

Pandy's Graded Meadowlands Selections for Saturday, May 18

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

2 COOL MA BELLE 2-1
1 VOLCANIC BLUE CHIP 5-2
5 KINESIOLOGY 5-1
3 TACTICAL LORI 6-1

COOL MA BELLE was in close quarters in last; gets top call in a competitive group of trotting fillies...VOLCANIC BLUE CHIP gunned to the lead from post 7 and was second best behind a sharp favorite...KINESIOLOGY seems better than last...TACTICAL LORI holds her form.

RACE 2

1 MARS HILL 6-5
4 SOUTHWIND METRIC 3-1
2 BELLA'S MUSCLEHILL 7-2
5 CABALLERO 4-1

MARS HILL left from post 7 and was parked to the lead, yielded, had something left to must miss in a quick mile...SOUTHWIND METRIC chased Karl home second best in his return...BELLA'S MUSCLEHILL beaten favorite in both starts but he raced well...CABALLERO came back to the races as an improved trotter for Trond.

RACE 3

5 SPY COAST 6-5
7 ALLEGIANT 8-5
1 MISS I LA 4-1
4 R BAMA 8-1

SPY COAST has matured this year, winning both starts handily...ALLEGIANT sat in and got out too late but was coming on quickly; capable of a big mile second off the bench...MISS I LA had trot on both ends in return; Zeron opts for the 7.

RACE 4

8 HEZA REAL DIAMOND 2-1
6 ROCK ON LINE 5-2
4 MUSCLE FACTORY A 3-1
1 T DOG 9-1

RACE 5

4 CAVIART BELLE 5-2
2 ROCKN PHILLY 5-2
6 ODDS ON HAIL MARY 7-2
8 VALAR DOHAERIS 5-1

CAVIART BELLE qualified well for Nancy Takter. Fast filly takes on older here but she looks ready...ROCKN PHILLY was shuffled back and lost all chance in last; Yonkers shipper is sharp...ODDS ON HAIL MARY quick mare qualified well for a barn that can get them ready, and can be tough to beat here with the right trip, but driver Scott Zeron is hard to trust when he drives horses coming off layoffs, as he seems to like to give them an easy race, which includes hugging the pylons, even if he has the best horse or the horse is the betting favorite. Boy do I miss Joe DeFrank...VALAR DOHAERIS prepped nicely for Svanstedt and he often has them ready.

RACE 6

4 OAKWOOD ARDAN IR 3-5
2 PRIMARY COLORS 5-2
3 CAPTAIN CRUSADER A 4-1
1 SHAZAM BLUE CHIP 9-1

OAKWOOD ARDAN IR came off a two month layoff sharp with his usual relentless stretch kick. This is a fun horse to watch take care of business...PRIMARY COLORS classy sort comes off a sick scratch but his last two miles were sharp and he could be the main rival.

RACE 7

9 CHURCHVIEWFRANKL IR 5-2
1 RIVER NESS 5-2
5 DIVINE RIGHT 5-1
6 ALTA BLUES A 10-1

CHURCHVIEWFRANKL IR drops out of a quick mile and gets lasix for new barn...RIVER NESS also takes a key drop...DIVINE RIGHT is better than last...ALTA BLUES A has sneaky good form and Dunn.

RACE 8

4 GLAMOROUS HANOVER 8-1
5 BUY A ROUND 3-5
1 WALCANGO 7-2
6 FRENCH CHAMPAGNE 4-1

GLAMOROUS HANOVER qualified twice for a barn that can win off layoffs and has good gate speed...BUY A ROUND came back sharp and strong closer will be charging again in the stretch...WALCANGO broke as the favorite in last but she should be leaving here and can take all...FRENCH CHAMPAGNE left the gate in her 3yo return and got the win; hard to knock.

RACE 9

3 CAPTAIN LUKE 8-5
2 REMEMBER THE ALAMO 2-1
5 MCCRUNCH 3-1
6 COURTSHIP 6-1

CAPTAIN LUKE finished his 2yo season strong and the qualifiers were sharp...REMEMBER THE ALAMO qualified well and is a threat...MCCRUNCH faces tougher here but he's 3 for 3 over this track...COURTSHIP raced well in his second start of the year; steps up.

RACE 10

4 KARL 1-9
7 TONY ADAMS S 13-1
5 DUKE OF WALNER 14-1
3 LOCKHEED MARTIN 15-1

KARL came back to the races with an easy win. He faces a better field tonight but he appears to be in a class of his own right now.

RACE 11

5 SOUTHWIND TYRION 2-1
7 JIGGY JOG S 2-1
6 VENERATE 5-1
1 DOVER IN MOTION 6-1

SOUTHWIND TYRION won the Breeders Crown Open Trot; his trainer Ake Svanstedt usually has them ready, and he drives to win...JIGGY JOG S top class trotting mare qualified sharply for Svanstedt; if she leaves she can control the pace but she's a threat on or off the pace...VENERATE only had 1 win in 8 starts last year but it was in this race. In his return last week he got stuck behind weak cover and raced okay...DOVER IN MOTION Ohio kingpin was second behind a good trotter in last and he always tries hard.

RACE 12

4 KEN HANOVER** 7-2
3 ALLYWAG HANOVER 2-1
8 ABUCKABETT HANOVER 7-2
6 VOUKEFALAS 8-1

KEN HANOVER turned in some sharp miles in fast race last year and qualified well for return. Hall of Fame driver David Miller took this one over the 8...ALLYWAG HANOVER qualified nicely and he's the best horse in this field, a top-tier FFA racehorse, but he tends to get sharper with racing...ABUCKABETT HANOVER finished strongly in his qualifier; he usually races from off the pace...VOUKEFALAS finished fast against a weaker field.

RACE 13

1 PANTORAN 3-5
3 BENNY J 5-2
5 WATERFALL 5-1
2 HANKINS HANOVER 10-1

PANTORAN didn't show much in two starts last year but he returns as a gelding and he looked much improved uncorking a powerful last quarter to win his qualifier...BENNY J progressed nicely to break his maiden in his second start of his 3yo campaign...WATERFALL went well in return and can build on that...HANKINS HANOVER was short again last week, needs more.

RACE 14

9 AIR GUITAR 4-1
5 BET A BUNDLE 5-3
1 PASSA-GRILLE BEACH 4-1
2 POSH ONTHE BEACH A 4-1

AIR GUITAR was trapped with pace in last; drops and he's capable of leaving...BET A BUNDLE drops and can take all...PASSA-GRILLE BEACH and POSH ONTHE BEACH A both raced well at this level in last.

BEST BET: KEN HANOVER 12th Race