LAUREL PARK

HANDICAPPING GUIDE for SUNDAY, NOV. 8

TODAY'S SELECTIONS FROM THE LAUREL PARK TEAM

	 DAN ILLMAN	 MACKENZIE PFEIFFER	 JOHN PIASSEK	 DAVE RODMAN	 TIM TULLOCK
RACE 1:	**14-7-13-11**	**9-1-10-6**	**5-8-13-11**	**9-6-4-12**	**7-12-11-1**
RACE 2:	**3-1-5-7**	**7-3-5-1**	**2-1-5-7**	**1-7-5-6**	**2-1-3-5**
RACE 3:	**1-9-5-3**	**5-9-3-11**	**11-10-1-5**	**5-1-11-3**	**5-7-9-1**
RACE 4:	**4-6-3-1**	**3-4-1-7**	**4-3-1-6**	**1-7-6-3**	**7-3-4-1**
RACE 5:	**1-10-3-4**	**10-6-5-3**	**10-7-9-5**	**9-5-4-1**	**6-10-5-1**
RACE 6:	**3-1-9-6**	**3-8-2-5**	**12-11-3-2**	**5-10-8-9**	**8-9-2-6**
RACE 7:	**1-4-6-7**	**5-1-2-7**	**1-6-2-4**	**4-3-7-1**	**1-3-7-2**
RACE 8:	**4-11-6-1**	**6-8-4-11**	**8-2-7-14**	**10-4-11-6**	**4-11-3-1**
RACE 9:	**2-6-7-5**	**2-6-7-5**	**2-6-7-3**	**4-6-2-5**	**5-4-6-2**

First post is Noon ET with 12% takeout on Value Pick 5 wagers (first five races; last five races)

- **TMJC's "Today at the Races" morning simulcast show** LIVE on **X** @LaurelPark at 11AM ET for late changes + today's top tickets and best plays.
- **Follow the action throughout the day** on your preferred ADW, on **X** @LaurelPark and @DanIllman_MJC, on Instagram @marylandjockeyclub and on TikTok @marylandjockeyclub.
- **Get FREE PPs** for today's card from *Daily Racing Form*! To access, visit www.laurelpark.com/handicapping-wagering/ and scroll down.

TODAY'S ANALYSIS - by Dan Illman

⟩⟩ RACE 1

1. SUGAR BUSH 2. I AM KING 3. MONEY QUEEN

The first post time is 12 pm ET, and there are two "Value Pick 5" wagers, each with a LOW 12% takeout rate. **SUGAR BUSH** chased the quick pace set by the odds-on winner in her turf debut. It was good to see the improved speed that afternoon, and she can work out a tracking trip while outside and in the clear. **I AM KING** ($29,000 RNA yearling) is out of an unplaced half-sister to juvenile stakes-winning synthetic router Rose and Shine (won debut; 78 turf Beyer). This barn usually gives them a race or two before they strut their best stuff. **MONEY QUEEN** ($45,000 weanling; $70,000 yearling; $40,000 May juvenile) is out of a two-time turf winner, and the second dam was a stakes-winning turf router (92 turf Beyer). Plenty of turf influences run deeper in this female family. She was wired by an odds-on favorite in her most recent dirt start. DOE'S LEMONADE simply went too fast on the lead (23.06 first quarter) when dueling with the 16-1 fifth-finisher in turf debut. Turnback in distance helps. WENDY DARLING is out of multiple stakes-placed dirt sprinter Pixie Dust (88 dirt Beyer).

⟩⟩ RACE 2

1. RAPIDITY 2. AZTEC 3. MORNING THOUGHTS

You might want to tread lightly with **RAPIDITY**, as he might have been aided greatly by a powerful inside and speed-friendly track. Set a four-ply pace from the rail, was urged along on the second turn, came off the inside in the upper stretch, and held sway. He doesn't need the lead to succeed, and might opt for tracking tactics this time around. **AZTEC** tracked from the pocket over a closer-friendly track, made an early lead change on the turn, cut the corner into the stretch, and hopped back to his left lead. The fifth-finisher then won a $12,000 starter-optional with an 83 Beyer. **MORNING THOUGHTS** broke a beat slow at Penn National, saved ground at the back, was on hold briefly entering the far turn, was urged to split rivals, eased outside, and got up for second. ARTILLERY GUNNAR was wired over an inside, speed-friendly track, and is eligible to show improved speed stretching out in distance.

⟩⟩ RACE 3

1. PUTTER MAN 2. FIERY DEBUT 3. WICKHAM LANE

PUTTER MAN was wired by the favorite three back on turf. Saved ground in midpack, snatched the pocket on the backstretch, then kept trying for second despite being late to change leads. He returns to his preferred surface, adds Lasix for the first time, and stretches out with the speed to get close to the pace. **FIERY DEBUT** was overmatched in the Maryland Million Turf Starter. Pulled his way forward to race three wide in midpack, then hopped back to his left lead while in between rivals in the stretch. He hit the board in two of his previous three turf starts against maidens. **WICKHAM LANE** saved ground at the back behind a quick pace two back, eased outside into the stretch, then passed some tired horses in the final furlong. Just missed on dirt three weeks ago, and can be counted on to kick in the stretch in the third start of the form cycle. Rocco lands here instead of Rebel's Prince. Perhaps GUERRILLA MAGIC will show improved tactical speed as he stretches out for the first time. Faced two next-out winners last month (Fortune Hill won a $16,000 maiden claimer with a 68 Beyer). REBEL'S PRINCE was wired by the favorite in his most recent turf start. The runner-up has since compiled a 4-1-1-2 record with a 59 Beyer top.

⟩⟩ RACE 4

1. PNEUMO WARRIOR 2. LUCKY TICKET 3. HURRICANE LYNN

PNEUMO WARRIOR must deal with a 178-day layoff, but she's always shown promise, including in her most recent start against maiden special weights. She prompted the 7-1 runner-up, was hard-ridden while three wide and in between on the turn, then made up late ground despite characteristically failing to change leads. Faced two next-out winners and can get close to the pace. **LUCKY TICKET** stalked a solid pace from in between, was urged along on the turn, then finished evenly without threatening. Her Beyers are slowly moving the right way, and she might take a nice step forward with blinkers for a barn that went 3 for 15 (20%, $5.96 ROI) between 10/21 and 11/1. **HURRICANE LYNN** set a pressured pace inside the 9-2 winner over a speed-friendly track, then tried hard to just miss. She runs well on short notice. Throw out KINDA KRAZY's last race against winners. She hit the gate and broke out a bit, was outsprinted to race three-wide at the back, was urged along on the turn, and never threatened. Hit the board in her five prior starts against maidens, and kicks late. LAST TREASURE, listed as a Presque Isle vet scratch on 9/28 and 10/8, faced a runaway in her lone dirt try, and now drops in for a tag.

⟩⟩ RACE 5

1. WEST MOUNTAIN 2. MR. FLOWERS 3. MAUPANSANT

WEST MOUNTAIN was bumped lightly after the start on turf three back, tracked from between rivals, seemed outpaced on the second turn, and didn't threaten the favored winner. Retained fitness with two subsequent off-turf races, and can save ground in midpack after breaking from the fence. Barbosa departs this one and Play It Cool for Tail Risk. **MR. FLOWERS** prompted the 44-1 third-finisher from the outside, swapped leads a couple of times in the stretch, and just got second in the waning strides. He might try to grab the early lead. **MAUPANSANT** can get a bit grumpy in the preliminaries, but he ran pretty well in his most recent turf start, swinging widest into the stretch before hopping back to his left lead while in between horses. VILLAIN, LATIN REBEL, KITTEN'S PLOY, and FREEDOM GLIDER all deserve attention if able to escape the Also Eligible list.

⟩⟩ RACE 6

1. IMPERIAL CHARTER 2. BULLISTIC 3. LAST CALL BARR

IMPERIAL CHARTER seemed a bit green leaving the gate on turf two back, but showed good speed to press the 20-1 runner-up from the rail. That pace was solid, and he understandably tired. The runner-up then ran third in a maiden special at Belmont with a 67 Beyer. The new barn went 5 for the last 19 (26%, $3.77 ROI) when moving route to sprint. **BULLISTIC** ($90,000 yearling; $120,000 RNA juvenile) is the first foal out of stakes-placed turf router Go Big Blue Nation (92 turf Beyer) from the family of Horse of the Year Point Given. Gomez departs this one and Fresh Elle for Dublin Your Luck. **LAST CALL BARR** is a half-brother to multiple stakes-placed turf router Fionnbharr (79 turf Beyer) out of multiple stakes-winning turf miler Embarr (88 turf Beyer). Lopez departs for RAZORKNIFE. The second dam was a stakes-placed turf sprinter (79 turf Beyer). DUBLIN YOUR LUCK is a half-brother to stakes-winning dirt miler Artful Splatter (90 wet-dirt Beyer), stakes-winning dirt sprinter Taco Supream (97 dirt Beyer), multiple stakes-placed dirt sprinter Renaissance Rosie (87 dirt Beyer), and stakes-placed dirt miler Bourbon Aficionado (won debut; 82 wet-dirt Beyer). LETEM is a half-brother to stakes-winning turf sprinter Fiya (100 turf Beyer). FRESH ELLE ($30,000 RNA May juvenile) is a half-sister to multiple Group 3-winning dirt sprinter Tuz (in Dubai; won first three starts). LONGFIELD is a half-brother to juvenile stakes-winning dirt sprinter Catahoula Moon (88 dirt Beyer).

⟩⟩ RACE 7

1. START THE CLOCK 2. SEISMIC SURGE 3. BET ME

START THE CLOCK ($14,000 RNA short yearling; $45,000 short yearling; $85,000 yearling; $500,000 May juvenile) is out of an unraced half-sister to Grade 1-winning dirt router Golden Ticket and stakes-placed dirt router Carlito's Dream (in Puerto Rico). November 1 work matches up with the barn's stakes-bound 2-year-old Oval Office (69 dirt Beyer). Perhaps they worked in company for a barn that went 7 for the last 13 (54%, $3.32 ROI) when debuting in seven-furlong maiden special weight races at Laurel. **SEISMIC SURGE** set the pace inside the aforementioned Oval Office, then couldn't go with that foe in a one-turn mile. The barn went 5 for the last 24 (21%, $2.41 ROI) when moving from route to dirt sprints. **BET ME** set a fast and pressured pace inside the 9-1 winner over a speed-friendly track, then held second when showing second-start improvement. He'll get forward for a barn that sent out two winners on Maryland Million Saturday. Boyce lands here instead of Jerry Inspires. KONRAD'S CORNER is a half-brother to stakes-placed dirt sprinter Mattitude (80 turf Beyer).

⟩⟩ RACE 8

1. MOONBLAZE 2. TAP IT UP 3. THE MAGIC OFMOVIES

MOONBLAZE was wired by the favorite at Monmouth two starts ago. Saved ground near the back, altered outside, then made up some late ground to finish behind the two chalks. The runner-up next placed in a first-level allowance at Saratoga with an 85 Beyer. Showed speed on dirt last time, but she's more effective when able to rally from off the pace. **TAP IT UP** has won four of her last five, including her most recent three efforts. Tracked the 7-1 last-finisher on 10/10, surged past that foe, and just lasted at a high price. Won't be surprised if she works out a similar trip. This barn sent out a 4-1 winner at Parx on 11/5. **THE MAGIC OFMOVIES** raced near the back behind a quick pace on turf two back, split rivals entering the turn, altered outside, and rallied well to score. Beat two next-out winners, including Clearly Sophia, who took a restricted allowance at Colonial with a 72 Beyer. Toss out the most recent start on dirt. Late-runner could use pace help. BRIKELI dueled with the 33-1 last-finisher through a hot opening quarter, then stayed strong to graduate over course and distance. The fourth-finisher next won a maiden special with a 75 Beyer. Expect good speed. COVERED IN CRYSTAL hasn't run in 274 days after being pulled up at Gulfstream, but she showed ability last year over this course, and can threaten with a late charge.

⟩⟩ RACE 9

1. MOUNTAIN MAMBA 2. NIAL AND PRAY 3. JESSE MARIE

MOUNTAIN MAMBA tracked a moderate pace from the outside, swung four wide into the stretch, then rallied for second in the Maryland Million Lassie. Drops back down with maidens, and there should be enough pedigree in her female family (half-sister to stakes-placed dirt router Buckey's Charm) for her to last this two-turn distance. Uncoupled stablemate **NIAL AND PRAY** swung very wide into the stretch, yet still came with a determined rally to just miss sprinting. Although the dam side pedigree has plenty of speed influences, the dam is a half-sister to Grade 3-winning dirt router Sprawl. **JESSE MARIE** ran better than it looks at Delaware two back, then passed some tired horses when facing a runaway winner in route debut. She has a build that indicates that longer distances will work, and can sit a tracking trip while just off the leaders.

MACK'S FACTS – by Mackenzie Pfeiffer

R1: A somewhat wide open group of 2 y/o fillies, most of which are trying turf for the first time. Watch the board for early money here. Russian Iris showed speed on debut and now switches surfaces for a barn going very well. Pulchritude makes her debut on the rail but the work tab suggests she should be plenty fit, worth a look in the paddock.

R2: Artillery Gunnar tries stretching out for the first time and looks to run his best races when forwardly placed. The run style fits, now just a matter of whether he can get the distance. If things heat up, Aztec may ultimately benefit while saving ground inside.

R3: Wickham Lane should appreciate the distance and return to turf in his third start off the summer freshening here, I give him another try. Nantucket Love looked to appreciate added ground last out, the surface switch doesn't seem out of reach based on pedigree.

R4: Speed can be a huge advantage when going the 5.5f distance here, possibly helping Hurricane Lynn take this field gate to wire while cutting back in distance. Pneumo Warrior takes class relief but I try to give her a race off the bench.

R5: Mr Flowers has an advantage with his early speed and back class, possibly letting him set the terms early. Oracle of Beaufort takes class relief after troubled trips against very in-form types, a logical use here. Watch the scratches, the AE runners have good chances here.

R6: Imperial Charter tries sprinting on the turf for the first time with blinkers on, his experience and speed should be a big benefit in this group of FTS. Letem is one of two debutantes for Stettinius and brings quite a presence. This son of Great Notion was grand champion at the 2025 MHBA yearling show in 2025.

R7: Knee High has shown interest in much deeper waters, not trying blinkers and cutting back on the main track, he may take the next step forward. Hard to imagine we end up with 6-1 ML on Start the Clock, a $500k 2 y/o sale purchase for Russell.

R8: The Magic Ofmovies should benefit from the pace setup she finds here, returning to her preferred surface looks to be a big benefit as well. Sota Summers showed she can handle a cutback when putting on a show in her last outing on the main track, another who should appreciate the return to turf.

R9: The Murphy barn looks to have two very good chances with Mountain Mamba and Nial and Pray, the former of which has put together multiple stakes placings. Jesse Marie could be overlooked but is the only runner to hit the board going 2-turns on the main track, potential value play.

TODAY'S HOT TRAINER STATS

RACE 1
#12 - Rebel Princess
Trainer: Lynn Ashby
Third Start, Maidens: 5 for 19 (26%, $4.21 ROI)

RACE 4
#6 - Lucky Ticket
Trainer: Kelly Lynn Deiter
Between 10/21 and 11/1: 3 for 15 (20%, $5.96 ROI)

RACE 6
#3 - Imperial Charter
Trainer: Robbie Bailes
Route to Sprint: 5 for 19 (26%, $3.77 ROI)

RACE 7
#1 - Start the Clock
Trainer: Brittany Russell
First Start, Maiden Special Weight, Laurel Park, Seven Furlongs: 7 for 13 (54%, $3.32 ROI)

RACE 7
#4 - Seismic Surge
Trainer: John Robb
Route to Dirt Sprints: 5 for 24 (21%, $2.41 ROI)

TRIPS AND TIPS – by Will Humphrey, *In The Money Media*

Today's Horses To Watch:

Race 6
Bred on the same cross as crack juvenile turf sprinter JOHNNY'S RED STORM, Circle N Thoroughbred and Mill Ridge Farm's **#8 LAKE MARTIN** (4/1 ML) was scratched off the turf in October, but will now get the chance to debut in race six. He's been breezing right along at Fair Hill Training Center, and he has to be taken seriously for a trainer/jockey combo who hit at 34% on the Laurel Park turf course (37-for-110; $2.14 ROI).

Race 7
Robert Evans' homebred son of Kentucky Derby winner AUTHENTIC, **#7 LASTING PEACE** (9/2 ML) possesses a largely turf-oriented pedigree, yet his work on the main track – including an easy 49.00 half from the gate earlier this week – has given leading trainer Graham Motion enough confidence to debut him on the dirt. A wide post will be no disadvantage, and his 9/2 ML odds are fair in a race of this nature.

Race 8
#4 MOONBLAZE (7/2 ML) strung together four strong efforts sprinting on the turf earlier this year, closing strongly late on at both Penn National and Monmouth – two courses which often lend a hand to speed. Laurel's long stretch run at 5 1/2 furlongs should really play to her strengths, and she shouldn't be overlooked following a fine try in an off-turf allowance on the dirt last out.

FUTURE HORSES TO WATCH

YOUR LORDSHIP
Trainer: Graham Motion
Last Race: May 30, 7th race
Finish: 1st by 2 3/4
Racing as a first-time gelding, Your Lordship rated long with plenty of confidence throughout, waited to pounce in the upper stretch, and angled and swept clear for the win.

D J ABS *(Breezed 4F - :50.80 at MTH on 10/22)*
Trainer: Lindsay Schultz
Last Race: September 19, 8th
Finish: 2nd by 4 1/4
Juvenile filly has some turf pedigree, and she gave a strong try in her grass debut. Showed decent speed from the start, but had the misfortune to face a sharp, gate-to-wire winner. Stayed on strongly to the wire, and it looks like she's found a home on the green stuff.

SEA ISLE CITY *(Breezed 4F - :48.00 at FAI Tapeta on 10/25)*
Trainer: Keri Brion
Last Race: Sept. 26, 8th
Finish: 3rd by 1 1/4
Held her inside position over the "good" going, dropped back a bit near upper stretch, then made some ground late to finish third in the Selima Stakes. May prefer firm turf, short or long.

INTREPID'S LEGACY *(Handily 4F - :47.00 at LRL on 10/31)*
Trainer: Gary Capuano
Last Race: Oct. 10; 10th
Finish: 2nd by 1/2
This is a huge horse that likely needed a race in his first start off a July layoff. Rushed up with a wide bid on the turn before being rebuffed by the even-money favorite.

PERFECT FORCE
Trainer: Jamie Ness
Last Race: October 25, 2nd race
Finish: 4th by 4 1/2

SUJO *(Breezed 4F - :48.60 at CD on 11/6)*
Trainer: Greg Sacco
Last Race: Jan. 16, 7th race
Finish: 4th by 4 ¾ lengths
First-time starter was pinballed from in between horses at the start, and dropped all the way back to last. Started to kick in at the eighth pole, angled to the fence, and just missed getting third on the wire with a nice gallop-out.

GOLD SOVEREIGN *(Breezed 5F - 1:02.80 at FAI Tapeta on 10/9)*
Trainer: Thomas Garner
Last Race: September 20, 3rd
Finish: 8th by 6 1/2
Likely purchased by his current connections for future races over hurdles, but this gelding showed decent turf form in longer-distance races in New York and had no chance in his local debut. Fell to his face at the start, then was wired in a paceless heat where they ran 1-2 around the track.

NIAL AND PRAY *(Breezed 4F - :50.60 at LRL on 11/1)*
Trainer: Joseph Murphy
Last Race: Oct. 10; 6th
Finish: 2nd by head
Broke from the inside for the second consecutive race, then wound up a very wide rally through the turn and into the stretch. Seemed a bit more professional than in his previous start, and was just outkicked by a 3-1 debuter.

KWAN
Trainer: Lacey Gaudet
Last Race: October 18, 2nd race
Finish: 2nd by 1 3/4
Expected to be among the pacesetters when the beaten favorite, he instead broke poorly and was last in the early stages. Made a strong wide move through the turn and into the stretch, and tried hard all the way to the wire. Juvenile filly fits well sprinting on dirt at the $25,000 starter allowance level.

CITRINE
Trainer: Graham Motion
Last Race: October 25, 6th race
Finish: 2nd by neck

Didn't show much early speed in his first start of the barn, but built momentum at the three-sixteenth before being pinched back between horses at a key juncture.

BUBBLING
Trainer: Jamie Ness
Last Race: October 25, 7th race
Finish: 3rd by 3
First-time starter didn't have the best break, but picked up steam with a wide move into the teeth of the pace before understandably flattening out in the final sixteenth. Expect more early zip next time.

Traveled smoothly into the stretch and looked on his way to victory, but was squeezed badly in between horses in the mid-stretch. Altered course to the rail and finished with a flourish, albeit too late.

JOCKEY CALLS

At Laurel Park, jockeys can be named on more than one horse on the original overnight.

Race 2 – Leandro Briceno: #2 – Alvy; #4 – Kitty's Son >>> **Briceno rides ALVY**
Race 3 – Joe Rocco Jr. - #5 – Wickham Lane; #7 – Rebel Prince >>> **Rocco rides WICKHAM LANE**
Race 3: Jevian Toledo: #4 – Classic Martini; #8 – Phantom Gold >>> **Toledo rides CLASSIC MARTINI**
Race 5: Jeiron Barbosa; #1 – West Mountain; #4 – Tail Risk; #8 – Play It Cool >>> **Barbosa rides TAIL RISK**
Race 6: Kevin Gomez: #1 – Bullistic; #4 – Dublin Your Luck; #6 – Fresh Elle >>> **Gomez rides DUBLIN YOUR LUCK**
Race 6: Carlos Lopez: #9 – Last Call Barr; #10 – Razorknife >>> **Lopez rides RAZORKNIFE**

PAST TRACK TRENDS

June 5 – SPEED BIAS
June 6 – CLOSERS BIAS
June 7 – Fair
June 12 – Fair
June 13 – Fair
June 14 – SPEED BIAS
June 19 – Fair
June 20 – Fair
June 21 – Fair
June 26 – Fair
June 27- Fair
June 28 - INSIDE SPEED BIAS
Sep. 11 – INSIDE BIAS
Sep. 12 – SPEED BIAS
Sep. 13 – Fair
Sep. 18 – Fair
Sep. 19 – Fair
Sep. 20 – Fair
Sep. 25 – Fair
Sep. 26 – Fair
Sep. 27 – Fair
Oct. 2 – CLOSERS BIAS
Oct. 3 – Fair (Slight Inside Lean)
Oct. 4 – CLOSERS BIAS
Oct. 9 – SPEED BIAS
Oct. 10 – Fair
Oct. 15 – INTENSE SPEED BIAS
Oct. 16 – SPEED BIAS
Oct. 17 – Fair
Oct. 18 – Fair
Oct. 23 - Fair
Oct. 24 – Fair
Oct. 25 – CLOSERS BIAS
Oct. 29 – INSIDE SPEED BIAS
Oct. 30 – Fair
Oct. 31 – SPEED BIAS
Nov. 1 – INSIDE BIAS