

Pandy's Meadowlands Selections for Saturday, August 5

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 clear edge.

Meadowlands Race Picks by Bob Pandolfo

RACE 1

6 STONEBRIDGE HELIOS 3-5
5 IDEALSOMEMAGIC 3-1
7 SOUTH BEACH STAR 7-2
2 JILLIBY DYNAMITE A 12-1

STONEBRIDGE HELIOS hasn't raced since July 8 but he's been strong and paced in 1:47 off a tough trip from post 9 here in June...IDEALSOMEMAGIC won a \$250K stakes race at Saratoga in last and did it from off the pace with a strong finish...SOUTH BEACH STAR likes this track and should be gunning for the lead...JILLIBY DYNAMITE A needs a trip against these.

RACE 2

2 SYLVIA HANOVER 1-9
5 BELLISIMA HANOVER 10-1
3 FRONT PAGE STORY 12-1
1 BEACH COWGIRL 15-1

SYLVIA HANOVER 3yo filly pacer is a tough grinder with 13 wins in 14 starts and she finishes relentlessly. In a short field, McClure doesn't have to rush her.

RACE 3

6 JIGGY JOG S 4-5
2 M-M'S DREAM 4-1
1 FASHION SCHOONER 4-1
5 WARRAWEE XENIA 8-1

JIGGY JOG S just missed in a sharp placing going a mile and an eighth in the Hambo Maturity last month and she's now 4 for 5 on the year. The Svanstedt barn had been hot but went through a short slump last month. According to a report in DRF Harness, Svanstedt said that there was a sickness in the barn last month that altered training schedules.

RACE 4

5 KILMISTER 1-1
7 LITTLE EXPENSIVE 5-2
1 D'APPER 6-1
3 HERODOTUS 8-1

KILMISTER had post 10 in his Hambo elimination, left and tucked 4th, but got hemmed in along the pylons down the stretch. He seems fastest of these...LITTLE EXPENSIVE was used leaving from post 7 and lacked a rally in his elimination. Improving colt may be on the lead here.

RACE 5

1 QUICK STOP 8-5
3 BELLA MACCHIATO 5-1

8 WILD JIGGY S 6-1
6 ALL A TWITTER 10-1

QUICK STOP showed some class with strong finishes winning the Reynolds and then the Miller Final two back. In her Oaks elimination she broke but I'll stick with her...BELLA MACCHIATO also broke in last but she was racing okay prior to that...WILD JIGGY S had no shot in last but will probably leave this time...ALL A TWITTER is still a maiden but she improved sharply in her third career start and she could go well at a price here.

RACE 6
3 SIG SAUER 8-5
6 MY WAY 2-1
8 MARS HILL 7-2
1 HANKINS HANOVER 4-1

SIG SAUER was driven like a good horse and responded to win drawing away in his debut...MY WAY broke at 4/5 in his debut but last start he kept up well early, brushed to the lead, yielded to a strong power-brush, then moved again and drew clear to win going away – another good prospect in this 2yo trot...MARS HILL has won both starts with nice finishes; faces faster but could keep improving...HANKINS HANOVER raced very well in his first two starts, then was too far back from post 7 in last; factor in what should be an entertaining Jersey Sire Stakes trot.

RACE 7
4 SILVER LABEL 8-5
5 BOUDOIR HANOVER 13-1
3 TEST OF FAITH 2-1
1 GRACE HILL 4-1

SILVER LABEL consistent mare was used hard setting a hot pace in the Haughton, but her :27.1 last quarter was solid, all things considered. Three back she went a monster mile from the second tier drawing off in :25.3...BOUDOIR HANOVER left and tucked in last, was in tight quarters in the stretch, angled out for clearance and finished willingly; speedy mare may go well at a price here...TEST OF FAITH champion mare finished in :25.2 from 10th in her seasonal debut, then was 11th from another tough post in the Haughton. Pelling put a swift qualifier into her and she finally gets a good post so we'll see if she's back...GRACE HILL always races well and has 6 wins in 8 starts this year. Her two races over this track resulted in second place finishes.

RACE 8
2 MAD MAX HANOVER 5-1
1 I DID IT MYWAY 5-1
9 RUTHLESS HANOVER 2-1
7 ALLYWAG HANOVER 5-1

MAD MAX HANOVER is capable of an upset, picks up Bartlett...I DID IT MYWAY gets a better spot...RUTHLESS HANOVER has dangerous speed despite the post...ALLYWAG HANOVER hasn't been close to his best so far this year.

RACE 9
3 TAKE ALL COMERS 7-2
8 LOOKS LIKE MONI 2-1
5 LEXUS KODY 5-2
7 HILLEXOTIC 4-1

TAKE ALL COMERS ships in sharp for hot barn and has speed to get a good trip. The only knock is that he's 0 for 9 over this track...LOOKS LIKE MONI has been racing well against some tough fields, draws outside of several other potential speed horses...LEXUS KODY has also been sharp and he likes this track...HILLEXOTIC is hard to knock as he ships in off back to back wins.

RACE 10

3 BOND 8-5
5 RAILEE SOMETHING 7-2
9 SECRET VOLO 6-1
7 INSTAGRAM MODEL 8-1

BOND left too hard in last, set a hot pace and held surprisingly well to make the final...RAILEE SOMETHING should be well placed for Gingras...SECRET VOLO has been racing in good form for Marcus Melander, who announced that he plans on racing his horses barefoot on Hambo Day, providing that the weather and track condition is suitable for that....INSTAGRAM MODEL has been finishing well.

RACE 11

6 SOUTHWIND TYRION 7-2
8 VENERATE 5-2
9 IT'S ACADEMIC 3-1
4 RATTLE MY CAGE 6-1

SOUTHWIND TYRION toyed with weaker in last, had no shot in the Crawford, draws inside of main rivals...VENERATE classy horse came back off the bench sharp then was a little short in the Crawford; dangerous...IT'S ACADEMIC has been racing gamely as usual and he's always a threat...RATTLE MY CAGE needs some racing luck.

RACE 12

4 WINNERS BET** 5-2
6 UP YOUR DEO 4-1
1 CELEBRITY BAMBINO 5-2
2 OH WELL 4-1

WINNERS BET improved colt finished quickly to win his first two starts of the year then had post 10 in last, left and was three wide part of the first turn, raced parked the mile without cover, made a good move to get into contention down the back and held gamely in the stretch...UP YOUR DEO was not as sharp in last but he's also much better now than he was last year and could threaten if he races the way he did in his four other starts this year...CELEBRITY BAMBINO raced okay in his first three starts this year, then started to get it together in the Reynolds. In his elimination, he looked sharp but he was able to rate his own pace to a :55.3 half with no challengers at any point in the mile. He's a solid contender here but I'm not sure that he's worth short odds because this Hambo looks pretty wide open and I expect that the pace will be faster than :55.3...OH WELL has settled for second money in 5 of his 6 starts this year but he always shows speed and tries his best.

RACE 13

6 WALCANGO 4-1
1 SUNKIST BEAUTY 2-1
3 SPECIAL TALENT 6-1
9 ALLEGIANT 7-2

WALCANGO has improved steadily for good trotting trainer Jim Campbell and may pick them off late...SUNKIST BEAUTY was second behind Walcango in last but I expect sharp speed from the inside...SPECIAL TALENT is improving for a top 2yo barn...ALLEGIANT speedy sort should be blasting out here.

RACE 14

2 EL REY 12-1

5 CONFEDERATE 2-5

7 CHRISTCHURCH 6-1

11 HUNGRY ANGEL BOY 6-1

EL REY finished up his 2yo campaign with a game closing win in the Governor's Cup over this track. He returned on May 20 and was a bit flat in his first four starts, three of which were at Mohawk. But he returned to the Meadowlands on July 1 and improved, rallying sharply in :25.2 to finish a half-length behind Christchurch. Then in his next start he closed gamely to finish a half-length behind Confederate while pacing in 1:47.3. He had post 7 in the Meadowlands Pace where he was overbet at 6-1, and was too far back too threaten. I didn't like him from that spot. Last week he dropped into a softer stakes race and was the 9-5 favorite. He was sitting 4th at the half and seemed poised for a first over bid, but Zeron sat in and ended up blocked down the stretch searching for room while appearing to be loaded with pace. It was a bad drive. But, Zeron has been driving very well overall. He brought in four winners last Friday night, three of which were cagey drives on longshots, and his winning drive behind Its My Show in the North America Cup was also excellent. EL REY needs a trip but I'll take a shot at a price...CONFEDERATE has impressed me in every one of his 12 lifetime starts (9 wins). His narrow miss in the North America Cup was simply the result of running out of racetrack, as they raced him off the pace and he paced a powerful :52.1 last half. In the Meadowlands Pace, he marched first over with authority and drew off with an impressive :25.4 last quarter. This horse isn't that big, and doesn't have the smoothest gait, but he seems to have limitless stamina. If he has a potential Achilles heel, it's his style, which has been to race off the pace. I guess maybe because of his gait they don't want to leave. He did leave and go wire to wire in the NA Cup elimination, but that wasn't a top notch field. In last year's Breeders Crown Juvenile Pace and in the NA Cup he was clearly the best horse but had too much ground to make up. On paper, outside of CHRRISTCHURCH, there doesn't appear to be a lot of good early speed in this race, but with \$315,700 on the line, there could be early action and if CONFEDERATE gets shuffled back after lead changes, he might find himself in a difficult spot again. These top tier stakes races are very tough to win from off the pace if your horse is more than four or five lengths back at the half. That being said, this is a classy colt with a big motor and he'll give it everything he's got...CHRISTCHURCH is a speedy colt, adds lasix, and should leave fast for Gingras...HUNGRY ANGEL BOY used his speed well in the Big M Pace and finished second behind the favorite. He gets the second tier here but he's in good form.

RACE 15

9 TAURASI 10-1

5 TATTOO ARTIST 8-5

10 BYTHEMISSAL 2-1

7 NATAMERI 15-1

TAURASI finished in under :26 seconds in last two starts and took a new lifetime mark first time lasix in last. He's been racing off the pace but he has left in the past...TATTOO ARTIST is a fast veteran, draws well...BYTHEMISSAL had post 10 off a layoff in the Haughton and finished over 3 lengths behind Tattoo Artist. He might be sharper tonight and he also fits better here because this is a weaker field...NATAMERI is a solid pacer racing in good form.

RACE 16

9 BRUE HANOVER 7-5

4 STONEBRIDGE REEF 5-2

3 BOBCAT BAY 8-1

6 HURRIKANE JONNYBOY 8-1

BRUE HANOVER is undefeated in four starts since the barn change including a sharp win over this track...STONEBRIDGE REEF is a nice horse and looks like the main rival here...BOBCAT BAY may perk up with Andy McCarthy in the bike...HURRIKANE JONNYBOY has been improved in recent starts at Yonkers.

BEST BET: WINNER'S BET 12th Race