

Pandy's Meadowlands Selections for Saturday, August 7

Note: My odds-line for my top four contenders is based on what I think each horse's chances are to win the race. For instance, if I make a horse 4-1, I think the horse's chances of winning are about 20%, so if the same exact race was run ten times, he'd win it twice. If I make all of the horses about the same odds, that's an indication that I think the race is wide open, or that I can't pinpoint a horse that appears to have a strong edge.

Meadowlands Race Picks by Bob Pandolfo

RACE 1

6 HIGHLANDBEACHSBEST 4-1
10 SOUTH BEACH STAR 5-2
2 ALWAYS B SWEET 6-1
5 BETTER TAKE IT 9-1

This Hambletonian Day card is excellent and appears to be a bettor's card, with not many horses that look like sure things. If you're at the track, you might want to check the equipment changes because some trainers have been taking shoes off for these trotting stakes races, and sometimes it results in an improved effort.

HIGHLANDBEACHSBEST has come around nicely for Linda Toscano and can upset...SOUTH BEACH STAR is better than last and looks like the one to beat despite the post...ALWAYS BE SWEET adds lasix and has a shot here...BETTER TAKE IT was disappointing in last but if he shows up today he has a shot.

RACE 2

4 FIRE START HANOVER 2-5
3 GRACE HILL 6-1
1 OFF THE RECORD 8-1
5 MIKALA 10-1

FIRE START HANOVER is probably the most likely winner on the card.

RACE 3

5 DANCINGTHE DARK M 2-5
4 JUJUBEE 4-1
3 WHISKEY BLU 5-1
2 ETHAN T HANOVER 10-1

DANCINGTHE DARK M broke at 4/5 in last but he's clearly the fastest of these and should be tough...JUJUBEE ships in sharp for good trainer...WHISKEY BLU is another sharp shipper and fits well here if the favorite breaks...ETHAN T HANOVER needs a trip here.

RACE 4

6 TATTOO ARTIST 2-1
3 POSEIDON SEELSTER 5-2
2 NANDOLO N 3-1
8 DOJEA GIZMO 9-1

TATTOO ARTIST was shuffled back in last; seems likely to be on the lead here...POSEIDON SEELSTER had no shot in last at Saratoga but handles this track well and might be perfectly placed behind the 6; big shot...NANDOLO N has only been here since May but he's made a good impression and would be no surprise here.

RACE 5

7 AMERICAN COURAGE 5-2
4 PERFECT STING 8-5
2 ROCKYROAD HANOVER 3-1
5 BILLY CLYDE 13-1

AMERICAN COURAGE never got into the race from post 10 in the Meadowlands Pace and needs to prove that he can excel around two turns, but he qualified back well, adds lasix, and should be firing out...PERFECT STING has been consistent; one to beat...ROCKYROAD HANOVER holds his form well and can take all...BILLY CLYDE has turned in some nice efforts over this track and may go well at a price.

RACE 6

4 LYONS SENTINEL 7-5
2 ROCKKNIFICENT 5-2
1 JK FIRST LADY 4-1
3 GIA'S SURREAL 8-1

RACE 7

4 JOVIALITY S 4-1
6 VENERABLE 1-1
7 JIGGY JOG S 6-1
3 VALENTINA BLU 9-1

JOVIALITY S has come around nicely for Marcus Melander and has room to keep improving...VENERABLE is undefeated in three starts and certainly looked sharp winning last; clearly the one to beat.

RACE 8

4 WESLYNN QUEST 2-1
7 IT'S ACADEMIC 5-2
8 GUARDIAN ANGEL AS 7-2
2 LOVEBYTHEMASSES 11-1

WESLYNN QUEST left well and was shuffled with trot in last; gets a better post in a weaker field...IT'S ACADEMIC never got into the race from the second tier but Yannick will most likely be charging out to the early lead here and he's been game on the front end all year...GUARDIAN ANGEL AS is a classy trotter coming off a layoff. Tetrack seems to have chosen off to drive LOVEBYTHEMASSES but if this veteran is ready, he can certainly compete with these.

RACE 9

2 LETSDOIT S 4-1
5 KING OF THE NORTH 3-5
1 ROBERTSIN 5-1
4 FAST AS THE WIND 7-1

LETSDOIT turned in a solid grinding effort in last and that was only his second start; upset call...KING OF THE NORTH is undefeated in four starts for Ray Schnittker and has shown that he doesn't need the lead to produce a top effort...ROBERTSIN had post 9 in his first three starts, got a good post in last and won his prep on the lead...FAST AS THE WIND won his first two starts and did what he had to last week. Needs to go faster but I wouldn't be surprised if he does.

RACE 10

4 RUTHLESS HANOVER 5-1
8 NICHOLAS BEACH 4-5
5 CATCH THE FIRE 5-1
6 BACKSTREET SHADOW 5-1

RUTHLESS HANOVER didn't have an easy trip in last and held well...NICHOLAS BEACH now has 16 wins in 20 starts after last week's easy win; he did get away with a soft pace in that race. He'll be pushed harder here but he's shown that he can shrug off pressure...CATCH THE FIRE is racing in sharp form and beat my top pick in last...BACKSTREET SHADOW is a million dollar winner who has his moments.

RACE 11

3 MANCHEGO 9-5

6 READY FOR MONI 7-2

9 BEADS 7-2

11 LINDY THE GREAT 8-1

MANCHEGO tough mare has been strong in all six starts this year...READY FOR MONI was used hard from the second tier in last and held gamely for the show...BEADS was a game winner from post 10 and is hard to knock...LINDY THE GREAT draws the second tier but if the pace heats up, he has a chance.

RACE 12

4 SHAKE THAT HOUSE 8-1

3 ALLYWAG HANOVER 7-2

5 CAPTAIN BARBOSSA 8-1

1 CATTLEWASH 7-5

SHAKE THAT HOUSE had no shot trying to close from 7th in a slow-paced race in last; two back he missed by a neck to Cattlewash. He needs a trip, but that's why you put Andy McCarthy in the bike...ALLWAG HANOVER remains sharp and was Todd McCarthy's choice over the 4 here. He will probably leave hard and may be sitting a perfect trip behind the 1 or 6...CAPTAIN BARBOSSA was trapped in tight quarters with pace in last. He seems to need to be covered up to do his best, which limits the driver's options, but the driver is Dexter Dunn and he's a master, so he's got a shot...CATTLEWASH always fires and can certainly be tough to beat here. It will be interesting to see what kind of trip that Hall of Fame driver David Miller works out from the rail here.

RACE 13

5 ATLANTA 6-5

6 WHEN DOVESCRY 5-2

4 HYPNOTIC AM 4-1

7 SORELLA 12-1

ATLANTA took a lot of air from post 12 in last; class edge...WHEN DOVESCRY was able to work out a trip and came on nicely for the win in last...HYPNOTIC AM only has 1 win in 7 starts this year but she's raced well and the class is there...SORELLA finished willingly from an impossible spot in last. She's been hampered by posts 9 or 10 in three of her last four starts but she might be able to leave here.

RACE 14

7 HOT AS HILL** 14-1

5 BELLA BELLINI 1-1

3 AWESOME TRIX 7-1

2 FLAWLESS COUNTRY 15-1

HOT AS HILL was covered up behind a modest pace, went three wide at the three quarters and finished gamely in last. I liked her speedy effort two back and I think she has a shot at a price here...BELLA BELLINI was an ordinary two year old in her 7 starts last year but she has turned the tables in a big way for trainer Nifty Norman while looking like the top 3yo trotting filly. Today we find out if she can win the big one...AWESOME TRIX worked out a dream trip up the inside to upset last but you have to like the way she's progressed for trainer Chris Beaver...FLAWLESS COUNTRY was a sharp two year old but she hasn't matured much. However, her form is good and Swanstedt can get them ready for the big races. Last week

she left, tucked, followed cover, edged three wide and was finishing well; needs a trip to be a factor at a price.

RACE 15

6 SONOFAMISTERY 4-1

4 CAPTAIN COREY 5-2

7 REALLY FAST 4-1

1 DELAYED HANOVER 4-1

This Hambletonian Final is one of the most contentious we've seen in recent years and should be fun to watch. SONOFAMISTERY did what he had to do to get into the Final last week while racing in tight quarters. He's developed nicely this year and he can leave quickly...CAPTAIN COREY was a strong two year old who has come on strong for Ake. He did get away with his own pace in last and that isn't going to happen here...REALLY FAST was Dunn's choice over DELAYED HANOVER, although that was probably a tough choice because both of these colts have a big chance here, and Dunn may have just been staying loyal to the trainer who gives him the most drives.

RACE 16

8 HICKFROMFRENCHLICK 6-1

2 SOMBODYITREASURE 5-2

6 SERIOUSLY HANOVER 5-2

5 HEZA REAL DIAMOND 8-1

HICKFROMFRENCHLICK raced well against tougher here two back and didn't get the right trip in last at Saratoga; can gun...SOMBODYITREASURE drops and may be the one to beat...SERIOUSLY HANOVER steps up off a sharp win...HEZA REAL DIAMOND gave it a nice try in last.

BEST BET: HOT AS HILL 14th Race