time away should be good as he's had a tough workload over the past several weeks. The Melander pupil is one of the fastest of this group and has four top-two finishes in his last five outings.
- 4 AMIGO VOLO There are concerns suddenly around this fast rookie following consecutive miscues, but he's in and still tough to ignore. I see him getting involved early and he can carry his speed a long way.
- 5 CHESTNUT HILL Went off-stride for the first time when trying a leaving move in the elim but made a big recovery when closing fast for fourth. His parents thrived on the big stage and it wouldn't be a surprise if this improving colt hit the board.









#### **DAVE BROWER**

SELECTIONS: 3 - 9 - 7 - 8

- 8 PAPI ROB HANOVER is very hard to go against in this spot, after his electrifying elimination victory last week. Pelling has pointed his colt for this moment and "wanted" to race to earn his post. From the three, Miller can move at will.
- 9 CATCH THE FIRE is my sneaky price-use in here. Packs solid speed, but likes a trip even better. Wilder will float him out and then look for a seat. The colt can finish too, and will benefit from taking the "bye." Good price!
- 7 TALL DARK STRANGER gets some new front shoes after his less-than-stellar elim try. Nancy J also says blood work wasn't good. Those are red flags at this point in the season and the post draw did not make it any easier.
- 8 FREEDOM WARRIOR hasn't done anything wrong all year! Looked superb in Lexington and deserves a puncher's chance at a huge upset. That will be up to his pilot, who always seems to be in right spot for big money finals.



#### MICHAEL CARTER

SELECTIONS: 3 - 7 - 6 - 5

- 3 PAPI ROB HANOVER was visually impressive last week with his effort. He was able to make the lead after being stretched out and should be able to race back well against this group.
- 7 TALL DARK STRANGER has won from post seven before at Woodbine Mohawk Park. He is a top contender tasting defeat only one time, it will be interesting to see how the battle shapes up.
- 6 MAJOR BETTS was impressive in Lexington before a rough effort in the elimination. I think he rebounds with a better post draw and better trip opportunity.
- **5 CAPT MIDNIGHT** has won six of nine this year including a Metro elimination. Look for him to be razor sharp.

A plethora of advice and selections from our expert handicappers

#### BEST ADVICE

**DAVE BROWER:** Lots of Friday night favorites drew tough posts, so don't hesitate to take a swing against a few of them, hoping for big Breeders Crown upsets.

GABE PREWITT: 2-year old's can regress or step up from start to start in a big way. I typically like to see horses heading into the Breeders Crown off a positive effort. Remember, we aren't betting on who has had the best season, we are betting on TONIGHT's outcome.

**DERICK GIWNER:** Don't put too much weight on the elimination efforts from last week. The big money is on the line tonight and many of these horses will show more now.

**GARNET BARNSDALE:** Don't assume strategy will be the same tonight as it was in eliminations where only a few horses didn't make the finals. Take a close look at horses' entire cards for a fulsome understanding of their ability and likely racing style with the big money on the line.

CHAD ROZEMA: Don't ignore the beaten favourites from last week's eliminations as they will bring their 'A' game tonight.

**ASHLEY MAILLOUX:** There will likely be some heavy favorites in tonight's finals so look to exotic wagers such as exactas and trifectas for value.

MONIQUE VAG: If you think a pick 4 or 5 sequence looks to be filled with favorites that should not lose, do not be afraid to change the base of your wager instead of adding more horses in those legs. A \$5 base pick 4 wager could yield awesome returns especially with the huge guaranteed pools.

MARK MCKELVIE: Pace yourself. It's a long weekend of outstanding races. Pick your spots and don't hold back when you see something you like.

MICHAEL CARTER: It's a long weekend. In general, pick your spots and find the value.

**KEN MIDDLETON**, **JR.:** Put a lot of thought into horses with changes, whether it be equipment, shoeing or driver changes.

**EMILY GASKIN:** Enjoy the night! You've got the best of the best — find an angle you like and stick with it; either a driver that gets off to a good start or a horse who figures to improve with a better trip.

JASON PORTUONDO: Don't ignore horses that didn't win their elimination, some were simply prepping for tonight which is obviously the ultimate goal.

## IF YOU ONLY HAVE \$20 TO WAGER

DAVE BROWER: Let's key 1 LYONS SENTINEL in a pair of Race 7 \$10 exactas, using 3 PRICELESS, and 4 NEW YEAR underneath.

**GABE PREWITT:** \$10 W/P on 5 CHESTNUT HILL in Race 8. This guy is going to be a monster price, and he made a giant recovery last time after an early mistake. A ton of early speed in this event could set things up for a closing kick from a live longshot.

**DERICK GIWNER:** Straight WIN bet on 4 NEW YEAR in the 2YO filly pace (Race 3). She'll offer good value and as the daughter of two great horses, has unlimited potential.

**GARNET BARNSDALE:** Go with a \$10 Exacta Box of 1 LYONS SENTINEL and 4 NEW YEAR in Race 7. There will be 5 fillies taking money in that race and these combos will likely offer more value than you might expect.

CHAD ROZEMA: RACE 6 - \$20 Exacta 1-2

ASHLEY MAILLOUX: RACE 7 1 LYONS SENTINEL, 3 PRICELESS, 4 NEW YEAR - \$5 exacta 1 with 3, 4 and a \$5 exacta 3, 4 with 1.

MONIQUE VAG: Start the card out with some action on some of the non-Breeders Crown events. These may produce some upsets early on. Bet a \$1 Pick 3 starting in Race 1: 1-3-4-5-6, Race 2: 3-5-8-10, Race 3: 1.

MARK MCKELVIE: Want some fun with the four Crown races? Play \$5 on each and enjoy the best rookie pacers and trotters in our sport.

MICHAEL CARTER: Race 9 \$20 exacta 3/7

KEN MIDDLETON, JR.: Race 10 - \$20 to win on #8 Cliffhanger

**EMILY GASKIN:** Race 8 play a \$1 exacta wheel: 9 with all and then all with 9. Use the other \$2 to buy a drink and enjoy a great night of racing.

**JASON PORTUONDO:** Pick a favourite number and bet \$2 to win on it in the first 10 races of the card.

#### LOCK OF THE NIGHT

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**DAVE BROWER:** RACE 7 — 1 LYONS SENTINEL **GABE PREWITT:** RACE 7 — 3 PRICELESS **DERICK GIWNER:** RACE 6 — 1 HYPNOTIC AM GARNET BARNSDALE: RACE 8 — 9 REAL COOL SAM **CHAD ROZEMA: RACE 5** — 5 PEDRO HANOVER **ASHLEY MAILLOUX: RACE** 7 — 1 LYONS SENTINEL **MONIQUE VAG:** RACE 6 — 1 HYPNOTIC AM MARK MCKELVIE: RACE 6 — 2 SISTER SLEDGE **MICHAEL CARTER:** RACE 8 — 9 REAL COOL SAM KEN MIDDLETON, JR.: RACE 6 - 1 HYPNOTIC AM **EMILY GASKIN:** RACE 8 - 9 REAL COOL SAM JASON PORTUONDO: RACE 6 — 2 SISTER SLEDGE

#### LONG BOMB PICK

**DAVE BROWER:** 

RACE 8 — 7 THIRD SHIFT

GABE PREWITT:

RACE 8 — 5 CHESTNUT HILL

**DERICK GIWNER:** 

RACE 7 — 4 NEW YEAR

GARNET BARNSDALE:

RACE 6 — 4 DIP ME HANOVER

**CHAD ROZEMA:** 

RACE 1 — 5 MACHNHOPE

**ASHLEY MAILLOUX:** 

RACE 6 — 8 SHISHITO

MONIQUE VAG:

RACE 1 — 3 SUNDAY AFTERNOON

MARK MCKELVIE:

RACE 9 — 9 CATCH THE FIRE

MICHAEL CARTER:

RACE 6 — 6 WINE RACK HANOVER

KEN MIDDLETON, JR.:

RACE 3 — 6 KNIGHT ANGEL

**EMILY GASKIN:** 

RACE 3 — 9 HILL OF A COLT

JASON PORTUONDO:

RACE 8 — 7 THIRD SHIFT