

Pandy's Meadowlands Selections for Friday, December 15

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

9 SHORE OF HIMSELF 7-1
7 HARRY HANOVER 5-2
1 BILBO HANOVER 8-1
2 STOLEN ART 22-1

SHORE OF HIMSELF has had some tough trips against better fields; upset call in a wide open amateur driver pace...HARRY HANOVER has 3 wins over this track this year and showed speed in last. He'll be driven by provisional driver William Harrison, who hasn't driven this year but had 22 drives in 2021/22 and is looking for his first career win...BILBO HANOVER 13 year old fits here, I think...STOLEN ART rarely wins but he finally gets an inside post and I wouldn't be shocked if he is coming on well late.

RACE 2

1 MAKE IT BIG 10-1
3 ALL IT TAKES 7-2
2 BLAME THE BLKSMITH 4-1
9 BRIAR'S DESIRE 6-1

MAKE IT BIG comes off a sick scratch but makes first start for a barn that's winning at 23% this year...ALL IT TAKES gets a better post and this gelding has 10 wins over this track...BLAME THE BLKSMITH improving sort ships in off a good effort at Saratoga...BRIAR'S DESIRE rarely wins but raced okay from post 9 in last.

RACE 3

5 VIRTUAL KISS 4-1
8 WON'T BACK DOWN 4-1
6 PHELGON 6-1
1 ONSPEED N 12-1

RACE 4

10 MV OK PALACIO BR 8-1
7 ROCKABILLY CHARM 4-1
2 FERDINAND A 2-1
1 THUNDRFMTHETHRON N 4-1

MV OK PALACIO finished well in last and the pace may be quick here...ROCKABILLY CHARM has been racing okay and showed early speed in last...FERDINAND A was my top pick last week and hung on at 4/5 odds while able to set his own pace...THUNDRFMTHETHRON N gunned to the lead in :26.4 from post 8, set the pace and was second in last; could get a good stalking trip here.

RACE 5

5 HARMONY OF NOTES 9-5
7 FIRSTUP 7-2
4 NITE TIME DEAL 6-1
2 MONEYMAKEHERSMILE 7-1

HARMONY OF NOTES was in a better field the last time she raced here three starts back...FIRSTUP drops down.

RACE 6

3 BUDDY EARL 6-5
9 PENCILS DOWN 4-1
2 MISSILE 6-1
1 PINWOOD HANOVER 8-1

BUDDY EARL beat similar sharply with strong trot on both ends...PENCILS DOWN made a bold middle-move to take the lead, ran out of steam late but held the show...MISSILE raced okay in last...PINWOOD HANOVER put hobbles on and stayed flat, was coming on late.

RACE 7

2 SUGE 4-1
3 OOH REAL GOOD 5-2
5 BRETTE TINA 4-1
1 LAZIN ON THE BEACH 4-1

This is a competitive Final, so if you're playing the Pick 4, it's not easy to narrow down.

RACE 8

7 BIG BAD BILL 5-1
3 WHAMMER JAMMER 8-5
4 DANDY IDEA 6-1
6 SUNSHINE'S FINEST 7-1

BIG BAD BILL is better than last and takes a key drop...WHAMMER JAMMER rallied gamely from a tough spot in last...DANDY IDEA drops and has a shot...SUNSHINE'S FINESET gets a better post and can finish.

RACE 9

3 SAY YOU DO 4-1
7 NEWELL PLACE 2-1
2 OH LINA 4-1
8 BIG CHARLIE MORAN 4-1

SAY YOU DO broke in his last two starts in September and was given six weeks off, was short in return then turned in an improved effort in last...NEWELL PLACE was heavily bet when beating similar in last...OH LINA beat Say You Do nicely in last...BIG CHARLIE MORAN worked out a nice trip to beat similar.

RACE 10

5 ILLUSION SEELSTER 8-5
8 SHIELD MAIDEN 2-1
9 SHELTER IN PACE 4-1
7 UPTOWN LADY N 4-1

ILLUSION SEELSTER finished well in a better field than this; key drop...SHEILD MAIDEN ships in for a sharp barn and won the only time she raced over this track...SHELTER IN PACE remains in good form...UPTOWN LADY N drops off a race she probably needed and she's quite capable against this type.

RACE 11

4 NARANJO 2-1
6 IFNOTMEWHO 4-1
10 STAR TRACK HANOVER 9-2
7 HARDROCKCAFE 6-1

RACE 12

10 JUST A ROCKET MAN 4-1
5 SPORTS HERO 2-1
7 SMILEANDSAYCHEESE 9-2
6 HENRY THE DRAGON 6-1

RACE 13

1 MIDNIGHT THUNDER 2-1
8 TKO BLUE CHIP 5-2
6 BIG IDEA 4-1
4 KISSINBYTHEBEACHES 5-1

MIDNIGHT THUNDER filly stepped up her game considerably with the move from four turns to two and now gets a catch driver...TKO BLUE CHIP is in good form...BIG IDEAL rallied from a tough spot to beat a weaker field...KISSINBYTHEBEACHES was second in a good try in last.

RACE 14

4 WHIMSICAL JOURNEY** 8-5
5 DRAWING DRAGONS 3-1
3 YER SO BAD 4-1
1 IMABEACHBOY 9-2

WHIMSICAL JOURNEY ships in sharp and likes this track...DRAWING DRAGONS also ships in sharp from Saratoga and the veteran has raced well around two turns in the past...YER SO BAD has been racing in good form...IMABEACHBOY comes off a nice win over weaker in his first start for new barn.

BEST BET: WHIMSICAL JOURNEY 14th Race