



# wager guide

**FEBRUARY 27, 2016 • GULFSTREAM PARK**



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## Analysis

As you handicap this year's Canadian Turf, the question you have to ask yourself is a simple one – is anybody going to pressure #8 HEART TO HEART early? If that answer is no, he's your winner. If the answer is yes, you should focus your wagers on a few others. Reason being, HEART TO HEART is virtually untouchable when he's allowed to carve out the early fractions, but he's wildly ineffective when he doesn't make the lead. We're looking to #6 FREDERICKSBURG, who adds blinkers for Michael Matz, as the most likely fly in HEART TO HEART's ointment. Unfortunately, we just don't think he's good enough to pressure HEART TO HEART early and stick around late, so we don't expect Joe Bravo to ride too aggressively. Ultimately, Julien Leparoux is a remarkable 5-for-6 aboard HEART TO HEART and they look like a solid bet to kick off the Rainbow 6. Look for last year's Canadian Turf winner, #3 LONG ON VALUE, and #7 AVANZARE to be rolling late and keep an eye on how #2 DIVISIDERO performs. He might be one to bet next time.

## Value Plays

Roger Attfield, who sends out #1 TOWER OF TEXAS, has trained six Canadian Horses of the Year and was inducted into Racing's Hall of Fame in 2011. He secured Javier Castellano, who has ridden 28 turf winners at the meet, to ride today, making this horse an attractive prospect to outrun his odds.

## OUR PICKS

1. #8 HEART TO HEART
2. #3 LONG ON VALUE
3. #1 TOWER OF TEXAS
4. #7 AVANZARE

## \$25 WAGERING STRATEGY

- > \$5 Win/Place #8 Heart to Heart (\$10)
- > \$5 Exacta #8 Heart to Heart / #1 Tower of Texas, #3 Long On Value, #7 Avanzare (\$15)



## Analysis

In a massive 14-horse field, we always recommend giving a little extra attention to the horses drawn inside, especially when the race starts as close to the turn as this one does. Horses breaking from outside posts are often disadvantaged by wide trips and less-than-ideal circumstances, which can make all the difference in evenly-matched races. With that in mind, we're making the filly that drew the rail, #1 CELESTINE, our top pick. She's a perfect 2-for-2 at this distance and has never missed the Exacta in four starts at Gulfstream Park, which is a very positive sign. She's consistent, talented and loves the feel of the local sod beneath her feet. What else could you want from a racehorse? #5 HOPE CROSS is too good not to mention, but our issues with this Chad Brown-trained mare are twofold. One, she doesn't quite seem to have a penchant for finishing first, and two, she's 0-for-3 against stakes horses in her career. Those are big negatives in a field this big, but we still favor her to stablemate, #8 PARTISAN POLITICS, who was somewhat one-paced in her Gulfstream debut last month.

## Value Plays

#6 DARING KATHY hasn't raced since August, but she has won 7 of 11 career starts and has never been defeated over this turf course. David Fawkes conditioned her to five stakes wins between March and November 2014 and if he has her in top form off the layoff, she's going to be very tough to beat. Make sure she's included in all of your wagers.

## OUR PICKS

1. #1 CELESTINE
2. #6 DARING KATHY
3. #5 HOPE CROSS (IRE)
4. #8 PARTISAN POLITICS

## \$25 WAGERING STRATEGY

- > \$3 Exacta Box #1 Celestine, #5 Hope Cross, #6 Daring Kathy (\$18)
- > \$5 Win #1 Celestine (\$5)
- > \$1 Trifecta #1 Celestine, #6 Daring Kathy / #1 Celestine, #6 Daring Kathy / #5 Hope Cross (\$2)

## Allowance Optional Claiming \$56,000

Race 10 (4:27PM ET)  
4Y0+  
1 1/16 Miles Turf



### Analysis

We expect bettors to make #12 CONQUEST TYPHOON the favorite here, but we have a tough time backing a colt that has frustrated horseplayers as much as this one has in recent starts. He has failed as the top betting choice in three of his last five starts, and he hasn't been to the winner's circle since November 2014. That's a very long time between drinks. His outside post won't do him many favors and at anticipated low odds we're going to try to beat him. Similarly, we expect #1 XAVERIAN to be overbet off his last race, a good second behind Charming Kitten in the two-mile H. Allen Jerkens Stakes. Problem is that was the best race he has ever run and it's fair to wonder if that day's marathon distance played the biggest role. #5 GO AROUND looks like an up-and-coming runner. He was third against stakes horses twice last September. And while he hasn't been seen since, he has been working nicely at Payson Park for this return to the races and should perform well.

### Value Plays

It's not often you get a nice price on a Shug McGaughey-trained, Jose Lezcano-ridden son of Bernardini, but we think #10 RED GUARD may be overlooked in the wagering. Some people may thumb their nose at the fact that McGaughey shipped him to Tampa last out for an allowance race (instead of staying at Gulfstream to face 'better' horses), but he rallied well to win that day and figures to be a confident horse this afternoon.

### OUR PICKS

1. #5 GO AROUND
2. #10 RED GUARD
3. #12 CONQUEST TYPHOON
4. #7 THATCHER STREET

### \$25 WAGERING STRATEGY

- > \$7 Win Go Around (\$7)
- > \$0.50 Trifecta Box #5 Go Around, #7 Thatcher Street, #10 Red Guard, #12 Conquest Typhoon (\$12)
- > \$2 Exacta #5 Go Around, #7 Thatcher Street, #10 Red Guard / #12 Conquest Typhoon (\$6)

## Palm Beach Stakes Grade 3 - \$150,000

Race 11 (4:58PM ET)  
3Y0  
1 1/16 Miles Turf

### Analysis

What an impressive race! You can make a case for just about any of these 14 entrants, all of whom have seemingly run well enough in recent starts to merit serious consideration today. Perennial leading trainer, Todd Pletcher, entered three in here, headlined by Grade 2 winner, #14 AZAR. Unfortunately, he drew the far outside post, making him very difficult to pick. Pletcher's other two horses, #5 KISMET'S HEELS and #9 GIMLET, have squared off twice, with GIMLET most recently getting the nod by less than a length. Neither would be a surprise here. And #6 URBAN BOURBON beat both in a maiden race here in December, so he can't be discounted. Furthermore, we project a pretty quick pace, which would suit the deep-closing style of #11 CONVERGE, who attracted the services of Javier Castellano. And we wouldn't completely discount #13 J R'S HOLIDAY, who paid off at odds of 19/1 when he won the Kitten's Joy Stakes here in January. Simply put, this race is loaded. Be ready to go deep in your Rainbow 6 and Late Pick 4 tickets.

### Value Plays

#8 SCHOLAR ATHLETE will be ignored in the wagering, but the Graham Motion-trained son of Einstein ran well in an allowance race here earlier this month and will enjoy a quicker pace. Additionally, Luis Saez opted to ride Todd Pletcher's 'other' horse, KISMET'S HEELS, who is still a maiden, over #10 GIANT RUN, a horse he guided to victory last out. That's a good sign. Plus, KISMET'S HEELS adds blinkers, which could wake him up and make him more willing to pass horses down the lane.

### OUR PICKS

1. #9 GIMLET
2. #6 URBAN BOURBON
3. #10 GIANT RUN
4. #11 CONVERGE

### \$25 WAGERING STRATEGY

- > \$5 Win #9 Gimlet (\$5)
- > \$2 Exacta #9 Gimlet / #4 Space Mountain, #5 Kismet's Heels, #6 Urban Bourbon, #8 Scholar Athlete, #10 Giant Run, #11 Converse, #13 J R's Holiday (\$14)
- > \$1 Exacta Box #6 Urban Bourbon, #11 Converse, #13 J R's Holiday (\$6)



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## Analysis

Most handicappers you talk to are going to sing the praises of #6 MOHAYMEN, and quite frankly, we agree with them. This colt simply looks the part of a legitimate superstar. In his last race, he went off at miniscule odds (.30/1) and toyed with a field that included Grade 1 winner, Greenpointcrusader, en route to an effortless 3 1/2-length victory. He's been training forwardly out of that race and couldn't have drawn any better. Since he's outside of the speed, Junior Alvarado can draft in behind the frontrunners and carve out a perfect trip. If he is upset, it'll probably be at the hands of #2 ZULU or #5 AWESOME BANNER. Both horses have been absolutely untouchable in their careers, but neither has raced beyond seven furlongs, which is a cause for concern. ZULU is bred to handle the added distance and also has the advantage of starting for a trainer, Todd Pletcher, who has won three previous editions of this race, including last year's with Itsaknockout. He didn't draw well – he's inside all of the other speed horses – so he may have to handle adversity and come from further off the pace than he's used to.

## Value Plays

It's never easy to find value in a six-horse field, but we think AWESOME BANNER is probably the best value play in the field. After all, he has never started at odds higher than 6/5, and he'll be a significantly longer price this time around. He's going to need to be a superstar in order to take this field wire-to-wire, but he loves Gulfstream Park and couldn't have looked more impressive in any of his three career starts.

## OUR PICKS

1. #6 MOHAYMEN
2. #5 AWESOME BANNER
3. #2 ZULU
4. #1 FELLOWSHIP

## \$25 WAGERING STRATEGY

- **\$15 Exacta** #6 Mohaymen / #5 Awesome Banner (\$15)
- **\$10 Exacta** #6 Mohaymen / #2 Zulu (\$10)

## Analysis

Today's nightcap is a strong field of three-year-old maidens, with many of the area's top trainers, including Todd Pletcher, Chad Brown, Bill Mott and Mark Casse, represented. Todd Pletcher's charge, #1 AMERICAN PATRIOT, ran a decent race in his debut last month, but appeared visibly inexperienced that day and didn't really kick in until very late. He ran into some traffic problems down the lane and made up a few lengths in the shadow of the wire, which is a positive sign. Today's inside draw should ensure he saves ground and we trust Javier Castellano to find running room when he needs it. #10 CITE is the other most logical horse to use, considering he finished within a length of our Palm Beach Stakes choice, Gimlet, a month ago in a maiden race. If he can continue running that well, he won't be a maiden much longer.

## Value Plays

While it's tough to overlook the aforementioned favorites, #2 SPORT looks like a maiden that should outrun his odds for trainer James Bond. He drew an attractive inside post and is a half-brother to graded stakes winner, Isabella Sings. We're excited to see the late energy this well-bred colt brings to the track, and expect him to outrun his odds.

## OUR PICKS

1. #1 AMERICAN PATRIOT
2. #10 CITE
3. #2 SPORT
4. #4 BILLY'S KITTEN

## \$25 WAGERING STRATEGY

- **\$1 Trifecta** #1 American Patriot, #10 Cite / #1 American Patriot, #2 Sport, #4 Billy's Kitten, #10 Cite / #1 American Patriot, #2 Sport, #4 Billy's Kitten, #10 Cite, #12 Conquest Sandman (\$18)
- **\$5 Win** #1 American Patriot (\$5)
- **\$2 Win** #10 Cite (\$2)

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27-Feb-2016 - Gulfstream Park

**Rainbow 6**  
\$0.20

**Race 8:** 3, 8  
**Race 9:** 1, 5, 6, 8  
**Race 10:** 5, 7, 10, 12  
**Race 11:** 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11  
**Race 12:** 6  
**Race 13:** 1, 10

**Total Ticket Cost: \$76.80**

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27-Feb-2016 - Gulfstream Park

**Late Pick 4**  
\$0.50

**Race 10:** 5, 10, 12  
**Race 11:** All  
**Race 12:** 6  
**Race 13:** 1, 4, 10

**Total Ticket Cost: \$63.00**

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**\$200 DEPOSIT MATCH**

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