Joe Kristufek returns for his third season as Churchill Downs’ paddock host. He has an extensive background in horse racing and wagering and has been instrumental in the creation of and hosting fan education programs at the premier racing events at racetracks coast to coast. A native of Chicago, Kristufek is the morning-line odds maker for several racetracks, including his hometown Arlington Park. He is also the racing writer and handicapper for the Daily Herald newspaper in Arlington Heights, IL. Joe is well recognized for his diversified handicapping skills and suggested wagering tactics and he loves interacting with all racing fans - from beginner to expert.

Joe Kristufek
Racing Analyst
@JoeyDaKRacing

Joe’s ‘16 Top Pick Stats through Nov. 27

Races Wins 2nd 3rd Win% WPS%
691 199 109 84 28.8% 56.7%

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Race 1
#1 Full Heat – Long overdue; drops into win spot.
#6 Wild Man – Blinks on; whack, bing, baby?
#2 Northern Ranger – Capable of better; best of rest.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 1-6/2/5-4-3

Race 2
#5 Kentucky Dancer – Sharp win here last June; ready.
#2 Juliet Foxtrot – Won last time entered for $16K; capable.
#3 Por Favor – Gimmick help cuts back; finish better, please.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 5-2/3

Race 3
#5 Greeley’s Striker – Blinks improve early focus; Calvin.
#3 Jury Wise – Certainly capable; verdict undecided.
#6 I’m Extraordinary – Fits like a glove; more like average.
#7 Cherokee Callie – Forces the issue; hangs around late.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 5-3/6-7/4-1

Selections subject to change due to scratches, off the turf, etc. Tune in to the twinspires.com pre-race paddock show for the most up to the minute information. Check program numbers for accuracy.

Race 4
#1 One True Kiss – On edge for this; storms home late.
#5 Doxology – Go to whoa threat; fights for every yard.
#2 Sea Cloud – Game 2nd at Kee; can step forward.
#3 Improv – Reality is, she’s capable of better; clues?

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 1/5-2/3/4

Race 5
#3 Running Back – May have found his niche; punches it in?
#7 Deep Explorer – Ready off works; finds clear sailing.
#1 Greeleys Charm – Even runs with better; gimmicks.
#6 Beachtown Benny – Improved with blinks; tougher task.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 3-7/1/6-5-2

Race 6
#3 Jay Wow – Nightmare trip in last; super live longshot?
#1 Fault – Can bounce back off excused clunker; rail draw.
#7 Summertime Sky – Slow start cost her; capable here.
#5 Rum Go – Touch of turf class; good as any in this spot.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 3-1-7-5/6-4-2
Race 7

#3 Awesome Gal – Tough loss in last; one-turn mile suits.
#8 Gata Furiosa – 1st Lasix; finds clear sailing on outside.
#6 Milady Rocks – DQ’ed from maiden breaker with similar.
#5 Fairybrook – First run for a tag; gimmick consideration.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 3/8/6-5-1-7-4

Race 8

#5 Crooked as Can Be – Won easier than looks; tactical edge.
#2 Woodmans Luck – Deep closer has pace to chase here?
#6 Plug Catcher – Best work on turf; also wants hot fractions.
#4 Jack Tripp – Gets the right trip; needs to lay it down late.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 5-2/6/4-3/7-1

Race 9

#5 Speight Swiftly – Won debut as fave; tactical advantage?
#6 Kasseopia – Flew home after slow start; blinkers help?
#9 Derby Champagne – Early traffic in last; proven on turf.
#4 Lucky Ramsey – Solid grass resume; tough start cost him.

Joe’s SELECTIONS – 5-6/9-4-8-1/10

Race 10

#8 McPherson – Cuts back off sharp works; pointed for this.
#12 Arodg – Ready off the works; Foley lured Julien to saddle.
#9 Because It’s Time – Cut backs suits; super tough team.
#4 Chilling Secret – Distance 2nd to sharp winner in debut.

Joe’s SELECTIONS –8-12-9-4-6-10/3-2

KK’s Play of the Day
By: Kevin Kerstein
@HorseRacingKK

Race 4: Trainer Brendan Walsh has been training on his own since 2011 and his stable moved over to the main track at Churchill Downs for the first time this spring. In today’s 4th race, Walsh sends out #2 Sea Cloud from a runner-up effort at Keeneland in her last start. The daughter of Mizzen Mast ran a respectable effort but was simply no match for the winner. Today, Sea Cloud fits very well with this field and should be up close to the pace.

Suggested Play: #2 Sea Cloud

Work of the Day
By: Brandon Stauble
@bstaubs22

Race 10:

4/19- #12 Arodg worked from the gate with power in 24, 35.3, 47.1 and 100.2 getting nice push throughout

Morning Insight for Afternoon Profits – “Bruno with the Works” daily Churchill Downs reports available at brisnet.com!